

A GOOD WEED



Newsletter of the Weed Society of New South Wales Inc.

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Issue #80



Dianella chlorocarpa (flax lily), a plant that is under threat by some invasive grasses. It produces distinctive blue to purple coloured fruit that persist on the plant for a few months Image: John Hosking

Featured stories in this edition

- ◆ ***NSW Weeds Conference—pictorial***
- ◆ ***Weed control along fence lines, roadsides and crop margins***
- ◆ ***Life membership for Rex Stanton***
- ◆ ***AGM and tour of Grafton Bio-control facilities***



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Assistant Newsletter Editor

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Doug Campbell (Scone)

Birgitte Verbeek (Tamworth)

Troy Brown (Grafton)

Maria Edmonds (Cessnock)

Reece Luxton (Grafton)

Editor's note

Apologies for the late mail out of this Summer edition. If you have anything noteworthy for inclusion into the Autumn edition, please contact me. Happy weeding.

Tony Cook, newsletter editor



**Message from the President
Delivered at the 2017 AGM
Grafton NSW DPI**

Welcome everyone to our AGM and especially to members who have travelled up to Grafton to attend in person. Today has been organised by Reece Luxton with a luncheon to begin with, followed by talks and a tour of the Biocontrol facilities at DPI Research Station with Troy Brown, Elissa van Oosterhout, Charlie Mifsud. Thank you Reece, a great day for all who were here.

This year has been quite busy for many of the weed society committee with the helping of the organisation of parts of the 19th NSW Weeds Conference with members on the organisation committee, the coordinating and the judging of the weed awards and helping with the manning of the society display stand. I would like to congratulate the Stephenson Award winner Mel Wilkerson and the Weed Industry Award Dr Pete Turner for their efforts in weed management within NSW, both receiving \$500 for being members of the society. Congratulations to Newcastle Council for winning the opportunity to host the 20th NSW weeds conference in 2019. I am sure that everyone enjoyed the conference in Armidale as it was a great success. Well done New England Weed Authority.

The 21st AWC conference organising committee was formed in January 2017 and are very busy behind the scenes with the 21st Australasian Weeds Conference to be held at Manly in September 2018. Currently, we are looking for sponsors, preparing for the call for papers and starting to look at different field trips, the program and keynote speakers. So I would like to thank everyone involved and encourage everyone to attend this wonderful event to be

held here in NSW,

Communications by the Society's newsletter 'A Good Weed' and e-newsletter 'Punnet Tray' continue to be the key output for information. I would like to thank Tony Cook and Hanwen Wu for their efforts in maintaining our wonderful newsletter and to Lawrie Greenup for maintaining the Punnet tray. The website also continues to grow by keeping up to date information available to our members and guest on the site. I would like to thank our webmaster Rex Stanton for maintaining and keeping the website up-to-date.

Importantly, without sponsorship, the standard of our publications would not be as high without the support of our sponsors. I would like to thank Dow AgroSciences, ChemCert Australia, Scotts, Australian Catchment Management, Truxor Australia, Macspred and Hunter Regional Weeds for your support during 2017 and look forward to continuing sponsorship into the future.

Lastly, I would like to thank the 2017 executive and committee for their participation and service to the society in the various roles that they have played. I would especially like to thank our special outgoing member Lawrie Greenup for his long term dedicated and participation on this committee. Thank you Lawrie you were a godsend to me personally. Finally, I look forward to welcoming the new 2018 committee. Remember that having an active committee helps ensure the Society collectively gets the best outcomes for all.

Happy weeding

Kim





**Tour of the Grafton NSW DPI
biocontrol facilities**

After the Weed Society AGM, the committee then was shown around the bio-control agent rearing facilities at DPI Research Station - Grafton by Troy Brown, NSW DPI Technical Officer Weeds. Thank you for showing us around the facilities. Excellent work being achieved to fight a wide range of weed



*Time for reflection - grazing into the salvinia pond
Image: Tony Cook*



Preparations prior to the 2017 AGM: Kim Hignell and Stephen Johnson tirelessly working for the NSW Weed Society

Image: Tony Cook



*We will (pronounced 'weevil') win this war against salvinia
Image: Tony Cook*



*Our host, Troy Brown (far right), introduces the bio-control program to the NSW Weeds Society team
Image: Tony Cook*



*Jewel beetle making life difficult for cat's claw creeper
Image: Tony Cook*



NSW Weeds Conference - pictorial and wrap up

19th NSW State Weeds Conference in Armidale a great success



The Weed Society would like to thank the conference organizing committee, sponsors, delegates, speakers, New England Weeds Authority, the New England conference company and many more for the successful running of the 19th NSW Weeds Conference.

Almost 230 delegates attended, a large increase compared to the previous conference. The success of this conference was due to the well planned program with quality events and speakers.

Some of the highlights included:

- Welcoming drinks: brief welcome from Wayne Deer
- Opening guest speakers: setting the scene with biosecurity as a main theme.
- Inside Trade displays: 18 booths with a wide range of topics
- Workshops
- Three field days
- Outside field displays: drones and dogs
- Conference dinner
- Debate: Biosecurity Act
- Quality speakers: covering three broad themes
- Excellent food and service
- Good range of competitions: photos and weed identification

Pictures from the conference

Welcome drinks



"Let the conference begin"

Image: Josh Biddle



"Weed killing A Team"

Opening guest speakers



"Packed house"

Image: Josh Biddle

Inside trade displays/booths

Outside education



"Well planned venue"

"I want to be a sniffer dog"

Image: Josh Biddle

Image: Josh Biddle



"Become a member of the Weed Society"

"Boys with their toys"

Image: Tony Cook

Image: Josh Biddle



"Westie weed boys"

"Some boys have bigger toys"

Image: Hillary Cherry

Image: Josh Biddle



“Dining with weed royalty”

Image: Josh Biddle

“Resistance is futile”

Image: Josh Biddle



“Twins”

Image: Josh Biddle



COMBATting GLYPHOSATE RESISTANT WEEDS ALONG FENCE LINES, CROP MARGINS AND ROADSIDES

INTRODUCTION

A common approach to managing fence lines, road sides and crop margins is to use glyphosate for weed control. Glyphosate is ideal in this situation, because it is a broad-spectrum herbicide that controls both seedlings and larger plants, does not leach through the soil, is easy to use and is cheap. However, glyphosate is also the most important herbicide used for fallow management, roadside weed management and along fence lines. Its use in all of these places has resulted in the evolution of glyphosate resistant weeds. Once these weeds establish in one location they can easily move to other locations. Fence lines, roadsides and crop margins are particularly problematic areas due to the lack of competition present. This means that any glyphosate resistant individual that survives can set a lot of seed. A change of practice is required for roadside and fence line weed management. There is increasing evidence showing the demise of glyphosate based treatments. A diversity of weed species are now on the glyphosate resistance register and are reported to be found along road sides and fence lines. As a result, glyphosate resistant weeds such as a flax-leaf fleabane, common sowthistle, windmill grass, annual ryegrass and feather-top Rhodes grass are thriving in these environments. Most of these species

have wind-blown seeds and can rapidly infest other areas causing more problems.



Standard practice: wide passes with glyphosate
Image : Andrew Storrie

The recent commencement of the NSW Biosecurity Act, is very relevant to this issue, which relates strongly to the general biosecurity duty: “any person who deals with biosecurity matter or a carrier and who knows, or ought reasonably to know, the biosecurity risk posed or likely to be posed by the biosecurity matter, carrier or dealing has a biosecurity duty to ensure that, so far as is reasonably practicable, the biosecurity risk is prevented, eliminated or minimised”.

Although fence lines and crop margins can be important areas for weeds to establish and spread, roadsides get special attention. This means that a person or authority who has responsibility for the care, control or management of a road (and roadside), must prevent, eliminate or minimise weed biosecurity risks that they know about or could rea-

Occurrence of glyphosate resistant annual ryegrass and fleabane in Australia (not including broad acre cropping and horticulture)
Source: Australian glyphosate sustainability working group

Weed	Sites	Number of sites	States
Annual ryegrass	Driveway	6	NSW, Vic, SA, WA
	Fence line/crop margin	91	NSW, Vic, SA, WA
	Around buildings	2	NSW
	Irrigation channel/drain	14	NSW, Vic, SA
	Airstrip	1	SA
	Railway	2	NSW, WA
	Roadside	95	NSW, SA, WA
	Pasture	1	WA
Fleabane	Around Buildings	1	NSW
	Irrigation channel/drain	10	NSW
	Railway	3	NSW
	Roadside	34	SA, NSW, Qld, Vic



sonably be expected to know about. The Roads Act identifies the 'roads authority' responsible for the management of different types of roads within NSW.



Standard practice: when glyphosate fails. Glyphosate resistant annual ryegrass Image : Tony Cook

Weed management options for road sides, fence lines and crop margins

There are a number of management options for weeds along road sides, fence lines and crop margins. Glyphosate resistance is occurring in this area as a result of the intensive use of glyphosate, limited use of any other controls and the lack of competition. Changing management practices will reduce the problem. The area adjacent to the crop can be cultivated, slashed, rolled for hay, grazed by stock or treated with herbicide. The aim is to reduce the ability for problem weeds to set seed that can be moved to crop areas of the farm.

All of the options for management can result in other problems. Cultivation can leave the area prone to erosion and reduce trafficability. Slashing and cutting for hay takes extra time and is a vector for spreading weed seed. Grazing can be problematic in sourcing stock, if not already on the farm, and stopping them from straying into the crop. Increasing competition over the area will help limit the impact of glyphosate resistant weeds. This means limiting the area left bare to the minimum. This could be achieved through growing the crop closer to fences followed by slashing to create a fire

break, removing fences and cropping over the area or not putting crop margins in the same place every year. One idea that has been proposed is to grow native grasses in these areas, fence lines or road sides. While they could be very useful in providing competition against weeds. Unfortunately many native species are not tolerant of herbicides used in the cropped area and eventually the grasses would weaken and gaps would appear allowing weeds to invade.



Slashing: Non-chemical options have their own issues Image : Tony Cook

The reduced efficacy of glyphosate has necessitated research into alternative chemical options. Despite the broad range of alternative herbicides, most of these are not suited because of limited weed control spectrum, high potential for off-target impacts or lack of registration for these situations.

In response to this need, NSW DPI has completed 12 experiments on the glyphosate resistant weed species previously mentioned. Although there is more refinement of treatments in future years, the preliminary findings are worthy of highlighting and discussing. Potentially there are five alternative modes-of-action herbicides that have some potential for commercial control of these weeds.

- | |
|---|
| Weed species researched by NSW DPI |
| Flax-leaf fleabane |
| Annual ryegrass |
| Feather-top Rhodes grass |
| Common sowthistle |
| Windmill grass |



The long term objective of this research is to obtain more effective treatments and thus achieve excellent control of glyphosate resistant weeds along fence lines, crop margins and roadsides. With improved management of weeds in these areas, the level of quarantine is augmented and the spread of glyphosate resistance is minimised.



This plot was treated with Group B and Group C herbicides. Complete long term control

*This plot was treated with glyphosate (Group M), adjacent to a canola crop. Some survival of ryegrass evident
Image: Tony Cook*



*This plot was treated with clethodim (Group A), adjacent to a canola crop. Almost no effect.
Image: Tony Cook*

IN SUMMARY

There is an industry need to develop treatments for better fence line, crop margin and road side management of weeds. Although glyphosate has long been the preferred option, glyphosate resistance in many weed species has threatened this practice.

It appears combination of herbicides is the likely solution. So far herbicides from Groups B, C and G complement each other's weed control spectrum. The imidazolinone herbicides, are known for their excellent efficacy on grasses and poor longer term control of thistles and fleabane. However, some Group C or G herbicides have shown to provide good control of grasses while demonstrating excellent longer term control of surface germinating weeds such as common sowthistle and fleabane. Therefore the combinations of these two herbicides have excellent longer term control of grasses and surface germinating broad leaf weeds. Once weeds have grown beyond the 20cm height stage an application of paraquat is recommended to promote the speed of brownout.

More research is planned over the next three years to investigate more herbicides. One group of herbicides will receive more attention. Namely, herbi-



cides from Group G mode-of-action have some registered uses as residual herbicides. Also, there may be some other herbicides that were once used over 30 years ago that may have some utility in this area.

It is important to note that effective fence line, crop margin and road side weed management does not have to involve using herbicides to bare the soil. It could also use competitive effects of desirable species in these areas and using selective herbicides to manage any weeds with little impact on the desirable species. However, this aspect is not the scope of the current project but may be investigated in the future.



More experimental work at Trangie, focused on wind-mill grass control *Image: Tony Cook*



Treatments working well (except the control plot) and preventing weed spread *Image: Tony Cook*

Big influx of new members have seen the benefits of joining the Weeds Society

In the previous edition of *A Good Weed* (Spring) we welcomed 11 new society members. Apart from getting the regular newsletters and various awards, members are also entitled to huge savings when they register for the NSW Weeds Conference and the Australasian Weeds Conference. This discount is \$100 per conference, which is more than the joining fee for the Weed Society. It is no wonder there has been renewed interest in joining our society. Welcome and enjoy the services we provide.

There are now another 21 members

- Stephen Chalmers (Albury)**
- Scott Charlton (Orange—NSW DPI)**
- Justine Clarke (Blacktown)**
- Jeremy Crocker (Riverina)**
- Erin Fardy (Sutherland)**
- Jane Goldsworthy (Riverina)**
- Tony Gunning (Upper Macquarie)**
- Robyn Henderson (Orange—NSW DPI)**
- Sam Porter (Port Stephens)**
- Jordan Skinner (Port Stephens)**
- Chris Jackson (upper Macquarie)**
- Karen Jenkin (Hawkesbury)**
- Deb Lensen (Eurobodalla)**
- Matthew Lincoln (Albury)**
- Jillian McIntyre (Northern Beaches)**
- Paul Marynissen (Central Coast)**
- Scott McLachlan (Gwydir)**
- Jill O’Grady (Upper Macquarie)**
- Neville Plumb**
- Tim Scanlon (NPWS)**
- Chris Stanfield (Hawkesbury)**

Dr Rex Stanton - Life Membership for the Weed Society of NSW



After successfully completing a BSc degree (majoring in Zoology and Ecology), with Honours, at the University of New England, Dr Rex Stanton secured his first job in 1989 as a technical officer with what was then NSW Agriculture (now NSW Department of Primary Industries). This was where his weed research started as he investigated the control of woody weeds based in Cobar in central western NSW. His work focused on strategic grazing using goats with subsequent follow up with herbicide applications.

Moving to more temperate climates in 1997, Rex went to Wagga Wagga to undertake research at Charles Sturt University into glyphosate resistance in annual ryegrass. An expansion of that research program to include agronomic studies of transgenic crops led to his Ph.D looking at the broader implications of the role of glyphosate in future southern Australian farming systems.

You can never keep a good weed researcher down and Rex completed a Post Doctoral Research Fellowship with the Graham Centre, an alliance between Charles Sturt University and NSW Department of Primary Industries after this. His research focused on a Meat and Livestock Australia funded project on innovative control of silverleaf nightshade and prairie ground cherry.

Keeping himself even busier though, Rex has been an active member of the Weed Society of New South Wales since either 2002 or 2003. He has been on the Executive Committee since 2003, been the CAWS representative for the Weed Society of NSW since 2005 (with a break for good service from 2013

-2015), was the Vice President in 2006, spent five good years as President from 2008-2013, (and indeed is still the immediate Past President), and has been the Treasurer since 2015. Further, he edited the flagship society publication *50th Jubilee. A history of the Weed Society of New South Wales 1966-2016* which was released last year.

Although I only physically met Rex in 2004, after we had served together on the Organising Committee for the 14th Australian Weeds Conference held in Wagga Wagga that year, (where he was the Conference Secretary and Secretariat), I had been serving alongside him since 2003 when he was CAWS Secretary and I was CAWS Treasurer. It has always been a great pleasure to serve alongside Rex, as I am sure many of you will agree.

Rex was a member of the National Glyphosate Sustainability Working Group (2004-2008) and its chair from 2006-2008, has been an editor of the journal *Plant Protection Quarterly* since 2012, and is, no doubt on many other committees in his community.

In recognition of his outstanding contribution to weed management in NSW, he was awarded the Society's Medal for Excellence in Weed Management in 2010.

Rex is a true gentleman and friend and I have enjoyed our professional relationship and friendship from the day I first met him at the other end of a telephone receiver some years ago.

He is a deserving recipient of Life Membership for the Weed Society of NSW.

Dr Stephen Johnson



Dow AgroSciences Australia

Start the season with the best support tools : Videos

Dow AgroScience Australia, have an excellent range of educational videos, apps and weed technical sheets to assist those new or experienced in the weed control profession.

There are two websites: for your reference www.woodyweedspecialists.com.au/why-control-woody-weeds/demonstration-videos/

www.woodyweedspecialists.com.au/why-control-woody-weeds/weed-control-resources/#weedsheet

How to apply herbicides

Depending on the species of weed and the product used to treat, there are a number of different ways in which each herbicide can be applied to the target weed.

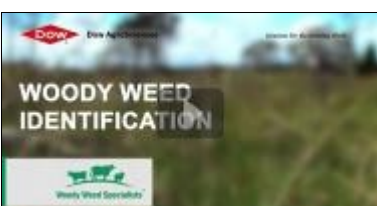


Woody weeds are vigorous and hardy. Their persistent nature means it is essential to use a programmed approach over three or more seasons to control them. Different woody weed species often

require different herbicides and application techniques for long-term control, so always read the label before undertaking any herbicide treatment.

Woody weed identification

Different weed species require different herbicide and application techniques to maintain long term control. Consider these five easy steps when killing woody and noxious weeds.



New ThinLine™ Application technique saves time and diesel

A new technique to apply Access + diesel has recently been approved for use called ThinLine Application. The same equipment is used for both



Basal Bark and ThinLine techniques – the difference is the height of the stem that needs to be treated and the dilution rate.

It's important to be aware of the surrounding environment when spraying woody weeds because if



you are not careful you might inadvertently cause damage to other vegetation in the area or allow chemicals to enter a waterway.

There are a total of 13 videos on this site, so please check it out. Well worth investigating.



Dow AgroSciences Australia

Start the season with the best support tools : Weed sheets, apps and more

We're here to help you control woody weeds

Using more than 50 years of weed control knowledge, we have developed some resources for you to use to help you better control the weeds on your property and manage your land.

The Woody Weed Help Line

Need some information on weed control? Contact the Woody Weed Help Line, available Monday to Friday during business hours to answer any questions you have on controlling woody weeds. Whether you're in the shop trying to decide what herbicide treats which weed best, or in the paddock wondering what the best rate is to kill your target weed, the Woody Weed Help Line offers the support you need to find the answer.

The Woody Weed Control Guide

The Woody Weed Control Guide is the essential handbook for controlling woody weeds on your property. It contains everything you need to know about what herbicide to use on what weed and is updated each year with the latest weed control knowledge to ensure that you can stay up to date with the most effective ways to manage weeds on your property.

The Woody Weed App for tablets

The Woody Weed App for tablets has brought the latest thinking in weed control into the digital age. Whether you are at home or in the middle of a paddock, the Woody Weed App for tablets allows you instant access to:

- What herbicide to use on what weed
- Weed identification
- Weed treatment timing

- Herbicide application videos
- What treatment method to use on each weed
- Herbicide labels and safety information.

The Woody Weed Tablet App gives you instant access to all the information you need to become a woody weed expert.

Search for 'Woody Weed' in the App Store or Google Play Store

The Rate Finder App for smartphones

The Rate Finder App allows you to match any herbicide to any weed, at any time. Instantly accessible from your smartphone, the Rate Finder App will allow you to find the application rate of any herbicide that will get you the best results.

Whether you are:

- Trying to find out what herbicide to use on a weed in your paddock
- In the store trying to figure out how much herbicide you'll need
- Looking for information on what weeds a particular herbicide will treat
- Figuring out the best times to spray each weed
- Looking for mixing rates and spray volumes



Woody Weed Tech Sheets

The Woody Weed Tech Sheets contain all the information you need to treat individual weeds in your paddock. There is a tech sheet dedicated to each significant weed in Australia, and each weed sheet contains information on:

- Weed growth and biology
- The best time to treat
- The best herbicides to use and how to use and how to apply them
- How to identify weeds



Treasurer's report: NSW Weeds Society Inc - Rex Stanton

TREASURER'S REPORT – supplied on 7th December 2017.

Financial Report

BENDIGO BANK (Statement Account)

	Opening Balance	(1/10/2017)		\$ 15,435.57
	Income:			
various	Membership	7 m/ships = 1 Student	\$ 375.00	
				\$ 375.00
	Expenses:			
	02-10-17 Merchant Fees		\$ 26.21	
	18-10-17 Active Print Receipt books		\$ 229.90	
	18-10-17 Eureka 21AWC		\$ 98.27	
	22-10-17 Buerckner Award		\$ 60.00	
	02-11-17 Merchant Fees		\$ 13.47	
	16-11-17 Eureka 21AWC + Exec		\$ 247.61	
	24-11-17 Australia Post		\$ 11.35	
				-\$ 686.81
	Closing Balance	(1/12/2017)		\$ 15,123.76

COMMONWEALTH BANK (21AWC)

Opening Balance	(1/10/2017)	\$ -
Closing Balance	(1/12/2017)	\$ -

SOCIETY ACCOUNT SUMMARY

Bendigo Bank Statement Account	\$ 15,123.76
Bendigo Term Deposit 2506 (6mths @ 2.15%; matures 5/02/2018)	\$ 20,608.68
Bendigo Term Deposit 2507 (6mths @ 2.15%; matures 05/05/2018)	\$ 20,731.76
Commonwealth Bank Account 1021 2468 (21AWC)	\$ -
21AWC Acct. c/- Abercrombie Management	\$ 18,866.81

SOCIETY NET LIABILITIES

CAWS 21AWC Seed Funding	\$ 15,000.00
CFF 21AWC Seed Funding	\$ 10,000.00

Society Net Position	(1/12/2017)	\$ 50,331.01
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Membership

The Society currently has 161 members, including 8 Life Members. There are 140 financial members and 13 currently non-financial for this year. A number of students are included in the non-financial member list, and their non-payment may reflect completion of their degrees.



CAWS report - Rex Stanton & Hillary Cherry

In 2017, CAWS received three applications across the two travel awards offered, with one award being made. Dilani Hettiarachchi, a PhD student from Lincoln University, received a \$1,500 travel grant to present papers at a joint meeting of the 33rd annual meeting of the International Society of Chemical Ecology (ISCE) and the 9th meeting of the Asia-Pacific Association of Chemical Ecologists (APACE), Kyoto, Japan in August 2017.

The 20AWC was held in Perth during early September 2017, with around 260 delegates attending. The conference returned a small profit of \$5-8,000. A final report is yet to be made available from this conference.

A new auditor has been engaged by CAWS, with accounts now being reported on an accrual basis rather than the previous cash accounting basis. CAWS net financial position at 30th June 2017 was \$106,779.66, with \$30,000 tied up in seed funding loans for the 20AWC and 21AWC.

CAWS has negotiated a two-conference sponsorship deal with the Grains Research & Development Corporation (GRDC), which will see the GRDC as the major sponsor of the next two Australasian Weeds Conferences.

A new Western Australian Association Incorporations Act (2015) came into effect in July 2017. CAWS has a three-year transition period to bring their constitution into compliance with the new Act and is still in the process of assessing the mandatory changes required. The Executive Committee will also take the opportunity to review the entire constitution for any other voluntary changes to keep the constitution up to date.

The Tasmanian Weed Society is struggling to remain viable. Frank discussions with the Tasmanian delegate at the September meeting indicated the TWS has not met for some time and is in real danger of being wound up unless they can submit outstanding annual returns. A significant problem is the lack of a committee and no-one in a position to drive the necessary process of forming a new committee.

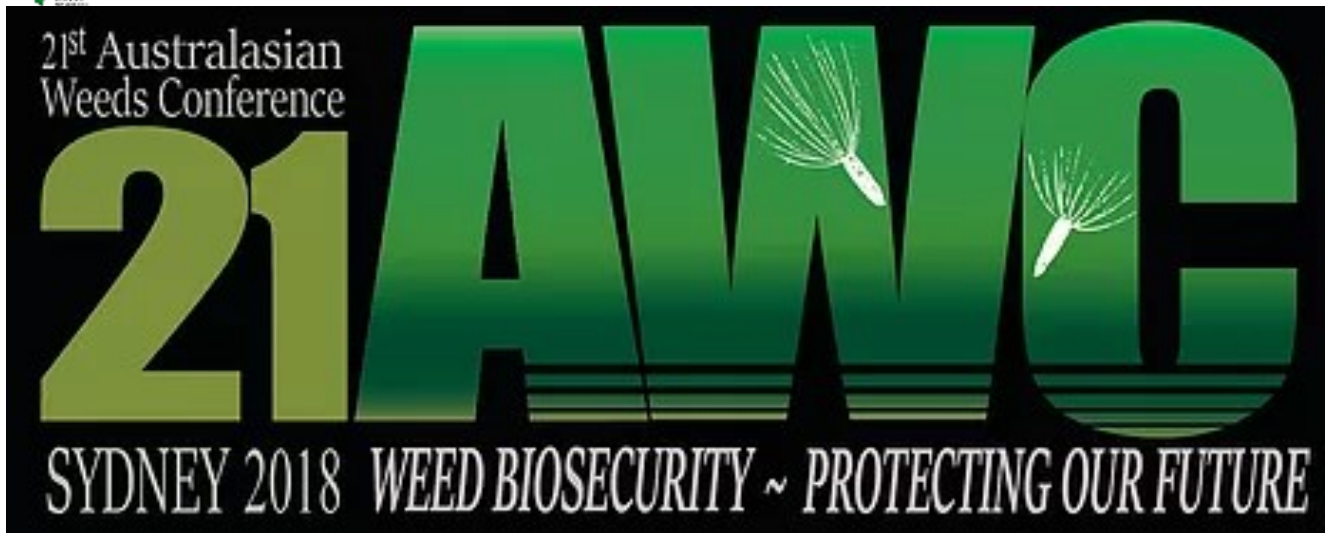


CAWS has become more proactive with promoting awareness of weeds and their management. CAWS has provided a submission to the revised Australian Weeds Strategy 2017-2027; had representation at an Environmental Biosecurity Forum; is a key community group participating in Federal Department Environment run Biosecurity Roundtables and Environmental Biosecurity; and supported an Invasive Species Council (ISC) submission on Red Imported Fire Ant (RIFA).

At the AGM in September, the existing CAWS Executive team was returned to office. Michael Winderick has been appointed as Public Officer for CAWS. In this capacity he will be the primary contact between CAWS and both the WA Dept. of Commerce and the ATO with respect to completing annual returns and maintaining registration details.

Rex Stanton and Hillary Cherry
CAWS Delegates





The Weed Society of New South Wales Inc., on behalf of the Council of Australasian Weed Societies Inc., will be hosting the 21st Australasian Weeds Conference in the popular Sydney beach side suburb of Manly from 9 - 12 September 2018. An assortment of field trips will be hosted on Thursday 13 September 2018.

This biennial conference carries on a long tradition of bringing the weed management community together to discuss new developments and share information about cutting-edge and best weed management practices.

Key Facts

- **Between 250-300 delegates are expected, representing all sectors of the multi-billion dollar Australasian weeds community.**
- **Weeds are an intractable problem for Australia, incurring control costs, economic loss and landscape and environmental degradation.**
- **Weeds are among the most serious threats to Australia's primary production industries and natural environment, with an estimated cost of \$3.3 billion to the grains sector alone each year.**

Please note these special dates:

August 8th : Special deals for accommodation close

August 13th: Early bird registrations close

Themes

- **Modelling and new technologies in weed management.**
- **Biological, mechanical and herbicide weed control research.**
- **Herbicide resistance.**
- **Weeds of crops and pastures.**
- **Weeds of National Significance and en-**

5 Field trips to choose from

FIELD TRIP 1 : Garden Ferries Tour

Experience the best of Sydney harbour, Taronga Zoo and the Royal Botanic Gardens. Your ticket includes lunch, a two-day ferry pass for one person (valid 13-14 September), entry and tour of the Gardens including the Herbarium plus entry to Taronga zoo. Comfortable shoes and a medium fitness level are required.





FIELD TRIP 2 : Life's a Beach Tour

Explore Sydney's Northern Beaches, including Long Reef Headland, Pittwater's Western Foreshore and North Head. Your ticket includes ferry transportation, morning tea and lunch, Yamaha Sky Helicopter demo plus a guided tour of Bushcare Rocky Point and North Head. Comfortable shoes and a medium fitness level are required.



FIELD TRIP 3 : Biosecurity Tour

Visit NSW's premier quarantine and biosecurity facility, the Elizabeth Macarthur Agricultural Institute, as well as the Plantbank science and research facility at the Australian Botanic Garden Mount Annan. Your ticket includes transportation, entry into the institute and gardens, and presentations on Tiger Pear bio-control and African Olive and Serrated Tussock.



FIELD TRIP 4 : World Heritage Tour

Travel to the beautiful Blue Mountains via Bilpin Fruit Bowl. This tour includes a tour of the Blue

Mountains Botanic Garden, Govetts Leap, Echo Point (with abseiling demonstration) and Wentworth Falls (with bio-retention system talk). Your ticket includes all transportation, tours and lunch at the Potager in Mt Tomah.



FIELD TRIP 5 : Waratahs and Wildflowers Tour

Join National Parks & Wildlife Service Discovery Guides and Rangers on an immersive visit to the wildflower wonderland of Muogamarra Nature Reserve, on the northern outskirts of Sydney. Your ticket includes transport, guided walks within Muogamarra Nature Reserve, packed lunch and afternoon tea. Comfortable shoes, sun protection, day pack, water bottle and medium fitness required.



Please check out more details on www.21awc.org.au

Or for all conference enquiries contact





New member profile

Husam Khalaf

As a PhD student in weed science, it was my pleasure and honour to be invited to attend the NSW Weeds Conference from 16-19 October 2017.

First of all, I would like to introduce my PhD research project to you. I am studying the competitive ability of triticale with annual ryegrass in comparison to wheat under different environmental factors. My research aims to identify the most competitive triticale cultivar, the growth characteristics that are most related to crop competitive ability and the most effective factors influencing crop competitiveness. I have conducted five glasshouse experiments and one large field trial and I am currently working on the results and writing my thesis.

The weed conference was a great opportunity

for me to learn more information and gain expertise in weed management through the different presentations as well as the weed identification field trip.

The conference was very well organised and managed. If I am able I would like to participate again in the Newcastle weed conference to further add to my experience and skills in weed research and management.

Finally, I would again like to express my appreciation for your invitation and also thank my supervisor Prof Brian Sindel for nominating me for the registration that the Society kindly offered to a UNE weed science student.

Please let me know of any other events either in New South Wales or Australia or internationally that may be of interest to me.

Yours sincerely



Welcome to the Weeds Society of NSW Husam

**In the next edition of A Good Weed,
we investigate attempts at trying to chemically
sterilize environmental weeds: a temporary tactic
to prevent seed spread**



The Weed Society of New South Wales Inc. acknowledges the generous support of the following organisation for their sponsorship of the Society and this Newsletter

