

# A GOOD WEED



Newsletter of The Weed Society of New South Wales Inc.

ISSN 1325-3689

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A Good Weed is published by:  
The Weed Society of New South Wales Inc.  
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## #51 Winter 2010



Under this mass of aloe, morning glory & bitou bush is small native coast banksia *Banksia integrifolia*. Will it survive?

The image on page 4 shows what can be done with a successful regeneration program undertaken by The Esplanade Bushcare Group, Cronulla. Image ©Lawrie Greenup .



## Society News

### President's Report – Rex Stanton



Firstly, I would like to welcome Birgitte Verbeek into the position of Vice President. Birgitte has been involved with the society for many years and has experience and passion for weed management. Birgitte has been instrumental in forging linkages with the Weed Officers Association and promoting Weed Society involvement

with the NSW Biennial Weeds Conference.

The next Australasian Weeds Conference will be held in Christchurch, New Zealand in September. All society members should note they are eligible for a discounted registration fee if they attend. The program caters for a range of weed issues, and can be viewed on the conference website ([www.17awc.org](http://www.17awc.org)).

During the conference, CAWS will be holding a face-to-face executive meeting. This provides an opportunity to discuss a range of issues that may not necessarily be covered during the regular teleconference meetings. If any society member has an issue of national relevance they would like to see discussed, please let the society secretary know (email: [secretary@nswweedsoc.org.au](mailto:secretary@nswweedsoc.org.au)) before 13 August.

To maintain the strength and relevance of CAWS, one issue that may need discussion is the frequency of the Australasian Weeds Conference. A decision was made in 2002 to move from a three year frequency to a two year frequency, although all but one of the state societies expressed concerns. The demise of the CRC has reduced funding flowing into weed research, and the current schedule for Australasian Weed Conferences will see every second conference held in the same year as the International Weed Science Congress. While advantages were identified in 2002 for moving to a two year frequency, changes in circumstances may now favour a three year frequency.

### Birgitte Verbeek Weed Society's New Vice-President

Birgitte has worked for the last 22 years for NSW Department of Primary Industries. Starting as a technical officer supporting research programs, including control of weedy annual grasses in cropping and pasture systems, fallow weed management and development of competitive crops to reduce the reliance of farmers on herbicides to manage weeds.

Birgitte then held the position of Regional Weed Control Coordinator for the Riverina Region where she worked along side local government and other land managers to carry out functions under the Noxious Weeds Act 1993. She led Task 5.2 within the Education Program of the Weeds CRC. This task was to "Develop the skills of weed professionals". Under which a wide range of educational resources were produced for the Vocational Education and Training Sector, weed professionals and the general community.



Birgitte currently works out of Tamworth Agricultural Institute and holds the position of Weeds Extension Team Leader. Her main priorities in this position are to continue providing quality information resources and training for Weed professional and NRM managers in NSW and beyond. She says that she has a great team of people she works with and hopes that the funding and support continues to keep the work going.

### Travel Support Grant & Student Prize

#### Extension of time for submissions until 1 September 2010

People who are interested in applying for either of these awards can obtain the application forms from the Society's website [www.nswweedsoc.org.au](http://www.nswweedsoc.org.au) or contacting the secretary [secretary@nswweedsoc.org.au](mailto:secretary@nswweedsoc.org.au)





## Society News

### Proposal for the involvement of the Society with other organisations in the conduct of future NSW Weeds Conferences

A small committee working group, comprising Birgitte Verbeek, Jim Swain and Lawrie Greenup, met in Sydney on the 5<sup>th</sup> May 2010. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss a proposal to become involved in the conduct of future NSW Weeds Conferences (conference) and to evaluate how this would fit into the Society's aims and objectives.

The opportunity to become involved in the conduct of future conferences has arisen due to a new planning structure, being lead by Industry and Investment NSW, for these conferences.

The working group first established the objective of becoming more involved with the conference. This being:

***To make the Society more relevant to a wider range of weed professionals.***

Following this the question was asked - *Why should the Society become involved?*

The working group determined that:

- The Society is experiencing reduced membership.
- The Society is now not as relevant to new weeds people i.e. those working in the environmental, local government and natural resource sectors.
- The Society has fewer & fewer people within the Society to run seminars and has an ageing executive.
- The Society acknowledged a changing focus and structure within Industry and Investment NSW towards Invasive Species Management including weeds.
- There is a changed focus within the Agrochemical industry towards weed management.
- Seminars are not as successful financially as they have been in the past and there are limits to the amount of time people can give freely to their organisation.

The benefits of being involved in the conduct of future conferences were then discussed and the working group determined that if the Society were to support future conferences:

- The Society will be seen to be directly supporting contemporary personnel working in weeds.
- There will be an increase in membership from the new weeds personnel which will ensure continued financial viability.

- Involvement with the organisation/management of the NSW Weeds Conference will meet the Society's aims and objectives.
- This involvement will encourage increased willingness of members to become involved in the executive and committee.

### Proposal for involvement in the conduct of future NSW Weeds Conferences

The working group put to the full committee that the Society contributes \$15,000 funding towards the 16<sup>th</sup> NSW Weeds Conference. A condition placed on this support is that Society members will receive a \$100 discount on the registration fee for this Conference.

In addition, the working group proposed that the Society establish and administer a Future Conference Fund account to help ensure ongoing organisation and conduct of the conferences. Additionally, it was proposed that a portion of surplus funds remaining after the conduct of the 16<sup>th</sup> NSW Weeds Conference be deposited into this account.

This proposal was accepted by the Executive Committee and a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) has since been established between Industry and Investment NSW, Coffs Harbour City Council and the Society re the funding for the 16<sup>th</sup> NSW Weeds Conference.

### Future conferences planning structure

Four core organisations have agreed to participate as members of a steering committee to ensure the future convening of the biennial conduct of NSW Weeds Conferences. They are Industry and Investment NSW, The Weed Officers Association of NSW, The Weeds Society of NSW Inc. and the Local Government and Shires Association. A Memorandum of Understanding re the future roles of each organisation in the convening and conduct of the conferences is currently being developed.

### 16<sup>th</sup> NSW Weeds Conference

The 16<sup>th</sup> NSW Weeds Conference is being hosted by Coffs Harbour City Council and will run from the 19<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> July 2011.

Warwick Felton, representing the Society, attended the inaugural meeting on 25 July 2010 held in Coffs Harbour to plan for next year's conference. Birgitte Verbeek and Tony Cook, Society members, also attended the meeting representing their respective organisations.



## Society News

### **Turf Grass Cultivars & Weed Control Seminar – AGM & Dinner Pennant Hills Golf Course & Club Thursday 25 November 2010**

An informative day followed by a festive evening, in one of the most pleasant settings in Sydney's North West, is planned for the 25 November 2010. The day will include a seminar, a field inspection & walk through Pennant Hills Golf Course, the Annual General Meeting followed by a lovely dinner with genial company.

Put it in your diary now!

The seminar will be given by Peter McMaugh, a long time Society member, who was recently awarded the Graham Gregory award for his contribution to the turf industry. Peter will talk of his experiences as a scientist and consultant in turf over the last fifty years.

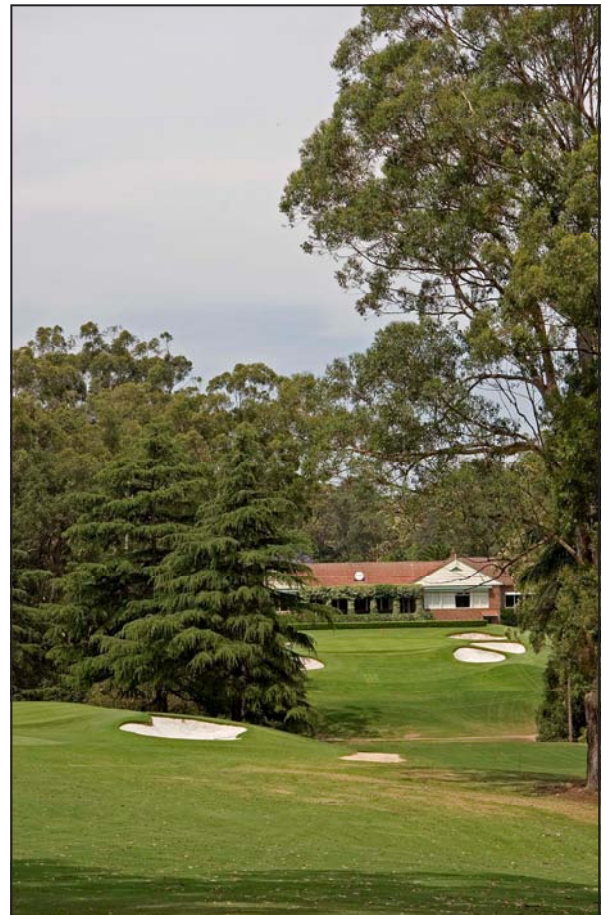
An inspection of new turf cultivars and weed control will precede the seminar.

The seminar and the inspection of the turf variety and weed control plots will be of interest to all involved in the turf, lawn/landscape and weed control industries.

After the seminar the Annual General Meeting will be held in Golf Club facilities followed by the Annual Dinner which is always a convivial event enjoyed by members and friends.

Members and non-members are invited to come along to one, two or all three events — the seminar, AGM and Annual Dinner.

Full details and costs will be up on the Society's website [www.nswweedsoc.org.au](http://www.nswweedsoc.org.au) in late August or early September 2010.



*Pennant Hills Golf Club with some of the course's greens, sand traps and fairways with a blend of exotic and native trees. Image: © L Greenup*

### **From the Editor**

This is the first of the Society's full colour newsletters so we want material, preferably short & interesting articles, with good quality images which will reproduce well in colour.

**What do we want?** Local & regional news about people & events, new emerging weed species, weed management issues, bushland regeneration, weed research summaries, book reviews and anything to do with weeds.

Please ensure your images are in focus, well formatted, with good colour balance, suitable for reproduction in colour. Images should be sent as jpeg files no bigger than 1 MB, preferably 300 – 500 KB. All images will be acknowledged

**Material submission dates: #52 Spring Issue 30 September 2010**

**#53 Summer Issue 1 December 2010**

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## Society News

### Treasurer's Financial Report (as at 5 July 2010)

For the period 1<sup>st</sup> October 2009 to the 5<sup>th</sup> July 2010 the society has shown a loss of \$4 906.70.

A loan of \$2 500.00 was made to RG and F Richardson to support the book they are producing for Ros Shepherd. This loan will be repaid on sale of the book and to date an amount of \$416.00 has been received which reduces the overall loss for the year to date to \$2 821.17.

#### Account/term deposit balances as at 5<sup>th</sup> July 2010.

Club Cheque Account \$1 161.20

Money Extra Cash Management \$8 235.99

Term Deposits:

- \$23 411.63 expires 24<sup>th</sup> September 2010 – 6.0%
- \$25 795.78 expires 25<sup>th</sup> October 2010 – 5.85%
- \$22 987.49 expires 24<sup>th</sup> July 2010 – 6.05%

With funds of \$81 592.09 the society is in a sound financial position, however we must be cognisant of the need to ensure that we at least maintain our current financial position and in this regard must ensure that seminars and other activities show a profit.

To help maintain our financial position those members who have not yet paid their 2010 membership fees are urged to do so as soon as possible

#### Membership.

We currently have 101 who have paid their 2010 subscriptions with 35 who are still outstanding for 2010. 7 members are still outstanding for 2009 and 2010. With 2 life members this gives a total membership of 145.

As fees for 2010 were due on the 30<sup>th</sup> June 2010 those members who have not yet paid will be sent a reminder notice shortly.

J.M. Swain Hon Treasurer



Regenerated area. The Esplanade Cronulla  
Front cover shows previous weed problem.

### Philip Blackmore Committee Member



Philip has 15 years experience in weed management. He graduated from Hawkesbury Agricultural College with the award of Diploma of Applied Science (Ag.) in 1981.

After a period with Pacific Seeds in Toowoomba, Philip joined the Department of Agriculture in Sydney as an agricultural inspector. Based initially at Flemington Markets he later transferred to Armidale where his role was to “oversee the orderly demise of the New England pome fruit industry”.

In 1995 Philip was promoted to the position of Noxious Plants Advisory Officer at Tamworth. The position was subsequently relocated to Armidale.

Philip has overseen considerable reform of noxious weed management at the regional level. He has taken a strong interest in the development of skills of weeds officers, particularly in planning, legal process and extension.

Philip was chairman of the 15<sup>th</sup> Biennial NSW Weeds Conference at Narrabri in 2009.

Philip has a strong interest in the public policy of weed management. In 2004 Philip completed a Graduate Certificate in Applied Science (Ag) from Charles Sturt University with a major project to establish the validity of the test applied to candidates for weed declaration.

His major achievements are leading the ongoing and successful project to prevent the establishment of Parthenium weed in NSW and the declaration review of galvanised burr that enabled its removal from the noxious weeds list.





## Post-Graduate Research Projects

## Camel melon and prickly paddy melon - invasive weeds of Australia

Razia Shaik, PhD candidate, Charles Sturt University

Camel melon (*Citrullus lanatus*) and prickly paddy melon (*Cucumis myriocarpus*) are two cucurbit melons which were initially introduced into Australia in the mid 1800s, and have more recently become invasive. They invade natural habitats, and are a growing menace in field crops, including dryland cotton and wheat. Once established, these fast-growing vines can establish dense monocultures in fields, paddocks and roadsides, if adequate moisture is available to support their continued growth. As they are fast growing and very drought tolerant, they tend to outcompete other weeds and crops which are more susceptible to drought.

There are five cucurbit species which were introduced to Australia, as a potential feed crop or as a seed contaminant. Among these camel melon and prickly paddy melon are the most common invaders. Although these melons are originally native to Africa, camel melon seems to have been introduced from its secondary centre of origin of Western India, Pakistan and Afghanistan. It is thought to have arrived with the camel trade in the mid 1800's, either as a camel feed or as a seed contaminant. Prickly paddy melon also arrived in the mid 1800's and its point of origin in Australia is currently unknown. Today, camel melon is widely distributed across coastal and inland regions in south, central and eastern Australia but occurs also in western Australia. Prickly paddy melon is also widely distributed throughout northern, southern and eastern Australia, including Tasmania.

Both melon species are summer annual, prostrate vines, and are usually found in semi-arid to arid climates. In the case of prickly paddy melon, the stem bears undivided tendrils. Leaves are deeply indented with five lobes. The central lobe divided again into 3 further lobes, with a hairy lower surface. The flowers are yellow colored and occur in axillary clusters of 2-3. Fruits of prickly paddy melon are globose and are 1.5 cm to 3.0 cm in length with soft bristles and light and dark green stripes, turning yellow at maturity. Camel melon resembles prickly paddy melon except for the presence of bifid tendrils, axillary single flowers and 10-15 cm long

spherical to oblong shaped fruits, which can be striped or spotted in appearance.

Previously mainly weeds of fallow land, paddocks and roadsides, these species have recently spread to become significant weeds of wheat and other dry land crops.



Camel melon *Citrullus lanatus*

They are generally unpalatable to most grazing animals except camels, and prickly paddy melon is reported to be quite toxic. Their seed biology is unique with good viability in seed banks over several years and seed dormancy which enables them to survive unfavorable and droughty conditions. In addition, these melons possess the ability to root very deeply, with strong taproots, an annual growth habit and due to secondary products they contain in fruit, stem, seeds and leaves are generally non-palatable to livestock. They also exhibit significant resistance to pests and diseases, and potential allelochemical interactions may positively influence their ability to invade new areas. From our survey work, conducted with melons from Victoria, NSW and SA, there is considerable phenotypic and possibly genetic diversity that exists among populations (or biotypes) across Australia.

Currently, the literature on the ecology and biology of these cucurbit invaders is scarce, as very little research has been conducted on their distribution and spread, here in Australia and also overseas. My research efforts focus on studying their life cycle, biology, and spread across Australia in an effort to determine the origins of these species now in Australia, and to evaluate the potential for evolution over time in association with plant invasion. Past research has shown that exposure to new environments may promote or enhance genetic diversity in many cucurbits.

Through my research I seek to investigate the reasons for continued invasive success of these melon species in various biogeographical zones across Australia and, if possible, worldwide. A greater knowledge of the biology of these cucurbits will contribute to a better understanding of invasion ecology, as well as potential sustainable weed management strategies for these species.

**Contact:** Razia Shaik [rshaik@csumain.edu.au](mailto:rshaik@csumain.edu.au)



## Post-Graduate Research Projects

**Lantana *Lantana camara*: are we overestimating its impact on native plant communities? Ben Golden Ph.D Candidate University of Wollongong**

*Lantana camara* (lantana) is the bane of the Australian bush regenerator and land manager; it is a prickly, alien, invasive shrub, brutal to work in, difficult to eradicate and pervasive in its distribution and apparent impact on all facets of natural ecosystems. In November of 2006, a few months before beginning my Honours degree in conservation biology at the University of Wollongong, I was taking a train ride through the lush temperate rainforests of the Illawarra Escarpment and was struck by the dense, impenetrable swathes of lantana extending uninterrupted into the forest. There was no doubt in my mind that this weed had a stranglehold on the plant communities in which it proliferated. I was determined to find out more. However, a quick search through the scientific literature revealed very little information on lantana's impact on native ecosystems and, specifically, no information documenting its impacts on native plants. This was surprising since lantana is listed in the top ten worst weed invaders worldwide and is a Weeds of National Significance (WONS) in Australia.

I sought to find out whether lantana really is having as much of an impact on native plant communities as we all assume.

I asked three principal questions: (1) Is there a negative association between the abundance of lantana and the number, abundance and distribution of native plant species in wet sclerophyll forest of south-eastern New South Wales? (2) Does removal of lantana initiate recovery of native plant communities? (3) Does lantana cause a reduction in growth of native tree seedlings? I found, as expected, that there was a loss of native plant species following lantana invasion and that species losses occurred for all major growth forms in the forest: ferns, herbs, shrubs, trees and vines, which led to changes in forest composition and physical structure. Unexpectedly, I found that lantana only initiated species loss where it exceeded 75% foliage cover in the forest understorey. Below 75% there was no detectable impact on native species, that is, most species continued to occupy sites despite the presence of lantana. Thus, there appears to be a *threshold* of lantana impact. This is encouraging news

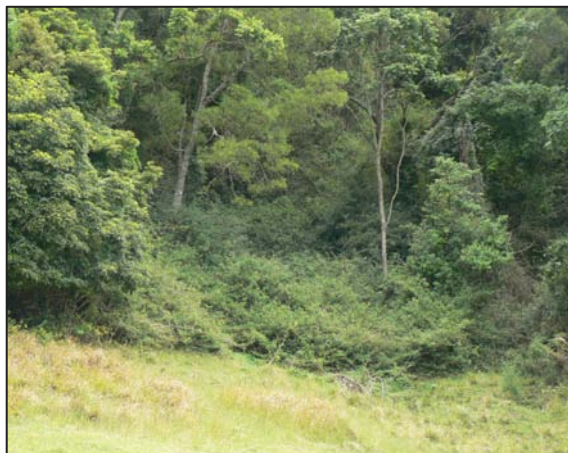
and implies that native ecosystems are more resilient to lantana invasion than we ever thought possible.

In the second part of my study I found that removal of lantana resulted in a doubling of species and a 13-fold increase in number of tree seedlings at a site. This is good news for bush regenerators trying to restore native forest following lantana invasion. It shows that lantana impacts, although spatially extensive, are reversible and communities have a high natural capacity to respond to weed control.

Third, I detected moderate impacts of lantana on seedling growth: over only five months, seedlings growing in natural, non-invaded forest grew 20% larger than those grown in invaded areas. However, I found no increase in seedling death in invaded areas.

What are the implications of my research? Basically, despite the extensive invasion of lantana throughout Australia, we can have hope for community recovery! Lantana's impacts are certainly not as bad as generally perceived. Areas with even high covers of lantana still have high species diversity, and species only begin to vanish from areas when lantana exceeds 75%. A cost effective approach to species conservation in some areas might be to *limit* lantana abundance to below this 75% threshold level rather than attempt eradication, which is impossible in most situations. This would then allow us to direct limited funding for lantana control to high conservation areas, such as those containing rare or threatened species. We can also have hope since lantana control results in rapid recovery of native vegetation through seed germination. Last, I found no evidence for increased seedling death in the presence of lantana. It is also important to note that lantana may have some positive roles, include food for native birds (especially in urban forest remnants where fruit is relatively scarce), embankment support in urban stream catchments and cover for native fauna. In light of my findings, I am excited to report that lantana's impacts do not appear to be worse than expected and that native plant resilience and recovery is achievable in invaded forest.

**Contact:** Ben Gooden [bengooden@gmail.com](mailto:bengooden@gmail.com)



*Invasion of lantana at the boundary between wet sclerophyll forest and agricultural land, Woodhill Mountain, Berry, NSW (2008). Lantana is covering the entire understorey vegetation.*





## Glyphosate Resistance

### Roadsides the next frontier for glyphosate resistant weeds

Glyphosate resistant annual ryegrass has recently been confirmed along several kilometres of roadside in semi-rural South Australia. This roadside, like much of Australia's 810,000 kilometres of roads, has a 20 year history of using glyphosate alone for weed control. More cases of glyphosate resistance are likely if management practices don't change.



This is the first recorded case in Australia of a weed becoming resistant to glyphosate due to roadside management practices, a highly significant discovery. The infestation was first observed in 2008 and seed was collected and tested for resistance at the University of Adelaide.

The herbicide glyphosate plays a critical weed control role in all parts of Australian agriculture as well as other sectors of the community including roadsides, railways, parks and gardens and environmentally sensitive areas.

Over-reliance on glyphosate for control leads to weed populations being dominated by resistant individuals, with the herbicide no longer effective. Weed seeds then

spread to other areas by water, wind and machinery creating problems for roadside management and adjacent landholders.

Currently there are glyphosate resistant populations of annual ryegrass, awnless barnyard grass, and liverseed grass in Australia. Overseas there are another 4 grasses and 8 broadleaf weed species that have developed resistance to glyphosate.

Associate Professor Chris Preston, Chair of the Australian Glyphosate Sustainability Group, made these comments:

- Although the South Australian infestation was first noticed in 2008 it had clearly been there for some time for it to have spread so far. Roadsides are routinely treated with glyphosate herbicide alone with few other effective weed control techniques being used, which should be ringing alarm bells with roadside managers.
- Authorities, councils and communities must start looking at a range of roadside weed management techniques to prevent the development and spread of glyphosate resistant weeds along roadsides and movement into other sectors of the community.
- More planning needs to go into roadside vegetation management to prevent the development of glyphosate resistant weeds, while meeting road safety requirements.
- Preventing the seed set of those weeds surviving the herbicide application is critical to the management of herbicide resistance. This applies as much to roadside weed management as it does in farming."

Anyone suspecting glyphosate resistant weeds should contact their state expert with details available from the Australian Glyphosate Working Group web site - [www.glyphosateresistance.org.au/suspect%20glyphosate.htm](http://www.glyphosateresistance.org.au/suspect%20glyphosate.htm)

**Further information:** [www.glyphosateresistance.org.au](http://www.glyphosateresistance.org.au)

## Integrated Weed Management (IWM) Workshops

Integrated Weed Management (IWM) workshops help growers identify how they can better plan and manage weeds in their farming systems. The focus is always on how important it is for growers to drive down the weed seedbank over time by using a more diverse range of weed management tactics than currently used.

Such strategies are economical as they reduce weed competition, give greater cropping flexibility and maintain the effective life of key herbicides for longer and

delay the onset of more severe and costly weed resistance problems.

IWM workshops are limited to 20 participants, so bookings were essential. Cost is \$55.00 per person.

**Further details & bookings:**

John Cameron

Ph: 02 9482 4930

Website: [www.icanrural.com.au](http://www.icanrural.com.au)





## Bitou Bush, a New I&I Position & Two Different Workshops

### A Successful Bitou Bush Control Program

A recent survey of the Eurobodalla Shire coastline has revealed the noxious weed, bitou bush, has been virtually eliminated. Inspections after the good February rainfall found only several plants capable of setting seed this winter and very few seedlings.

Although this was a great achievement the community has been asked to assist Council in reporting any bitou bush plants because Council has unable to inspect all sites as the weed problem occurred on 90 kilometres of the Shire's, sometimes in strips of 10 kilometres in length,

Council Weed Control Inspectors suggest if anyone notices isolated seedlings or plants they should be pulled out and left to dry out and die. Larger plants need to be reported to the Council.

The Bitou Control Program's success has been due in part to the support of many Landcare groups, private property owners and crews from the Eurobodalla National Park, a fact acknowledged by the Council. The elimination of bitou bush has been directed by the South Coast Bitou Bush & Boneseed Taskforce which has continued this work over the past 15 years.

Strategic control of bitou bush is being carried out south of the containment line from Sussex Inlet to the Victorian border in south-east NSW to protect the 158 listed endangered and vulnerable plant species across the state.



*Graham Harding (now retired) and Mick Johnson (pictured), Noxious Weeds Controller Inspectors, have been in the forefront of this important program.*

**Further Details:**  
Courtney Fink  
Estuary & Environment Coordinator  
Eurobodalla Shire Council  
Email: [Courtney.fink@eurocoast.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Courtney.fink@eurocoast.nsw.gov.au)

Mick Johnson,  
Noxious Weeds Controller Inspector  
Eurobodalla Shire Council  
Ph: 02 4474 1370 or Mb: 0418 695 254.

Hillary Cherry  
National Coordinator Bitou Bush & Boneseed  
Department Environment, Climate Change & Water  
Email: [hillary.cherry@environment.nsw.gov.au](mailto:hillary.cherry@environment.nsw.gov.au)

### NSW Weed Awareness Coordinator



Jessica Grantley is the new incumbent in the NSW Weed Awareness position with Industry & Investment NSW, located in Grafton. Jessica will continue to work with key stakeholders across NSW to raise awareness of weeds, promote the NSW No Space for weeds slogan and develop and promote resources to support the new weed awareness theme – *Hygiene*.

The new theme of *Hygiene* includes the sub-themes:

- **At home** – What to do around the home and property to prevent weed introduction and spread.
- **At work** – What to do to prevent the potential spread of weeds whilst at work, including the wash down of machinery, vehicles and equipment.
- **At play** - How to prevent the spread of weeds through recreational activities including bush-walking, fishing, boating and 4wd driving.

**Further Information:**  
[jessica.grantley@industry.nsw.gov.au](mailto:jessica.grantley@industry.nsw.gov.au)

## What Does Your Garden Grow? What Pesky Plant is That? Workshops

### What does your garden grow? - NSW 2010

- \* 15 September, Coffs Harbour
- \* 20 October, Orange (to be rescheduled)
- \* 24 November, Sydney/Blue Mountains

### What pesky plant is that? - NSW 2010

- \* 16 September, Coffs Harbour
- \* 21 October, Orange (to be rescheduled)
- \* 25 November, Sydney/Blue Mountains

Numbers will be limited to 20 for WDYGG and 16 for Pesky Plants. . The cost of \$210 per day per head includes training, resources, morning tea and lunch. About 10 starters per workshop are needed to make it viable for me to travel. Contact Annette for full details and a registration forms.

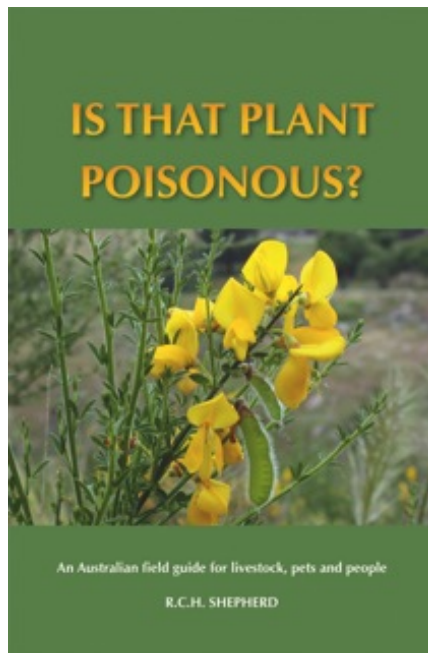
**Contact:**  
Annette Beer, Education Officer Ph: 02 6938 1671  
Email: [annette.beer@industry.nsw.gov.au](mailto:annette.beer@industry.nsw.gov.au)  
Website: [www.industry.nsw.gov.au](http://www.industry.nsw.gov.au)



Publications

An Australian field guide for livestock, pets and people

Author: R.C.H. SHEPHERD



There are a large number of plants found on farms and bush blocks, along roadsides, in waste places and in gardens that are considered poisonous to livestock, domestic pets and people.

IS THAT PLANT POISONOUS? will help you become more aware and familiar with these plants, most of which are of a weedy nature. It has been written for everyone, but especially for farmers, gardeners, bush walkers, pet owners, veterinary surgeons and parents.

The book uses easy-to-understand language with colour photographs to aid plant identification. It details who the plant is poisonous to, which parts of the plant are poisonous and the toxins that are likely to be encountered, as well as symptoms of poisoning. Symptoms are also listed according to plant species and animal in a comprehensive and informative appendix.

All the plants in this book are found in Australia. The book consists 264 pages, full colour, gatefold cover

Price \$55.00 [includes GST]

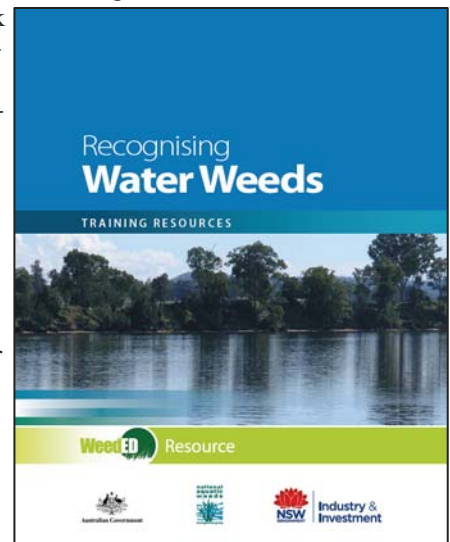
Available from:

R.G. & F.J. Richardson, PO Box 42, Meredith, Vic 3333  
Tel/Fax 03 5286 1533

Email: richardson@weedinfo.com.au

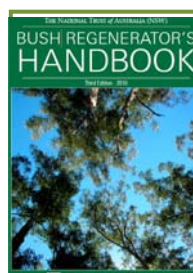
Recognising Water Weeds Training Courses and Identification Guide

I&I NSW have recently delivered 10 new training courses on Recognising Water Weeds across regional NSW. The new training resource is an initiative from the National Aquatic Weeds Management Group which is being promoted and delivered in NSW through these 10 courses. The courses have provided at least 200 NRM professionals with skills in water weed identification and management. Live plant specimens were used to show the key features that distinguish noxious weeds from their native look-a-likes. Participants are given a range of materials, including an Identification guide which helps them identify water plants in the future and a resource CD for them to print resources and deliver training to community or landholder groups in their local area.



Early detection is critical for the eradication of aquatic weeds as it enables infestations to be addressed when they are small, saving time and money. The courses have proven successful with 3 new water weed infestations being recorded over a 5 week period following the training course delivery. Having more people across the State trained to identify these water weeds will help with early detection and enable rapid response to manage new infestations.

For more information on the Recognising Water Weeds course visit [www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/agriculture/pests-weeds/training](http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/agriculture/pests-weeds/training) or email the NSW Aquatic Weeds Project Officer at [melissa.freeman@industry.nsw.gov.au](mailto:melissa.freeman@industry.nsw.gov.au)



The Bush Regenerator's Handbook is now available at \$33.00 including GST plus postage.

Please contact the National Trust  
Ph: (02) 9258 0176

Email: [bms@nationaltrust.com.au](mailto:bms@nationaltrust.com.au)





## What's On

### New South Wales

Seminar: '*Turf Varieties & Weed Control*'  
Annual General Meeting & Annual Dinner

Pennant Hills Golf Club  
Copeland Road  
Beecroft

25 November 2010

Contact: [secretary@nswweedsoc.org.au](mailto:secretary@nswweedsoc.org.au)

### Victoria

18th Australasian Weeds Conference.

*'Developing solutions to evolving weed problems'*

Sebel and Citygate  
Albert Park, Melbourne

8-11 October 2012

Details will be on the Victorian Society's website in the near future.

### New Zealand

17th Australasian Weeds Conference.

*'New Frontiers in New Zealand'*

Christchurch, New Zealand  
26 - 30 September 2010

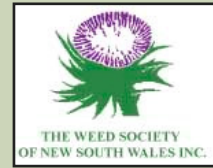
[www.17awc.org/index.php](http://www.17awc.org/index.php)



Gorse *Ulex europaeus* is a widespread problem in New Zealand despite many years of ongoing control measures to limit its spread. It is a weed of national significance in Australia, particularly in Tasmania and the southern mainland states.

An infestation of gorse photographed by Warwick Felton, a committee member, on his recent holiday in NZ.

## Office Bearers & Committee Details



### Office Bearers for 2010

*President*

Rex Stanton [Wagga Wagga]

*Vice President*

Birgitte Verbeck [Tamworth]

*Immediate Past President*

Stephen Johnson [Orange]

*Secretary*

Alan Murphy [Umina]

*Treasurer*

Jim Swain [Thornleigh]

*Public Officer*

Mike Barrett [Beecroft]

### Committee Members

*Newsletter Editor*

Lawrie Greenup [Westleigh]

*Assistant Newsletter Editor*

Hanwen Wu [Wagga Wagga]

*CAWS Delegates*

Rex Stanton [Wagga Wagga]

Warwick Felton [Tamworth]

*Committee*

Phillip Blackmore [Armidale]

Tony Cook [Tamworth]

Warwick Felton [Tamworth]

Lawrie Greenup [Westleigh]

Hanwen Wu [Wagga Wagga]

*Committee Meeting Dates*

August 13 October 8 December 10

Annual General Meeting November 25

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**If unable to deliver return to:**

**The Newsletter of  
The Weed Society of New South Wales Inc.  
PO Box 438  
Wahroonga NSW 2076**

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



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