

A GOOD WEED



Newsletter of The Weed Society of New South Wales Inc.

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The Weed Society of New South Wales Inc.
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Editor: Lawrie Greenup
Assistant Editor: Hanwen Wu



Winter grass *Poa annua*, a major weed in golf course greens. Control of this weed will one of the topics covered at the Society's seminar in November at the Pennant Hills Golf Course. Image ©



Society News

From the President

This is the second edition of this newsletter to be published in full colour. This has been a long awaited step forward, as this will allow better use of images throughout the newsletter. For those members who may not already be aware, past copies of the newsletter back to 1995 are now available from the society's website.

It is with great pleasure that I can report that the executive committee has agreed to a memorandum of understanding that allows the society to proceed with being a major supporter of the NSW Biennial Weeds Conference. A significant benefit for society members is a discounted registration fee. I extend a heartfelt thank you to the committee members who have worked tirelessly to bring this collaboration to fruition, and who continue to contribute as members of the organizing committee for the 2011 conference.

A perennial problem for this society, and all other Australian weed societies, is how to continue to attract new members. Attendance demographic data for the Australasian Weeds Conferences indicate that approximately half of the delegates are not members of a state weed society. Keeping the society relevant is important, and it is anticipated that our involvement with the Biennial Weeds Conference will assist in achieving this.

The 17th Australasian Weeds Conference, held in Christchurch this September, was the first conference held since the closure after the last weeds CRC. A review of the average number of papers presented at past conferences indicates that the CRCs contributed a 60% increase in papers. The number of papers correlates to the number of delegates attending these conferences. This marked increase in papers and attendance reflects the benefits to weed research and extension derived from the CRC. In the absence of another entity to replace the role played by the CRC, participation in future conferences can be presumed to remain lower than during the CRC period. This may require a review of the frequency of Australasian Weeds Conferences.

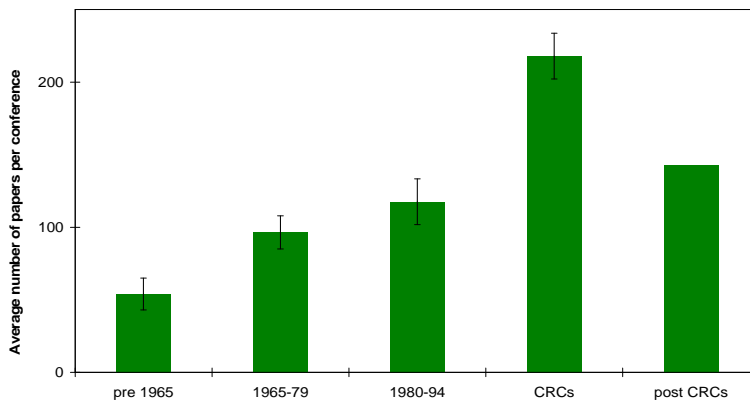


Figure: Number of papers presented at Australian Weeds Conferences by era (average \pm s.e.)

Rex Stanton President

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

Annual General Meeting 25/10/10

Committee Meeting 10/12/10

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Society News

New Members

Rex Stanton, President and Committee would like to welcome the following new members to the Society.

Maree Costigan—Holroyd Council
Ben Gooden — Post-Graduate Student
Jessica Grantley — I&I, NSW
Michael Noble—DPIPWE, Tasmania
Razia Shaif — Post-Graduate Student
Bronwyn Steed

Members' benefits include a quarterly newsletter, reduced registration fees for Society functions, cheaper membership fees for genuine students and the opportunity to become involved in all of the Society activities.

Annual General Meeting

Pennant Hills Golf Club 1700 –1800 hours

The main agenda item for the AGM will be the election of office bearers for 2010/11.

Nominations will be accepted from the floor of the meeting or you can advise the secretary Alan Murphy Ph: 02 4341 3574; or secretary@nswweedsoc.org.au **not later Friday 19 November 2010** advising that you wish to nominate for one of the positions. All nominations must have a seconder.

The positions are: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Public Officer, Newsletter Editors and the Committee.

Check the website or the insert in this newsletter for details

Treasurer's Financial Report (1 October 2009 to 30 September)

For the period 1st October 2009 to the 30th September 2010 (which is our financial year) the society has shown a loss of \$6,247.53.

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 \$5,831.56.

Account/term deposit balances
-as at 30th September 2010.

Club Cheque Account \$2,252.06
Money Extra Cash Management \$16,322.43
Term Deposits:

- \$24,119.75 – expires 24 March 2011 – 5.90%
- \$25,795.78 – expires 25 October 2010 – 5.85%
- \$13,677.15 - expires 24 Jan 2011 – 6.00%

With funds of \$82,167.17 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.

During the year improvements to the web site and the layout and presentation of the Newsletter have been made which we believe has improved the overall image of the society.

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 121 who have paid their 2010 subscriptions with 21 who are still outstanding for 2010. 10 members who were outstanding for 2009 and 2010 at the end of August 2010 have been removed from the membership list.

With 2 life members this gives a total membership of 143.

As fees for 2010 were due on the 30th June 2010 those members who have not yet paid are urged to pay the outstanding amount.



Jim Swain.
Hon Treasurer

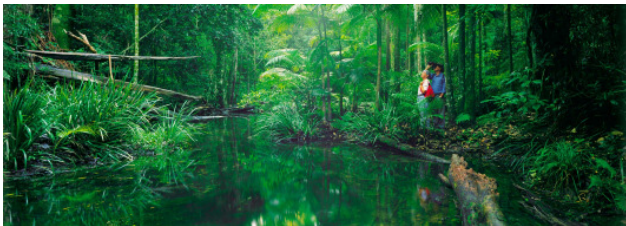


Society News



16th NSW Weeds Conference
'Making a difference—from country to coast'
18 - 21 July 2011 at Pacific Bay Conference Centre, Coffs Harbour

Sponsored by: Coffs Harbour City Council Industry & Investment
The Weed Society of New South Wales Inc.



Call for Papers

The Conference Program will include invited speakers, presentations from weed professionals, interactive workshops, trade displays and relevant on ground field experiences.

The proposed topics are:

- Successful partnerships
- Innovative extension education approaches
- Case studies
- New technologies and research
- Inspiring strategies
- New weeds issues
- Poster displays

Your input is greatly appreciated and we welcome any presentation suggestions you may have – tell us your stories.

Please forward the following to the Conference Manager:

- Presenters Name and Organisation
- URL (optional)
- Name of Presentation or Poster
- Duration (10 or 20 minutes please)
- 300 word Abstract of Presentation or Poster
- Any Special Requirements (AV, PC, Multi-media etc)

Please submit your Abstract to the Conference Manager by the 26 November 2010.

Successful applicants will be forwarded a 'Speakers Pack' with all relevant information.

Discount on registration 16th NSW Weeds Conference

The Weeds Society of NSW Inc. has recently evaluated current membership and activities and has recognised a need to shift its focus to more directly support contemporary personnel in the weeds industry.

One major initiative to facilitate this transition is to become a partner in the conduct of the NSW Weeds Conference.

To promote this transition the Society has contributed \$15,000 toward the conduct of the 16th NSW Weeds Conference in Coffs Harbour in 2011.

Members of the Society will receive a **\$100.00 discount** off the registration cost of the 16th NSW Weeds Conference.

The Society has also set up a "Future Conference Fund" and will administer this account to ensure the ongoing conduct of NSW Weeds Conference and to support future conference hosts and committees to run this important event.

Conditions for the discount are that you must be a member of the Society before November 31st this year and also be a member next year (the membership year runs from January to December).

**Join up
& make the Society work for you!**

Go to: www.nswweedsoc.org.au/about_us/membership





Post-Graduate Research Projects

Echinochloa species in Northern Grain Region Farming Systems

*Michelle Keenan PhD Student
University of New England*

Echinochloa crus-galli (barnyard grass) and *E. colona* (awnless barnyard grass) are commonly referred to as barnyard grasses and have been reported as common summer weeds in farming systems of the northern grain region (NGR). Farmers experience difficulty in achieving effective control of *Echinochloa* with varied levels of success being reported. In a 2001 survey of dryland cotton cropping systems, no farmers reported good control of barnyard grasses in sorghum and only 38 percent reported good control in cotton (Walker *et al.* 2005). Since that report, management of *E. colona* has become even more important and potentially difficult due to the confirmation of glyphosate resistant populations in Australia (Heap 2010).



Barnyard grass *Echinochloa crus-galli*

This research was undertaken to identify what species of *Echinochloa* were present in the farming systems of the NGR, to provide reliable methods to assist in the correct identification of *Echinochloa* species, and to investigate if the varied levels of control being achieved with glyphosate could be attributed to morphological variations and/or the genetic diversity present within populations. The purpose of investigating these areas was to provide information that would be useful when devising principles for effective and sustainable weed management strategies to better control and reduce the current threat of glyphosate resistance development in these weeds.

Field surveys undertaken in 2004 established that both *E. colona* and *E. crus-galli* were present in farming sys-

tems of the NGR. *Echinochloa colona* was the most widespread and accounted for 93 percent of the plants sampled while *E. crus-galli* occurred primarily in northern New South Wales with a few populations established in southern Queensland. A morphological characteristic that proved to be the most reliable in distinguishing between the two species was the presence of bristles on the racemes of mature *E. crus-galli* plants. The presence of awns is frequently used to distinguish *E. crus-galli* from *E. colona* but this characteristic was not a reliable tool in this study as only a few of the plants sampled in the field had noticeable awns. Michael (1973) stated that awning was a variable feature in some forms of *E. crus-galli* and was dependent on environmental conditions. Similarly, in younger plants, purple transverse banding on the leaves can be used to identify *E. colona*. However as the banding is not always present, it cannot be used to distinguish between the species.

Five microsatellites (SSRs) previously developed for *Echinochloa* species were used to establish the genetic diversity of the two species. *Echinochloa crus-galli* populations were genetically similar across the sampling area but *E. colona* was found to be genetically diverse, containing distinct genetic groups that could be related to regional collection sites.

There was a large variability in the response to glyphosate applications between and within populations of both species. At 14 days after treatment, good control of both species was achieved with all plants sprayed with the recommended rate dying. However, treatments applied at the lower rates did not provide total control of either species. While the variability in control of populations ranged from low to high susceptibility, it was evident that none of the populations tested were resistant to glyphosate. Therefore, in the absence of resistance, most populations of *E. colona* and *E. crus-galli* should be able to be effectively controlled with label rates of glyphosate. It is important for weed managers to remember that these species are at very high risk of developing resistance to glyphosate with three currently confirmed cases in the NGR (Preston 2009). Each of these populations has developed resistance under a system of fifteen years sustained use of glyphosate. Therefore, an integrated weed management (IWM) approach applying different chemical and non-chemical weed control tactics should be used to both improve weed control and prolong the effective life of glyphosate.

References:

Heap, I.M. (2010). International survey of herbicide resistant weeds. Retrieved 29 May 2010 from <http://www.weedscience.org>



Post -Graduate Research Projects

Michael, P.W. (1973). Barnyard grass (*Echinochloa*) in the Asian-Pacific region with special reference to Australia, in *Proceedings of the 4th Asian-Pacific Weed Science Society Conference*, Sigma Print Limited, Rotorua, New Zealand, pp. 489-493.

Preston, C. (2009). Australian glyphosate resistance register, Australian Glyphosate Sustainability Working Group. Retrieved 28 April 2010 from <http://www.glyphosateresistance.org.au>

Walker, S.R., Taylor, I.N., Milne, G., Osten, V.A., Hoque, Z. & Farquharson, R.J. (2005). 'A survey of management and economic impact of weeds in dryland cotton cropping systems of subtropical Australia'. *Australian Journal of Experimental Agriculture*. **45**, pp. 79-91.

Contact:: Michelle Keenan keenan.md@live.com

Ecology of Fleabane: Research Update

*Todd Green PhD Student
University of New England*

Flaxleaf fleabane, *Conyza bonariensis*, is a problem weed in disturbed sites within temperate climates in Australia and other parts of the world, with some populations tolerant to important herbicides, including glyphosate. Fleabane has become increasingly prevalent and problematic in minimum tillage cropping systems in the northern cropping region of Australia. A PhD project, sponsored by the CRDC and Cotton CRC, investigated the ecology of fleabane in order to better understand its success in minimum tillage systems.

Optimal germination temperature for fleabane is 25°C, with no germination occurring below 10°C or above 30°C. Although fleabane emergence coincides with rain events, fleabane is capable of germination in environments with reduced water availability, up to -0.8 MPa (permanent wilting point is -1.5 MPa). Light is a requirement for fleabane germination. In a 90% shade environment, fleabane germination is reduced by 80% compared with a full light environment. A minimum tillage system, with crop residue, provides favourable temperature for fleabane germination in the northern cropping region by offering protection during very cold days and a reduced soil temperature on hotter days.

Fleabane is not capable of emergence when buried beneath the soil surface. At greater seed burial depths, although no emergence occurs, the time which the seed remains viable for is increased. For example, at a burial depth of 1 cm, seed can remain viable for 37 months, but

at a 10 cm burial depth the period of viability is increased to 80 months. In a minimum tillage system, the majority of the seed remains on the soil surface, the preferred germination site for fleabane. Soil type and stubble levels were found to effect fleabane emergence. On a heavy soil, for example black vertosol, higher rates of fleabane emerged when stubble was present compared with no stubble present. The additional moisture offered to the microsite in a minimum tillage system adds to the success of fleabane.



Flaxleaf fleabane *Conyza bonariensis* inflorescence

Fleabane seed is capable of long distance wind dispersal due to its seed morphology which provides a slow settling velocity. The hairs attached to the fleabane seed (pappus) can change their shape under different humidity levels. In environments of high humidity, the pappus hairs are closer together, creating less drag on the seed as it moves through the air. Increases in dispersal distance can occur in environments of low humidity levels due to the change in shape.

Fleabane can emerge all year round in the northern cropping region. Fleabane plants emerging in late-autumn or winter, which overwinter as a rosette, produce 40% more seed compared with plants emerging in spring. Seed production is prolific, with more than 85,000 seed per plant. Fleabane has a short period of 6 weeks between stem elongation and seed production which adds to its invasiveness.

Contact: Todd Green tgreen6@une.edu.au



Society Turf Seminar & Field Inspection

Turf Management & Weed Control

A Weed Society of New South Wales Seminar & Inspection of Demonstration Plots

When: Thursday 25 November 2010

Where: Pennant Hills Golf Club Copeland Road Beecroft

Program

1000 to 1030 Registration & Morning Tea

1030 to 1130 Inspection of Herbicide Demonstration Plots

Barricade® Henk Smith [Syngenta Crop Protection]

Nominee® Peter Kirby [Nuturf Australia Pty Ltd]

Tribute® Jyri Kaapro [Bayer Australia Limited]

1130 to 1230 Management & Pest Control in Turf Peter McMaugh

PETER McMAUGH, Turfgrass Scientific Services, the keynote speaker for the seminar, recently was awarded the Graham Gregory Medal for his contributions to the turf industry. Peter has worked in the industry for many years and he will look at what has happened in the past, what is happening now and what the future may hold for the turf and associated industries

REGISTRATION DETAILS & FORMS:

Secretary: Email: secretary@nswweedsociety.org.au

Phone: 02 4341 3574

Website: nswweedsociety.org.au

SEMINAR SPONSORS:

Bayer Australia Limited
ChemCert (NSW) Ltd
Globe Australia Pty Ltd
Syngenta Crop Protection

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:

Richard Kirkby Course Superintendent
For his assistance in the planning and set-up
of the demonstration plots

Registration and payment details are in an insert in this newsletter & on the Society's website.



Turf Seminar & Weed Society of New South Wales Inc. Sponsors



Bayer Environmental Science

Bayer turf field trial products:

Turf Shield™

Chipco Signature®

Bayer Environmental Science is a business operation within a much larger Bayer global enterprise which has core competencies in the fields of health care, nutrition (crop protection) and high-tech materials. Bayer Environmental Science has a focus on a number of business areas and Turf Management is at our core. Our aspiration is to protect the environment we live in and improve our quality of life. It is to provide greater environmental, hygiene and health benefits, as well as to improve living standards and comfort.

We are firmly aligned to our mission statement “Bayer: Science For A Better Life” and continue to make product development decisions and portfolio changes based on this philosophy.

Aligning business to sustainable success has been a top priority at Bayer for a long time, and this strategy is proving effective even in a difficult environment. We are committed to the principles of sustainable development, and to our role as a socially and ethically responsible corporate citizen. For us, there is a clear link between technical and economic expertise and corporate social responsibility. At Bayer, we regard economy, the environment and social commitment as objectives of equal rank.

The success of our business and sustainability strategy has been confirmed for many years by international sustainability indices and funds. For example, Bayer was once again included in the Dow Jones Sustainability World Index (DJSI World) for the 2008 / 2009 period – the company’s tenth consecutive listing in the world’s most important sustainability index. Bayer is also the first European chemical and pharmaceutical company to be listed for the fourth consecutive time in the Carbon Disclosure Leadership Index – the world’s first climate protection index.

Bayer Environmental Science offers a number of solutions which help maintain turf health. All of these have been developed with the principle of reducing environmental risk and damage and offering improvements over existing or historical technologies. In addition to tradi-

tional pesticide chemistry we are also pleased to offer formulation technology such as Turf Shield™ which helps to maintain overall turf health by protecting bentgrass against damaging UV radiation in sunlight. Turf Shield™ treated turf has been shown to have more healthy root systems and thus presents the potential for greater carbon sequestration. Bayer’s existing product, Chipco Signature® is a two-way systemic turf fungicide that contains Turf Shield™ technology, and new products in the pipeline will also be based on offering this technology.

Our comprehensive portfolio of products includes selective pre-emergent and post-emergent herbicides, a range of fungicides (covering all of the most important turf diseases), and two insecticides. We have a strong focus on product stewardship and the sustainability of the industry, to this end we strive to develop products with reduced environmental impact and greater user safety but with the same high level of performance which users know to expect from Bayer.





Turf Seminar & Weed Society of New South Wales Inc. Sponsors



Syngenta Turf Field Trial Products

Barricade®

Casper®

Syngenta is one of the world's leading companies with more than 25,000 employees in over 90 countries dedicated to our purpose: Bringing plant potential to life. Through world-class science, global reach and commitment to our customers we help to increase crop productivity, protect the environment and improve health and quality of life. www.syngenta.com

In Australia and around the world Syngenta provides a range of innovative turf protection products, and supports them with the highest levels of technical service and support. Every year Syngenta globally invests US\$2 billion into research and development to provide solutions that are specific to the needs of our customers, especially those involved in the golf and sports turf industries.

The Australian Syngenta Turf Team is committed to being the leading provider of innovative products, new chemistry and services, as well as knowledge and technical support for the turf industry. Our aim is to deliver tailored market driven solutions, specialist advice and trusted brands to ensure enhanced value for our customers.

We have a strong portfolio of products in development which will only enhance our already existing turf specific solutions and management tools. One of those management tools is our online resource, "Greencast", www.greencast.com.au – a Syngenta on-line turf management decision support tool, which has proven to be an invaluable tool for hundreds of registered users. The combination of pro-active advice to assist with disease and weed control decisions, combined with a detailed reference tool enables more informed decisions and actions for turf managers.

In 2011 Syngenta Australia will be launching two new products targeted at grassy and broad leaf weed control respectively. Barricade (Prodiamine) which provides a unique level of pre – emergent control for a wide range of grassy weeds and Casper (Prosulfuron and Dicamba) which offers post emergent control on an extensive list of broad leaf weeds.

For further information:

Call: Syngenta Technical Product line on 1800 067 108

Visit our website www.greencast.com.au





Turf Seminar & Weed Society of New South Wales Inc. Sponsors



ChemCerto provides training resources for the delivery of the national farm chemical health and safety training program which is now part of the Agricultural and Horticultural Industry skills training package.

ChemCerto was established in 1999 as a non-profit industry training organisation and is a peak industry group working with the Government sector, various industry associations, dedicated primary producers, farm chemical users and alongside registered training organisations to provide and promote best practice in the use and risk management of Ag/Vet chemicals.

ChemCerto's mission is: "To unite industry groups to ensure best practice across all rural and commercial users of herbicides and pesticides through innovative training and accreditation programs."

ChemCerto has been enthusiastically embraced by a wide range of herbicide and pesticide users including farmers, graziers, horticulturists, viticulturists, forestry workers, community organisations, volunteers and employees of local governments and the National Parks and Wildlife Service.

The ChemCerto program was developed in response to the wider community's concern about potential adverse consequences of the use of farm chemicals and the need to protect the health and safety of rural workers, ensure the security of food and fibre production and maintain the viability of our domestic and export products.

The ChemCerto program has been described as the most successful and important training program ever introduced by rural Australia. It proves that barriers to rural participation in training programs can be eliminated if courses are focused on providing workable solutions and practical hands-on advice and simulations.

In NSW alone ChemCerto has already trained and accredited over 75,000 people as part of this self-funded rural industry initiative.

ChemCerto is a not for profit organisation that invests back into industry training for the benefit of all. ChemCerto works hard to continually improve our training courses and to deliver responsible and safe pesticide use training courses throughout New South Wales. ChemCerto Courses are held in rural towns throughout the year and in the main cities regularly.

Our Trainers are from within the industry, and they have a wide range of roles including as agronomists, researchers, commercial spray operators and leading farming advisors. ChemCerto Trainers keep the course relevant and current by providing hands on practical training and industry updates, sharing their knowledge of best practices, and providing you with easy to use regulatory guidelines for chemical use. Trainers give real practical examples of Integrated Pest Management solutions, and new spraying techniques that help to reduce chemical costs, limit spray drift and improve spraying results.

ChemCerto Accreditation AQF III Courses provide all pesticide users with National Accreditation to legally use pesticides and restricted (agricultural and veterinary) chemicals unsupervised in NSW and is valid for 5 years. ChemCerto's AQF III Units of Competencies are nationally recognised and have been approved by Department of Environment Climate Change and Water (EPA).

To enrol in a ChemCerto Course give Bernadette or Genene a call on Freecall 1800 444 228, 02 6895 4196 or visit our website www.ChemCerto.com.au.

ChemCerto Accreditation provides you with 'The card you need!'



Protecting your Health and Safety





NSW "No Space for Weeds" Campaign

The new NSW *No Space for Weeds* (NS4W), weed awareness campaign - make a difference, at home at work at play was launched at the Australian National Field Days at Borenore, near Orange 19-21 October.

Resource kits will be distributed to all Regional Weed Advisory Groups and will include the new weed awareness resources, posters, postcards, kid's activities, a presentation, display ideas and merchandise samples.

Make a difference at HOME

Dumping garden and aquarium waste can spread weeds

You can stop the spread of weeds at HOME

- Dispose of garden and aquarium waste suitably – at a waste management centre or compost, not in the bush or in waterways
- Manage weeds at home – don't let them move next door
- Stop weeds at your gate – don't bring them home
-

Make a difference at WORK

Vehicles, machinery, equipment and livestock can spread weeds

You can stop the spread of weeds at WORK

- Check livestock and equipment for weeds and seeds
- Wash down vehicles and machinery on site – leave weeds behind
- Be careful not to take weeds with you to your next place of work

Make a difference at PLAY

Bushwalking, camping, fishing, 4WDing and boating can spread weeds

You can stop the spread of weeds at PLAY

- Be careful not to take weeds with you to your favourite place
- Be on the look out for weeds and seeds
- Check and clean all your gear before you leave

For more information: please send an email to jessica.grantley@industry.nsw.gov.au



18th Australasian Weeds Conference 2012 Victoria





Pesticide Issues and Legislation

Glyphosate is being reviewed in the United States and Canada. Is it still safe to use?

The Australian position

The APVMA currently has no data before it suggesting that glyphosate products registered in Australia and used according to label instructions present any unacceptable risks to human health, the environment and trade. Accordingly, the APVMA will monitor the US and Canadian reviews of glyphosate and consider any new evidence that emerges.

The current international consensus based on decades of research and evaluation is that glyphosate remains a safe and effective chemical when used according to label instructions.

In the mid 1990s it was reassessed by the National Registration Authority (the precursor to the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA)) and granted registration following the consideration of relevant scientific information.

From the 1980s to the 2000s various international bodies have carried out assessments on glyphosate and its metabolites. Organisations such as the International Programme on Chemical Safety (IPCS), the World Health Organisation (WHO) and the FAO/WHO Joint Meeting on Pesticide Residues (JMPR) conducted wide-ranging assessments on its toxicology, residues in food and effects on the environment. None of these evaluations identified that glyphosate presented any significant risk.

Thus when the European Union formally assessed glyphosate in 2002, it was consistent with the scientific literature of the time when it found that glyphosate is neither genotoxic or carcinogenic, and has no relevant neurotoxic, reproductive or endocrine disruption effects. The review also contained an extensive assessment of its environmental fate. It notes that there was a comprehensive set of studies to support glyphosate registration in the EU.

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and the Canadian Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA) have recently commenced routine re-registration reviews of glyphosate. Both these regulators have indicated that they will use these reviews to consider new research about glyphosate, including new studies relating to potential environment and health risks.

USEPA and the PMRA initiated routine scheduled re-

registration reviews of glyphosate in mid 2009 and early 2010 and both will formally consider this and any other new evidence. An identified focus of the EPA review, for example, will be a consideration of the ecological risk posed by amino methyl phosphonic acid (AMPA), a degradation product of glyphosate. Another will be an assessment of the surfactant polyethoxylated tallow amine (POEA).

The Canadian review, while more general in scope, will be closely aligned to the USEPA re-registration review. A specific focus is a health and an environmental risk assessment of the POEA/glyphosate combination.

Glyphosate, the active in 300 products, is a broad spectrum, non-selective herbicide widely used for the control of annual, perennial, brush and woody weeds in croplands, industrial and commercial areas, aquatic areas, forests and plantations and in the home garden

Source: APVMA Regulatory Update #108

What is 'due diligence' under the Pesticides Legislation New South Wales?

If something goes wrong when you are applying pesticides the court will look at whether you took all precautions to prevent the problem and whether you exercised 'due diligence'.

'Due diligence' is identifying and addressing the risks associated with pesticide application.

Identifying the risk

Risks include adverse weather, equipment failure, spillage at work, vehicle stability; overspray waterways; threatened species impact; off-target drift; bystander effects and incorrect mixing/application/location

Addressing the risks

Look at current weather forecast – document and save it; maintenance program – planned, documented & signed; check product appropriateness – alternatives; gain professional advice – document surveys; correct equipment – correct weather; notify neighbours; check label thoroughly; operator trained; complete records kept; product & equipment updates – documented; works manual; safety equipment maintenance & replacement – documented; and occasional unannounced work inspections & audits

Extract from a presentation by David Thompson, Pesticide Inspector, DECC&W, to the Weed Society seminar 'New Advances in Herbicides Use' Epping September 2009.



Bushcare and Environmental Weeds

Caring for our Coast



Tzu Chi Bushcare

Photo: Saochi Monica Wong

Few people would consider central Parramatta, St Ives and North Ryde as localities within Sydney’s “coastal” environment, but coasts extend inland kilometres beyond the shoreline.

Tidal rivers and creeks, known as estuarine areas, are classified as coastal, and in the Sydney metropolitan area can go a surprisingly long way inland. This includes up to the weir in Parramatta along the Parramatta River (19km from the start of the river), to the Lane Cove weir along the Lane Cove River (11km up the river), to St Ives along Middle Harbour, the lagoons of the northern beaches, up to Campsie along the Cooks River, to Woronora Heights (28km along the Woronora River), and as far as Liverpool some 49km along the Georges River.

The coastal environment, and the land surrounding it, is unique and varied, as are the issues being faced. Sydney’s coastal environment is challenged with the ever increasing pressures of urbanisation, such as stormwater runoff which can lead to erosion and sedimentation, weed infestation, pollution, recreational activities and loss of habitat.

A number of coastal vegetation communities present in the Sydney catchment are listed as endangered ecological communities, such as Coastal Saltmarsh, Coastal Littoral Rainforest, Eastern Suburbs Banksia Scrub and Swamp Oak Floodplain Forest. These communities are facing an extremely high risk of extinction in the near future.

The Sydney Metropolitan CMA has been successful in securing ‘Caring for our Country’ funding for an exciting new project, “Caring for our Coast”. This is a state-wide initiative with all five coastal CMAs and worth

more than \$3.5 million in total and involves thousands of volunteers working to protect our coastal environment.

As part of this project the SMCMA has awarded almost \$300,000 of funds to 12 projects across the Sydney metropolitan area to protect the coastal environment and engage the local community. The projects represent a diversity of activities at a varied number of sites, from the north with bitou bush control at Turrimetta Heads in Mona Vale, all the way to the south with bush regeneration activities in Kurnell and Sutherland Shire, with projects in Middle Harbour, the Georges River and Lane Cove River in between.

Project partners: Conservation Volunteers Australia, Friends of Lane Cove National Park, Sutherland Shire Council, Sydney Coastal Councils Group, National Parks Association of NSW Inc, North Sydney Council, Lane Cove Council, Pittwater Council, Ku-ring-gai Council.

More information on projects can be found on the SMCMA website, www.smcma.nsw.gov.au.

Source: Mambara — newsletter of Sydney CMA.



Formosa lily seedlings - a potential weed in sandstone bushland areas. Image: ©L Greenup



Book Review



Restoring Natural Areas in Australia

Robin A Buchanan

Colour illustrations 264 pages

Publisher: NSW Industry & Investment December 2009

Paperback - ISBN: 9780731306213 - AU \$ 44.00

Restoring Natural Areas in Australia is a new, practical handbook for managing natural areas. A lavishly illustrated, full-colour publication, it covers all aspects of natural area restoration projects. You'll learn how to assess vegetation, map and describe the resilience of remaining flora and fauna, the implications of climate change, and techniques for managing animal and plant pests

Introduction

Section 1 - Setting the scene

- Describing natural areas
- Damage to natural areas
- Resilience
- Buffers and linkages (corridors)
- Approaches to selecting and restoring natural areas

Section 2 – Your site

- Getting to know your site
- On-site decisions

Section 3 – Organising your project

- Managing your project
- Estimating and costing a project
- Community involvement and funding
- Contracts
- Legislation and legal requirements
- Monitoring and evaluating
- Report writing

Section 4 – Working on your site

- Preparing to work
- Soil management
- Water and aquatic area management
- Managing weeds
- Seed collecting
- Direct seeding
- Planting
- Transplanting and translocation
- Fire management – pile burns
- Visitors – tracks and signs

Section 5 - Appendices

- Introductory site assessment sheet
- Detailed site assessment sheet
- Hazards, risks and safety measures associated with natural area restoration
- Sample pesticide usage record
- Sample pesticide storage inventory

Contact: NSW I&I ph: 1800 025 520

Over the past few decades there has been a burgeoning public interest in restoring degraded bushland areas, particularly those close to urban areas. Numerous bush regeneration groups operate all over Australia and they now have a comprehensive book from author Robin Buchanan to give them the best possible guidance. This is an extremely practical volume designed as a step-by-step guide to planning, managing and implementing natural area restoration projects. It is large format and is wonderfully illustrated with colour pictures, diagrams and tables. It's a must-have for professionals in this field as well as the many volunteers who are, or wish to become, involved in restoring and maintaining natural areas in any part of Australia.

Angus Stewart ABC Gardening Australia



What's On?

Queensland

Symposium: 'Weed Management—Back to Basics'

Mackay Entertainment and Convention Centre
Mackay

31 July - 3 August 2011

Call for Papers and online registration opening in September 2010

More information:

Queensland Weed Symposium Office
Ph: 07 3334 4470 Fx: 07 3334 4499
Email: wsq@eventcorp.com.au

Victoria

18th Australasian Weeds Conference. 2012

'Developing Solutions to Evolving Weed Problems'

The Sebel and Citygate Albert Park
Melbourne Victoria

8-11 October 2012

Call for papers and online registration opening in early 2011.

Visit www.18awc.com for conference updates

More information:

18th Australasian Weeds Conference Office
Ph: 07 3334 4470 Fx: 07 3334 4499
Email: awc@eventcorp.com.au

Don't Forget - Thursday 25 November 2010

- Seminar 'Turf management & Weed Control' Keynote Speaker: Peter McMaugh
- Annual General Meeting
- Annual Dinner

All held at Pennant Hills Golf Club Copeland Road Beecroft NSW

Registration and full details are in this issue and on the website www.nswweedsoc.org.au

From the Editor

We received very positive feedback from our last, full colour issue and the committee has decided to go for a 16 page newsletter for this issue.

We always want material, preferably short & interesting articles, with good quality images which will reproduce well in colour. Any one who has been an editor knows how hard it is to fill the required number of pages so please forward anything you think is suitable for 'A Good Weed'

What do we want? Local & regional news about people & events, new emerging weed species, weed management issues, bushland regeneration, Bushcare, weed research summaries, noxious weeds, legislative issues, book reviews, in fact, 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 for 2010 newsletters: #53 Summer Issue 1 December 2010

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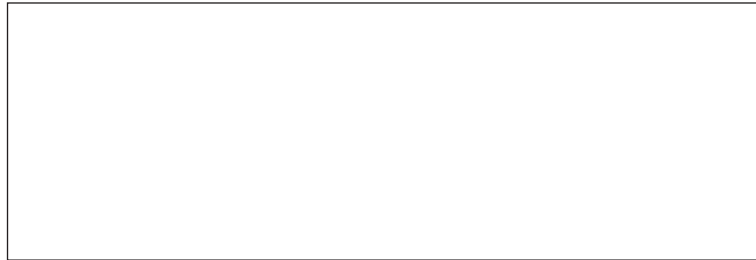
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