

A GOOD WEED



Newsletter of The Weed Society of New South Wales Inc.

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#68 Spring 2014



Lesser quacking grass or shivery grass, *Briza minor*, is a minor weed in temperate Australia occurring in lawns, roadside verges and edges of bushland. The leaves and spikelets are similar to *B. maxima* which is a much larger in all respects and has fewer spikelets than *B. minor*. The two species are often found together flowering and seeding in spring. Image: Lawrie Greenup.



President's Report

I have just been to the Australasian Weeds Conference held in Hobart, Tasmania at the beginning of the month. Over 240 delegates from a wide range of backgrounds in weed management attended. What a great way to obtain a lot of new and wonderful information and hearing about the future challenges for weed management. It was great to see so many members of our Society attending the conference, with many presenting fantastic topics throughout the sessions. I hope that you all enjoyed it as much as I did. Thank you to our host, Tasmanian Weed Society with support from CAWS for putting on a great conference. I am looking forward to the next conference in Western Australia in 2016.

The last couple of months have been busy behind the scene with a sub-committee for the Award and Grants Review looking at improving and adding new awards and grants for our Society. I hope that this review will be finished by October, waiting for the new 2015 committee. In addition, a 2014 Travel Study Grant, was awarded to Barry Shepherd from Cessnock City Council to attend the Australasian Weeds Conference, who will be providing a report on the conference for *A Good Weed*.

Our website manager, Rex Stanton has provided routine maintenance on our website during the last 3 months with publications, events, news and images on our home page have all been updated. Overseas visits to our website during the last 6 months have increased with most from the United States and Brazil. The three most visited pages are the homepage, student page then the publications page and we have 40+ links to our website. I would like to thank our website host Graham Forsythe and Associates for their ongoing support of our website.

This year's AGM will be held in conjunction with our yearly seminar. The seminar, Weeds and other Invasive Species—Common Objectives, is to be held in Tamworth on the 20 November 2014 starting at 9:30am. The seminar will look at some of our invasive animal species affecting NSW followed by a BBQ lunch. The afternoon program will be a discussion session looking at the scope of expanding the Society to include members and events that address pest management issues.

I look forward to seeing you there.

The plans for the biennial conference to be held in Cooma are underway and a website dedicated to the conference is currently under construction. More details of the conference are to come in the next few months.

If you would like to continue receiving this wonderful newsletter "A Good Weed" and our publication "Punnet Tray", can you please ensure that all your contact details including address and email are up to date, so that the Society can continue to provide this service to you. Contact the Secretary of the Society with all new details.

Finally, yet importantly, I would like to remind all non-financial members for 2014 that their membership fees are now overdue.



Happy weeding,
Kim.

Welcome to our new member

Shaun Donato Port Stephens Council

Shaun receives all the benefits of Society membership including:

- ◆ Opportunity to network with others interested in weed management.
- ◆ Discounted registration for Society seminars and workshops.
- ◆ Opportunity to apply for Society Travel Awards.
- ◆ The Society newsletter, *A Good Weed*, delivered quarterly.
- ◆ Access to the Society electronic newsletter, the *Punnet Tray*.
- ◆ Discounted registration to attend the Australasian Weeds Conference.
- ◆ Discounted registration to attend the NSW Biennial Weeds Conference.
- ◆ Additional financial prizes for the winners of the Buerckner and Stephenson Weed Awards.



Weed Society of New South Wales Undergraduate Award Harry Pye, University of New England



Harry Pye was the 2013 recipient of the Society's Undergraduate Award at the University of New England.

Harry, enrolled in the Bachelor of Rural Science degree, was judged by the School of Environmental and Rural Science to have distinguished himself in a weed science component in a rural science unit.

Harry's comments on his award.

I undertook a weed control study on 'Gingie', a property located 30km west of Walgett. The entire farm consisted of 60,000 acres, with 30,000 acres of that used for broadacre cropping. My study highlighted the main problem weeds in the area, namely wild oats, black bindweed, fleabane, wild turnip and various grasses, as well as the methods used to control these weeds. The main method been the fast and efficient ground application of herbicides with different modes of action to reduce incidences of herbicide resistance, along with a set of crop rotation rules for disease and weed control.

My findings showed that although 'Gingie' has an established and useful weed control strategy, the future will bring many problems, namely herbicide resistance, and 'Gingie' will need to incorporate a more comprehensive weed control program, which includes the increased use of residual herbicides, double knock approaches, infrequent use of burning and cultivation in bad weed times, as well as the use of green or brown manuring for both soil fertility and weed control.

Through the Integrated Weed Control unit that I undertook at UNE, I learnt a lot of useful techniques and ideas that are currently assisting me while I work as an Agronomist for Delta Agribusiness in Narrabri.

The other winner of the award was Chloe Roberts, Charles Sturt University.

Chloe's story was covered in 'A Good Weed' #67 Winter 2014.

Society Travel Grant 2014

Barry Shepherd, Cessnock City Council, was awarded a Weed Society of New South Wales Travel Grant to help with costs associated with attending the 19th Australasian Weeds Conference, Tasmania, held during 1- 4 September.

Barry will be providing a report on the conference for use in 'A Good Weed' and the 'Punnet Tray'.

The Travel Grant is for successful applicants to receive financial assistance to attend conferences, or to travel on interstate or overseas study tours.

The grant is for the period 1 July to 30 June each year and must be taken up during that period.

Applicants must be over 18 years old, reside in New South Wales or the ACT, involved in an aspects of weed management, and have been a current member of the Society for at least one year.



NSW Weed Society members enjoying the 19th AWC, and the very impressive 'weedy' floral displays!

**Back row: Doug Campbell, Hanwen Wu, Tony Cook, Reece Luxton, Michael Michelmore.
Centre Row: Maria Edmonds, Kim Hignell, Birgitte Verbeek. Front row: Hillary Cherry.**

19th Australasian Weeds Conference Hobart, Tasmania.

The Tasmanian Weeds Society welcomed over 240 delegates to the 19th Australasian Weeds Conference, in Hobart from 31 August to 4 September. The conference had a very diverse and comprehensive program. Highlights included keynote presentations, the CAWS Oration by Professor Daniel Simberloff from the University of Tennessee, who presented: *Plant the white flag or raise the battle standard? Controversies over non-native weeds*, the full-day GRDC National Integrated Weed Management Initiative Symposium, with over 12 different speakers, and Missy the 'hawkweed detector dog' and her trainer Steve Austin, who provided an exciting demonstration of how Missy can sniff out hawkweed hidden away in a room with 250 people. She found it each time....well done Missy!

Hobart put on some beautiful weather for the 4 field trips that were attended by around 100 delegates. The sponsorship target was exceeded and there was a range of excellent information and tools provided by sponsors.

Social media was used for the first time at the 19th AWC, with a post-reach of over 1500 and 225 people engaged on Facebook and over 450 Tweets being sent. The Facebook page is being converted to use for future conferences. So please "like" the 19th Australasian Weeds Conference on Facebook and you can read all past posts from this conference and be updated on the 20th AWC, which will be in Perth 11-15 September 2016.



Hillary Cherry (left) and Kim Hignell (right) enjoy a conversation with the CAWS Orator, Prof Dan Simberloff at beautiful Government House in Tasmania.



Rod Randall, Western Australia CAWS Medal for Leadership medallist.



Reece Luxton, committee member, in the display area for the state weed societies.



Missy the 'hawkweed detector dog' and her trainer Steve Austin.



John Thorp, Tasmania. CAWS Medal for Leadership medallist.

Images: Hillary Cherry & Kim Hignell.



Thursday 20th November 2014
Tamworth Agricultural Institute, Conference Room
4 Marsden Park Road, Calala
9:30 – 4:00pm

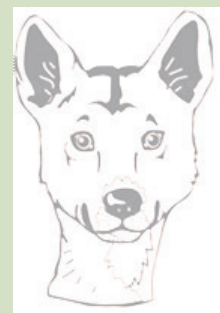
Seminar and AGM

Listen and ***learn*** about emerging pest animals & about common strategies in managing weeds and pest animals.

Participate in the ***discussion*** about whether the ***Weed Society of NSW should expand its scope to include member events that address pest animal issues.***

Cost for the day is \$25.00 and includes morning tea, lunch and drinks.

If you are interested contact birgitte.verbeek@dpi.nsw.gov.au or 02 6763 1247 by Friday 7th November 2014.



Annual General Meeting

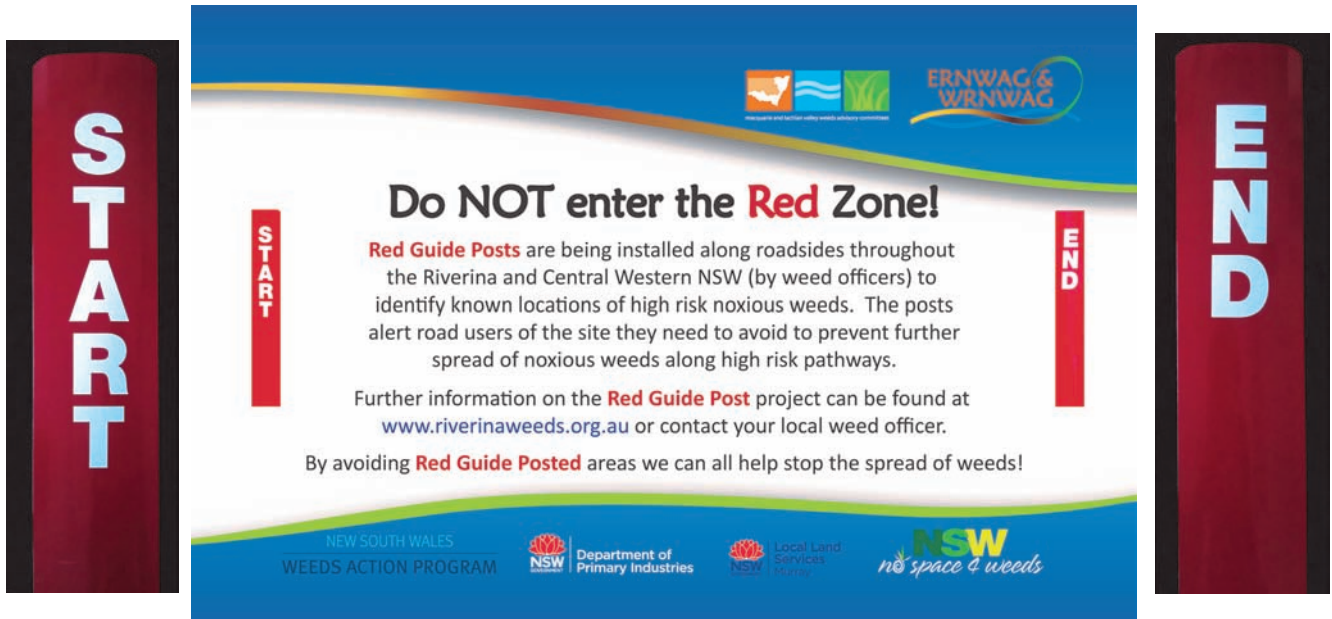
The AGM will be held in the Conference Room, Tamworth Agricultural Institute, 4.15 - 5.15 pm.

The agenda and details regarding the election of the executive and committee will be mailed to all members before the end of September.

Annual Dinner

The Annual Dinner will be held in the evening at the Cascade Restaurant, 6.30 pm for 7.00 pm.

Details will be mailed to all members before the end of September.



Red Guide Posts are being installed along roadsides throughout the Riverina (by weed officers) to identify known locations of high risk noxious weeds. The posts alert road users of the site they need to avoid to prevent further spread of noxious weeds along high risk pathways.

Eastern & Western Riverina Noxious Weeds Advisory Groups (E&WRNWAG) teamed up with the Lachlan & Macquarie Valley Weeds Advisory Committees (L&MVWAC) to apply for the NSW Government funding under the NSW Weeds Action Program (WAP) New Innovative project for weeds 2013-2015. Their project *Pilot - Red Guide Post Project – Riverina, Lachlan & Macquarie RWACs* was successful, receiving \$107,440 to be spent over the 2 years.

Over 2,000 red guide posts have been distributed to 33 participating councils across the Riverina & Western NSW to be installed next to existing white guide posts at the “START” and “END” of high risk noxious weed infestations.

Red guide posts have so far been installed to identify: Parthenium weed, Chilean needle grass, Serrated tussock and Coolatai grass sites. As a new weed infestation is detected, the red guide posts are installed to prevent the weeds spread while the site is being managed.

A major component of the pilot project is an extensive awareness campaign that will be launched at the upcoming Henty Machinery Field Days. An animated television commercial has been produced and will be airing through the WIN network in Southern NSW for 4 weeks.

Murray Local Land Services has also partnered with this project to expand the market reach of the commercial throughout the region as well as trial a new advertising medium displayed on Service Station Fuel Nozzles.

A flyer and sticker has also been developed to be distributed by Council Weed Officers. The sticker will act as a visual prompt or reminder for regular road users (Council, Local Land Services & Roads & Maritime Services outdoor staff, contractors) that there’s to be *No works between the posts!*

By avoiding Red Guide Posted areas we can all help stop the spread of weeds.

Red Guide Post project partners include the following councils/shires: Albury, Balranald, Bland, Bourke, Cabonne, Carrathool, Castlereagh Macquarie, Central Murray, Cootamundra, Corowa, Cowra, Forbes, Greater Hume, Griffith, Gundagai, Hay, Jerilderie, Lachlan, Leeton, Lockhart, Murrumbidgee, Narrandera, Parkes, Riverina Eastern (Coolamon, Junee, Temora), Tumbarumba, Tumut, Urana, Wagga Wagga, Wakool, Weddin and Wentworth.

Further information:

Paula Bosse

Riverina Noxious Weeds Project Officer
(Monday, Tuesday & Thursday)
PO Box 382 JINDERA NSW 2642
T 02 6026 3800 M 0428 684 264 F 02 6026 3957
E pbosse@greaterhume.nsw.gov.au

Additional information on the **Red Guide Posts** initiative can be found at www.riverinaweeds.org.au



“Contain and Connect” Protecting coastal ecosystems in Southern NSW (2013 -2017)

Michael Andrews
Senior Land Services Officer - Coastal WoNS Biodiversity Project
South East Local Land Services

“Contain and Connect” is a multi-agency biodiversity project to protect coastal ecosystems in southern NSW. The project involves 10 major land managers along the south coast (Wollongong to the Bega Valley) including all local councils and the managers of Aboriginal lands adjacent to Jervis Bay.

From 2013 to 2017, the land managers are provided funds to manage Weeds of National Significance (WoNS) and secondary weeds in primary control areas. The regional project brings all partner agencies together twice/year (the South Coast WoNS Taskforce) to ensure co-ordination of on-ground works, sharing of information, expertise and maximisation of resources.

WoNS control, particularly of bitou bush (*Chrysanthemoides monilifera* subsp *rotundata*) has been implemented by the major south coast land managers for several years utilising annual funding from a range of sources. “Contain and Connect” allows managers to consolidate and build on that work and to include the newly listed (2012) WoNS in their sights. Importantly, they can now plan their programs for four years with certainty.

Monitoring plots have been established in each management area, using the Australian Government’s Biodiversity Fund Ecological Monitoring methodology. Each site will be re-assessed between October and December each year for the duration of the project.

Engaging local communities is an important component of “Contain and Connect”. Wollongong and Shoalhaven City Councils support many Bushcare groups working on coastal sites. Council staff help to train and supervise groups in workplace health and safety, plant identification and weed control techniques and also provide tools and materials.

While herbicide spray control is usually implemented by staff or contractors, hand weeding and planting is often carried out by Bushcare volunteer groups.

January to June 2014 saw the first stage of on ground implementation of “Contain and Connect”. Throughout the period 536 hectares of native vegetation was assessed and treated for WoNS. Over 1,700 native stems were planted encompassing 47 different native species.

All project partners are working hard to survey and treat a total of 2,566 hectares for WoNS and to revegetate 18 hectares by 2017.

“Contain and Connect – Protecting coastal ecosystems in Southern NSW” is supported by South East Local Land Services through funding from the Australian Government.

Further information:

Michael Andrews, Senior Land Services Officer
Coastal WoNS Biodiversity Project
South East Local Land Services
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Australian Government



“Contain and Connect” Protecting coastal ecosystems in Southern NSW (2013 -2017)

Battling WoNS on the south coast involves an arsenal of weed control techniques:

January 2014:

*Killalea State Park staff spray herbicide to defeat blackberry (*Rubus fruticosus*) to the north of the Lagoon. Park volunteers help to plant a 30 metre wide buffer corridor of native plants to defend a rainforest remnant from weed incursions.*

February 2014:

Wollongong and Shoalhaven City Council muster their Bushcare groups across 17 project sites.

At Wollongong’s Korrungulla Wetland site the force of bush regeneration contractors is strengthened by a regular troop of Conservation Volunteers.

March 2014:

*Staff and contractors at Killalea State Park and within Seven Mile Beach Reserve, Kiama attack ground asparagus (*Asparagus aethiopicum*) deploying a combination of hand work by volunteers and spraying by qualified officers. Volunteers are engaged in bundling and tying the sprawling plants into bushy “ponytails” prior to spraying to reduce the likelihood of non-target effects.*

April 2014

The South Coast WoNS Taskforce gathers at Wollongong to compare and discuss strategies. Co-ordination of the up-coming aerial assault on Bitou bush is nailed down.

May 2014

All project partners compile and aggregate their weed management and volunteer engagement data in the preparation of six monthly reports.

June 2014

Bitou bush is coming into flower. Extensive reconnaissance, surveillance and mapping consumes all project partners from the Eurobodalla north. Spot outbreaks on coastal cliffs are attacked by a crack team of abseiling bush regenerators. The aerial assault is delivered by chopper in targeted locations from Wollongong to Sussex Inlet.



- (a) Helicopter spraying for bitou bush.
- (b) Post spray results.
- (c) Spot outbreaks on coastal cliffs are controlled by a team of abseiling bush regenerators.
- (d) Expected results.

Images: South East Local Land Services.



Don't let the (herbicide resistance) cat out of the bag! Lessons from the US

Graham Charles¹, Jeff Werth² and David Thornby³

¹New South Wales Department of Primary Industries, Narrabri

²Queensland Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry,
Toowoomba

³Innokas Intellectual Services, Upper Coomera

Recently a group of Australian cotton growers, consultants and researchers visited parts of the US to investigate problems with herbicide resistant Palmer amaranth.

Below are some of the farmers' comments:

"We let the cat out of the bag and it won't go back in."

"We're not farming cotton anymore, we're farming against Palmer amaranth."

"Glyphosate has become just a useful adjuvant."

The problem

Palmer amaranth is a weed with a tremendous ability to reproduce, adapt and evolve resistance. The plant is dioecious, sharing genes between plants and can produce large amounts of pollen and seed.

Farmers in the US in the late 70's and early 80's experienced problems managing Palmer amaranth as resistance to trifluralin, atrazine, pyriithiobac-sodium and "imi" herbicides developed, and farmers were forced to retreat to residual herbicides, cultivation and hand-hoeing. Since the mid-90's, they used glyphosate in crops to "solve" these issues.

By the mid-2000s, farmers started noticing escapes, but continued to rely solely on glyphosate. A few years later these escapes had spread across farms and growers were again in serious trouble.

What now?

With the loss of glyphosate, farmers have returned to residual herbicides, applying them every two weeks from planting until canopy closure.

The use of glufosinate-tolerant (Liberty[®]) varieties has increased to approximately half the planted area. However, glufosinate is less forgiving of late applications and Palmer amaranth grows very

rapidly, challenging growers to spray their fields in a timely manner, forcing many to buy additional machinery. Farmers are also hand-hoeing to control escapes and late season germinations.

The cost of weed management in cotton crops has risen by \$150 - \$400 per acre. This, combined with lower cotton prices, has resulted in a dramatic reduction in the area of cotton, with farmers turning to more competitive corn and soybean crops. Crops that produce robust stubble also appear to provide extra weed control through mulching.

However, farmers who maintained a diverse weed control system before glyphosate resistant Palmer amaranth still have fewer weeds and lower costs than growers who used glyphosate alone until too late.

Underlying concerns

US farmers are so focused on Palmer amaranth that glyphosate-resistant goosegrass, Johnson grass and barnyard grass are not being considered. These weeds are being managed by the heavy residual programs used for Palmer amaranth supplemented with grass herbicides, but further resistance will develop.

The new technology, Glytol[®] cotton (glyphosate+glufosinate tolerance) is in its first season, and Roundup Ready[®] Extendflex[™] (glyphosate+glufosinate+dicamba tolerance) will be introduced next year. Farmers are eagerly awaiting these introductions, but many may return to over-using these herbicides until they again fail.

Weed control in non-crop areas is a further difficulty. Even on farms with clean fields, many adjacent areas had thick stands of Palmer amaranth. Farmers will never control their problems until they expand their zero-tolerance mindset to non-crop areas.



Don't let the (herbicide resistance) cat out of the bag Lessons from the US

The Australian situation

There is glyphosate-resistant awnless barnyard grass, fleabane, sowthistle, windmill grass and annual ryegrass in many cotton rotations. Though none are “super” weeds like Palmer Amaranth, farmers are finding their costs of weed management rising.

Where to now?

Controlling survivors of herbicide applications and preventing seeds entering the seed bank are the most effective options for managing and preventing resistance. Using residual herbicides and strategic tillage in crop and fallow minimises selection from post-emergent herbicides.

Moving away from glyphosate and adopting two non-glyphosate tactics in crop and fallow (“2+2”) is an effective long-term strategy.

Good farm hygiene must also underpin weed management. Keeping the thinking on weed control and adopting a diverse control program will result in long-term benefits.

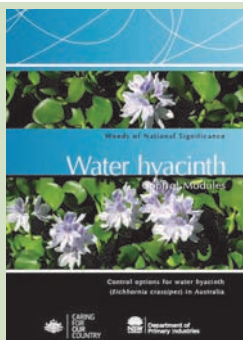
More information on weed management is available through:

WEEDpak – www.cottoncrc.org.au/industry/Publications/Weeds

Weed Smart - www.weedmart.org.au/



Palmer amaranth in soybean mid-season. It is a highly competitive weed that can produce over one million seeds per plant.



Water Hyacinth Best Practice Manual

Water Hyacinth Control Modules

This document is available in its entirety or can be downloaded in smaller sections to make it more accessible for slower internet connections.

Entire document; Introductory pages; Module 1 The water hyacinth profile; Module 2 Management considerations for water hyacinth; Module 3 Chemical control options; Module 4 Physical control options; Module 5 Biological control; Module 6 Integrated control options.

Further information: www.weeds.org.au/wons/waterhyacinth



Metabolic profiling of secondary compounds in *Echium plantagineum* and *Echium vulgare* Understanding invasion success mechanism(s)

Dominik Skoneczny, Charles Sturt University

Echium plantagineum also known as Paterson's curse or salvation jane is an invasive and toxic weed introduced from Europe to Australia in the 1800's. It produces high seed number/plant (up to 10,000 seeds/plant) which can remain in the soil seed bank for up to 6 years. Although Paterson's curse occurs in mixtures with other pasture plants in its endemic environment, it dominates plant communities in Australia and has successfully spread across 30M of hectares of grazing lands, along road sides and disturbed sites, sometimes establishing near monocultures across southern Australia, including NSW, TAS, ACT, SA and WA. *E. vulgare* (also known as viper's bugloss) is a close relative but is a less common invader and can be found in limited areas of higher elevation, mostly in NSW and the ACT.



Paterson's curse infested paddock near Wagga Wagga, NSW.
Image: Dominik Skoneczny.

Plants belonging to the genus *Echium* often produce secondary defense compounds. These chemicals fall into two key groups of secondary compounds: isohexenylnaphthazarins (IHNs) and pyrrolizidine alkaloids (PAs). IHNs occur as red pigments in the outer layer of root periderm and potentially act as defense barrier for protection against soil fungi and other pathogenic microorganisms. PAs occur in above ground plant tissues and are accumulated in

non toxic form as N-oxides. PAs are known to act as feeding deterrents for insects, and can be particularly toxic to mammalian systems, eventually causing death of sensitive grazing animals such as horses and sheep. The losses to animals caused by *E. plantagineum* toxicity are estimated to cost the Australian food and fibre industry over \$125 million p.a.

This research aims to evaluate and determine the mechanism(s) by which *E. plantagineum* became such a successful invader in Australia, in comparison to *E. vulgare*, a closely related but less successful invader, as it remains unclear why one species may be particularly successful in a non-native or novel ecosystem.

In order to determine any possible differences and similarities among selected Spanish and Australian populations of *Echium* species, we are comparing the metabolic profiles of shoot and root extracts for secondary plant products of interest. High Pressure Liquid Chromatography (UHPLC) coupled to Tandem Mass Spectrometry (MS/MS), enables us to evaluate and monitor selected groups of molecules in analyzed samples (Metabolic Profiling). We are able to profile 17 different PAs in the shoots and leaves and up to 24 IHNs in the roots of Paterson's curse, some of which are highly bioactive. Greater accuracy and precision of our new instrumentation has enabled us to analyze 22 *E. plantagineum* and 4 NSW populations of *E. vulgare* from the field, and several populations of both grown under controlled conditions.

We found that plants grown in the field typically produce higher quantities and more diverse PAs than under controlled, non-stressed conditions in the glasshouse. *E. plantagineum* also produced more alkaloids than *E. vulgare* in the field in greater abundance, which may result in increased toxicity of this species. Variation in production of four identified root-produced IHNs at a species level and also between field grown and glasshouse grown



Metabolic profiling of secondary compounds in *Echium plantagineum* and *Echium vulgare* Understanding invasion success mechanism(s)

plants indicates the need for a broader approach in studying the presence of these chemicals and environmental factors which regulate their expression in *Echium* roots. Field ecological studies evaluating competition of these plants show a small but significant reduction in species richness in Australia with increasing infestation; this trend was opposite for populations observed in their native range in Spain.

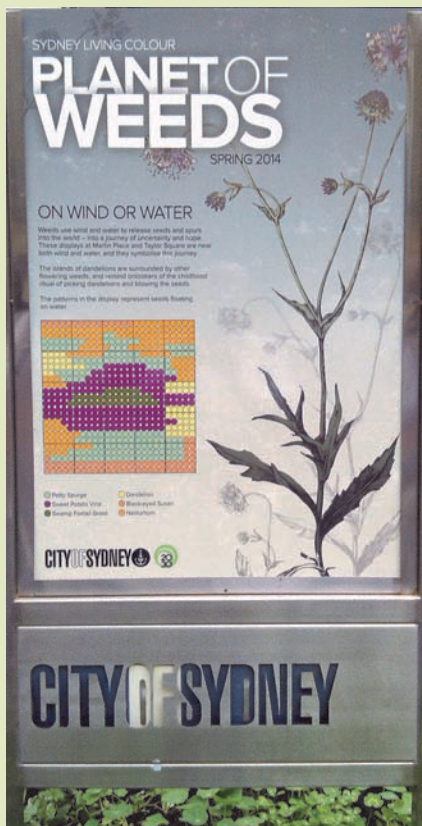
Further comparisons of Australian and European populations of *E. plantagineum* and *E. vulgare* are planned for 2015 and are likely to reveal possible mechanism(s) of invasive weed success in novel environment.

Further information:

Dominik Skoneczny dskoneczny@csu.edu.au



Paterson's curse in its native range in Spain.



SYDNEY LIVING COLOUR ON WATER OR WIND

“Weeds use water and wind to release seeds and spurs into the world - into a journey of uncertainty and hope. These displays at Town Hall and Taylor’s Square are near both wind and water, they symbolise this journey.

The islands of dandelions are surrounded by other flowering weeds, and remind onlookers of the childhood ritual of picking dandelions and blowing the seeds.

The patterns in the display represent seeds floating on water.”

On a recent visit to Sydney CBD I passed this display devoted to weeds. It was adjacent to Queen Victoria Building, opposite the Town Hall, and at one of the busiest city intersections making it accessible to thousands of passersby each day.
Lawrie Greenup, Editor.



Vigilant II

Dow AgroSciences, the Woody Weed Specialists, are proud to add this latest innovation to their suite of woody weed solutions which includes Access™, Garlon™, Graslan™, Grazon Extra™, Hotshot™, Starane™ Advanced, Tordon™ Granules and Tordon™ RegrowthMaster™.

Formulated as a gel, Vigilant II is ready to use straight out of the pack. No messy chemicals and limited user exposure.

Vigilant II comes in an easy to use, re-fillable and re-useable 240 mL brush applicator bottle. The powerful active ingredients aminopyralid and picloram deliver fast brownout and knockdown of target plants with a wide range of weeds controlled.

The brush bottle of Vigilant II can treat approximately 120 stems (average stem diameter of 25 mm applied as a 5 mm dollop of gel).

Vigilant II can be used year round, although effectiveness may decrease slightly in colder months and cooler climates.

Vigilant II can be used via a number of different application techniques including cut stump, paint and scrape and drill and fill.

Vigilant II is the new convenient way of controlling noxious and environmental weeds.

Weed management professionals ranging from Councils/Weeds Authorities through to Bushcare/Landcare groups will find Vigilant II a useful tool for those hard-to-kill species.

Vigilant II has shown good activity on: African boxthorn, African olive, balloon tree, bitou/ boneseed, blackberry, broadleaf pepper, camphor laurel, canna lily, Cape ivy, castor oil plant, cat's claw creeper, cherry guava, Chinese celtis, Chinese tallow, cockspur, coral tree, cotoneaster, gorse, green cestrum, groundsel bush, honey locust, Japanese sunflower, lantana, ludwigia, Madeira vine, mesquite, miconia, morning glory, moth vine, Murraya, Mysore thorn, ochna, oleander, Parkinsonia, prickly acacia, privet, rhus tree, Scotch/English broom, senna, Siam weed, sweet briar, sweet pittosporum, tiger lily, tree of heaven, umbrella tree, wandering jew, and wild tobacco tree.



References

- ¹ Noxious and environmental weed control handbook – A guide to weed control in non crop, aquatic and bushland situations. Rod Ensbey, NSW Industry and Investment.
- ² An investigation of application techniques for the control of various noxious and environmental weeds with picloram gel based herbicides. Geoffrey G Keech, Product Specialist, Macspred Australia.

TM Trademark of The Dow Chemical Company ("Dow") or an affiliated company of Dow.

For more information, visit
www.dowagrosciences.com.au
Or call Toll free 1800 700 096

Dow AgroSciences has been a long-time sponsor of The Weed Society of New South Wales.



War on weeds ramps up with more funding and a response to the Natural Resources Commission (NRC) Review

The NSW Government has adopted the majority of recommendations in a major review of weed management by the Natural Resources Commission (NRC) and has allocated \$11.3 million in new funding.

The Government will ensure consistent and coordinated **regional planning** and **local delivery** by adopting a **tenure-neutral approach to integrated weed management**, requiring both public and private landholders to meet requirements and agreed obligations; improving accountability by introducing **more substantial penalties** for those people who do the wrong thing; creating **11 new regional weed committees** to underpin a new State Weed Committee, where all stakeholders can have a say in weed management; introducing an **online information system** to ensure greater transparency and to allow for more consistent State-wide weed mapping; and improving **prevention measures** and **response to incursions**.

The changes will be supported and complemented by the development of the NSW Biosecurity Act, which will partially or wholly replace up to 14 existing pieces of legislation and will strengthen the management and response to weeds.

The review identified that the effectiveness of weed management in NSW was variable and that current mapping of weeds was inconsistent, making it increasingly difficult to get a complete picture of weed density, extent and impact.

The implementation of the review will be supported by the allocation of \$11.3 million in new funding for on-ground weeds projects as part of the NSW Government’s 2014-15 Weeds Action Program. Thirteen regional projects will share in \$10.1 million in funding to carry out weed management, while the Department of Primary Industries and other partners will lead a range of State-wide projects totalling more than \$1.2 million.

The funding will allow for research and implementation of new noxious weed control methods, including DNA barcoding to identify exotic invasive grasses and the installation of red guide posts along roadsides in high-risk areas.

There will be combination of the latest methods of weed surveillance with tried-and-true methods of physical inspections and distribution vital weed advisory information.

Further information:

NRC report, *Weeds – Time to get serious*, www.nrc.nsw.gov.au/Workwedo/ReviewOfWeedManagementInNSW.aspx.

NSW Government response, www.dpi.nsw.gov.au.

Advertising - ‘A Good Weed’

- Quarter page \$75.00
- Half page \$150.00
- Whole page \$300.00

Advertiser to supply copy ready for printing

Seminar Sponsorship

Sponsorship per seminar

- \$250.00 + one free registration per seminar
- \$500.00 + two free registrations per seminar

Area to mount a display, if venue suitable; distribution of promotional material to attendees; acknowledgement during the Seminar & in the Proceedings.

Society Sponsorship

Annual Sponsorship \$300.00

- Logo displayed on ‘A Good Weed’ – four issues per year
- Logo displayed in e-newsletter ‘Punnet Tray’ – several issues through the year
- Logo and sponsor name on the Society’s website
- One promotional article in ‘A Good Weed’ per year (subject to editorial control)
- One free membership per year (optional)



Council of Australasian Weed Societies (CAWS) Committee Meeting 31 August 2014 Annual General Meeting 31 August 2014

CAWS meeting 31 August

The CAWS meeting and Annual General Meeting were held prior to the 19th Australasian Weeds Conference (AWC) in Hobart. The Key points raised at the meeting were:

The Advocacy subcommittee submitted responses to both the *Draft National Environment and Community Biosecurity RD&E Strategy (2014-2017)* and the *Senate Inquiry into Environmental Biosecurity*. This work is increasing the presence and relevance of CAWS nationally.

The CAWS website continues to improve. All previous Australian/Australasian Weed Conference proceedings are now available on the website and proceedings from the 19th AWC are in the process of being added.

CAWS Annual General Meeting 31 August

Election of President and Vice President took place at the AGM.

New officers were elected were:

- President:**
Anna Marie Penna, Western Australia,
Vice-President:
Rachel Melland, South Australia,
Secretary:
Kerry Harrington, New Zealand,
Treasurer:
Alex Douglas, Western Australia,
Immediate Past President:
Michael Widderwick.

Members unanimously approved a special resolution to the CAWS constitution to add the role of Immediate Past President to the CAWS Executive committee.

Michael Widderwick has agreed to continue in the new role of Immediate Past President when his term ends in December.

There was brief discussion of a change to membership fees, however the committee felt it was not necessary to make any changes at this time.

2014 CAWS travel awards

The successful applicants were:

Student Travel Award

Laura Williams (UNE, Armidale).

Early Career Award

Christina Birnbaum (Murdoch University, WA).

AWC awards

Christina Day, Rebecca Grant, Andrew Cox, and Leila Huebner.

CAWS Medal for Leadership



The 2014 recipients of the CAWS medals were:

- Rod Randall**, Western Australia
John Thorp, Tasmania.

CAWS recognises outstanding contributions to weed management in Australasia through the award of the CAWS Medal for Leadership.

The award recognises a contribution to the science, technology and practice of weed management through research, teaching, administration, extension and implementation of programs, which is:

- ◆ outstanding, in that the contribution is recognised by peers to be exemplary in substance, objectives, methods and results;
- ◆ influential on the work of others; sustained over a long time, perhaps ten years or more;
- ◆ substantial in that the contribution is broadly based across several categories listed above; and
- ◆ national in its impact. (It should be noted here that locally outstanding contributions may be recognised by Member Societies of CAWS.)

CAWS Delegates for New South Wales.

Kim Hignell & Hillary Cherry.



Treasurer's Report to the committee meeting 15 August 2014

Financial Report.

For the period 3rd June 2014 to 7th August 2014 the society has shown a loss of \$ 1,281.01 and for the period 1st October 2103 to the 7th August 2014 a profit of \$5,356.75.

The balance sheet shows that the society is in a sound financial position with total equity of \$83,328.53 made up of cash - \$7,600.30 and 4 term deposits totalling \$75,728.23.

As advised previously the society is in a position to financially support projects that meet its objectives. However we need to ensure that any activities such as seminars return a profit or at least break even, as it will be 2015 before we can expect returns of the magnitude we received from the 17th Biennial Weeds Conference.

Membership.

As at the 7th August 2014 the society has 154 members which include 4 life members.

Payment of membership was due by the 1st June 2014 and as at the 7th August 2014, 128 have paid their 2014 fees.

Reminders to 36 who were in arrears for 2014 were sent out on the 18th July 2014 and as at 7th August 2014, 11 have paid leaving 25 who are unfinancial for 2014.

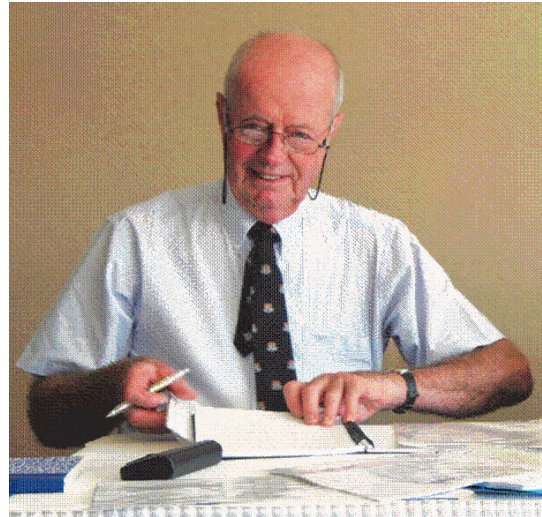
Those who are still unfinancial as at 31st December 2014 will cease to receive *A Good Weed* and other benefits offered. The arrears will be included with the 2015 subscription renewal notices to be sent out in the New Year.

Nine members who were in arrears for 2013 and 2014 were removed from the membership list on the 30th June 2014.

A reminder will be placed in each issue of the *Punnet e-newsletter* and *A Good Weed*, advising that membership fees are now due and that payment be made or advice that membership of the society will not be continued.

Sponsors.

All sponsors of *A Good Weed* Dow AgroSciences, Truxor Australia, Australian Catchment Management Pty Ltd, Chemcert, Hunter Central Coast Weeds, Syngenta and Scotts Australia have paid their 2014 subscription. Thank you Sponsors.



Jim Swain

Treasurer 11 August 2014

Have you paid your membership dues?

The treasurer forwarded out the 2014 membership remittances in February and would appreciate it if you could pay your 2014 dues as soon as possible. For those who have paid - thank you.

Members that have been two years in arrears and haven't paid their membership by the end of June 2014 have had their membership discontinued.

Membership income is important to the Society as a major means to provide the benefits available to members, including the cost of producing *A Good Weed* and the *Punnet Tray*.

Continued membership has major advantages in reduced registration for next year's biennial conference, 18th NSW Weeds Conference, to be held in Cooma as well as members' rates at the Society's annual seminar.

The committee looks forward to your continuing support for 2014.



18TH NSW Weeds Conference 2015

**Weeds—The Future:
“Innovation and Adaptation”**

Book these Dates:

Monday 12th October to Thursday 15th October 2015

Sponsorship Prospectus and Early Bird Registration
details will be available soon

Cooma-Monaro Shire Council

Noxious Weeds Services 02 6455 1941

or email enquiries to mandy.thurling@cooma.nsw.gov.au

Preparations for the 18th NSW Weeds Conference 2015 in Cooma are in full swing with a local committee group securing plans, venues and dates for the event.

The 2015 conference will be held in Cooma from 12th to 15th October. This is historically a lovely time of year in Cooma & the Snowy Mountains region – as the snow begins to melt and the blossoms bloom.

The backdrop of the snow capped Mountain ranges usually hangs around until early November and makes for spectacular views from the right vantage point.

We plan to combine the four day informative conference with some of the unique features of Australia’s high country. Whilst the conference will be held in the bustling township of Cooma, the planned field trips will get you out and about and will include some special treats that can only be found in this unique part of the world.

Save the date 12th - 15th October 2015 and stayed tuned for more information to come.



Start thinking about nominations for the NSW Buerckner & Stephenson Local Government Weed Professional Awards

The Weed Society of NSW are now calling for nominations for the NSW Buerckner & Stephenson Local Government Weed Professional Awards. The Awards will be presented at the 18th NSW Biennial Weeds Conference, which will be held in Cooma from 12 to 15th October 2015.

The Awards were established in 2007 in honour of Parkes Shire Council Weed Officers, Mal Buerckner and Ian Stephenson, who were tragically killed on the job in a helicopter accident in 2006, along with the pilot Shane Thrupp. The Awards acknowledge the work of NSW Local Government Weed Professionals and their outstanding contribution towards protecting NSW from the impacts of weeds.

There will be two categories in this year's Award:

The **Buerckner Award** – for outstanding contribution to the on the ground control of weeds in NSW.

The **Stephenson Award** – for outstanding contribution to planning and managing weed management programs in NSW.

Nomination forms for each Award will soon be available from The Weeds Society of NSW Inc. website at <http://nswweedsoc.org.au>,

Prizes

The winners of The NSW Buerckner & Stephenson Awards will each receive a book prize and a presentation medal. The Weed Society of NSW Inc. and The NSW Weeds Officers Association Inc. have each generously donated \$500.00 to each winner to be used towards travel costs to attend the 19th NSW Biennial Weeds Conference in 2015 (the Buerckner Award recipient) or the 20th Australasian Weeds Conference in Western Australia in 2016 (the Stephenson Award recipient).

To claim the \$500 prize of the donating organisation, the winner:

- ◆ *must have been a financial member in 2014/15 and a financial member in 2015/16 of the NSW Noxious Weeds Officers Association.*
- ◆ *must have been a financial member as of 31 December 2014 and a financial member in 2015 of The Weed Society of NSW Inc.*
- ◆ *The total prize to each winner is \$1,000 if the winners are a member of both organisations.*
- ◆ *The winner must gain their employer's approval to attend the conference. If the employer does not grant approval the money may be used towards training costs.*

The NSW Buerckner & Stephenson Awards are proudly sponsored by:



Weed Society of NSW

To apply for membership to The Weeds Society of NSW Inc. visit <http://nswweedsoc.org.au> or contact Alan Murphy on (02) 4341 3574 email secretary@nswweedsoc.org.au



NSW Weeds Officers Association

To apply for membership to the NSW Weeds Officers Association:
Contact Mel Wilkerson on (02) 6904 2547
email ranger@tumul.nsw.gov.au

Further information: If you need information on these awards and how to nominate, please email khighnell@lakemac.nsw.gov.au

If unable to deliver return to:

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

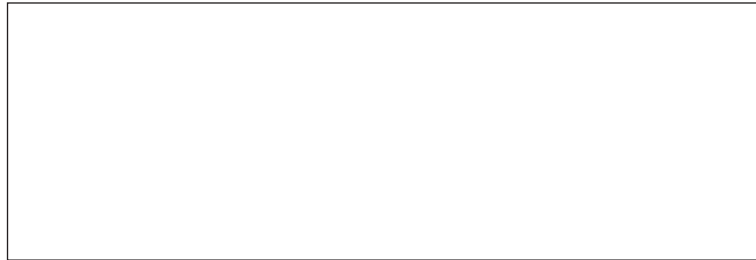
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The Weed Society of New South Wales Inc. acknowledges the generous support of the following organisations for their sponsorship of the Society and this Newsletter



Dow AgroSciences

