

A GOOD WEED



Newsletter of The Weed Society of New South Wales Inc.

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#71 Winter 2015



St John's wort (*Hypericum perforatum*) infests properties in the New South Wales, Victoria, Southern Queensland and South Australia. Apart from its invasiveness St John's wort can cause serious health problems for animals.

Image: Les Tanner.



From the President

Welcome to the winter edition of a good weed.

Winter has made itself known this year but that doesn't stop the weeds from growing. One of these weeds is crofton weed, whose biocontrol release (Autumn edition) has shown great potential in NSW. This is one biocontrol agent to watch.....

It is now only two months to go before the 18th NSW Weeds Conference in Cooma. The three day program and field trips are in their final stages of organisation and a great selection of guest speakers have been arranged to impart their knowledge on to us.

I am looking forward to going down to Cooma and hope that I see you there. Come and visit the Society stand, say hello and introduce yourself.

Our Annual General Meeting & annual dinner for this year will be on the 19 November 2015. The venue will be decided shortly and members will be advised directly. Put the date in your diary, think about coming along, and maybe also being involved on the committee as nominations are opening soon.

Joining the committee is a great way to meet people from different area associated with weeds such as weed science, weed research and members working in the field.

This year in particular, we will be saying goodbye to three of our most valued committee members, who will be stepping down from the committee after many long years of outstanding service, leaving some very big shoes to fill.

If there is any weed news article, specific weed or weed program in your area that you would like our members to read about please submit an article to our editor of *A Good Weed*. We would love to read about it.

Lastly, I would like to welcome all our new members to our Society and hope that you take the opportunity to utilise all that the Society has to offer.



Happy Weeding, Kim.

Welcome to our New Members

Nick Horan
Urban Design and Planning
Beenleigh Qld

Mel Wilkerson
Tumut Shire Council

Jamie Dixon-Keay
Bega Valley Shire Council

Terry Thompson
Bega Valley Shire Council

Richard Roberts
Bega Valley Shire Council

Lyall Bogie
Bega Valley Shire Council

Virginia McCoy
BT Fitzgerald McCoy, Berridale

New members receive 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 and the electronic news letter, the *Punnet Tray*;
- discounted registrations to attend the Australasian Weeds Conference and the NSW Biennial Weeds Conference, and additional financial prizes for the winners of the Buerckner Award, Stephenson Award and NSW Weed Industry Award.



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18th NSW Weeds Conference 2015

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18th NSW WEEDS CONFERENCE

COOMA, NSW

12th - 15th October 2015



"Weeds - The Future, Innovation & Adaptation"

Welcome Registration Venue Program Speakers Field Trips




Australian Cricket Legend Glenn McGrath will be the guest speaker at the Official Conference Dinner on Wednesday 14th October. With Thanks to:

ACCOMMODATION SPONSOR FOR GLENN




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Conference Dinner Sponsor



THE WEED SOCIETY OF NEW SOUTH WALES INC.

Full Conference Details
www.weedscooma.com.au



18th NSW Weeds Conference 2015 “Weeds – the Future: Innovation and Adaptation”

October this year will see approximately 200 people involved in the noxious weeds control industry converge on Cooma for the 18th NSW Weeds Conference.

Between 12 to 15 October, Conference attendees will discuss weeds; including the latest improvements in weed control, technological advances, projects and trials that are being undertaken throughout the State, and legislative changes that may affect the way noxious weeds are controlled in the future. The Conference will also give attendees a chance to network with people in similar industries so as to take home better ways of managing weeds in their area.

Field tours are planned to demonstrate not only the challenges that we face when it comes to weeds in the Monaro region, but also display the assets we are trying to protect.

Cooma-Monaro Shire Council is happy to introduce five keynote speakers to the Conference, all of whom have a wealth of experience in their chosen field and topic of discussion. The subject matter of each speaker, whilst being quite varied, will be in-keeping with the Conference’s primary theme **“Weeds- The Future: Innovation and Adaptation”**. In an ever-changing world of technology and research as well as tightening budgets, finding the most cost-efficient ways of effectively controlling noxious weeds is imperative to ensure sustainability.

Meeting these changes and challenges with a positive and pro-active approach by all involved in weed control is the best way to ensure that weed control is not an impossible burden to be passed on to the next generation. This will involve everyone, from those people getting their hands dirty controlling weeds on their properties right through to those that create the legislation.

The Conference is an ideal opportunity for all to become involved and discuss their concerns for their related industry, including such current issues such as the formation of the ‘Local Land Services’ and possible Council mergers.

In conjunction with the 18th NSW Weeds Conference, Cooma-Monaro Shire Council will be holding the Monaro Agricultural Trade Exhibition (MATE Trade Day). This Exhibition will be open to general public as well as the Conference attendees and aims to provide access to the latest equipment and products associated with noxious weed control and agriculture.

The Exhibition will provide operators with the opportunity to promote their businesses, meet and talk to potential customers, and illustrate their specific area of expertise. There will be an area set aside for the demonstration of many of the products and equipment, allowing people to gauge the relevance of such to their individual needs.

The Monaro Region has a lot to offer locals and visitors alike, and local tourism operators are also encourage to participate at the Exhibition as it is an opportunity to promote not only the Monaro Region but also their business to potential travellers who in the future may see Cooma as a destination for their next vacation following information on hand at this event.





18th NSW Weeds Conference 2015 Keynote Speakers



James Litchfield, OBE
Grazier - 'Hazeldean' Cooma NSW

“Invasive weed species are not a problem for agriculture alone”



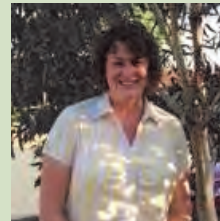
Dr Andy Sheppard
Research Director CSIRO

“Invasive Species Impacts”



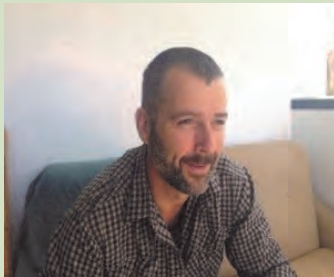
Nicholas Gill
Australian Centre for Cultural Environmental Research
University of Wollongong

“Living with weeds, learning about weeds: Weed management, values, and attitudes among lifestyle-oriented rural landholders”



Dr Sandie Jones
Head of Operations
Environmental Protection Authority

“Pesticide Regulation – weed-related perspectives on use, storage and disposal in South-eastern NSW”



James Francis
Volunteer Presenter Black Dog Institute

“Dealing with depression and anxiety”



Peter Doherty and Peter Brenton
Atlas of Living Australia

“The Atlas of Living Australia – tools to assist weed managers in data capture, management, discovery, visualisation and analysis”

Come and Meet the Weed Eradication Detector Dogs - WEDD





WHY WEED CONTROL MATTERS

Why is noxious weed control important on the Monaro?

Warren Schofield Weed Management Officer
Cooma-Monaro Shire Council

Have you ever asked yourself this question?

The best way of answering this question is to understand the high value environmental, agricultural, cultural, historical and social assets the Monaro has to offer.

Did you realise that agriculture on the Monaro is a multi-million dollar industry?

The Monaro region is home to numerous sheep and cattle studs selling livestock to nearly every state in Australia, not to mention countless commercial operations producing wool, fat lambs and beef cattle that are renowned for being of the highest calibre. There are also a number of properties producing hay and fodder for livestock as well as some local vegetable farms.



Cooma is also home to an abattoir that exports local beef to over 20 countries.

These agricultural enterprises are continually being put under pressure from ever encroaching noxious weeds. These weeds are degrading the landscape by replacing beneficial grasses that livestock depend on to survive with weeds like serrated tussock which have no nutritional value. This reduces the amount of stock a farmer can carry on their property therefore reducing his ability to earn income. The less money a farmer makes the less he has to spend in the local community so in turn businesses in local towns suffer.

The Monaro is lucky to have unique ecosystems such as the natural temperate grasslands that won't be found anywhere else in the country, vast open plains of native grasses that have adapted to handle the coldest winter winds and long dry summers. These grasslands are home to various native flora and fauna which are intertwined into the fabric of the Monaro. Noxious weeds like African lovegrass threaten this ecosystem with its invasive nature. African lovegrass creates a monoculture that has the ability to overtake and smother out all other grasses; this also can affect native animals such as the striped legless lizard and grassland earless dragon and their ability to navigate the landscape.



Grassland earless dragon lizard

Dense infestations of African lovegrass also pose a significant fire risk; Lovegrass fires, because of the intense heat and rate of spread have the capability to envelope and destroy native animals, domestic livestock and infrastructure such as fences sheds and houses. Due to the extreme temperature, flame height, rate of spread and inconsistent directional movement these lovegrass fires also put the safety of Rural Fire Service volunteers at risk.

Another local asset is the countless pristine waterways, seemingly endless supply of fresh water much of which originates from the highest peaks in Australia, these creeks and rivers are alive with aquatic and bird life. Some of these water systems contain native fish like Murray cod, silver and golden perch and also the endangered Macquarie perch.



WHY WEED CONTROL MATTERS

Why is noxious weed control important on the Monaro?



Macquarie perch

There is also an abundance of sport fish notably brown and rainbow trout which fisherman from all over come to pursue. Noxious weeds like black-berry and some forms of willows choke up these waterways and change the natural flow reducing the fish's natural movements. By slowing the water it also creates a favourable environment for pest species such as European carp which are taking over many of the local waterways.

National Parks such as Kosciuszko are a major draw card for tourists and locals during the spring and summer months for bushwalking, mountain bikes and horse riding. These are all popular activities within our local bushland where native flowers are in abundance throughout the alpine reaches and eucalyptus forests that thousands of people come to explore every year. But how many of these visitors realise that these areas are being invaded by weeds such as orange hawkweed, St John's wort and ox-eye Daisy? Are the beautiful native flowers in your holiday photo's going to be replaced by noxious weeds?



Mauve burr daisy

Although many people may think that noxious weeds are not their concern as they do not produce anything from their weekend or recreational block, in fact it is quite the opposite. Many of these properties adjoin or are close by agricultural enterprise or native flora reserves and if noxious weeds are left uncontrolled they will no doubt impact on those neighbours. To a prospective buyer a weed free property is worth more than one that is a mess of noxious weeds. Your property is an asset, by leaving noxious weeds uncontrolled you are degrading your asset.

While there is legislation (Noxious Weeds ACT 1993) in place to ensure that landholders control Noxious weeds on their properties, there should also be a moral obligation from landowners to undertake noxious weed control on their property not only now but ongoing, to benefit the greater community and also to ensure that future generations can benefit from and enjoy a Monaro without the burden of uncontrolled noxious weeds.

Further information:

Warren Schofield
Weed Management Officer
Cooma-Monaro Shire Council

Weed Management Services
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Orange hawkweed
Hieracium aurantiacum ssp. *carpathicola*
A problem in the alpine areas of the Monaro.
Image: Mark Hamilton, NPWS.



The use of unmanned aerial vehicles (UAV) in regional weed inspection and surveillance programs

Heather Apps Regional Project Officer
New England Weeds Authority

The Northern Inland Weeds Advisory Committee (NIWAC) has released its final report on the NSW DPI Innovative Project 2013 – 2015 Integrated Aerial Surveillance, Thermal Imaging and Mapping Project.

The report outlines the methods used and the results of the investigation into the use of unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) as an aerial surveillance tool for mapping and classification as part of local control authorities' regional inspection programs for invasive weed species.

Field work was conducted by The University of Sydney's Australian Centre for Field Robotics. Low altitude aerial images were collected on tropical soda apple, alligator weed, serrated tussock and water hyacinth using a hexacopter to calculate the optimum altitude to achieve the highest classification accuracy for the four weeds.



The UAV used by the University of Sydney to collect imagery data for the trial.

The extracted data was then used to train and evaluate the weed classification algorithms. It was demonstrated that image classification algorithms are able to correctly classify the four weeds from remote sensing data collected from a small UAV.

Following on from the field work, a cost benefit analysis was then conducted by RM Consulting Group, comparing the use of unmanned aerial surveillance, maintenance and operational costs against the conventional methods of utilising on-ground surveillance and aerial inspections by

manned helicopter.

In addition, a further project (NSW DPI Innovative Project 2) will be completing the "pipeline", where images obtained from the UAV quadcopter are processed, loaded into the Weedtr@cer regional mapping system, with the capacity to be imported in to the NSW Biosecurity Information System (BIS).

This project has brought together a wide cross section of expertise resulting in what can arguably be seen as an Australian first in the use of UAVs and image classification algorithms to accurately detect weeds in a rural landscape that can be employed in a cost effective manner as part of regional inspection programs.

Results showed that under specific scenarios UAV technology and weed classification analysis can be used by weed managers in a cost-effective way. This was demonstrated in the following scenarios of the study:

- Small block assessments can be undertaken using UAV technology at a similar order of magnitude cost to current practice.
- Large block assessments (250 hectares) using hand held UAVs appear to be more expensive than current practice largely due to the larger scale of the area producing higher data collection and weed classification analysis costs.
- Riparian water assessments using UAVs appear to be significantly more cost effective than current practice, due to the labour-intensity of current manual inspection and the ability to use a fly-over approach to help delimit the area requiring manual visits.
- High risk pathways have somewhat limited use for UAVs, as highways are no-fly zones and the use of hand held UAVs for other pathways do not appear to produce significant time savings. However, the use of manned fly-overs and potentially regional UAVs appears to be similarly cost effective compared to current practice.



The use of unmanned aerial vehicles (UAV) in regional weed inspection and surveillance programs

- The cost-effectiveness of UAVs in weed management is, unsurprisingly, affected by the cost of using the technology, which will reduce over time, and the technology will also find a number of other practical uses for Government and private business, thus making it commercially more viable, and valuable for day-to-day operations.

This is a very important point, not only because technological advancement may reduce the cost of data collection and analysis over time, but also because there may prove to be a number of different uses for the data by both Government and private business.

For example, if landholders could use the data for crop management or business planning, they may be willing to co-fund data collection with weed management agencies. Similarly, there may be many uses of aerial photography data across agencies and tiers of Government, leading to opportunities for cost-sharing among Government departments and other entities in the future.

Furthermore, technological advancement in camera resolution may result in cost-effective state-wide data collection for multiple purposes.

If so, it is conceivable that annual data collection and weed identification analysis across a region or even the state could become standard practice over time. In such a scenario, where weed officers are collecting data using UAVs in a cost effective manner and uploading the data to the ACFR server, the identification and control of weeds could become far more coordinated and effective than is currently possible. The benefits to Government, landholders and the community of such an outcome are likely to be significant.

With further development to operationalise the technology, the study suggests that UAVs could play an important role in early detection of outbreaks of high-risk new and emerging invasive weed species, to complement existing field inspection methods.

Where a rapid response is required for a new incursion, the hand-held hexacopter has potential to reduce the time required to locate the spread of the incursion and subsequent treatment of the area.

In the interim these results suggest that further work on the technical effectiveness of the technology can be approached by placing into operation low-cost UAVs for weed officers and testing out the data passing to the ACFR and automated classification.

In looking to the future, the report highlights the opportunity to build on the findings of the feasibility study and to explore the merits of applying the technology at multiple scales including but not limited to regional fly-over of Local Land Service (LLS) regions capturing data for multiple uses by a number of related organisations; as well as a fly-over on a sub-regional scale and the potential for fly-overs of riparian areas in LLS regions.

Appreciation is extended to the NSW DPI for showing the initiative in funding the project, Professor Salah Sukkarieh and his team from the University of Sydney's Australian Centre for Field Robotics for their expertise in weed classification analysis, RM Consulting Group for their understanding of the cost-benefit requirements and, finally, to the many Weed Officers of the member Councils of NIWAC for their input and enthusiasm for the project.



A workshop was held for Weed Officers and stakeholders in the region to update them on the trials progress and findings.

Further information:

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St John's Wort *Hypericum perforatum*

An invasive pasture weed causing health problems in stock

Les Tanner Consultant, Noxious Weeds Management

One of our most serious noxious weeds, St John's wort (*Hypericum perforatum*) infests many properties in New South Wales, Victoria, Southern Queensland and South Australia. Little wonder it continues to spread: one plant of St John's wort can produce 30,000 seeds in a single season. The (sticky) seeds are spread by animals, and although most germinate within the first year, some seeds can remain viable in the ground for ten years or more. So, it only takes one plant to start a major infestation!

Early detection and **TREATMENT, BEFORE PLANTS SET SEED**, is critical. Unfortunately, this "TIME TO TREAT" window is very small: St John's wort plants are difficult to find until their bright, yellow-golden flowers start to appear, and then it can be a matter of only two or three weeks before the seeds mature.

Because the plants do not all flower at once, continuous surveillance and treatment is necessary to ensure all plants are treated before seed set. Depending on how wet the season is, the flowering period can extend from October right through to April.



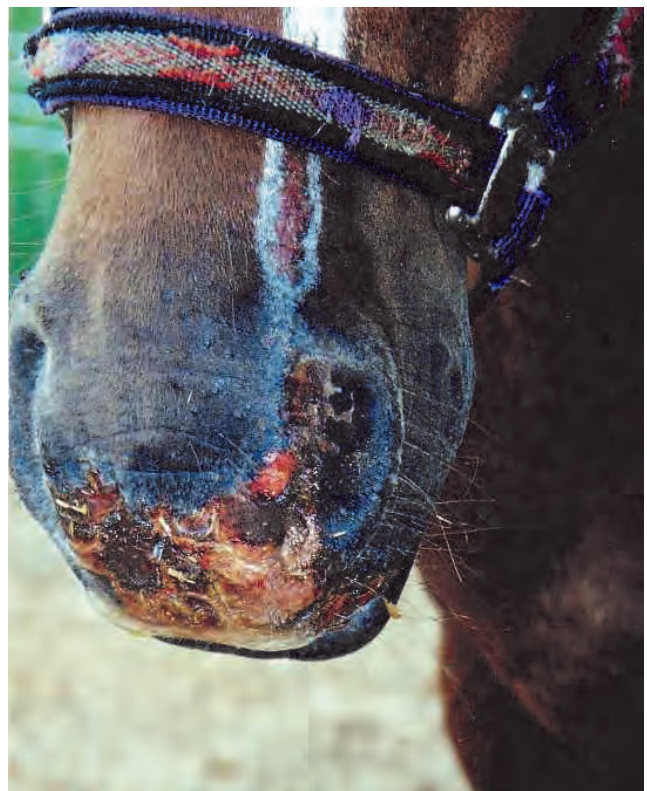
St John's wort can have a major impact on grazing land. In this example of flowering plants, the seed bank would be enormous. A treatment program planned for this area will face recurring seedling growth for many, many years!

St John's wort working its way through the boundary fence, Narrabri Road, Bingara.. Image: Les Tanner.

The Problem

Apart from its invasiveness, St John's wort contains the toxin, *hypericum*. Over-exposure to St John's wort causes serious health problems for animals, particularly horses, sheep and cattle. Livestock grazing in a paddock containing a heavy infestation of flowering St John's wort can, on a sunny day, develop clinical signs of hypericum poisoning within five hours. Later symptoms include agitation, head-rubbing, hind limb weakness, panting – leading eventually to raw, weeping areas of skin (ref. NSW DPI Primefact 694).

The graphic photo (below) shows some of this effect on a horse that had been grazing in a paddock of heavy St John's wort for about five days. Note that the white parts are mostly affected. Humans can also be affected by excessive contact with St John's wort.



Skin damage to horse's mouth and nose caused by exposure to St John's wort, Inverell. Image: Ian Davidson.



St John's Wort *Hypericum perforatum* An invasive pasture weed causing health problems in stock

Identification



St Johns wort flower .

Image: Les Tanner.

Apart from the distinctive flowers , a positive way to identify St John's wort is by **close examination of the leaves**. Hold a leaf up to the light and (if your eyes are good enough) you will see what look like tiny pin holes through every leaf These are the *hypericum* oil glands.



Unique to St John's wort – the "holes" (oil glands) in the leaves – positive ID.

Image: Les Tanner.

Control Methods

- **Non-Chemical Options:** Perennial pastures and grazing management will offer some control – indeed, limited financial resources may necessitate careful and regulated grazing management as a practical option on some heavily infested properties! If grazing can prevent the plants from flowering there is a saving, but stock (especially white sheep or other animals with white markings) should be removed if the plants reach the flowering stage.
- **Chemical options for St John's wort:** There is a wide range of effective herbicides suitable for St John's wort. The key is repeated treatments – 2 or 3 in the one season is the ideal if resources permit. Small and/or isolated infestations should really be "hammered" to prevent further spread. A new plant treated before it first sets seed will seldom come back, but if it does seed there will be plants appearing in that same spot for seasons to come!

Chemical treatments are given in booklet "Noxious and Environmental Weed Control Handbook 5th Edition", by the NSW Department of Primary Industries.

(Note: St John's wort is recognised world-wide for its herbal attributes. It has a medicinal history in Europe going back thousands of years. Its proper use and benefit in that area is not denied but, this same plant in Australia is a serious, invasive weed causing pain and misery for animals, as well as financial and emotional pressure for landholders who continue to battle with this weed on their properties. It is a declared noxious weed for a good reason and it is an offence for persons to deliberately grow/harvest/sell this plant for what they believe to be medicinal use!).

Further information:

Les Tanner, Noxious Weeds Management
www.northwestweeds.com.au
www.ruralcontractors.com.au





Allelopathic interactions between lucerne (*Medicago sativa* L.) and annual ryegrass (*Lolium rigidum*)

Hasan Muhammad Zubair Charles Sturt University Wagga Wagga

Lucerne (*Medicago sativa* L.) is grown throughout the world and provides forage of high nutritive value for livestock. Weed infestation decreases forage chemical composition and its palatability. Lucerne seedlings are very susceptible to competition during establishment and so weed competition during the initial growth stages of lucerne can lead to severe pasture yield losses.

Allelopathy is a mechanism in which live or dead plant materials release chemical substances which inhibit or stimulate growth and establishment of other plants growing in vicinity. Of the different modes of release of allelochemicals, root exudates contribute the most to the phytotoxins released in the rhizosphere. Through the exudation a wide variety of compounds inhibit the growth of competing plant species.

The allelopathic effect of lucerne root exudates on annual ryegrass was evaluated under laboratory conditions at Charles Sturt University, Wagga Wagga. Forty lucerne genotypes were used against the annual ryegrass at three densities (15, 30, and 50 seedlings/beaker).

Pre-germinated seeds of lucerne and ryegrass were grown on the agar surface of the beaker. The effect of root exudates from the 40 lucerne genotypes differed in their allelopathic potential against the root growth of annual ryegrass. Annual ryegrass root growth decreased with increasing densities of lucerne. At the highest density, strong allelopathic effect by root exudates of some lucerne genotypes such as SARDI Five, K 120, K119 and Force 7, significantly inhibited ryegrass root length by

59-64%, whereas weak allelopathic genotypes SARDI 7 Series 2, Titan9, Q75, and SARDI 10 Series 2 reduced root growth by only 3-10%. Selection of strongly allelopathic varieties could have potential in reducing weed infestations.

On the other hand, the allelopathic effect of annual ryegrass against lucerne nodulation was also investigated. Nodulation is a symbiotic event between a host plant and rhizobacteria. Two lucerne genotypes, SARDI Five and Titan9, were used to assess the nodulation responses to annual ryegrass root exudates. The presence of annual ryegrass decreased total nodule number on the lucerne genotypes, compared with lucerne planted alone (see image).

The chemical relationships between plants have never been considered in producing a mixed plant population for pastures. This work suggests that there may be significant production potential in choosing varieties which have a higher level of compatibility in relation to the chemical ecology of their root systems.

Further information:

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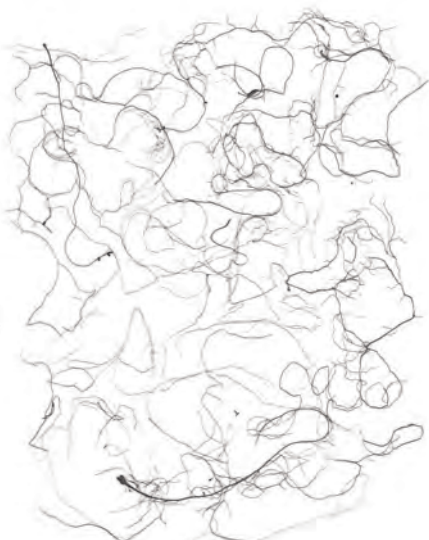


Image A: Lucerne with annual ryegrass



Image B: Lucerne without annual ryegrass

Presence of annual ryegrass significantly reduced nodule numbers of lucerne (image A) compared with control (image B)

Images: Hasan Muhammad Zubair.



NSW WEEDS ACTION PROGRAM



Performance point

June 2015

Project details

Riverina Weeds Action Program

Exclude - High Risk Pathways - *Kochia scoparia*

Eastern & Western Riverina Noxious Weeds Advisory Groups +
Lachlan Valley Weeds Advisory Committee



Performance overview

Our High Risk Pathway management plan was developed for the Riverina Weeds Action Program. The purpose of this plan is to prevent new weeds from establishing in the Riverina and reduce existing weeds from spreading via high risk (HR) pathways.

In May 2015 a concerned resident notified Wagga Wagga City Council (WWCC) Weed Officer of *Kochia scoparia* (*K. scoparia*) being advertised for sale on a local Facebook page.

K. scoparia is a **State Prohibited Weed** in NSW. It is also **prohibited entry** into Australia (Condition C10686).

100 x Pieces Adaptability Super Plants Seeds, Bassia Scoparia Red Lantern Seeds Gold Kochia

\$3 — 2668 free post

100 x Pieces Adaptability Super Plants Seeds, Bassia Scoparia Red Lantern Seeds Gold Kochia

\$3 — Free post or pick up barmedan

100 x mixed kochia seeds

100 Pieces Adaptability Super Plants Seeds, Bassia Scoparia Red Lantern Seeds Gold Kochia Scoparia Grass.

Properties: easy to grow hardy.
Paypal send money to



US \$1.00 x 10 Lots

1000

WAGGA WAGGA NSW

Activities completed

- WWCC Weed Officer contacted Bland Shire Council (BSC) Weed Officer as the pickup location was in Barmedan (Bland Shire).
- BSC seized approximately 4,000 *K. scoparia* seeds (4 packets) from a cooperative Barmedan resident.
- Further investigation identified approximately 10,000 seeds had been purchased online from China on the 27th March 2015 and imported as *K. scoparia*.
- The goods were received within 2 weeks and subsequently advertised for sale on a local Facebook page. No seed had been sold. The resident burnt the other seed when informed of its status by a third party.
- Seized *K. scoparia* seeds handed over to Australian Government Department of Agriculture 16/6/15 and destroyed as biosecurity waste.



Outcomes

- Entire infestation captured before it hit the ground!
- Establishment of State Prohibited weed prevented.



Further information

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M 0428 684 264 pbosse@greaterhume.nsw.gov.au, www.riverinaweeds.org.au

Images: Top (BSC) – one of the 4 packets of Kochia seed seized; Middle top – Facebook post selling the Kochia seed; Middle bottom – Transaction history of Australian purchase on the Chinese Website; Bottom left (BSC) Noel Bradford, Department of Agriculture (right) receiving imported Kochia seed that was apprehended by BSC Noxious Weeds Control Officer Grahame McCubbin. Bottom right (BSC) – seized material: Great catch by Riverina Weeds Officers!

...NSW Weeds Action Program – Performance point

ISP Goal 1: Exclude



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www.truxor.com.au



The NSW WeedWise app is a free app that lets you find everything you need to know about the weeds you deal with. The 300 noxious and environmental weeds in the app range from emerging alert species like tropical soda apple and hawkweed, woody weeds such as privet and lantana, grass weeds such as serrated tussock, and water weeds, such as water hyacinth, as well as garden escapes like cat's claw creeper.

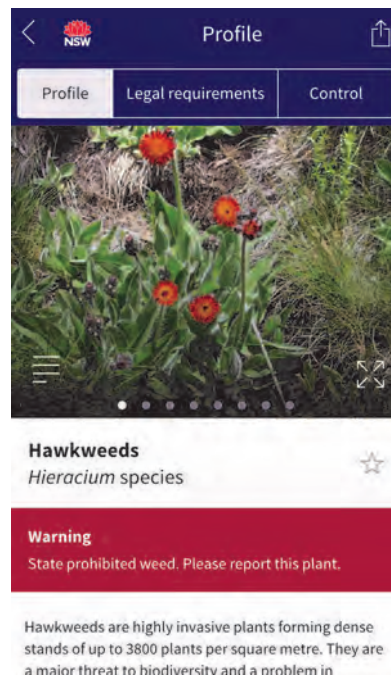
Each weed is profiled with photos and information about its impacts, spread, physical description, habitat and distribution. The app tells you whether the weed is declared under the *Noxious Weeds Act 1993* and its legal requirements in each local control area. Control information and registered herbicide options are also listed, including rates, herbicide resistance risks and withholding periods, incorporating the content from the NSW DPI's popular print publication, the 'Noxious & Environmental Weed Control Handbook'. Updates

are free.

As well as finding information, landholders, residents and farmers can use the app to report high priority weeds to their local council weeds officer. Weeds professionals can use the app to share information about a particular weed with their clients via SMS or email.

The NSW WeedWise app is receiving positive feedback and is starting to snowball in popularity with over 2 600 downloads since it was launched in March this year.

NSW WeedWise is freely available for Apple and Android through the App Store and on Google



NSW WeedWise can also be viewed as web pages at weeds.dpi.nsw.gov.au

For further information about weeds in NSW visit www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/weeds

ESA Annual Conference 2015

INTERCONNECTEDNESS 29 NOVEMBER TO 3 DECEMBER 2015 Adelaide, South Australia

2015 Annual Conference of the Ecological Society of Australia, will be held at the Hilton Hotel in Adelaide, South Australia, from 29 November - 3 December 2015

www.ecolsoc.org.au/conferences/esa-2015-annual-conference



Society News

Free Conference Registrations

The Society, as a Silver Sponsor and Conference Dinner Sponsor, is entitled to a free registration for each of the sponsorships.

The Society's committee decided to offer these two free registrations to individuals who may have wanted to attend the conference but did not have sufficient funding to do so. An open invitation was circulated to anyone interested, both Society members and non-members, to make a submissions as to why they should be given the free registration. The successful applicants would have to meet their own travelling and accommodation costs.

The successful two applicants were:

Mitchell Plumber
Western Local Land Services
Broken Hill

Robert Stephens
Weeds Officer
Bourke Shire Council

The Society has asked the two recipients to write a small article for 'A Good Weed' on their experience on going to the conference.

PROUD SPONSORS OF THE 18th NSW WEEDS CONFERENCE



**THE WEED SOCIETY
OF NEW SOUTH WALES INC.**

*"Promoting the awareness,
understanding & control of weeds"*

<http://www.nswweedsoc.org.au/>

1966 - 2016 Society's 50 Years Anniversary

Next year will be 50 years since the Society was formed in April, 1966. The Society was the first weed society created in Australia and has continued to operate successfully until the present.

The committee is planning several activities to celebrate this event and would welcome anyone who can help with historical material.

If you have any material contact the Secretary at:
secretary@nswweedsoc.org

Buerckner Award Stephenson Award Industry Award

Applications for the three awards have closed and the successful applicants will be named and awarded their prize at the 18th NSW Weeds Conference dinner on 14 October 2015.

The **NSW Buerckner Local Government Weed Professional Award**, a joint award between the Weeds Officer Association and the Weed Society of New South Wales, is a biennial prize awarded to recognise an outstanding contribution to the on-ground control of weeds in New South Wales.

The **NSW Stephenson Local Government Weed Professional Award**, another joint award between the Weeds Officer Association and the Weed Society of New South Wales, is a biennial prize awarded to recognise an outstanding contribution to planning and coordinating weed management programs in New South Wales.

The **NSW Weed Industry Award** acknowledges the work of Weed Professionals and their outstanding contribution towards protecting NSW from the impacts of weeds. This award is funded by the Society.

The winner of each award receives a certificate, medal and their name inscribed on a perpetual trophy.



Society News

Treasurer's Report

Financial Report

For the period 30th June to the 31st July the society has shown a loss of \$573.73.

For the year to date – 1st October 2014 to the 31st July 2015 a loss of \$9,496.65 is recorded.

The Balance Sheet shows that the society is in a sound financial position with total equity of \$67,779.48 made up of cash - \$7,642.74 and three term deposits totalling \$60,136.74.

As advised previously the society is in a position to support financially, projects that meet its objectives and a note appeared in the autumn issue of *A Good Weed* inviting members to apply for funding of projects that meet our objectives.

We do need to ensure however that any activities such as seminars return a profit or at least break even, as it will be late 2015 before we can expect any returns from the 18th Biennial Weeds Conference and the magnitude of the return is likely to be reduced due to the change in the terms of the contract with Monaro Shire Council compared to the previous contracts.

The cheque account was reconciled on the 31st July 2015

Membership

As at the 10th August 2015 the society has 152 members which includes 5 life members. To date 120 have paid their subscriptions for 2015 with 30 yet to pay.

Payment for 2014 subscriptions was due by the 1st June 2015 and a reminder was placed in the autumn issue of *A Good Weed*.

If payment is not received by the 31st December 2015, then those members will not continue to receive *A Good Weed* or *The Punnet Tray* or be eligible for the benefits offered by the society until payment is made.

18th NSW Weeds Conference

To date 20 members have applied for the code that is required for them to receive the \$100.00 discount available to them as Weed Society members.

Progress to resignation of Treasurer

Currently there are 3 term deposits and the objective is to have their balances transferred to the cheque account as they mature.

Maturity dates for the Term Deposits are:

- 2501 – 24th October 2015
- 2505 – 25th September 2015
- 2502 – 24th October 2015
-

This will then allow an orderly transfer of funds to the new bank account if it is not possible to continue using the Bendigo Bank in November 2015 when the new treasurer is on board.

Jim Swain
Treasurer
10 August 2015

Travel Assistance Grant

Terry Inkson
Noxious & Environmental Weeds Coordinator
Great Lakes Council

To assist in travel to the 18th NSW Weeds Conference, Cooma, October 2015.

Laura Williams, PhD student
University of New England/Australian Antarctic
Division

To assist in travel to the 13th International Conference of Ecology and Management of Alien Plant Invasion, Hawaii, September 2015.



Council of Australasian Weed Societies News

A special resolution will be held on 10 September to ratify decisions regarding changes to the CAWS Constitution that have previously been voted upon at meetings on 8 September 2011, 31 August 2014 and corrected on 26 March 2015 but this has been now deemed not valid due to incorrect procedures being used for those meetings. (Membership fees not up to date).

In future years, invoices for membership fees for CAWS will be issued on 1 August each year.

The web-site for the next 2016 AWC in Perth (which is linked from the front page of the CAWS web-site) is now taking expressions of interest from people thinking of attending next year.

New changes to the CAWS Travel Award include:

Part 1 rewording was agreed to: - *“The selection committee will mainly take into consideration the merits of the applicant and application, though some consideration may also be given to ensuring an equitable distribution of awards across Australasia.”*

Part 2 - After much discussion the rewording was agreed to: *“The award is intended to support people currently working with weeds who CAWS consider would most benefit from attending the conference but who would be unlikely to attend for financial reasons without assistance from this award.”*

Part 3 – After much discussion and a vote of 9 to 3 (NSW had 1 vote of no and 1 each from SA & WA) an additional regulation was added: *“Current members of the executive committee of CAWS are eligible to apply, assuming they meet the criteria and are not involved with the selection process.”*

CAWS can no longer share the account with NZ for the CAWS website. It was agreed that CAWS start their own account for website. This will cost approximately \$NZ12/month, thus approximately \$144/year.

The next CAWS meeting will be held on 10 September which will be the AGM.

Prepared by NSW CAWS Delegates



Kim Hignell



Hillary Cherry



Register your interest at the conference website: www.20awc.org.au



Society Details



Newsletter of The Weed Society of New South Wales Inc. ISSN 1325-3689

The newsletter is the major source of weed news and issues for our members. They want to read about all the exciting, interesting and unusual things you are doing in your weed activities.

Let us know about local and regional news, people and events, new emerging weed species, weed management issues, bushland regeneration, bushcare programs, weed research summaries, noxious weeds, legislative issues and book reviews.

We prefer short & interesting articles of about 200 to 500 words with good quality images which will reproduce well in colour.

Material should be sent to:
editor@nswweedsoc.org.au

Submission dates for material are:

- #72 Spring 2015 31 August 2015
- #73 Summer 2015/16 30 November 2015
- #74 Autumn 2016 28 February 2016
- #75 Winter 2016 31 May 2016

Letters to the Editor

The editors welcome members comments on articles that have appeared in *A Good Weed* or have weed-related issues they would like to bring to the attention of the Society members.
Contact: editor@nswweedsoc.org.au

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The e-newsletter *Punnet Tray* is intended to keep you up-to-date on weed related activities in between the quarterly publication of our printed publication, *A Good Weed*.

The e-newsletter is a maximum of two pages and we welcome contributions of one or two brief paragraph from members, or even nonmembers, on something to do with weeds and of interest to Society members.

Send material to editor@nswweedsoc.org.au and please include contact details so readers know where to obtain more information.

Do you wish to be on our email distribution list & is your email address up-to-date?

If you wish to be included in the email distribution list contact the secretary at secretary@nswweedsoc.org.au Also, let us know if you have changed your email address.

Your email will be used only for Society matters and you can unsubscribe at any time.

Committee Meeting Dates

9 October 2015 Executive Committee Meeting
11 December 2015 Executive Committee Meeting
19 November 2015 AGM and Lunch/

Contact Details

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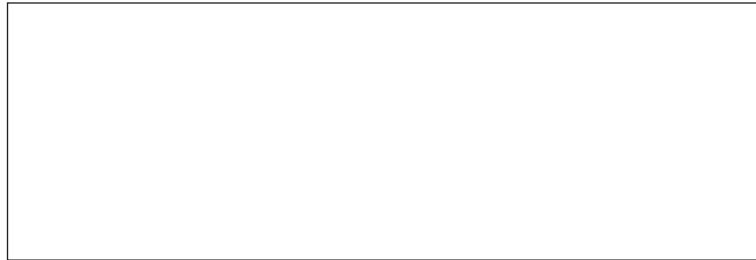
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