



Hudson Pear flowers | Image: R. Holtkamp

Welcome to the second edition of the Society's electronic newsletter. There has been a very encouraging response to the inaugural edition of 'Punnet Tray'.

Much activity has occurred with the society website, which now contains a wealth of information, including details on awards and medals available through the society; please note many of the nominations close soon.

Any other suggestions on how to improve the services provided by the Society, or the range of activities the Society supports, would be most welcome.

Happy Weeding.
Rex Stanton, President

**Have you
renewed your
Membership
subscription ?**

Society Details

Postal Address: PO Box 438
WAHROONGA NSW 2067

Secretary: secretary@nswweedsoc.org.au
Treasurer: treasurer@nswweedsoc.org.au
Editor: editor@nswweedsoc.org.au
Website: www.nswweedsoc.org.au

Who's tackling invasive species in Australia?

Every year across Australia tens of thousands of people give up their time to battle weeds, feral animals and other invasive threats to the environment, very often without payment.

The [Invasive Species Council](#) wants to build a picture of the work these people carry out, and the organisations they work for, through a [national survey](#).

More information available from the News page on the Society [website](#).

Who cared about the environment in 2012?

Find out what NSW residents think about the environment at a free public webinar run by the [Office of Environment and Heritage](#). The free [online webinar](#), useful for state government, local councils, NGOs, community groups, businesses and educators, will be held on Tuesday, 30 April 2013 at 10.00am – 11.30am.

More information available from the News page on the Society [website](#).

Roadside vegetation projects funded

Roadside Vegetation Implementation Project (RVIP) grants will fund a total of [10 individual projects and two regional projects](#), involving 28 councils across NSW.

RVIP grants are funded by [NSW Environmental Trust](#) and administered by [Local Government NSW](#). They support projects to remove environmental weeds, undertake bush regeneration, direct seeding, protect endangered species, improve signage of environmentally sensitive areas and train staff including council works crews.

Buerckner & Stephenson Awards

The Society is calling for nominations for the NSW Buerckner & Stephenson Local Government Weed Professional Awards, to be presented at the 17th NSW Biennial Weeds Conference.

Details and forms for each Award are available from:
www.nswweedsconference2013.com or www.nswweedsoc.org.au.

17th NSW Weeds Conference

The 17th NSW Biennial Weeds Conference will be held in Corowa, 9-12 September 2013. Keynote speakers include Dr Tony Grice and Dr John Keniry. Don McLardy (Melbourne Football Club and Reach Foundation) is the guest speaker for the conference dinner.

Note, earlybird registrations close **31st May 2013**.

Conference information can be obtained online at www.nswweedsconference2013.com or contact Rachel Robinson-Minogue, Corowa Shire, 02 6033 3221, 0418572849 or Rachel.Minoque@corowa.nsw.gov.au



Website update

Visit the society [website](#) to see all the major upgrades. The depth of material available through the site has greatly increased.



Sydney weed professionals forum

18th October, NSW Teachers Federation Conference Centre, Surry Hills.

The [Sydney Weeds Committees](#) are hosting a one day technical forum for weed management professionals and operational staff working across the Greater Sydney and Blue Mountains region.

Contact: [Rosanna Luca](#), Sydney Weeds Action Project

New innovative projects for weeds 2013-2015

The [NSW Department of Primary Industries](#) has called for innovative projects addressing high priority weeds in NSW. The new funding builds on the current NSW [Weeds Action Program](#) (WAP), and addresses priorities in the NSW [Invasive Species Plan](#) (ISP). Projects will prevent and manage new weed incursions, contain existing weeds, build effective partnerships and/or address research, training, and education.

Society seminar: Using herbicides effectively in the future

17th July, 2013 - Hornsby RSL Club

Topics will cover permits, legislation at both federal and state levels, new herbicides and what's coming on-line, spray drift management and application strategies, and weed control and environmental weed risk management. Further details available soon from the Society [website](#).

Invasive weeds and bushfires

The spread of invasive weeds such as buffel grass (*Cenchrus ciliaris*) in semi-arid Australia increases fuel loads and poses higher risks during bushfires. Fires in native vegetation areas are more patchy, helping preserve floral diversity. Controlling invasive weeds has high benefits in areas of high conservation value. Schlesinger *et al.* 2013 [Austral Ecology](#) (online)



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How about providing material for the newsletter? Deadline 31st May 2013
Contact: [Lawrie Greenup](#) (Editor)

The Society is sponsored by:



Image of the Month

This image by Josh Biddle "Tropical soda apple in the understory" was awarded 1st place in the Weed Management category of the 2011 Photographic Competition.

For all budding photographers: Start thinking about capturing some weed related photographs, as there will be opportunity to submit photographs for the Photographic Contest to be run in conjunction with the 2013 NSW Biennial Weeds Conference. This conference will be held in picturesque Corowa, 9-12 September 2013.

Details available from the conference website:
www.nswweedsconference2013.com

For contributions, please contact -
editor@nswweedsoc.org.au

Submission date for the next edition:
#003 - 15 July 2013

The opinions expressed in "Punnet Tray" by contributors are not necessarily those of the Executive Committee of The Weed Society of New South Wales Inc.