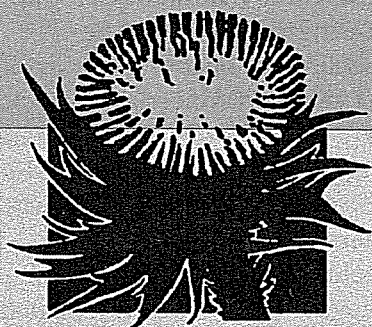


A Good Weed



the NEWSLETTER of
The Weed Society of New South Wales Inc
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DECEMBER 1997

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Weedbuster Week Wash-up

The first official national Weedbuster Week ran from 12-19 October 1997. In this article, Bob Trounce, Weeds Agronomist with NSW Agriculture and NSW Coordinator for Weedbuster Week, assesses the wash-up from the event in NSW. While the consensus was that it was a worthwhile and well organised event, a number of improvements can and should be made. These changes are to be incorporated into planning for the 1998 Weedbuster Week in October.

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... Weedbuster Week Wash-up

Officially, Weedbuster Week activities in New South Wales commenced at Tamworth on Saturday 11 October with the National Launch by Senator David Brownhill. John Fisher (NSW Agriculture Program Leader - Weeds) attended from Head Office as well as staff from the Weed Biological Control Unit, Tamworth Centre for Crop Improvement.

The Unit, together with assistance from Ursula Taylor (Education Officer, Cooperative Research Centre (CRC) for Weed Management Systems, Armidale), Jim Cherry (Central Northern County Council) and others set up a weed display in the main street of Tamworth for the occasion.

There were two TV stations present and interviews were taped with the Senator and John Fisher. Senator Brownhill was also to tape some further interviews with the media during the week. The venue was good in the main street, but did not capture a lot of public interest.

In all, over 76 individual functions or venues were set up in NSW promoting Weedbuster Week. These involved seminars, weed walks, shopping centre displays, office displays, school visits and 'weed pull' working bees.

The demand for Woody the Weed to appear was so great that a clone was created by Jim Cherry and a very cooperative seamstress at Tamworth, so a northern Woody was able to attend the National launch. He/she also visited the Tamworth saleyards on sale day (ooh dem golden slippers??). Merriwa school children went on a weed walk at the Tamworth Marsupial Gardens.

Woody senior spent the weekend of 11-12 October at various venues in Wollongong, and on Monday 13 assisted the Minister for Agriculture, Richard Amery, launch Weedbuster in NSW and went on a weed walk with about 70 pupils from Paddington Public School (Paddington Bear was not available).

On Wednesday 15 October, he spent a few hours in the Market Place, Wagga Wagga and then visited three classes at Tarcutta Public School where he helped Toni Nugent (Technical Adviser, CRC Wagga Wagga) give some instruction on weed awareness. Here the astute 6 year olds were very quick to advise the Principal that Woody was a "she" and not a "he" as the Principal had assumed.

Coolamon Shire had some duties for Woody on Thursday 16 October before his appearance on Friday at the Orange Metro Plaza. He also made his usual appearance at NSW Agriculture Head Office, and finally made a last effort again at the Plaza on Saturday morning.

Most Weedbuster function coordinators were pleased with the outcome and although we have learned where we can improve, there was only one complaint - that there was insufficient promotional material available.

If anything was disappointing, it was the national media. The ABC was the best respondent in NSW. The radio manager (Public Relations) supplied the activity list to all regional stations, plus of course Ursula's Landline program was widely viewed and applauded.

Two letters were sent to many stations, the last including a hat and badge to seek a mention on air that it was Weedbuster Week. Although I was on the road with Woody during many news and weather segments, I did not hear of any announcers taking up the idea.

Shirley Stackhouse of 2UE eventually caught up for an interview after Weedbuster Week and this provided an opportunity to report on its success. Regional stations and newspapers were, as usual, very receptive.

Overall, the week was a success and a lot of lessons were learned for next time. The national committee have met and have plans underway already to seek more sponsorship in 1998. At this stage, early notification of what

will be happening in terms of competitions and promotional items will be sent to all councils and 1997 participants by the end of March.

Suggestions for the 1998 promotion, which will run from 11-19 October, are most welcome.

(Bob Trounce is a Weeds Agronomist with NSW Agriculture, Orange, and NSW Coordinator for Weedbuster Week.) □

The Madafiglio Report ~ Brighton Weeds Conference

By Greg Madafiglio

In November 1997, I attended the British Crop Protection Council's Brighton Crop Protection Conference - Weeds, with the assistance of a travel grant from the Weed Society of NSW.

I currently work at the Orange Agricultural Institute (NSW Agriculture) and am involved in a grains industry-funded project evaluating the late spraying of wheat as a technique for controlling broadleaf weeds. With this project, I am undertaking a PhD through the University of Western Sydney, Hawkesbury. Also involved in the project are Dick Medd (NSW Agriculture) and Peter Cornish (University of Western Sydney).

I presented some preliminary results of my field experiments at the conference as a poster paper entitled 'Seed kill as a broadleaf weed control technique in wheat'. Our main target species is wild radish and the poster outlined the successes we have found in the near complete prevention of viable seed production after the application of selective herbicides when applied at the flowering stage of growth.

The conference was held in the seaside city of Brighton, UK, over three rainy and cold days in November 1997. The weeds conference is held every two years and the British Crop Protection Council is responsible for organising the program. The conference was professionally organised by 'The Event Organisation Company'. Researchers, academics and industry representatives

aparine, *Lamium* spp., *Lithospermum arvense*, *Papaver rhoeas*, *Polygonum aviculare*, *Raphanus raphanistrum*, *Senecio vulgaris*, *Stellaria media* and *Vicia sativa*. This herbicide will help manage *Alopecurus myosuroides* that is resistant to herbicides from other groups.

S. Shires (FMC) spoke about the recently registered post emergent herbicide carfentrazone ethyl that provides rapid broadleaf weed control. Weeds controlled include *Galium aparine*, *Capsella bursa-pastoris*, *Lamium purpureum*, *Amaranthus retroflexus*, *Chenopodium album*, *Sinapsis arvensis*, *Papaver rhoeas*, *Fallopia convolvulus*, *Polygonum persicaria*, *Raphanus raphanistrum* and *Xanthium* spp. The product is most effective at the early growth stages and will be marketed in mixtures with other herbicides.

... promoted the view that high production agriculture leads to reduced need to clear forests thus ensuring no loss in biodiversity.

Several other new rice herbicides were also introduced from the protox and sulfonylurea groups of herbicides.

Rice Allelopathy

M. Olofsdotter presented a paper describing the allelopathic potential of various rice cultivars for weed suppression in the field. The technique has merit but still many problems; the level of weed control, physiological cost, environmental consequence and toxicological properties of production of the allelochemical and metabolites are examples.

Genetically Modified (GM) Crops

J. Cooper described the consequences of genetically modified stress-tolerant

crops and the possible impact on weed population dynamics (through abiotic influences, herbicides, pests and diseases). These crops are approaching commercialisation. It was claimed that there will inevitably be gene flow into natural populations.

P. Dale presented a paper on the impact of multiple transgenes occurring deliberately or unintentionally by pollen transfer to related plant species. Regulatory approval needs to consider the consequences of and impacts on the agricultural and wider environment from the presence of several herbicide tolerant genes.

The utilisation of glyphosate-resistant crops is being widely promoted in the mid-west USA for weed management in corn and soybean production (S. Hart). Good results are being obtained but there is concern that the products may be overused.

Most interest in GM crops was over the implications for the agricultural system. Potentially large benefits could accrue from GM plants. Commercial interests to date have driven the exploitation of new genotypes and 830 GM plant releases have occurred in the European Union Countries. This was discussed by M. Askew and J. Sweet and in the evening discussion session.

Resistant Weeds

Several papers described the current herbicide resistant weeds in the UK (e.g. *Alopecurus myosuroides*, *Avena* spp., and *Phalaris minor*). The main resistant weed problem is *A. myosuroides*.

R. Ritter discussed the development of triazine resistance in five summer-growing weeds in the USA caused by a lack of crop and herbicide rotation and spread of farmyard manure.

An evening discussion session was used to unveil the Weed Resistance Action Group (WRAG) schedule grouping of herbicides

according to mode of action (UK system). R. Schmidt also described the HRAC (European) classification of herbicides according to the mode of action, which is similar to the UK grouping. Both systems are alphabetical listings similar to the Australian classification system for herbicide groups (A, B and C only).

Agrochemical Optimisation

Several sessions were devoted to agrochemical optimisation policies, application, formulation and effects on performance.

E. Southcombe proposed an international (BCPC) spray classification system including a drift potential factor. Other papers discussed drift and effect of forward travel speed. UK and EU policies are directed at pesticide minimisation and associated environmental benefits as discussed by several authors.

Of increasing concern is the accumulation of mineral oil adjuvants in the environment. They will soon be prohibited. A suggested replacement is esterified vegetable oils (ester of fatty acids) which are more environmentally benign and rapidly broken down in the environment.

Integrated weed management strategies were also discussed with emphasis on rotations. Minimum tillage has not taken off in the UK. A new tillage system known as 'ECO tillage' is being promoted which incorporates knockdown herbicides with reduced tillage operations.

Patch Spraying

'Aggregated weed distribution - biological and technological challenges' was the topic of a workshop session that I attended. Discussion centred on the spatial dynamics of weed populations, detection and mapping of weed patches, decision making, navigation and sprayer control. Many

challenges exist and technology is increasingly becoming available to allow the techniques to be feasible. Several speakers emphasised that the system will remain a research tool until the cost of the system can produce some economic benefits.

Trade Services Exhibition

The Trade Services Exhibition was held in conjunction with the conference. Over 60 organisations exhibited their products and services. Just over half the exhibitors were based within the UK, a further quarter coming from mainland Europe and nearly 20% coming from the USA. A wide range of products and services were displayed relating to the agricultural industry. □

Society's Plant Identification Competition

The Society sponsored prizes for a weed identification competition which was held at the 9th Biennial Noxious weeds Conference at Dubbo in September, 1997.

The competition was divided into four regions to ensure none of the entrants received an unfair advantage if any of the plants for identification were more representative of any particular region.

About 100 entries were received in total and they were of such a high standard that the judges (four members of the Society's Executive) found it difficult to separate the winners in three of the four regions. In each of these regions two entrants achieved a score of 100% correct. As a result, the Conference Convenor, Peter Gray (Noxious Plants Advisory Officer, Dubbo), arranged for additional prizes

consisting of bottles of wine, to avoid any disappointments.

The Society's prizes were copies of the book *The Biology of Australian Weeds Volume*. The winners of each region were: North Coast - Ken Hayes (Coffs Harbour City Council) and Terry Schmitzer (Hastings Shire Council); North West - Geoff Keech (Macspred, Tamworth); South Coast - David Pomery (Illawarra Noxious Weeds Authority) and Tony Martin (Illawarra Noxious Weeds Authority); South West - John Conlan (Lockhart Shire Council) and James Smith (Coolamon Shire Council).

The prizes were presented by Society Treasurer, Alex McLennan at the conference dinner.

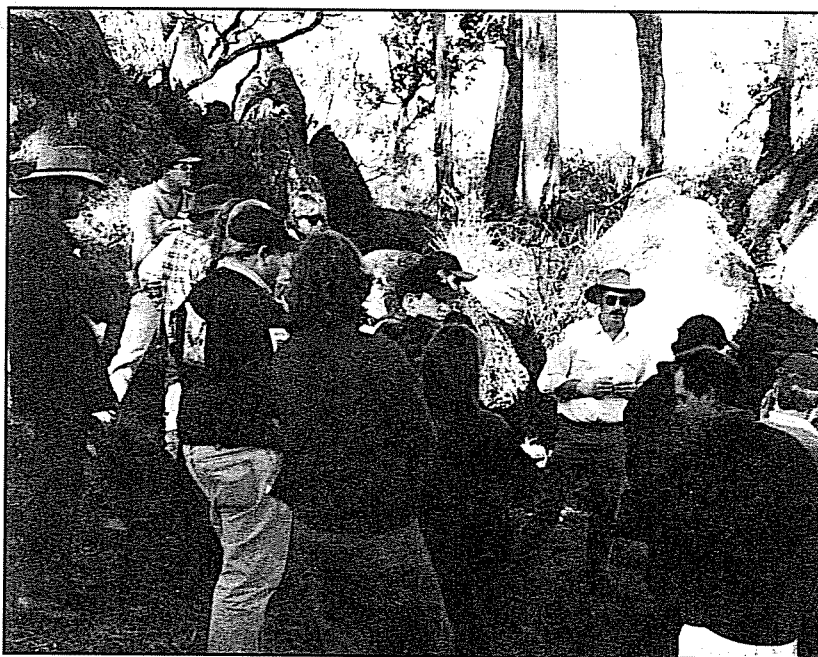
Weed Management Course Strikes with Immediate Success

In a previous edition of *A Good Weed* there was a report of a new university course known as Integrated Weed Management (AGRO422/522) being offered at the University of New England (UNE) in 1997. This article reports briefly on the success that Integrated Weed Management struck with students in its first year. Written by leading experts from around Australia, mainly in the CRC for Weed Management Systems, this unit will again be offered through UNE in second semester 1998 as well as at Charles Sturt University.

Last year saw 19 undergraduates and postgraduates enrol in the course at UNE from as far away as Darwin, Rockhampton and Canberra, and from degrees in Science, Rural Science and Natural Resources. One of the highlights, according to these students, was the unit's treatment of weeds and weed management of

natural ecosystems as well as agricultural ecosystems. Many appreciated the opportunity to investigate the weed issues confronting land managers in a diversity of land-use systems, as well as being able to specialise through elective topics in native ecosystems, cropping, pastures and horticulture. An additional elective for 1998 will focus on the management of aquatic weeds.

As part of the September Residential School, students visited NSW Agriculture's Centre for Crop Improvement at Tamworth and the Oxley Wild Rivers National Park near Armidale, where researchers and National Parks staff highlighted practical weed issues. A popular assignment was the interview that students conducted with land managers in their local area and their critique of the weed management systems that each had in place.



ⓐ Park Rangers discussing weed management issues with students in the Oxley Wild Rivers National Park, near Armidale.

Of two students who provided written comments on the overall success of the unit, one said: *Considering that this was*

the first time the unit was presented, I thought that it and the residential school were very good. Well done. The other student commented: Overall, a very well balanced subject which leaves me with a great deal of useful information and references. Congratulations on an excellent job.



Ⓢ PhD student at the University of New England, Jeremy Whish, discussing his research work on weed competition in chickpeas on the NSW Agriculture research station at Tamworth.

Given the success of this new unit, the Director of the CRC for Weed Management Systems has recently commenced discussions whereby UNE and other universities may offer this unit as a professional course to those people in industry needing to upgrade their skills in weed management.

Inquiries about this unit should be directed to Dr Brian Sindel, Senior Lecturer in Weed Science, Division of Agronomy and Soil Science, School of Rural Science and Natural Resources, University of New England, Armidale, NSW, 2351. Telephone: (02) 6773 3747; Fax: (02) 6773 3238; Email: bsindel@metz.une.edu.au

Weed Listservers

By Kate Blood

There are seven weed listservers operational in Australia (five of them new) through email. They cover environmental, cropping and pasture weeds.

The general ENVIROWEEDS is the umbrella discussion group for environmental weeds with four others focussing on specific environmental weed issues. These complement the CROPWEED and PASTURE-WEEDS listservers that have been operating for a number of months.

If you are interested in the Australian situation, I encourage you to subscribe to the listservers that you think may be useful. These have only just been launched and there are not many people subscribed so traffic at this stage will be quiet. Hopefully all of the bugs are ironed out and it will be smooth sailing from here. Let the discussion begin!

How to Subscribe to the Australian ENVIROWEEDS

The first message you send to the listserver will automatically subscribe you. Here is what you do:

Send a message to <ENVIROWEEDS-request@majordomo.nre.vic.gov.au> with the following command in the body of your email message (not in the subject line and remember to turn off or remove your automatic signature at the end of your messages if you have one):

```
subscribe ENVIROWEEDS <your email address>
```

When you subscribe, you will get an introductory welcome message with instructions on how to operate the listserver and how to unsubscribe. It

also has information on other listservers. To retrieve this general introductory information for ENVIROWEEDS (if you want to look at it before subscribing), send this message in the body of the email to <ENVIROWEEDS-request@majordomo.nre.vic.gov.au>.

info ENVIROWEEDS

Other Listservers in Australia

The Cooperative Research Centre (CRC) for Weed Management Systems has established a number of email listservers. To receive information on how to subscribe to the following listservers, type the line below in the message of the email to the following addresses (and remember to turn off or remove your signature at the end of your message if you have one).

info <list>

These are the lists:

<WEEDBUSTER-WEEK> Keep in touch with the upcoming annual Weedbuster Week activities and promotion around Australia: WEEDBUSTER-WEEK-request@majordomo.nre.vic.gov.au

<EDUenviroWEEDS> This CRC listserver is for those involved in school, TAFE, tertiary education and other training on environmental weeds: EDUenviroWEEDS-request@majordomo.nre.vic.gov.au

<NURSERY-WEEDS> The CRC, nursery industry and environmental weed discussion group is working on the introduction of an environmentally-friendly nursery award scheme in Australia (this is a closed listserver that requires approval to join): NURSERY-WEEDS-request@majordomo.nre.vic.gov.au

<WEEDWATCH> The CRC weedwatch discussion group is looking at how the process for identifying, reporting and recording new and expanding weeds in Australia can be improved (this is a closed listserver that requires approval to join): WEEDWATCH-request@majordomo.nre.vic.gov.au

<CROPWEED> The CRC Crop Weed listserver has been established to help distribute and discuss information on the management of weeds in annual cropping systems: cropweed-request@farrer.riv.csu.edu.au

<PASTURE-WEEDS> The CRC Pasture Weeds listserver has been established to assist in the distribution of information and discussion on the management of weeds in perennial pasture systems: pasture-weeds-request@metz.une.edu.au

Good luck.

(Kate Blood is the Environmental Weed Education Officer, Cooperative Research Centre (CRC) for Weed Management Systems, Keith Turnbull Research Institute (KTRI) PO Box 48, Frankston, Victoria 3199 Ph direct: (03)9785 0128 Mobile: 0417 135 356 Ph switch: (03)9785 0111 Fax: (03)9785 2007 Email: K.Blood@nre.vic.gov.au)

New Director of Weed CRC

Associate Professor Rick Roush from the University of Adelaide has been selected by the Board of the Cooperative Research Centre (CRC) for Weed Management Systems as the next Director of the CRC following Steve Powles departure. Rick assumes the Directorship on 1 February 1998.

Rick says "I am looking forward to working closely with all members of the CRC, and further developing relationships with our stakeholders. It is a great honour to be selected for Director, and to be given a chance to build on the hard work of all CRC members during the last two and half years, specially Steve Powles".

As mentioned in the last edition of *A Good Weed*, Steve Powles has taken up a Chair of Weed Science at the University of Western Australia.

Members Matter

We welcome the following new members to the Society and ask that if you have any news or views which might be of interest to readers of *A Good Weed*, then please send them to the Editor (address page 2).

Jennifer Cowie, Tarcutta
Geoff Doret, Cronulla
Ian Johnstone, Boral Energy, Fyshwick

All contributions and suggestions are most welcome from anyone within the Society and if you are able to send them in electronic format, either by email or on disk (Microsoft Word) then that will save time and be very helpful.

Membership Subscriptions

The Treasurer of the Society, Alex McLennan, would like to let all members know that annual membership subscriptions are now due and that letters to this effect will be sent out to everyone in the mail shortly. So look out for that and please send your dues in promptly. Alex works in a voluntary capacity and it makes his job much easier if he doesn't have to chase people up for money. Many thanks.

Treasurer's Report

The audited accounts of the Society for the period 1/10/96 to 30/9/97 were presented by the Treasurer to the Annual General Meeting on 23 October 1997.

A surplus of \$6,072 was reported for the year. Accumulated or consolidated funds as of 30/9/97 were \$33,692 compared to \$27,620 in 1996.

Election of Office Bearers

All positions were declared vacant at the AGM and John Cameron (past President) took the chair. The following were elected as office bearers of the Society for 1997/98.

President:	Dan Austin
Vice President:	Robert Plumbe
Secretary:	Leon Smith
Treasurer:	Alex McLennan
Newsletter Editor:	Brian Sindel

Committee: It was proposed that the same people who were on the Executive Committee as last year be invited to join the 1998 Committee.

J Mallen-Cooper	M Barrett
R Trounce	M Hood
R Plumbe	V Stubbs
G Beehag	L Brodie
L Greenup	R Graham
J Dellow	G Harding
J Toth	M Boulton
P Michael	G Tink
A Murphy	M Ierace

New Members: J Swain and B Verbeek.



Southern Neighbours go Electronic

According to the December 1997 edition of their newsletter, The Weed Science Society of Victoria has seen some important technological changes recently that have improved their communication and educational capacity.

They have been the first weed society in Australia to have an Internet web site. Set up by Bob Richardson, the site is updated from time to time with information sent in by the Society's members. If you have access to the Internet, have a look on <http://www.vicnet.net.au/~weedsoc>

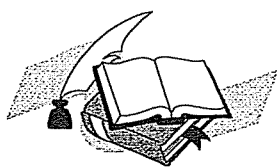


Company Name Change

DowElanco have announced that their name changed on 1 January to Dow AgroSciences Australia Limited.

This move follows a June 1997 announcement that the 40% interest in DowElanco held by Eli Lilly and Company would be acquired by The Dow Chemical Company.

Dow AgroSciences is thus a wholly owned subsidiary of The Dow Chemical Company. The Company says that their new name reinforces their belief that the best science and technology is critical to helping the agricultural and urban pest management industries meet the overall needs of a rapidly expanding world population. All phone numbers and contacts will remain the same.



Other 'Good Reads'

Global Herbicide Directory

The GHD, 2nd Edition, provides key information on the more than 280 individual herbicide compounds (these include 30 experimental herbicides, 235 commercial herbicides, and 20 key discontinued compounds). For easy reference, every herbicide is listed under its discovery company on a chronological basis from newest discovery to oldest commercial product.

At the suggestion of many of the 1st Edition subscribers, this 2nd Edition also includes the identity and key information on more than 50 of the world's leading PGR's, safeners, defoliant and desiccants.

Cost is US\$125 or \$90 for academics. Order through William L. Hopkins, Ag Chem Information Services, 6705 E. 71st St, Indianapolis, IN 46220, USA. Phone 317 845 0681 Fax 317 841 1210 Email Agcheminfo@aol.com

The Major Invertebrate Pests and Weeds of Agriculture and Plantation Forestry in the Southern and Western Pacific

The Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR) has supported sustainable and environmentally friendly crop production and protection since its establishment in 1982. This publication provides data needed to help countries throughout the southern and western Pacific select appropriate target pests for classical biological control. The data supplied by agricultural experts in 18 participating

nations indicate that there are many suitable biological control targets, both arthropod pests and weeds. This monograph will provide a basis for staging progressive control efforts over the coming decades to provide a valuable impetus to agriculture and plantation forestry in Pacific Island nations.

Waterhouse, D.F. 1997. ACIAR Monograph No. 44, 99pp. Price \$40 plus postage and handling (\$5 in Australia). Order through Bibliotech, ANUTECH Pty Ltd, Canberra, ACT 0200.

Non-Target Impacts of the Herbicide Glyphosate

By D.S. Sullivan and T.P. Sullivan. 1997. 302pp. (Order from Applied Mammal Research Institute, 11010 Mitchell Avenue, R.R. #3, Summerland, B.C. Canada). Glyphosate is a herbicide that is used in agriculture, forestry and aquatic ecosystems. This book is a compendium of references and abstracts extracted from the major online literature databases. Included are several thousand items covering environmental impacts, toxicology, efficacy and human health. Ten sections include aquatic invertebrates and algae, biodiversity-conservation and habitat restoration/alteration, birds, fish, human health, mammals, microflora and fungi, plant and soil residues, terrestrial invertebrates and water quality.

Proceedings of the VIII International Symposium on Biological Control of Weeds

Edited by E.S. Delfosse and R.R. Scott. 1996, 760pp. (Order from CSIRO Publishing, PO Box 1139, Collingwood 3066, Phone 03 9662 7666, Email sales@publish.csiro.au).

As the most comprehensive collection of its kind, this book of 135 papers covers all aspects of the theory and

current practice of biological control of weeds. Topics include biological control in protected natural areas, aquatic habitats, forests, pasture rangelands and crops: selecting agents and targets; economics and evaluating impacts; and screening, rearing, releasing and managing agents, particularly plant pathogens and arthropods.

Upcoming Events

Nova anglica - the Web of our Endeavours

Work has commenced on an exciting event for March 1998 which will highlight the community's care and repair of our environment.

Entitled 'Nova-anglica - the web of our endeavours', the event will feature the network of activities that the New England community is engaged in for care of the environment. As well, the event will feature the actual environment itself.

Leah MacKinnon, spokesperson for the organising group, said 'we have taken the name of the event from three plants unique to the New England - peppermint, New England tea tree and New England banksia - each has the botanical name nova-anglica.'

The event will particularly feature the maps of the Citizens Wildlife Corridors group. This group of over 800 landholders, has mapped their properties onto 58 topographic maps.

'The Wildlife Corridors group is a particularly inspiring example of individual activities combining together to create real change in the landscape,' Leah MacKinnon said.

Leah said that the event will be staged at the new England Regional Art Museum in March 1998.

'The event will have four main sections - a dieback section showing

environmental problems in the landscape (including a weeds section being organised by Ursula Taylor from the CRC for Weed Management Systems at the University of New England), a regeneration area showing activities which renew the landscape, a special exhibition of art works inspired by the landscape, and a section celebrating the network of endeavours by people in the region to reverse environmental degradation,' Leah McKinnon said.

Work commenced on the exhibition in October 1997, and a dedicated team of volunteers has been working away behind the scenes. 'The response from the community has been very exciting,' Leah MacKinnon said. 'Schools, community groups, government organisations, landholders, artists and many others are involved and the web is spreading rapidly,' she said.

For more information contact David Curtis, Greening Australia, telephone 02 6772 3248.



Weed Identification Short Courses - Agricultural Weeds: Instructor Training

Survey after survey shows that growers and land managers want improved training in weed management and weed identification. To help address this need, the CRC for Weed Management Systems is facilitating the development and delivery of training programs.

Educating people and showing them what to look for when identifying weeds will result in better management practices and correct control methods.

Delivery is planned as a stand alone, one day short course or built into longer training courses targeted at council officers, growers and the general public. Training providers will be responsible for course delivery. Training programs in crop and pasture weed identification are being developed and accredited.

This is an invitation to participate in a two day course designed to "train the trainers" for delivery of this course. The course will be conducted by Michael Moerkerk.

The course introduces participants to the teaching resources (booklets, slide sets and seed collections) being developed by the CRC, explains their suggested uses, and provides guidance on how to obtain the materials for use in other courses.

It allows participants to become more confident in the identification of the seedling stage of the various weeds that are common in their region. It introduces participants to weeds that are not common in their area and provides details on who to contact if people are uncertain about the identification of any weeds and how to curate and preserve specimens.

After a successful first round of Instructor Training Courses held across southern Australia during November 1997, a second round of Instructor Training Courses is scheduled for the following dates in 1998 in NSW.

- Armidale 23-24 March
- Wagga Wagga 26-27 March

The cost of the course will be partly subsidised by the CRC for Weed Management Systems, and will be \$300. Participants in the Instructor Training Course will receive an Instructor Resource Kit containing:

- guidelines for instructors,
- a set of 35mm slides,
- a set of masters of overhead transparencies, and

- a copy of each of the reference books "Crop Weeds" and "More Crop Weeds".

Please note that accommodation is not covered in this price. Applications are invited from potential instructors to participate in one of the above Instructor Training Courses. Instructor requirements:

- skilled in weed identification and management,
- experienced adult educators or extension officers,
- have relevant qualifications in agriculture, horticulture or land management, and
- have access to suitable training facilities and resources.

This course is ideal for people such as TAFE and university lecturers, agronomists, resellers and advisers to upgrade their training skills. Applicants are asked to address the criteria when applying for registration and to send applications to either Toni Nugent or John Kent at the CRC for Weed Management Systems, Farrer Centre, Charles Sturt University, PO Box 588, Wagga Wagga, NSW 2678. Telephone: (02) 6933 2178 (Toni), (02) 6933 2489 (John), Fax: (02) 6933 2924.

Places for Instructor Training Courses are limited. The closing date for applications is 23 February 1998.

5th Queensland Weed Symposium

Expression of interest and call for written papers and posters.

The Weed Society of Queensland, Inc. invites you to the 5th Queensland Weed Symposium: "*Paradise Lost? Will You Let it Happen?*" to be held at the Righa Colonial Club Resort Cairns, Queensland, 22 - 24 September 1998.

The three day conference will include field tours, workshops,

discussions and networking opportunities. Topics to be covered include weed management, potential weeds, new legislation, and implementation of Pest Management Planning.

Written papers and/or poster presentations are sought in the above categories for inclusion in the conference proceedings. The papers, workshops, field tours and discussion will aid the exchange of ideas and experience in recent advances in weed management and technology, and open channels for communication and collaboration.

For additional information contact: Susan Dickey, Event Manager, Eventcorp Pty Ltd, PO Box 1689, Cairns, Qld. 4870. Tel: 07 4041 1155 Fax: 07 4041 1244 Email: eventcorp@internetnorth.com.au

International Symposium on Crop Protection

Gent, Belgium. 5 May 1998. Contact: S. Drieghe, Fac. of Agric. and Applied Biol. Sciences, Univ. of Gent, Coupure Links 653, B-9000 Gent, Belgium. Email: sabine.drieghe@rug.ac.be Fax: 32-9-264-6249. Phone: 32-9-264-6012.

3rd International Symposium on Molecular Insect Science

Snowbird, Utah, USA, 5-10 June 1998. Contact: Center for Insect Science, 225 Life Sciences South, Univ. of Arizona, Tucson, AZ 85721, USA. Email: insects@ccit.arizona.edu Fax: 1-520-621-2590.

International Conference of Integrated Pest Management

"Management, Theory & Practice, Developing Sustainable Agriculture," Guangzhou, China, 15-20 June 1998. English language only. Contact: L. Li-ying, Guangdong Entomological Soc., Xingang West Road 105, Guangzhou 510270, China. Email: gzgeii@public1.guangzhou.gd.cn Fax:

86-20-841-91709. Phone: 86-20-841-83642. Website: www.ipmchina.cn.net.

Short Course in Integrated Pest Management (IPM)

East Lansing, MI, USA, 5-24 July 1998. Contact: K.M. Maredia, Institute of International Agriculture, 416 Plant and Soil Sciences Building, Michigan State Univ., East Lansing, MI 48824, USA. Email: kmaredia@msu.edu Fax: 1-517-432-1982. Phone: 1-517-353-5262.

International Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Training Course in Rice

Los Banos, Philippines, 6 July - 28 August 1998. Contact: Director, National Crop Protection Center, U.P. at Los Banos, College, Laguna 4031, Philippines. Email: ncpc@laguna.net. Fax: 63-536-2409. Phone: 63-536-0967.

51st NZ Plant Protection Society Conference

Hamilton, New Zealand, 11-13 August 1998. Contact: A. Rahman, Ruakura Agric. Research Centre, Private Bag 3121, Hamilton, New Zealand. Email: rahmana@agresearch.cri.nz Fax: 64-7-838-5073. Phone: 64-7-838-5280.

10th International Symposium on Aquatic Weeds

Lisbon, Portugal. Contact: APRH Secretariat, 10th EWRS Aquatic Weed Symposium, Laboratorio Nacional de Engenharia Civil, Avenida do Brasil 101, 1799 Lisboa Codex, Portugal.

12th Australian Weeds Conference

Hobart Tasmania, 12-16 September 1999.

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