

Calendar of Events

September 2009

21 September 2009 – Henty Field Days Setup – On site

22- 24 September 2009 – Henty Field Days

October 2009

6 October 2009 – WRNWAG Meeting including AGM – Hay - 10 am

7 - 8 October 2009 – Fourth Victorian Weeds Conference – Geelong

8 October 2009 - ERNWAG Meeting including AGM – Wagga - 9.30 am

13 October 2009 – Weed Risk Management Training – Wagga

November 2009

30 November & 1 December 2009 – Performance Management Training – Wagga

December 2009

3 & 4 December 2009 – Performance Management Training - Hay

Fireweed Found in Albury City

Two fireweed plants have been located and removed in Albury recently.



On the 3rd August 2009 Jeremy Crocker, Wagga City Council, spotted what he thought was fireweed as he travelled along the Hume Freeway, just north of Albury within the centre median. He contacted Sarah Stuart, Albury City Weeds officer, who later located one plant and removed it. Jan Mitchell later located the other plant and it was also removed.

It has been confirmed from the Botanic Gardens Trust in Sydney that it is Fireweed - *Senecio madagascariensis*.

Hopefully the plant will survive until Henty Field Days where it will be displayed (within a Perspex box!!) for all to see!

Chilean Needle Grass has shot in Howlong & Albury!

Pat Minogue (Corowa Shire) located this plant within the Howlong town-ship in early September.



Last week Jan Mitchell from Albury also located some Chilean in the Splitters Creek area.

The plants had both already seeded so either they were missed last year or the Chilean is shooting early! Be on the lookout!



For those that are not aware we have sadly farewelled the **DPI** and welcomed in its place **Industry & Investment NSW.**



Please make sure you update all your email contacts.



Perennial Weeds of the Woodlands Tour

REPORT compiled by Adam Craig,
Wagga Wagga City Council

Jeremy and I went on the Woodlands Tour on the 8th and 9th of July to look at some of the impacts of invasive weeds species on Grassy Box Woodlands.



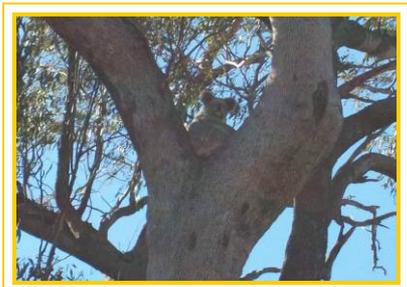
The tour started at Canberra picking people up along the way, ending up in Lake Keepit (in-between Coonabarabran and Tamworth) and then travelling back through Wellington back to Canberra the next day.

Tour organiser Toni McLeish wanted to show people from southern NSW what some of the perennial grasses are potentially capable of if we don't control them.

The trip was definitely an eye opener and showed what can happen if the Riverina does not remain vigilant in regards to new incursions.

Of particular interest was an African perennial grass called Guinea Grass (*Panicum maximum*). This is being promoted as a desirable sub-tropical pasture species in Queensland. It appeared a more aggressive coloniser than Coolatai Grass even displacing it in some occasions - One to look out for.

And we saw a Koala near Gunnedah.....



IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Weed Control Co-ordination 09/10

Although funding agreements have been allocated and posted to all, the 08/09 Reports still need to be received before invoices will be paid!

I & I NSW Weeds Training Update –

PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT TRAINING

Important information to all Weed officers, Project officers and Weed Advisory committee staff who have a role in applying for funding for Noxious Weeds Grants. This will align with upcoming local government Integrated Planning and Reporting Reforms.

To assist all Local Control Authorities (LCA's) across NSW implementing changes to 2010 Noxious Weeds Grant (NWG) process, and prepare for 2010 *Noxious Weeds Act 1993* review, the NSW Weeds Training Program, will provide Performance Management training and applying for grants through NSW Weeds Action Program, with follow up support workshops.

Free 2 day workshops are being held throughout NSW to assist and train participants in Performance management. Two workshops will be held in the Riverina. The first in Wagga on 31st November – 1st December and then in Hay on the 3rd & 4th December.

Many weed officers submitted expressions of interest to attend this training, and we have tried to accommodate locations to suit most regions.

[Click here to take you to the Performance Management Registration Form](#)

[Click here to take you to the Performance Management Information Form](#)

[Click here to take you to I & I training website for further information](#)

For further information please contact:
Steven Honeywood on 02 4348 1917



NEW Alligator Weed TV Commercial

Available for viewing is the new TV commercial for Alligator Weed. [Click here to view](#). These ads will be aired across the Riverina starting from 27th September 2009.

The Great Wall of BOXthorn Finally Falls!

Report compiled by Pat Minogue

African Boxthorn control work was completed on vacant Crown Land in Howlong, Kywong Howlong Road and the Riverina Highway on the 18th and 19th August.



Corowa Shire assisted with the removal of this Noxious Weed by providing the use of a bulldozer to remove the

weed from the ground.

The vacant crown land consisted of one very large pile, Kywong Howlong Road consisted of 2



very large piles and 7-8 very large piles on Riverina Highway.

The Riverina Highway growth measured 800 metres in length and height of approximately 10 metres!!

The African Boxthorn situated in these areas will be burnt during September. This work was successfully undertaken with the agreement of local landowners and the Corowa Shire Council.

Noxious Weed left to Spread

A NOXIOUS weed that could threaten fish stocks has been left unchecked to infest NSW waters. And now the State Government has admitted that the



invasion by caulerpa taxifolia - originally an aquarium weed - is so bad it will never be eradicated.

Commercial fishing crews and anglers said they feared the weed was altering the food chain by killing native seagrasses and sucking oxygen from the soil, thereby affecting native life.

marine

There is no doubt in my mind that this weed will affect commercial and recreational fishing stocks because, wherever it's occurred, we've seen a depletion of fish," Pittwater professional fisherman Keith Sewell said.

Alarm bells about caulerpa, considered one of the world's 100 most noxious weeds, started ringing in 2000 but the Government and the Department of Primary Industries have been accused of simply watching the weed spread instead of stopping it.

DPI's aquatic bio-security manager Jane Frances denied the Government had dropped the ball.

But she admitted caulerpa was now so prevalent it was "not able to be eradicated in most estuaries where it exists".

And while, she said, the weed was "not causing as much impact on fish as initially feared" she also told *The Daily Telegraph* it had a "potential impact on native seagrasses which are the nursery ground of native fish".

Caulerpa is now in 14 waterways along more than 600km of the NSW coast from Lake Macquarie to Wallagoot Lake on the far South Coast.

Former Opposition environment spokesman and Castle Hill MP Michael Richardson, who has been attacking the Government on the issue for six years, blamed that outcome on a lack of investment in eradication initiatives.

"If this Government had tackled caulerpa with the same money South Australia did, then we wouldn't be in this position," Mr Richardson said.

SA has spent up to \$500,000 a year to control and eradicate caulerpa since 2005.

Its government spent an additional \$500,000 on a study into the ecological consequences of the weed, due for release in September.

The Daily Telegraph – 1st August 2009

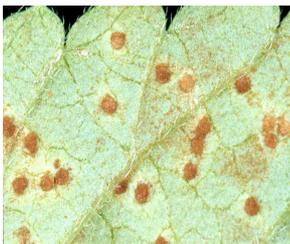


15TH BIENNIAL
NSW WEEDS
CONFERENCE
2009

Look out for Weedo reports from
the conference in the next
issue.....
(I hope you all took notes!)

Lantana Rust Biological Control Project

This program has been initiated in conjunction with the NSW Lantana Task Force. The project aims to increase the distribution of the lantana rust, *Prospodium tuberculatum*, as a biological control agent for lantana in NSW.



The rust is propagated on host plants in temperature controlled glasshouse facilities at Grafton and harvested spores are stored in liquid nitrogen until conditions are suitable for release. The rust supplies are then

distributed to a range of clients including local control authorities (LCAs), Forests NSW and National Parks and Wildlife Service for release.

Lantana rust is now known to be established at over 100 sites covering most regions of the coast. In some cases the rust has spread 10-20 kilometres from the initial release sites. However, there are a number of sites which require re-checking and the Weed Management Unit, Weed Biological Control Section has recently conducted a series of training workshops for land managers to assist them in the identification of lantana rust and monitoring of their local sites

For further information contact
<mailto:royce.holtkamp@industry.nsw.gov.au> or
<mailto:rod.ensbey@industry.nsw.gov.au>

weed
spotters

Victorian DPI Newsletter
Click on the link to take you to the
latest edition

Proposal to amend the lippia control order

It is proposed to amend the current weed control order to classify *Phyla canescens* (lippia) as a Class 4 weed in all of New South Wales and to apply control measures for this plant across New South Wales. The proposed amendments also revoke the current weed control order in so far as it applies to *Phyla nodiflora*.

The proposed control measures for lippia are that: **The plant must not be sold, propagated or knowingly distributed by any person other than a person involved in hay or lucerne production and the growth and spread of the plant must be controlled according to the measures specified in a management plan published by the local control authority.**

Any person is entitled to make a submission about this proposal. Verbal submissions cannot be accepted.

Submission must reach NSW Department of Primary Industries by the close of business on Wednesday 30 October 2009.

[For Full details on how to make a submission and to view the control order please click here](#)

11 PEOPLE ON A ROPE

Eleven people were hanging on a rope, under a helicopter - 10 men and 1 woman. The rope was not strong enough to carry them all, so they decided that one had to leave, because otherwise they were all going to fall.

They weren't able to choose that person, until the woman gave a very touching speech. She said that she would voluntarily let go of the rope, because, as a woman, she was used to giving up everything for her husband and kids or for men in general, and was used to always making sacrifices with little in return. As soon as she finished her speech,

All the men started clapping.....



New Weed Resources!

Revised PRIMEFACTS

The following primefacts are now available via the website:

1. Management burning of invasive native scrub: principles

View at:

<http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/agriculture/field/pastures/rangelands/publications/management-burning-principles>

2. Management burning of invasive native scrub: techniques

View at:

<http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/agriculture/field/pastures/rangelands/publications/management-burning-techniques>

New BROCHURES

The following brochures are now available through the Bookshop:

1. *Salvinia* (*Salvinia molesta*)- it's deadly to waterways

This DL brochure, produced by the National Aquatic Weeds Management Group gives an overview of *Salvinia* and its impacts and is useful for identification.

2. *Cabomba* (*Cabomba caroliniana*)- get rid of it!

This DL brochure, produced by the National Aquatic Weeds Management Group gives an overview of *Cabomba* and its impacts and is useful for identification.

Printed copies can be ordered through the **I&I NSW Bookshop** by emailing the completed order form to bookshop@industry.nsw.gov.au or by calling **1800 028 374** during business hours.

New Website Pages

The Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water NSW (formerly DECC) recently released new pages on their website highlighting the results of a collaborative project with Macquarie University to model the distribution of significant weed species in NSW and to predict the effects of climate change on their potential distribution.

View the report at:

<http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/pestsweeds/climatechange.htm>



The Weed Society of Victoria

The Weed Society of Victoria invites you to the
FOURTH VICTORIAN WEED CONFERENCE
Plants behaving badly - in agriculture and the environment

7-8 October 2009

Mercure Hotel Geelong

Corner Gheringhap & Myers Street, Geelong

Call for presenters

(Please note the deadline for submitting abstracts is 21 February 2009)

Call for conference attendees

Attendees

We invite anyone interested in weeds and weed matters to attend. The Conference aims to increase awareness of weed issues to Local, State Government Australian Government employees, Landcare members, landowners and managers, agribusiness and chemical company employees, contractors, community members, researchers and students.

For further information:

Preliminary conference flyer at the following link:
http://www.wsvic.org.au/Documents/Fourth_Victoria_n_Weed_Conference_Flyer.pdf

or

Contact the Secretary Weed Society of Victoria
Ph/fax 03 9576 2949 Email:
secwssv@surf.net.au



Wanted: More weedo reports!

If you have some important news, a success story, upcoming field day or just a funny joke or poem... Email me a few paragraphs that I can include in the next edition of CHINWAG.

lmitsch@greaterhume.nsw.gov.au

A reliable fax machine is hard to find these days – Geoff Portbury seems to be having some problems with his..... or perhaps it was the user.....



Face up or face down? Double sided – single sided – Five copies of the same page ... priceless!

Always be on the lookout.....



Within the last two years Tumbarumba's Weed officers have stumbled upon two separate infestations of Gorse within their shire.

One at a local timber mill – the workers said it grew from where a shipping container (that came from Tassie) was unloaded. It was just about to flower – not even knee high. All removed, bagged and disposed of and no further plants have been found. Another infestation of similar height was found at the local stockyards. This too has been disposed of and not seen since.

We all need to remain vigilant and expect the unexpected!!



Narrabri seminar highlights new advances in herbicide use

A seminar held at Narrabri, during the Weeds conference, by [The Weed Society of NSW](#) highlighted new advances in herbicide use.

Weed Society of NSW president, Rex Stanton, said the seminar attracted a wide range of people including farmers, agricultural consultants, weed officers and agricultural companies.

He said current recommendations for herbicide use in a number of crops and noxious weeds was explained and there was an opportunity for people to ask questions.

Further reports on the seminar in the next issue of Chinwag

For further information contact Hanwen Wu on (02) 6938 1602

hanwen.wu@industry.nsw.gov.au or

Stephen Johnson (02) 6391 3146

stephen.johnson@industry.nsw.gov.au

HENTY FIELD DAYS REMINDER

21st Sept – Setup; 22 – 24 Sept – Field Days

Don't forget – each LCA needs to bring:

- ❖ Potted plants
- ❖ Printed material
- ❖ Individual shire weed declaration lists
- ❖ Class 4 management plans
- ❖ Business cards

Lake Mulwala ~ Leafy Elodea Report prepared by Pat Minogue – Corowa Shire

Lake Mulwala was drawn down between May & June 2009 for a 5 week period to treat Leafy Elodea. The preferred treatment for Leafy Elodea is severe frost which unfortunately only occurred for 2 days during the 5 week period. The outcome being that only a small percentage of the noxious weed died off.



Corowa Shire Council Weed Officer, Pat Minogue, pictured amongst the dense water weed.

Goulburn-Murray Water has advised that Weed Experts from DPI will follow-up 2-3 times during Autumn and Summer.

The Corowa Shire Council in conjunction with Goulburn-Murray Water and other authorities will erect



signage on boat ramps which provide access to Lake Mulwala. At this stage the exact details of the signage are not confirmed, however, it will provide information relating to Leafy Elodea.

Goulburn-Murray Water has advised that Lake Mulwala could be drawn down every 4-5 years to assist with the ongoing treatment of this Noxious Weed. Continued consultation between Corowa Shire Council and Goulburn-Murray Water will be necessary to monitor this ongoing matter.

Stay tuned for further details of the drawdown in the next edition of Chinwag...

New *Caring for our Country* National Coordinator – Local Government



In recognition of the important role Local Government plays in Natural Resource Management, the Australian Government has appointed a *Caring for our Country* National Coordinator - Local Government.

Malcolm Petrie, who was previously the NRM Facilitator at the Local Government Association of Queensland, will be working in this role to:

- improve Local Government understanding of Caring for our Country outcomes and targets;
- improve access to knowledge and skills for Local Governments working on natural resource management issues relevant to Caring for our Country;
- promote the benefit to Local Government of linking with other government, regional, non-government, Indigenous and community initiatives to deliver Caring for our Country outcomes ;
- communicate Local Government on-ground experience and learning back to governments, and
- promote the successes of Caring for our Country, particularly to demonstrate Local Government and community achievements.

Contact the National Coordinator - Local Government:

Malcolm Petrie

National Local Government Coordinator

Phone: 07 3004 4754

Mobile: 0417 605 928

Fax: 07 3004 4761

Email: malcolm.petrie@nrm.gov.au

For further information on the Caring for our Country program visit www.nrm.gov.au



BATHURST BURR FACT FILE!

Did you know.....

Bathurst Burr *Xanthium spinosum* was first declared as a noxious weed in Urana Shire in 1907.

27 MAR., 1907.] NEW SOUTH WALES GOVERN

MUNICIPALITY OF BALRANALD.

NOTICE is hereby given that Messrs. John C. White and John James Campbell have been duly appointed Valuers for year 1907-8, and that Thomas Wilmot has been reappointed Waste Water Inspector for term ending 30th June, 1907.

A. A. WILLIAMS,
Council Chambers, Balranald, Major.
20th March, 1907.
8254 3s.

URANA SHIRE COUNCIL.

NOTICE is hereby given that Councillor Conway Montgomery Macknight has been duly elected President of the Urana Shire Council for the year ending 25th February, 1908.

By order of the Council,
J. WISE,
Urana, 19th March, 1907. Acting Clerk.
3179 3s.

URANA SHIRE COUNCIL.

NOTICE is hereby given that Sergeant B. Hynes, of Urana has been appointed Inspector of Slaughter-houses and Sanitary Inspector for this Shire.

By order of the Council,
J. WISE,
Urana, 19th March, 1907. Acting Clerk.
3180 3s.

URANA SHIRE COUNCIL.

NOTICE is hereby given that the weed known as the "Bathurst Burr" has been declared a noxious weed in the area of this Shire, and it is hereby notified that all landholders within the Urana Shire are requested to forthwith undertake the destruction of the said weed.

Immediate attention to this matter must be given.
By order of the Council,
J. WISE,
Urana, 19th March, 1907. Acting Clerk.
3181 4s.

MUMBULLA SHIRE COUNCIL.

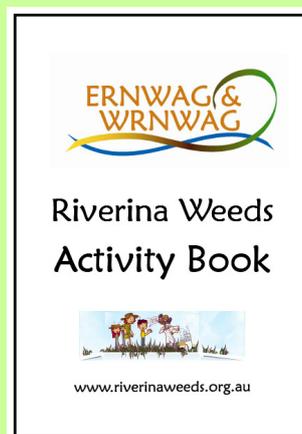
Implementation of the Aquatic Weeds of National Significance Strategic Plans - Progress Report

[Click here to view the five-year report \(2003-2008\) on the strategies for alligator weed, cabomba and salvinia.](#)



NEW: Updated Version of Kids Activity Book 2009 Edition

[Click here to view or download the latest version](#)



Changes to Noxious Weed Act 1993 - Weed Control Order No 24

Please note the following changes relevant to our region:

Changed from Class 4 to Class 3:

- Perennial ground cherry - Greater Hume Shire Council
- Prairie ground Cherry - Greater Hume Shire Council

Upgraded to Class 4:

- Bridal creeper - Greater Hume Shire Council

No longer declared:

- Nodding thistle - Greater Hume Shire Council
- Paterson's curse - Greater Hume Shire Council
- Perennial ground cherry - Greater Hume Shire Council
- Prairie ground cherry - Greater Hume Shire Council
- St Barnaby's thistle - Greater Hume Shire Council
- Wild radish - Greater Hume Shire Council

Previous Editions of Chinwag can be downloaded at www.riverinaweeds.org.au