



Upcoming Events

September 2010

20 – Henty Field Days Set up
21 – 24 Henty Field Days

October 2010

12 – WRNWAG Meeting – Hay
14 – ERNWAG Meeting - Wagga

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Bunnings prosecuted for Mexican Feather Grass Saga

HARDWARE retailer Bunning's has been fined \$15,000 without conviction after it was caught selling a noxious weed in its Victorian stores.

Bunning's and four suppliers - Ball Australia, Oasis Horticulture, Summerhill Nurseries and Regal Blooms - all pleaded guilty in the Melbourne Magistrates Court to charges of buying and selling the weed, Mexican feather grass. The offences took place between January and May 2008.

The grass is a state-prohibited weed, the highest category for noxious weeds under Victoria's Catchment and Land Protection Act. The agriculture department was also awarded costs in the case. As part of an out-of-court settlement with the department, Bunning's has agreed to pay \$50,000 in compensation and has taken steps to ensure it never again sells noxious weeds.

Agriculture Minister Joe Helper said the prosecutions were a warning to the garden and nursery industry.

"It's up to the nursery industry to stop this happening again."

The department's director for invasive plants and operations, Brendan Roughead, said estimates suggested the economic and environmental impact of a statewide outbreak of a noxious weed such as Mexican feather grass could cost the state more than \$10 million a year to control.

Anyone who may have bought the weed, which might have been labeled *Stipa capillata* or *Stipa lessingiana*, should phone 136 186.



Paula Bosse

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Water Hyacinth discovered in Albury and Wagga

One of the world's most notorious aquatic weeds has been discovered in Albury for the first time.

AlburyCity's Vegetation Management Officer, Sarah Stuart, (pictured right) says water hyacinth (*Eichhornia crassipes*) was found last week in a private dam off Elizabeth Mitchell Drive.

"Council is acting with landowners to identify the weed and assist with its removal to ensure it doesn't take hold in Albury," Sarah says.

"We are trying to find out where the plant has come from and have carried out inspections in all dams and drainage lines in the vicinity. But we also need help from the community. It is important for landowners to look in their dams and ponds to check that they have not also been infested with this weed.

"If you find anything you are not sure about, please call AlburyCity and our weed officer will identify weeds for you."

Council is carrying out a letterbox drop in the area of the infestation to help people identify the weed. It doesn't flower in winter, but in spring and summer it flowers for a couple of days. The flowers are light blue-purple, have a yellow centre and six petals.

The weed, which forms a dense mat on the water surface, has smooth, glossy, bright green leaves which are raised slightly above the water on large bulbous stems.

A fact sheet from the NSW Government's Department of Industry & Investment describes water hyacinth as one of the world's worst aquatic weeds.

"It infests rivers, dams, lakes and irrigation channels on every continent except Antarctica," the fact sheet says.

"It devastates aquatic environments and costs billions of dollars every year in control costs and economic losses,"

Sarah says water hyacinth is a Class 2 Noxious weed and prohibited from sale in NSW. Class 2 weeds are "plants that pose a potentially serious threat to primary production or the environment".

Wagga Wagga City Council weed officers also discovered **Water Hyacinth** and **Salvinia** growing within Lake Albert in June.

"Council has acted quickly to remove the weed which will help to ensure the plant does not become established within the lake," Mark Gardiner, Wagga City Council reported. "We now need to identify where the plant has come from and monitor the lake to ensure there is no further growth."

"Residents are also reminded that both these plants are prohibited under the Noxious Weeds Act and if they suspect the plants exist in household ponds, farm dams and the like, should contact Council for advice on proper removal techniques."





New Environmental Weeds Permit

The amalgamated environmental weeds permit (formerly Permit number 9158) has recently been re-issued as Permit 11916. It allows the use of glyphosate or metsulfuron-methyl as described on the permit for over 100 weed species. There is another environmental weeds permit still current - Permit 9907 that DECCW hold. You will note that these permits have over-lapping treatments / functions and they both expire on 31st March 2012. [Click here to view/print the permits.](#)

Noxious Weed – “really, really useful plant!”

A Riverina weeds officer caught the end of an ABC Gardening Australia segment on water lettuce in early July. They were quiet concerned about the message being given out and contacted Paula to see what could be done. Paula looked it up on the web and the transcript read... **“And it's a thing called Water Lettuce. Now it's very useful in a pond. It covers the surface area to an extent so it helps stop algae growth, fish like to live amongst it and it gives them protection from birds and so it's a really, really useful plant. But in this area, it dies off completely in the winter. The thing with the Water Lettuce is that it will rot down as the winter comes on in my pond so I need to get actually rid of it. If you were to take this plant to sub-tropical and tropical areas, it's a noxious weed because there's no cold winter to set it back. Down here, it's perfectly safe and a great plant to have in your pond. For me, the other advantage of growing Water Lettuce is that it's great in the compost heap. I can throw that in, it's full of nitrogen and it will really give the compost a revving up”.** <http://www.abc.net.au/gardening/stories/s2943702.htm> .

Being quite concerned about the message being given out across Australia (Water Lettuce declared in All states except SA, VIC & Tas) Paula raised her concerns with I&I who were very proactive in writing a letter to the editor (right).

Response from Gardening Australia was to add “Please note: Water Lettuce is a declared noxious weed in all states and territories except South Australia, Tasmania and Victoria. Although Water Lettuce is frost sensitive and usually dies back in cold weather, it very quickly establishes at the onset of warmer weather. To be sure it never gets out of control, Stephen is careful to remove every plant from the pond during winter.” to the transcript and factsheet.



Dear Gardening Australia,

Declared noxious weed featured in 'Gardening Australia' program Saturday 3/7/2010 Transcript – Episode 20 by Stephen Ryan

I would like to bring your attention to Episode 20 on "Stephen's Pond" featured on Saturday 3 July 2010. This story featured photographs and information promoting water lettuce (*Pistia stratiotes*) as pond plant.

Water lettuce is declared a Class 1 species under the NSW Noxious Weeds Act 1993. It is illegal to distribute, sell and/or plant this species. Any plant specimens found must be notified to the local control authorities (council) and destroyed. It is also declared noxious in Western Australia, Queensland, Northern Territory and the Australian Capital Territory.

Water Lettuce is a serious aquatic weed in NSW. The current distribution is limited to isolated catchments; however the potential to spread and impact on our natural wetlands and waterways is significantly high. It can form dense mats that cover the entire water body, which can reduce water quality, destroy the visual beauty of the habitat, reduce fish stocks, increase mosquito breeding and disrupt the natural flow of the waterway.

Once a water body is infested with water lettuce its containment and control is very difficult, timely and expensive. Over \$250,000 is spent to controlling water lettuce in New South Wales. These infestations have been persisting for several years and are believed to have spread into the waterway from backyard ponds during floods. A significant water lettuce infestation also exists in the Warrego River, a main supply to the Darling River, in South West Queensland. This site consists of a 20km infestation and consumes thousands of dollars and resources to be sufficiently managed. Frequent occurrences of water lettuce being traded across the Victorian and NSW border are also an ongoing management issue.

Water lettuce can persist in cold climates. It is frost sensitive, however the seed bank and the remaining stem & root fragments that sit covered under riparian vegetation and snags will persist through a cold season to start new growth as the warmer weather arrives. The seed bank is viable for several years which also complicates management.

Considerable resources are being invested by community groups, landholders, local government and Industry & Investment NSW (former Department of Primary Industries) to control existing infestations and to prevent the spread and establishment of new sites.

Industry & Investment NSW run public awareness campaigns and produce training resources covering the impact, spread & management of water weeds. We have training resources such as, "What does your garden grow" and "Recognising Water Weeds" which are delivered to community groups and stakeholders educating them on which plants are noxious weeds.

Given your audiences stretches nationwide and water lettuce is a declared weed throughout most of the country, we would sincerely request that you amend your story on this weeks Television episode and update the information on the web-link to reflect more accurate information. We would be more than willing to offer our expert assistance in the preparation of any stories on water weeds if Gardening Australia were interested. If you have any questions regarding water weeds please do not hesitate to contact me on 02 6640 1644 or email me at melissa.freeman@industry.nsw.gov.au.

Yours faithfully,
Melissa Freeman
NSW Aquatic Weeds Project Officer

9 July 2010

Crafton Primary Industries Institute
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Postal address: PMB 2, Crafton, 2460
Tel: 02 6640 1600 F ax: 02 6644 7251
ABN 51 734 124 190
www.industry.nsw.gov.au



Caring for our Country Community Action Grants now open

Community Action Grants are the small grants component of the Australian Government's Caring for our Country initiative that aims to help community groups take action to conserve and protect their natural environment. Applications close Tuesday 31 August 2010.

The grants are targeted towards established community-based organisations which have sustainable farming and/or protecting and enhancing the natural environment as their principle objective.



Investment proposals are sought from environmental, Indigenous, Landcare, Coastcare and sustainable agriculture community groups for grants of between \$5000 and \$20 000 (GST exclusive) to take action to help protect and conserve Australia's environment. Projects must be completed within 18 months.

The grants are available to groups currently operating in the environmental and sustainable land management arena and to established, and emerging Indigenous organisations. Individuals are not eligible to apply for Community Action Grants. **Councils, while not eligible to apply for funding may be interested in working with their community groups to assist them in developing applications.**

Community Action Grants support local Landcare related activities such as tree planting, revegetation, dune rehabilitation, field days, improving land management practices and recording and use of traditional ecological knowledge.

The applicant guidelines and application form are available from the Caring for our Country website at <http://www.nrm.gov.au/cag/index.html#guide> or by calling 1800 552 008.

Applications close 5pm (AEST) **Tuesday 31 August 2010.**

More detail on projects funded in the previous 2009-10 round are also available at: [Community Action Grants 2009-10 successful projects](#)

Tussock Talk - a newsletter for serrated tussock managers

"Tussock Talk" provides snippets of information that will be useful for serrated tussock managers - from those with emerging problems, through to seasoned campaigners.

The newsletter will be produced quarterly as a part of the project to assist in the better management of serrated tussock across NSW and ACT. The project is implemented in cooperation with Mid-Western Regional Council, Serrated Tussock Working Party for NSW & ACT Inc, Industry and Investment NSW, and other parties.

Please contact Clare Hamilton clare.hamilton@midwestern.nsw.gov.au NSW/ACT Serrated Tussock Coordinator if you wish to be placed on the mailing list.

[Click here to download Tussock Talk](#)





Hairy Panic or Witchgrass?

Witchgrass (*Panicum capillare*)

Since the early 1990's summer panic grasses have increased dramatically over much of southern NSW. Most of this was thought to be hairy panic (*Panicum effusum*), a native perennial grass. While it is a perennial plant, it is assumed to be persisting in the cropping zone as an annual plant due to the large amount of seed it can set. It is uncommon for large collections of wind blown seed heads to block roads and engulf houses or sheds.

Closer examination of plant samples collected at Wagga, assumed to be hairy panic, are in fact Witchgrass (*Panicum capillare*), an introduced annual weed. This would more easily explain its persistence and habit in drier environments. Both Witchgrass and hairy panic populations have previously been recorded in the area, but it is likely that many of the plants now called hairy panic are actually Witchgrass.



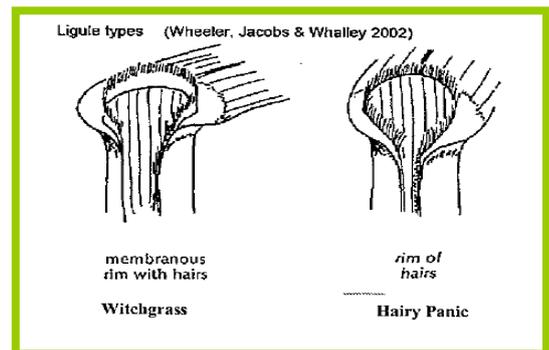
Identification

Both of these grasses are very similar in appearance and can only be separated by close examination. The leaves of both grasses are quite hairy but Witchgrass leaves (5mm-18mm) are generally wider than hairy panic (2mm – 6mm) and are often wavy along the edge.

A key distinguishing feature between the two is the ligule. The ligule of hairy panic is a row of cilia whereas the ligule of Witchgrass is membranous at the base and ciliate above (Wheeler, Jacobs and Whalley 2002)

Management Implications

Young actively growing Witchgrass can be palatable to livestock, potentially providing summer feed. However, there have been a number of recorded instances of photosensitisation of livestock attributed to hairy panic that may in fact have been Witchgrass. Photosensitisation is known to occur with hairy panic but it is also true of several other panics, so graze with witchgrass with caution.



Witchgrass is a confirmed host for Wheat Streak Mosaic Virus (Coutts et al 2008) and should be considered when developing a management plan for the virus.

(Article taken from A Good Weed #50 Summer/Autumn 2010)

References:

Wheeler DJB, Jacobs SWL, Whalley RDB (2002), Grasses of New South Wales, third edition, University of New England.

Coutts BA, Strickland GR, Kehoe MA, Severson DL, Jones RAC (2008) The epidemiology of *Wheat streak mosaic virus* in Australia: case histories, gradients, mite vectors and alternative hosts, *Australian Journal of Agricultural Research*, 59,844-853.

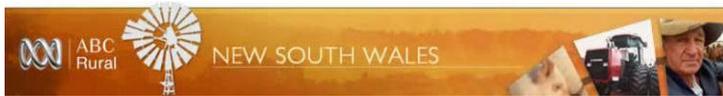
Nigel Phillips
Technical Specialist Pastures (South)
NSW DPI, Wagga Wagga

Richard Early
Technical Officer
Charles Sturt University, Wagga Wagga

Weeds training program contact

Rebecca Spinks is now on maternity leave so the contact for any Weeds Training Program matters is Steve Honeywood on 4348 1917 or steven.honeywood@industry.gov.au

Myrtle Rust found in Australian nursery



By Michael Condon/David Claughton Tuesday, 04/05/2010

The plant disease Myrtle Rust has been detected in a cut flower growing facility on the NSW Central Coast. It is the first time the disease has been found in Australia. Rust diseases are highly transportable on clothes and shoes and are very hard to contain.

The Consultative Committee on Emergency Plant Pests set up by the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Agriculture to provide technical advice has decided that the rust is not feasible to eradicate.

The National Biosecurity Committee will oversee continued surveillance and continue testing in order to assess the implications of Myrtle rust and develop options for its management.

Myrtle rust has been found on *Agonis flexuosa* (willow myrtle), *Syncarpia* (turpentine) and *Callistemon* (bottlebrush) species. Dr Satendra Kumar, director of plant biosecurity at I and I NSW says the nursery at Wyee was placed in quarantine when the outbreak was discovered but has since been re-opened.

[Full story on ABC News click here](#)

Myrtle rust produces lesions on young, actively growing leaves and shoots as well as on fruits and sepals. Leaves may become buckled or twisted as a result of infection.

On turpentine and callistemon, rust lesions are purple in colour, with masses of bright yellow or orange-yellow spores.

They typically attack young plants and new growth on established plants and can be controlled in commercial operations with the use of fungicides.

NSW has increased its fight to eradicate all symptoms of the recently discovered Myrtle Rust from the NSW Central Coast.

Industry & Investment NSW has been conducting surveillance and implementing control measures that have been successful in limiting the spread of disease, since it was first reported at a Central Coast property in late April.

Several states have placed quarantine restrictions on the import of plants and plant material belonging to the family Myrtaceae and associated equipment.

These restrictions require the inspection and treatment of any stock prior to export. Growers are advised to contact the relevant state quarantine authority for further information before sending stock interstate.

For further information on Myrtle Rust visit: <http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/biosecurity/plant/myrtle-rust>

Myrtle Rust Disease sparks quarantine crackdown [read more](#)

Pest Alert and Identification Fact Sheet [read more](#)

More Pictures and Further Information [read more](#)





Review of the Noxious Weed Act 1993

The five year review of the Noxious Weeds Act 1993 (NWA) is due to be tabled next year in parliament. We hope that the Minister will inform us soon about this. If you have any issues with the NWA, put it in writing and send it through to NWAC. Otherwise, an issues paper is being finalised by I&I NSW for NWAC. It is hoped we will be given the opportunity to comment on this once it goes through NWAC.

Further details can be found under Section 76 (Review of Act) of the NWA.

Tamarisk Identification Fact Sheet

This fact sheet has been designed to help identify the different species of Tamarisk including Athel Pine which has been found growing as far east as Tarcutta.

There are three species of Tamarisk in Australia - Athel pine (*Tamarix aphylla*), Tamarisk (*T. ramosissima*) and Smallflower tamarisk (*T. parviflora*). Each of these weed species has distinctive characteristics.

[Click here to view the new Tamarisk Identification Fact Sheet](#)

For more information please contact:

National Athel Pine Coordinator
Phone: 0427 186 153
www.weeds.org.au/WoNS/athelpine



Tamarix species
how to tell the difference

There are three species of Tamarisk in Australia - Athel pine (*Tamarix aphylla*), Tamarisk (*T. ramosissima*) and Smallflower tamarisk (*T. parviflora*). Each of these weed species has distinctive characteristics.

Athel pine - *Tamarix aphylla*

- Evergreen not deciduous
- 5 flower petals
- Up to 15m tall
- Flower colour pinkish-white, violet and yellow
- Flower stalks 3-4cm long growing at the end of the previous year's branches
- Strong woody roots that penetrate and spread deeply throughout the soil
- Perennial, jointed branches
- Minute leaves are in flat sprays and form a sheath around the fine branches giving them the appearance of pine needles
- Needle segments are anthesis and 1-2cm long
- Surface of leaf is waxy due to cuticle with prominent pores
- Immature trees have light grey trunks and stems
- Mature trees have thick, rough grey-brown to black bark on older stems
- Bark on new stems is smooth and reddish-brown to grey-green
- Habitats: along saline flows, water courses and drainage lines; Kings Creek, Mt Isa, Flanders River, Hightower, Gorricks and Crook OLL, Gascoyne Pine, Compton, Rufus and Lambert NLS, Koolberran Park, Mt Eaton, Mt Escote, Frome Downs and Quanyomik, Skottes SA, Imperial Lake and Shepherds Cr. Broken Hill NSW

For more information please contact:
National Athel Pine Coordinator
Phone: 0427 186 153
www.weeds.org.au/WoNS/athelpine

NATIONAL Athel Pine
MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Willow Sawfly Report 2010

The report for the Willow Sawfly project for the 2009/10 season has now been completed. The focus of this report is the management trials where the possibility of establishing native species under willows was investigated (both intact and defoliated). The report also contains data on the monitoring that has been done and the distribution of willow sawfly, which is now in WA as well as eastern Australia.

[Click here to download the report.](#) If you would like to receive hard copies, please contact Dr Fiona Ede- E: fiona.ede@dpi.vic.gov.au

Willow Sawfly Management Trials

DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRIES | biosciences research



Coffs Harbour to host the 16th Biennial NSW Weeds Conference 2011

The 16th Biennial NSW Weeds Conference will be held in Coffs Harbour from the 19th to 21st July 2011. The Conference is being hosted by Coffs Harbour City Council.

The Conference organising committee held its first meeting on 20th July. The committee includes representatives from NSW North Coast Weeds Advisory Committee, Coffs Harbour City Council, Industry and Investment NSW, The NSW Weed Officers Association and The Weeds Society of NSW Inc. (the Society).

Funding to conduct the conference is being provided by Industry and Investment NSW and the Society. Members of the Society will receive a significant discount on the Conference registration fee.

The Society has also agreed to establish and administer a fund for future conferences. [For Weed Society of NSW membership form please click here.](#)

Coolatai Grass found in Corowa and Wentworth Shires !

Pat Minogue from Corowa Shire reported that 10 to 12 plants were found on the Riverina Highway. Landowners were given a live plant to learn to identify coolatai grass with some positive feedback. This noxious weed could have been spread by Vehicles, road works, water, wind or passing vehicles.

Stephen Watts from Wentworth also reported that he recently has found his first infestation of Coolatai Grass – 15 plants growing on the Broken Hill Road.



How clean is your Vehicle?

A Riverina Weed Officer was recently told this vehicle had been cleaned down – this is what was found underneath it!!!!

Do you know what's lurking under your car??!!





Weed Pie with real sting!

Don't know what to cook for dinner – well read on....

HUMBLE roadside weeds such as nettles, dandelions and wild fennel are appearing on trendy restaurant menus across Melbourne. And now home cooks are stocking up on stinging nettles at farmers' markets, or picking the weeds themselves. Self-confessed food tragic and *MasterChef* wannabe Neil Murray works as an electroplater, but in his spare time the St Kilda foodie hunts for nettles to cook his version of the Greek spinach pie, spanakopita. Neil says he's following an ancient Greek tradition of foraging for wild greens. He finds his nettles in Noble Park; in winter the weed grows across Victoria.. "Some people are put off because nettles sting, but they're harmless once they're cooked," he said. "In fact, they're very good for you. And it's great to get something for free and turn it into a pretty decent dish, especially in winter when bugger all else is growing."



NETTLE SPANAKOPITA

INGREDIENTS

2 or 3 bunches of nettles
4 spring onions
150g unsalted butter
4tbs chopped dill
4 eggs

250g fetta cheese
250g ricotta cheese
½ lemon, juiced
Salt and fresh ground pepper to taste
375g filo pastry (about 20 sheets)

METHOD

Using rubber gloves to protect your hands from stinging, pick the nettle leaves from the stalks, rinse well in clean water to remove any dirt, then drain in a colander. Finely chop the spring onions, white and green parts, and gently sweat in a pot with 25g butter. When softened, add the drained nettle leaves and the dill then stir until just wilted and greatly reduced in volume. Tip this mixture into a colander to drain and cool. At this point, nettles can no longer sting. Whisk the four eggs in a small bowl. In a bigger bowl, break up the fetta and ricotta cheeses into small pieces the size of gravel, add the beaten eggs, the cooled nettle mixture and the lemon juice. Season carefully with salt and generously with fresh ground pepper. Working quickly to prevent the filo pastry from drying out, melt the remaining butter, trim the pastry to suit a big baking dish and place in 10 sheets, brushing each one with melted butter. Spoon in the nettle and cheese mixture and spread evenly. Top with the remaining 10 sheets of pastry, again brushing each one with butter. Score the top layer of pastry into a serving-size diamond pattern or squares, then bake in a 180C oven for 35 minutes or until well browned.

Sunday Herald Sun, June 6, 2010

New noxious weed declaration

Weed Control Order No. 25 – Gazettal – 19/3/10

Only one change:

- Lippia (*Phyla canescens*) is now a Class 4 – whole of NSW. "The plant must not be sold, propagated or knowingly distributed by any person other than a person involved in hay or lucerne production. 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."

Native Lemon Grass *Cymbopogo ambiguus* found in Albury

Jan Mitchell, AlburyCity, has discovered a rare native plant growing just north of Albury. This is a new record for SWS botanical region! Jan found the plants growing along the train line heading south just past the Thurgoona overpass. There was about six plants growing there in a clump.

The native Lemongrass (*Cymbopogon ambiguus*), a type of grass native to Central Australia, has recently been scientifically proven to be as effective as Aspirin in the treatment of migraines, headaches, muscular pains and inflammations.

Central Australia's *Cymbopogon ambiguus* is distinguished by the fact that it is extremely drought hardy and fire-tolerant, to be expected from species adapted to the Central Australian desert. It is an erect, clumped perennial grass growing up to 1 metre in height. The leaves are bluish-green, becoming red coloured as the plant matures. Like all Lemongrass species, the leaves produce a strong citrus-like aroma when crushed. Native Lemon Grass is found throughout Central Australia, typically growing on rocky hillsides.

Native Lemon Grass remains an important medicinal plant for indigenous peoples throughout Central Australia. The leaves are crushed and inhaled for chest complaints. The leaves and roots are crushed and infused in water and drunk in small amounts or rubbed on the body to treat most forms of aches, pains and inflammation. Notably, this is one of the few Central Australian medicinal herbs that is taken internally.



This is a good lesson for us all. Just because it's unfamiliar does not always mean it's Weedy! Remember to send off samples of any unknown plants to be identified at the herbarium. [Click here to go to the I & I Primefact "Collecting and preparing plant specimens for identification"](#) for further information. [Click here to go to the NSW I & I Plant Identification Form](#) to be submitted to the Herbarium.

Permit to move and/or grow and store Noxious Weeds

Do you have a permit to transport and/or grow and store noxious weeds? If not follow this link for an application form http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0015/170232/weed-permit.pdf

DOUBLE TROUBLE

INVASIVE SPECIES COUNCIL'S PEST AND CLIMATE CHANGE BULLETIN



[Thoreau's woods](#)

[Pathogens left for dead](#)

[Sea urchin invasion](#)



Coolatai Grass Field Day – Albury City Council – July 2010

Albury City hosted a Coolatai Grass identification and control field day early in July. The day was a huge success with 65 people in attendance (including Landholders, spraying/slashing contractors, Weed officers, state agency reps NSW & VIC, RTA, CMAs).

There were a few guest speakers including: Jan Mitchell, AlburyCity - who gave a site history; Paula Bosse, RNWPO gave a regional perspective including introducing the regional red guide post system; Neil Hibberson, Great Hume Shire, gave another council perspective on management as well as how effective the red guide post system was and Sarah Stuart, AlburyCity - gave a biodiversity update. Sarah explained that by planting or seeding sites where CG has been removed, with native grass seed - this will increase the competition and hopefully reduce the amount of Coolatai coming back. One method of this is to roll native seeds in balls of clay and leave them where plants have been dug out. It is important, especially in high conservation areas, to prevent the weed establishing as it will significantly reduce the diversity of ground flora.



Question time was very productive with pretty good discussion. Including an RTA representative volunteering to give an update on their program – based around the red guide post system.

Jan also spoke about the recent Water Hyacinth discovery in Thurgoona.

The group broke into two and walked over to a patch to identify the key id features of Coolatai Grass – paired seed heads.

Overall the day was successful in raising the greater awareness of the weed, its impacts and potential. A greater awareness and understanding of what we as a region are trying to achieve with the red guide post system. RTA and Paula have also agreed to a deadline (April 2011) as to when we need the Regional red guidepost fact sheet finalised – stay tuned.

AlburyCity would like to thank Paul Amos from RTA for being put on the spot and answering questions from an RTA point of view. Jan Mitchell would like also to thank the guest speakers and the guys from AlburyCity for cooking the bbq and setting up.

For the Vics – a discussion that took place on the day - contractors have slashed through CG infestations in the Riverina and then travelled over the border to carry out works at all sorts of locations – so if you aren't familiar with this weed you need to be! Unfortunately it sounds like it's coming to a roadside near you!

Serrated Tussock ~ Herbicide Resistance

Industry & Investment NSW have recently published a Primefact titled *Recognising, managing and preventing herbicide resistance in serrated tussock*.

The publication can be found by following this link:

<http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/agriculture/pests-weeds/weeds/profiles/serrated-tussock/recognising-managing>



New Primefacts Now Available

The following new primefacts are now available:



1. Privet - broad-leaf, small-leaf and European

View at: http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0007/327391/Privet-broad-leaf-small-leaf-and-European.pdf

2. Water hyacinth

View at: http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0013/330322/Water-hyacinth.pdf

3. African lovegrass management

View at: http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0019/320158/African-lovegrass-management.pdf

4. Chinese celtis: identification and control

View at: http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0006/319731/Chinese-celtis-identification-and-control.pdf

5. Bracken fern

View at: http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0019/316261/Bracken-fern.pdf

6. Nodding thistle

View at: http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0012/320016/Nodding-thistle.pdf

7. Dodder and golden dodder

View at: http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0003/328386/Dodder-and-golden-dodder.pdf

8. Cabomba

View at: http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0005/326597/Cabomba.pdf

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Have you seen our new Alligator Weed Stubby Holders?

Check out our latest creation! Coming to a field day near you soon!!



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Back