

# Weedscene

Volume 13 Issue 1

JANUARY 2002

Newsletter of the Weed Society of Victoria Inc.

ACN: A0011723W ABN: 15 496 325 152

Print Post Approved – Publication Number 310279/00029

## 36th AGM of the Weed Society of Victoria

Thursday 28th February 2002 at 5.00 pm

Classroom 4C 437, St. Albans Campus, VUT

Following the seminar 'Impacts and control of exotic stipoid grasses in Australia', this year's AGM will address the future directions of the Society. A draft business plan has been developed and members surveyed for interests and ideas. It is up to you to participate in this meeting if you wish to influence the future of this Society. If you are attending either of these events please contact the Secretary. Parking is available in non-permit areas and unpaved areas near the tennis courts. A map of VUT campus is available from the Secretary.

FOR THOSE WHO WISH TO STAY AND SOCIALIZE  
AFTER THE AGM WE WILL BE ORDERING IN PIZZA

### PROXY FORM – WSV

I, (a) ..... appoint

(b) .....

as my proxy to represent me at the AGM on 28/2/02 and vote on any motion as he/she sees fit.

Signed ..... Date .....

(a) Name of financial members wishing to vote (votes from non-financial members will be excluded).

(b) Insert name of member attending meeting to whom proxy is delegated.

### NOMINATION FORM WSV Committee Positions

I nominate .....

Company/Position .....

For the position of .....

Signed .....

Seconded ..... Date .....

**NOMINATIONS CAN ONLY BE MADE  
BY FINANCIAL MEMBERS**

Return to: PO Box 987, Frankston 3199 by 21/2/02

### WSV Seminar

## Impacts and control of exotic stipoid grasses in Australia

Thursday 28 February 2002, 8.50 am Lecture Theatre 4C 436  
St. Albans Campus, Victoria University of Technology

This Weed Society of Victoria workshop aims to bring up-to-date information about the status of stipoid grasses in Australia to our attention.

#### Program

- 08.00–08.50 Registration  
08.50–09.00 Introduction. *Wendy Bedggood, President WSV*  
09.00–09.30 Exotic grasses in Australia, an ongoing disaster. *Geoff Carr, Ecology Australia*  
09.30–10.00 Collaborative strategies to prevent sale and distribution, and implementation of rapid responses to exotic grasses. *Jack Craw, KTRI*  
10.00–10.30 Land management of Nassella areas – what have we learnt since 1998? *Colin Hocking, VUT, St. Albans*  
10.30–10.50 Economics of serrated tussock and Mexican feather grass, why we need to act now. *Treso Morfe, KTRI*  
10.50–11.20 MORNING TEA  
11.20–11.40 Competition between serrated tussock and native grasses. *Warrick Badgery, University of Sydney*  
11.40–12.00 What is the potential for regeneration of stipoid infested sites with kangaroo grass. *Bram Mason, VUT, St. Albans*  
12.00–12.20 Modelling serrated tussock. *Darren Kriticos, CSIRO Entomology*  
12.20–12.40 Chemical control of serrated tussock. *Graeme Pritchard, KTRI*  
12.40–13.30 LUNCH  
13.30–14.00 Biocontrol of serrated tussock and Chilean needlegrass. *David McLaren et al., KTRI*  
14.00–14.20 A taxonomic assessment of serrated tussock in Australia. *Seona Casonato, RMIT*  
14.20–14.40 An overview of the Serrated Tussock Working Party's achievements. *David Boyle, NRE, Bacchus Marsh*  
14.40–15.10 AFTERNOON TEA  
15.10–15.20 A report on the effects of rate rebate scheme on serrated tussock and Chilean needle grass. *Alan Brennan, Melton Shire Council*  
15.20–15.30 Grow West, a plan to revegetate steep basalt escarpments in Melbourne's west. *David Buntine, Port Phillip Region CaLP*  
15.30–16.00 Weeds of National Significance. *David McLaren, KTRI*  
16.00–16.30 Practical identification of exotic grasses. *Val Stajsic, National Herbarium, Melbourne*

**PLEASE BRING SPECIMENS FOR DISCUSSION**

# WSV CONSTITUTION

## 1. NAME

The name of the Society shall be 'The Weed Society of Victoria'.

## 2. OBJECTS

The objects for which the Society is established are:

- a. To promote wider interest in weeds and their control.
- b. To provide opportunities for those interested in weeds and their control, to exchange information and ideas based on research and practice.
- c. To encourage the investigation of all aspects of weeds and weed control.
- d. To co-operate and, where appropriate, affiliate with other organizations engaged in related activities in Australia and overseas.
- e. To encourage the study of weed science and the dissemination of its findings.
- f. To produce and publish such material as considered desirable.
- g. To foster the development of an Australia-wide Weeds Organization.

## 3. MEMBERSHIP

- a. Membership shall be of three classes 'ordinary', 'honorary' and 'corporate body', and shall be open to those individuals and corporate bodies respectively who are interested in weeds.
- b. Honorary members may be elected from persons who, in the opinion of the Executive Committee have made major contributions to the objects of the Society and shall have the same rights as ordinary members.
- c. Corporate body members may nominate one representative to the Society who shall have the same rights as an ordinary member.
- d. Applications for membership shall be considered by the Executive Committee and any person or corporate body who is approved by resolution passed by two-thirds majority as being suitable for election shall be regarded as a member.
- e. Any member wishing to withdraw from the Society shall give written notice to the Honorary Secretary on or before 31st December of the then current year. The resignation of such member shall be accepted upon receipt of such notice provided all subscriptions and dues have been paid by the member up to the end of the financial year.

## 4. SUBSCRIPTIONS

Each ordinary member and each corporate body member shall pay an entrance fee and thenceforth an annual subscription which shall be fixed at the Annual General Meeting for the current year. The subscription shall be payable annually and shall fall due on the first day of March. In the event of the subscription being one year in arrears membership shall lapse. Before any person can be re-elected to membership all arrears in subscription shall be paid.

## 5. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- a. The Executive Committee shall consist of a President, the Immediate Past President, a Vice-President, a Secretary, a Treasurer, a Publicity Officer and four other members the Society.
- b. The management of the Society shall be vested in the Executive Committee.
- c. Other than the Immediate Past President the members of the Executive Committee shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting. They shall be eligible for reselection except that the office of President shall not be held by any one person for more than two consecutive terms.
- d. The Executive Committee shall have the power to fill a casual vacancy in its membership.
- e. The Executive Committee shall have the power to co-opt members for specific purposes.
- f. A quorum for the executive committee shall be five (5).

## 6. MEETINGS

The Executive Committee shall convene and hold an Annual General Meeting not later than the first day of March each year and such other meetings as it may consider necessary. The Executive Committee shall convene a Special General Meeting if so required by requisition in writing by at least ten (10) financial members. A quorum for a general meeting shall be fifteen (15).

## 7. DISPUTES AND MEDIATION

- a. The grievance procedure set out in this rule applies to disputes under these rules between:
  1. A member and another member or
  2. A member and the Society.
- b. The parties to this dispute must meet and discuss the matter in dispute and, if possible, resolve the dispute within 14 days after the dispute comes to the attention of all the parties.
- c. If the parties are unable to resolve the dispute at the meeting, or if a party fails to attend the meeting, then the parties must, within 10 days, hold a meeting in the presence of a mediator.
- d. The mediator must be:
  1. A person chosen by agreement between the parties; or
  2. In the absence of agreement:
    - (i) in the case of a dispute between a member and another member, a person appointed by the committee of the Society or
    - (ii) in the case of a dispute between member and the Society, a person who is a mediator appointed or employed by the Dispute Settlement Centre of Victoria (Department of Justice).
- e. A member of the Society can be a mediator.
- f. The mediator cannot be a member who is party to the dispute.
- g. The parties to the dispute must, in

good faith, attempt to settle the dispute by mediation.

h. The mediator, in conducting the mediation must:

1. Give the parties to the mediation process every opportunity to be heard; and
2. Allow due consideration by all parties of any written statement submitted by any party; and
3. Ensure that natural justice is accorded to the parties to the dispute throughout the mediation process.

i. The mediator must not determine the dispute.

If the mediation process does not result in the dispute being resolved, the parties may seek to resolve the dispute in accordance with the act, otherwise at law.

## 8. AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

The constitution may be amended only at a General Meeting of which at least fourteen (14) days notice in writing shall have been given to members. A proposed amendment to the constitution shall be submitted in writing to the Secretary and shall require to be supported in writing by at least five (5) financial members.

## 9. AUDIT

Accounts shall be kept of all monies received and expended by the Society. An auditor who shall not be a member of the Executive Committee and who may or may not be a member of the Society shall be appointed annually at the Annual General Meeting and shall be eligible for reselection. A statement showing the financial position of the Society examined and certified by the auditor shall be laid before the Annual General Meeting.

## 10. BY-LAWS

The Society shall compile such by-laws and/or standing orders as may be desirable for the operations of the Society.

### BY-LAWS

#### *Honorary membership of WSV*

1. The person shall have served on the committee for a minimum of six (6) years and/or shall have been active in promoting or executing weed control activities over at least a fifteen (15) year period.
2. The person must be widely recognized as a leader in weed control matters over an extended period and/or for at least fifteen (15) years prior to the nomination. Honorary membership should be viewed as something of distinction, and only bestowed on active weed control persons who have interstate, national and preferably international standing.
3. There shall only be five honorary members at any one time, unless the committee deems otherwise through extraordinary circumstances.
4. All nominations with justifications seconded by two people are to be in writing. The nominators must be financial members of the Society. The committee's decision is final.

## Response to membership questionnaire

A big thank you to all those who replied to our Questionnaire. The second Questionnaire sent to members netted us a much better response. In all 39 returns from 150 members, or just over 25%, was pleasing. The major responses are summarised below.

An overwhelming majority of respondents were satisfied or very satisfied with their membership in 1999–2001. Half wanted to continue receiving 'Weedscene' by post, although a quarter wanted 'Weedscene' by email and a quarter did not indicate a preference. Three quarters of respondents had spent more than 10 years in weed related fields.

The top five weed interests: environmental, pasture, roadside, crop and aquatic weeds. The top five management interests: integrated weed management, herbicides, weed identification, control techniques and herbicide resistance. The top five topics for seminars/workshops: new weed

control techniques, herbicides in native vegetation, new weeds to look out for, monitoring a weed control program and pasture weed management.

We also received many other suggestions for workshop and seminar topics, which will be taken into consideration when planning the Society's activities over the next couple of years. We had a few comments on 'Weedscene' including requests for more articles submitted by members, so anyone out there who would like to share something with us, Bob would be only too pleased to hear from you.

Thank you to those who indicated they are willing to answer queries. The secretary receives many queries from the public and having a list of people to whom she can pass queries on to will make her job a lot easier. (Don't all panic! You are not about to be inundated with queries, it may only amount to one or two a year.)

**Wendy Bedggood, President.**

## AGM

After the Stipoid Grass Seminar we will be having our AGM. This is when your new committee will be elected to run the Society for the next twelve months. It is always good to have a mix of new enthusiastic and experienced and wise committee members to drive any society. If you would like to join the committee and help make your Weed Society a better society for us all please give some serious thought to the matter. If you would like to discuss the matter please feel free to contact the Secretary, President [03 5362 2330 BH] or any of the other committee members.

## Business Plan

The business plan will be presented for discussion at the AGM. If members wish to make any comments they may do so at this time. If you need to jog your memory about the contents, you can view the plan on our website.

## Frequency of glyphosate resistance in herbicide resistant ryegrass populations

*Dr. John Matthews, Resistech Herbicide Resistance Testing Service, University of Adelaide, Roseworthy SA*

### Background

Several populations of ryegrass submitted to the testing service in 2001 were observed to have detectable levels of resistance to glyphosate in preliminary screenings. Funds were sought from the GRDC to support a rigorous screening of potentially resistant populations to identify glyphosate resistance. Resistech Testing Service tests samples of weeds submitted as seed samples for resistance to herbicides. The material is usually resistant to other herbicides and does not represent a random sample from across SA. In fact, it represents a selection of troublesome ryegrass populations in which resistance to other herbicides has usually become evident.

### Methods

Forty populations of annual ryegrass were sown in pots containing 1:1 mixture of sand and recycled potting soil. Plants were grown outside in southern Australian winter conditions and watered by rainfall plus supplementary watering as required. Two to three leaf plants were treated with a 1:1 mix of Bonus® and Credit®, at 0.75, 1.5 and 3 L of 540 g/L glyphosate equivalent per ha. Herbicides were applied in 120 L of water per ha with a hand sprayer pressurised by propane. Three replicates were treated at each herbicide rate. All pots

containing survivors were resprayed six weeks after the first treatment. Retreatment rates were 0.75 L per ha on the lowest initial rate and 1 L per ha on the two higher rates. Surviving plants were counted and results expressed as a percentage of the number of plants initially treated.

### Results

Forty populations were treated and 50% of these had a low level of survivors at or above the recommended field application rate of glyphosate (1.5 L/ha). More than 75% of the populations treated had survivors to 0.75 L/ha of glyphosate. The mean percentage of survivors from 20 populations containing survivors was 3.0% and 2.3% from 1.5 L glyphosate per ha and 3.0 L per ha respectively. Some of the surviving plants have been propagated further to confirm the heritability and persistence of the presumed glyphosate resistance.

Populations displaying resistance were mainly from the mid-north region of South Australia with the Yorke Peninsula and South East also represented. The distribution of resistant populations is probably a reflection of the history of product usage and intensity of crop production systems. The populations surviving glyphosate all had some resistance to the 'fop' herbicides from group A. More than 50% had high levels of resistance

(greater than 30% survival to the fops) but only 10% had resistance to the 'dims', also from group A. Two populations had high levels of resistance to the dims. Most populations had resistance to the group B herbicides usually at low to moderate levels, (10–30% survival).

The paddock histories, where available, indicate use of glyphosate over a long period. Farmers were surveyed as to glyphosate use and all the respondents reported at least 10 applications of glyphosate on the suspect paddocks and 80% had at least 15 years application history. In all cases, application rates have risen from about 0.75 L/ha to 1.5 L/ha in recent years. Glyphosate was used on most of the paddocks, at least once per year.

### Conclusions

There appears to be a serious potential for glyphosate resistance in annual ryegrass populations as all these populations were drawn from annual dryland cropping areas in SA, and in this respect is a serious development. The extent of glyphosate resistance encountered in this survey is high. This should serve as a warning to farmers with a high reliance on glyphosate that resistance might be more widespread than previously

**continued on page 4/...**



thought. It should also serve as a warning to farmers, agronomists and consultants that there is a potential for the rapid development of widespread glyphosate resistance if pre-seeding ryegrass control or ryegrass seed set suppression is completely dependent upon glyphosate. The level of glyphosate resistance encountered in the populations that had survivors indicates a real potential to rapidly increase under further use in the absence of alternative methods to kill any survivors from previously applied glyphosate. All of the populations that had survivors already exhibited resistance to some other ryegrass herbicide which indicates that resistance to glyphosate is becoming apparent or being selected for in the absence of other effective herbicides. As other herbicides have failed or continue to fail, there may be an increased selection for glyphosate resistance, as glyphosate survivors will not be killed by post-emergent products. The level of glyphosate resistance may increase rapidly if other effective herbicides or management procedures are not implemented. Probably the most simple management tool to implement is a follow-up treatment with paraquat prior to planting or use of some cultivation at planting. It is worthwhile to make sure that water quality or mixtures of other herbicides are not reducing glyphosate efficacy. In addition, the use of paraquat for crop topping or spray topping will relieve the selection pressure on glyphosate resistance. Other non-chemical methods of ryegrass control should be seriously considered.



### Weed Society of Victoria membership rates:

<b>Students</b>	<b>\$20.00</b>
<b>Ordinary</b>	<b>\$35.00</b>
<b>Corporate</b>	<b>\$80.00</b>

## WSV Financial members 2001

*NOTE: you have to be a financial member for the year 2001 to vote at the AGM*

I.C. Aberdeen	I. Faithfull	M. Moerkerk
R. Adams	C. Ferguson	T.B. Morley
N. Ainsworth	S. Fletcher	A. Morris
P. Ainsworth	Frankston City Council	C. Moxham
P. Alexander	J. Gathe	NZ Plant Protection Society
I.P. Anderson	M.D. Gibson	National Herbarium
J. Ashby	C. Goninon	F. Overmars
J.C. Avery	C. Gordes	R.W.G. Packer
A.G. Bailey	Grasslands Society of Victoria	J. Parker
D.B. Barber	R.H. Groves	W.T. Parsons
D. Bass	L. Gunasekera	A.R. Paul
W. Bedggood	P.S. Gunn	Plant Protection Society of WA
Bendigo Regional College of TAFE	B. Guthrie	G.H. Pritchard
A. Bishop	C. Hanson	K. Raymond
K. Blood	G. Harding	Rhone Poulenc Rural
M. Bramwell	G.J. Healy	D. Richards
M. Brennan	R.N. Henderson	R. Richardson
N.M. Brooks	T. Herwerth	R.G. Richardson
K. Brown	A.J. Hewitt	M.G. Rouch
E. Bruzzese	J.G. Hewson	Royal Botanic Gardens
J. Burley	K. Hollaway	R. Scott
C. Rudduck Pty Ltd	Holmesglen College of TAFE	Serials Officer, VicRoads
G. Carr	R. Hore	Business Info Centre
I.L. Chadwick	J. Hull	M.G. Shepherd
City of Glen Eira	Hume City Council	R.C.H. Shepherd
M. Clarke	J.F. Illingworth	K. Smith
L. Close	L.M. Jackel	S.M. Smith
G. Code	J. Jackson	South African Weed Science Society
M. Coffey	K. Jones	State Library of Victoria
J.H. Combella	P. Jupp	S.J. Stewart
Combined Rural Traders CRT/T&C	N. Kelly	N.E. Stone
Conserv. & Environment	G. Kendall	J. Stoner
C. Costello	L. Kern	J.W. Stranger
A. Coyle	C. Knight	L. Stuart
J. Crow	S. Knights	C. Sudholz
Crop Science Soc of SA	K.W. Krake	M. Suter
S. Cross	I.L. Lane	J. Sutherland
M. Crothers	A. Lawrie	E. Swan
E.G. Cuthbertson	A. Leys	Tasmanian Weed Society
P. Dal Santo	K. Liffman	M. Taylor
R. Danks	M.G. Lockhart	The Indigenous Garden
P.E. Davis	Long Ashton Research Station, UK	Restoration Company P/L
J. de Bree	J.M. Lumb	L. Trevaskis
Dept. Conservation & Natural Resources	L. Maas	Trust for Nature
P. Dickson	B. Mason	C. van Megan
R. Dilena	D. Matthews	Weed Society of NSW
E.E. Muir & Sons Pty Ltd	D.C. Matthews	Weed Society of Qld
Eureka! Agresearch	D.N. McKenzie	G. Wells
European Weed Research Society	D.J. McQueen	P.H. Whiteman
B.J. Evans	Merri Creek Management Committee	P. Wilcock
Fairbanks Selected Seed Co	M. Messaritis	P. Wlodarczyk
	L. Mitchell	T. Woolford
		K. Young

**WSV HOME PAGE: <http://www.vicnet.net.au/~weedsoc/>**

### DIRECTORY – Weed Society of Victoria Inc.

#### Correspondence and Enquiries

Weed Society of Victoria Inc.  
PO Box 987  
FRANKSTON VIC 3199  
Telephone (03) 9576 2949

Editorial and Advertising: Telephone/Fax (03) 5286 1533

#### Secretary

Ros Shepherd  
PO Box 987  
FRANKSTON VIC 3199  
Telephone/Fax (03) 9576 2949  
email: secwssv@surf.net.au

#### Weedscene

Bob Richardson  
R.G. and F.J. Richardson  
PO Box 42  
MEREDITH VIC 3333  
Telephone/Fax (03) 5286 1533  
email: richardson@weedinfo.com.au