

Weed Society of Victoria Travel Grants

Weed Society of Victoria will provide funds for a Travel Grant to send two people to the Australian Weeds Conference. The Grant is to encourage members of the Society to attend the Australian Weeds Conferences, to increase their involvement in weed science and to promote the involvement of the Society in the conference. The recipients shall be current financial members of the Society, for more than one year. The Grant will not be given to the same person more than once.

The Grant will cover the Registration Fee and the air fare to attend the Australian Weeds Conference, and will not exceed \$1500 per recipient. The grant will be made in accordance with guidelines to be published at the end of the year preceding the Conference, with the application to be in to the Society by the end of the April of the year in which the Conference is held. The recipients will be notified within two months of the close of the applications and the information will also be placed in Weedscene, the Society's newsletter.

The submissions should be brief, include details of the applicant's weed-related work, research or applied; any involvement in the Society; presentation of paper or poster with title and page length summary; whether there is any other assistance to attend the Conference. The submission should also give reasons for travel, the benefits to the applicant and to the Society.

A panel of three qualified Weed Society of Victoria members, appointed by the executive, will judge the submissions.

On returning from the conference

Council of Australian Weed Societies Annual Young Weed Scientist Travel Award

The Award will be made available annually, or less frequently depending on the standard of the application. Applications are invited from young weed scientists to attend national or international conferences or for specific overseas study tours of a short duration. The applications are to be submitted annually to CAWS by affiliated societies. The Young Weed Scientist Travel Award will be made by 1st July each year for the following 12 months. Applications must be to the Secretary/Treasurer of CAWS by 1st May each year.

The Award will be made to undergraduates studying in the fields of agriculture, biology, ecology, horticulture and forestry or related subjects, who have a wish to continue their studies in weed science. It will also be made to young weed scientists who have recently (within five years of finishing their degree) commenced employment in any branch of weed science. The Award will be open to anyone residing in Australia, but members of Societies affiliated with CAWS may be given preference.

The Young Weed Scientist Travel Awards will be worth up to \$2000 per annum. They are not expected to cover the total cost of the Conference or study tour being undertaken and it will therefore be necessary for an applicant to ensure that other funding is available. Applicants attending conferences will be expected to give a presentation at the conference and to submit an abstract of their paper with their application.

On return the successful applicant will be expected to give a report to the nominating Society, either as a written report for the Newsletter or as part of a seminar, meeting or workshop conducted by that Society. It will be part of the successful applicant's duty to pass on as much information as possible to the nominating Society and it is the right of the Society to specify the format of the report.

Applications are to be forwarded by 1st May to the Council of Australian Weed Societies, c/- Mr. Rex Stanton, Farrer Centre, Charles Sturt University, Locked Bag 588, Wagga Wagga NSW 2678.

the recipient will be expected to submit a written report within two months which will be suitable for insertion in Weedscene. This to cover the highlights of the conference and the benefits gained by the recipient.

Judging

The judges will examine the application for:

1. relevance of the paper or poster to the topic of the Conference;

2. the involvement of the applicant in a weed science related field;
3. the relevance of the applicant attending the Conference;
4. the presentation of the application;
5. any involvement in Weed Society of Victoria Inc.

For application forms contact:

The Secretary, Weed Society of Victoria, PO Box 987, Frankston Victoria 3199. Telephone/fax (03) 9576 2949 or email: secwssv@surf.net.au.

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WSV Committee Members 2004/2005

President	Richard Denver
Vice President	Daniel Joubert
Treasurer	Norm Stone
Secretary	Ros Shepherd
Newsletter Editor	John Ashby
Committee Members	Greg Wells Lindsay Knight Chris Knight Ian Faithfull Michael Hansford
Co-opted Member	Kelly Raymond
Country Member	Les Mitchell

Weed Society of Victoria Awards Book Prizes for Excellence

Dookie College students Lyndal Hackett and Jane Paulet who are both studying for a Bachelor of Agriculture degree have been awarded book prizes. Longerenong College students Deborah Goettler studying for an Advanced Diploma in Agriculture and Georgie Tsaiikos studying for a Diploma of Conservation and Land Management were also awarded book prizes for excellence. The Society seeks to encourage interest in weeds through prizes awarded to students at the University of Melbourne's Institute of Land and Food Resources who demonstrate excellence in some part of their course work.

Council of Australian Weed Societies News

The Council of Australian Weed Societies agrees that the 15th Australian Weeds Conference shall be hosted by the Weed Management Society of South Australia. An organizing committee has been formed for the 15AWC to be held in 2006.

The Plant Protection Society of Western Australia has changed its name and is now the Weeds Society of Western Australia (Inc). The Society has been successful in a bid to host the 9th International Conference on the Ecology and Management of Alien Plant Invasions (EMAPi9) which to be held in Perth in 2007.

The Tasmanian Weed Society (Inc). will be holding a State conference in September 2005 which will also mark the 10th anniversary of the society. The executive of the state society will act as the conference organizing committee.

Australian Forest Growers Biennial Conference

'Integrating forestry into farms, communities and catchments'

Ballarat 3-5 May 2004

The conference will include:

- choice of over 20 field tours held throughout the three days of the conference,
- over 50 invited papers,
- panel discussions.

View the conference program by visiting the AFG website at www.afg.asn.au or for further information email conference@afg.asn.au.

University of Ballarat, Centre for Environmental Management Conference

'Biodiversity across the borders'

10 June 2004

Mt. Helen Campus, University of Ballarat

The keynote speaker at the conference will be Associate Professor Mark Burgman, from the Department of Botany, University of Melbourne. Mark will be speaking on 'The frailties of expert judgments in conservation risk assessments.' The conference will also feature talks and posters on the biodiversity theme by honours and postgraduate students and staff, both of the University of Ballarat and other institutions from across south-eastern Australia.

If you are interested in attending please visit the conference website at www.ballarat.edu.au/ard/sci-eng or contact Dr. S.K. Florentine, Centre for Environmental Management, University of Ballarat, Tel: 03 5327 9231, Fax: 03 5327 9240. Email: s.florentine@ballarat.edu.au for more details.

57th New Zealand Plant Protection Conference

10-12 August 2004

Hamilton, New Zealand

Contact: L. McKay, NZPPS, AgResearch, PO Box 60, Lincoln, Canterbury, NEW ZEALAND. Fax: 64-03-983-3904, phone: 64-03-983-3940, email: Lois.McKay@agresearch.co.nz or Web: www.hortnet.co.nz/publications/nzpps.

14th Australian Weeds Conference

'Weed management: balancing people, planet and profit'

6-9 September 2004, Wagga Wagga NSW

Bobbie Brazil (Land and Water Australia) and Julian Cribb (CSIRO) are presenting keynote addresses to the conference. Richard Groves (CSIRO) will be giving the CAWS Oration. Field tours will allow delegates an opportunity to see first hand some of the weed issues facing land managers in southern NSW. Details can be obtained from the website, www.csu.edu.au/special/weedsconference.

EUREKA! AgResearch Pty. Ltd.



For further
information about
EUREKA!
contact:

Anthony Flynn
03 9742 0286

Philip Pentland
03 9742 0302

Kieran Murphy
03 9742 0289

Presidential change for the IWSS

Extracts from President's Message January 2004

This is my parting newsletter contribution as president. I want to thank Ricardo Labrada and the rest of his nomination committee, Prasanta Bhowmik and Ona Sakalienne, for doing an excellent job in putting together an impressive slate of candidates. I would also like to thank the entire Board of Directors (Past President Ricardo Labrada, Secretary/Treasurer Bemal Valverde and Vice President Anis Rahman) for their tireless efforts on behalf of IWSS. They never said no to a request and did their jobs well.

The other item of great timeliness is the 4th International Weed Science Congress coming up in Durban, South Africa on June 20–24, 2004. Baruch Rubin and Charlie Reinhardt are organizing a super program, and we hope to have good attendance. I just got word from Baruch that the number and quality of abstracts submitted so far is very good. The deadline for abstracts has been extended to 20 February 2004. Please see www.iwsc2004.org.za for details of the meeting and submission of an abstract. The second circular can be downloaded from this website. I hope to see you all in Durban.

Weed science is in a state of attrition

Now for a brief philosophical bit. Weed Science is in a state of attrition from which it may never emerge. It is a discipline founded by those who practised weed management almost exclusively with herbicides. The discipline has risen and fallen with the companies that produce herbicides, and we all know the sad fate of most of those companies. This rapid deterioration was evident in the difficulty that we had getting contributions for the 4th IWSC from some previously generous sources. We thank those that quickly made requested contributions, but were surprised to find other companies to have no interest in supporting the biggest international weed science meeting and, we only ask for such support every four years. Furthermore, apparently because of our herbicide-based origins and history, we find many individuals and organizations interested in weed ecology, weed biology, invasive vegetation, and other non-herbicide related aspects of weed science to have negative attitudes toward societies such as IWSS. Several of us made strong attempts to attract support for the 4th IWSC from organizations interested in more 'green' solutions to agricultural problems, especially in de-

veloping countries. Only FAO and APHIS were willing to support us, and this was primarily due to help from members of IWSS who work for these organizations. I am afraid that outside of the boundaries of our discipline, we get little respect. This could be changed.

Weeds are still a huge problem, both agriculturally and ecologically. So, there is great need for solving and managing these problems with science – weed science. There is a clear need for our discipline, but we must reshape the discipline to fit the changing situation. You and your colleagues offer the best hope for accomplishing this. For weed science to regain the ground it has lost, we must do many things as weed scientists, including: 1) elevating the level of science that we are conducting, 2) solving important weed-related problems with innovative, eco-friendly strategies and technologies, 3) and reaching out to those who have eschewed our discipline, but who could make great contributions to it with new ideas and approaches. I increasingly see high profile, weed science-related research being done by scientists who have never been to a weed science society meeting. We should recruit these people. Many of our most important members and supporters were first introduced to weed science by being invited to give a presentation at one of our meetings. Yes, the nature of weed science must evolve quickly, for without needed changes, weed science will be relegated to the dustbin of history – an irrelevant or extinct discipline.

On that cheery note, I wish you a prosperous and happy 2004. Again, I hope to see you in Durban.

Steve Duke
Oxford, Mississippi, USA

MEMBERSHIP RATES

Weed Society of
Victoria Inc.



Students	\$20.00
Ordinary	\$40.00
Corporate	\$100.00

Resistant Weeds

The survey and global listing of resistant weeds by country can be located at the following site: www.weedscience.org/summary/CountrySummary.asp

John Ashby
WSV Committee

Worth a Look?

'A Web-based Expert System for Advising on Herbicide Use in Great Britain' by A.J. Thomson and I. Willoughby. Published in *Computers and Elec. in Agric.* 42(1), 43-49, January 2004.

'Alien plants in checklists and floras: towards better communication between taxonomists and ecologists' by Petr Pyšek, David M. Richardson, Marcel Rejmánek, Grady L. Webster, Mark Williamson and Jan Kirschner. *Taxon* 53 (1), 131–143, February 2004.

Publications for the CRC for Australian Weed Management

KILLING US SOFTLY – AUSTRALIA'S GREEN STALKERS

A Call to Action on Invasive Plants and a Way Forward

A new 32-page booklet by Peter Martin, recently published as a year 2020 vision statement by the Collaborative Research Centre for Australian Weed Management. Available online in two parts at: www.weeds.crc.org.au/publications/.

WEEDS IN WINTER PULSES – INTEGRATED SOLUTIONS

A 72-page booklet by D. Carpenter and A. Bowcher who have created a guide to the management of weeds in winter pulse crops, looking at the whole farm business and developing strategies involving a wide range of techniques. Copies can be freely downloaded in PDF copy (1957kb) from the CRC website at: www.weeds.crc.org.au/publications/books.html

 **Dow AgroSciences**

Aquatic Weeds Book

Aquatic and Riparian Weeds of the West
Joseph M. DiTomaso and Evelyn A. Healy.
2003, University of California, colour, soft
cover, 442 pages, ISBN 1879906 597. Price
available on request. Available from R.G.
and F.J. Richardson.



This book is a practical guide to the identification and biology of aquatic weeds in rice paddies, water use systems, and wild-land areas in the western United States. It consists of 58 plant entries, including a full description of 89 species representing 36 plant families, and another 96 plants compared as similar species. There is at least one photograph of each of the 171 aquatic plant species. Of the approximately 84 genera mentioned in the book about 67 occur in Australia and at the species level about 83 of the 190 mentioned also occur in Australia.

This is a magnificent book. An enormous amount of work, time and care has gone into its production. The result is a bountiful amount of information about the major species with excellent photographs. It deserves a home on the shelves of those working and living with aquatic weeds, or those who simply have a wide interest in weeds. **R.G. Richardson**

Overview of Lantana

A member in good standing with the 'world's worst weeds club,' *Lantana camara* L. (lantana) comes in some 650 varieties and is found in more than 60 countries and island groups. This pernicious plant, according to a newly published study, 'Lantana: current management status and future prospects', was the first weed to be targeted for biological control and has been researched longer than any other weed, yet there are very few examples of success and many examples of lantana as a serious ongoing problem.

Authors M.D. Day *et al.*, describe the lantana problem, covering taxonomy, habitat, ecology, and even uses, primarily as a garden ornamental. Section II dwells on control matters, with the bulk of attention devoted to biocontrol. An account of the numerous agents released and the results achieved support the thesis that this weed poses a challenge due to its ability to hybridize (some 650 varieties have been recorded).

The 128-page, softbound work contains dozens of full colour photos across its attractively presented 128 pages, and concludes with a 'future directions' section that offers useful approaches based on the results from years of research. The included massive reference list stands as a highly useful resource.

The volume was published in 2003 by the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR) and is ACIAR Monograph 102. ACIAR Communications, GPO Box 1571, Canberra, ACT 2601, AUSTRALIA. Email: ACIAR@aciarc.gov.au.

IPMNet News

Invasives Program Secretariat

The Global Invasive Species Programme (GISP) has established a secretariat, launched a colourful newsletter, enhanced its website, and assumed the mantle of international clearing house and authority on invasive alien species (IAS). With funding from several sources, including the World Bank, GISP anticipates becoming an 'enabling facility for various national, regional and international

IAS-focused programs and organizations', according to a January 2004 press release. GISP was established in 1997 to address global threats of invading species and to help implement the Convention on Biodiversity. The Program aims to conserve biodiversity and sustain human livelihoods by minimizing the spread and impact of invasive alien species.

For more info visit: www.gisp.org.

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

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WSV DIRECTORY

Correspondence and enquiries

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

Secretary

Ros Shepherd
PO Box 987
Frankston Vic 3199
Telephone/Fax (03) 9576 2949
Email secwssv@surf.net.au

Weedscene Editor

John Ashby
BayerCropScience
391-393 Tooronga Road
East Hawthorn Vic 3123
Telephone (03) 9248 6855
Fax (03) 9248 6805
john.ashby@bayercropscience.com

President

Richard Denver
richard@weedmanager.net

Vice President

Daniel Joubert
Daniel.Joubert@dpi.vic.gov.au

Treasurer

Norm Stone
norm.stone@bayercropscience.com

Committee Members

Ian Faithfull
Ian.Faithfull@dpi.vic.gov.au

Michael Hansford
Michael.Hansford@dpi.vic.gov.au

Chris Knight
cknight@lmsonline.com.au

Lindsay Knight
Lindsay.Knight@nufarm.com.au

Greg Wells
WELLS1@dow.com

Co-opted Member

Kelly Raymond
KRaymond@parks.vic.gov.au

Country Member

Les Mitchell
agriserve@shepparton.net.au