



Policies for WEED Management – who has responsibility?

A seminar to be presented by the Weed Society of Victoria Inc.

Date: Thursday 17 February 2005 Time: 08.55 am

Venue: Lecture Theatre E2, Building 32, Faculty of Engineering, Monash University,
Wellington Road, Clayton. Registration commences at 08.00 am in Room GO1.

How well known or understood are weed policies? Are weed policies seen as either unrealistic or controversial or just something to be ignored?

- Why do Governments make them?
- Are they realistic or idealistic and are they enacted successfully by the agencies that should be in charge of them?
- What are the differences between the various policies that are put together by the numerous branches of Government?
- Are our perceptions of these policies correct and how do they impinge on any management?
- What industries are creating problems and are responsible for weeds and their management?

Come and hear how policies for weed management are perceived and how they are or are not put into action. If you are a policy maker, a practitioner or just want to know who has the authority to do what in the area of policy and management, then come and find out more.

Free parking is available at Monash University at NORTH 1 car park, off North Ring Road (at corner with West Ring Road Outer).

For program details please see enclosed flyer. The 39th AGM of the WSV will be held after the seminar.

For other information contact Ros Shepherd at the Weed Society of Victoria Inc., PO Box 987, Frankston, Victoria 3199, Ph/Fax 03 9576 2949 or email: secwssv@surf.net.au.

39th AGM of the Weed Society of Victoria

Date: Thursday 17 February 2005

Time: 16.00 pm

Venue: Room GO1, Building 32, Faculty of Engineering, Monash University, Wellington Road, Clayton, following the seminar 'Policies for WEED Management – who has responsibility?'

Please see page 2 for Proxy and Committee Nomination Forms.

WSV Constitution change

Proposal to change the date of the annual general meeting of the Weed Society of Victoria. A motion was put forward at a recent committee meeting by Norm Stone, seconded Greg Wells 'That the constitution be changed to read that the AGM must be held by the end of April, rather than February', all were in agreement.

This change will need to be ratified at the 2005 Annual General Meeting.

Second Victorian Weed Conference *Smart weed control, managing for success*

The Weed Society of Victoria will be holding its second Weed Conference over Wednesday 17 and Thursday 18 August 2005. The conference will be at the All Seasons International Hotel, Bendigo with a dinner held on of the evening of Wednesday 17 August.

The aim of this series of conferences is to provide information on the latest weed issues relevant to Victorians, particularly for those people unable to attend the Australian Weeds Conference.

The conference will be divided into four sessions:

Early detection and response. How can we prevent new weed problems, especially those arising from gardeners and their desire for that different plant?

Integrated weed management. Includes a look at the Australian situation and its relevance.

Successful monitoring. We need to know whether our control measures are successful or not.

Getting technical. What is new and successful in the weed control field.

Put yourself forward as a speaker or a poster presenter. Potential participants are invited to submit papers for the open presentation session.

Fees will be as follows (includes lunches, teas and proceedings):

Students	\$230.00
WSV members	\$290.00
Non-WSV members	\$330.00
Conference Dinner	\$40.00

Program details are in the enclosed flyer. For other information contact Ros Shepherd at the Weed Society of Victoria Inc., PO Box 987, Frankston, Victoria 3199, Ph/Fax 03 9576 2949 or email: secwssv@surf.net.au.

In this issue...

Policies for WEED Mgt Seminar	1
Second Victorian Weed Conference	1
39th AGM of the WSV	1
WSV Constitution change	1
A single cut to control the curse	2
CAWS awards Medals	2
Proxy/Nomination forms	2
Letter from the Secretary	3
Troublesome plants CD	3
Plants of Hawaii images	3
California limits hand weeding	3
Declared Plants of Australia CD	4
Children breed gorse spider mites	4
National List of Invasive Plants	4
WSV Directory	4

A single cut to control the curse

Paterson's curse is a widespread weed that was responsible for a number of horse deaths in 2003. It's a major problem on small acreage blocks where control options with herbicide can be limited by access to spray contractors and closeness to residential areas.

Research conducted by Dr Annabel Bowcher, CRC for Australian Weed Management and DPI Wagga Wagga, has found that one simple cut with a slasher (or even a whipper-snipper) can dramatically reduce Paterson's curse in the following year.

Timing is the key to a successful cut. Surprisingly, the critical thing is to leave Paterson's curse to run up to head and begin flowering. This is the hardest part of this management technique – watching a weed grow and flower!

The ideal time to implement control is indicated by stage of seed development. Check for green seeds once the Paterson's curse starts to flower. When three quarters of all plants have green seeds, it's time to get the slasher out and start mowing.

A simple guide to help identify correct cutting time has just been published by the CRC for Australian Weed Management. It can be downloaded free as a PDF from the publication section of the Weeds CRC website (www.weeds.crc.org.au). It provides all the information needed to time slashing operations for optimum Paterson's curse control.

CAWS awards Medals of Leadership

At the recent 14th Australian Weeds Conference, Wagga Wagga the Council of Australian Weed Societies awarded two medals for leadership. The recipients were Geoff Sainty and Bruce Wilson.

Geoffrey Sainty has had a distinguished career spanning over 40 years in the management of weeds in wetland environments. During this time has become nationally and internationally recognised as an authority on aquatic weed management. He contributed to the science, technology and practice of weed management through research, teaching extension and implementation.

He has undertaken studies in United States, Sri Lanka, Tanzania, Mesopotamia, Egypt, Turkey, Malaya, Ireland and Argentina. In recent times Geoff has conducted consultancies for a wide range of government and commercial ventures. His publications have contributed greatly to the extension of aquatic weed best practice in Australia. He published books such as *Waterplants in Australia* and *Burnum Burnum's WILDthings*.

His contribution can be seen in wetlands such as Sanctuary Lakes development, Mason Park salt marsh wetland in the Homebush Bay area, Hervey Bay Wetlands and other wetlands throughout Australia.

He has produced hundreds of consultancy reports, over 30 peer reviewed technical papers, on water plants and wetland management.

His popular book '*Burnum Burnum's WILDthings*' has over 1200 pictures and descriptions to help the average tourist identify the common things they would see in the bush in eastern NSW.

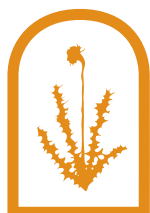
The second medal was awarded to Dr Bruce Wilson. Dr Wilson has contributed greatly to weed management in Australia. He has been an active member of the Weed Society of Queensland since 1975, including times as newsletter editor and Queensland's Council representative for seven years.

Bruce's early career in weed research generated numerous scientific papers.

He played a lead role in the Weedbuster awareness program, which started in Queensland.

Bruce's career in recent times has been a senior manager for the Queensland Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy (Director of Land Protection). In that role he has represented Queensland in national government policy development and initiative such as the National Weeds Strategy and taking the Weedbuster program nationally.

He has driven change in Australian weed management and the ongoing promotion of Queensland and Australian weed research internationally. Perhaps the greatest of Bruce's achievements was to gather support for the National Weeds Strategy, and the development of national cost sharing arrangements for weeds such as Siam weed.



MEMBERSHIP RATES

Weed Society of
Victoria Inc.

Students \$20.00

Ordinary \$40.00

Corporate \$100.00

PROXY FORM

I, (a)appoint

(b)

as my proxy to represent me at the AGM on 17/2/05 and vote on any motion as he/she sees fit.

SignedDate..... / /

(a) Name of financial member 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 10/2/05

Letter from the Secretary

Dear WSV Members

On 17 February 2005 the Weed Society of Victoria will be holding its 39th Annual General Meeting at Monash University, after the seminar, **Policies for WEED Management – who has the responsibility?**

For over 20 years the Honorary Treasurer has held his position on the committee, and the Secretary has been on the committee for about 20 years, nearly all of it as Secretary. We would like to think that there is some member of the Society who would be interested in joining the Executive Committee and who will be happy to relieve us of these positions.

Weeds have been in the media of late as a result of Weedbuster Week, and thus are slowly coming to the attention of the public. The 14th Australian Weeds Conference held recently in Wagga Wagga was a great success with about 300 attendees, many of them from Victoria. We therefore need new members on the committee who are actively participating in weed activities and are enthusiastic to ensure that the public is aware of the insidious nature of weeds and their effects on the economy.

The Society did not participate in Weedbuster Week this year; we therefore need a dedicated enthusiast to liaise with the Society so that we can raise awareness with members and help the Society be an active participant in Weedbuster Week. The Society and its newsletter is a venue for weed matters and we appreciate any help getting information to members. This is much easier if we have interested members on the committee who can keep members informed about what is going on in the weed world. If you feel strongly enough to become members and attend the seminars the Society puts on for your benefit, then you should also feel that you have the ability to help shape the committee's thinking.

The Weed Society of Victoria will be hosting the 17th Australian Weeds Conference in Melbourne in 2010 and needs your help now to start thinking about the Conference and its program. We will need to put a bid in at the next Australian Weeds Conference, to be held in two years in Adelaide. If you are interested please come and help us put together that bid. The Society hosted the 11th Australian Weeds Conference in 1996 and half of the present committee are the people who organised it. Now we need new blood with new ideas, people who are actively participating in the work force and know what is going on in the weed world.

All positions will be vacant at the next AGM, so please put your names forward and join the committee to keep your Society alive and active.

Ros Shepherd, Secretary

Troublesome Plants in Bushland Parks CD

Val Lynch and Adrienne Card have just produced a simple, computer CD for everyone to help identify, control and eradicate troublesome plants in bushland parks or home gardens. The additional slide-shows require MS PowerPoint. It is low key and easy read.

Contents are plant listing by:

- Botanical name
- Common name

- Plant description: grasses, ground covers, lower storey, middle storey, upper storey, creepers and vines, and aquatics
- Control methods

Are you interested?

To cover costs they are selling at \$10 per copy. Contact Val Lynch and Adrienne Card at <http://www.vicnet.net.au/~carlyn>.



Plants of Hawaii – images

Aloha – We have updated our website. It is now over twice as large, with 19,000+ images for 1300+ taxa. Additions in this update include more species, images from other Hawaiian islands, aerial photos, associated insect and animal images, voucher images, and lots more. Check it out at <http://www.hear.org/starr/hiplants/images/index.html>. **Forest and Kim Starr**

California limits hand weeding

In a first-of-its-kind move, regulators in the US State of California recently approved a temporary ban on the physically demanding practices of hand weeding, hand thinning, or similar hand operations in most commercial crops, operations that were deemed to place workers at 'substantial risk of back injuries'.

The state's OS&H Standards Board issued an official finding 'of emergency' to 'prevent back injuries and related injuries to employees by prohibiting unnecessary' hand operations. A farm workers representative was quoted as calling the Board's action 'a modest step to ban a practice that should never have existed in the first place'.

Establishment of the temporary rule, with a permanent rule anticipated within the next year, resulted from nearly a decade of contentious dialog between growers and farm workers. In 1975 California banned use of short handle implements that required users to bend or stoop for long periods while weeding. Two previous legislative initiatives to ban hand weeding and thinning failed because affected parties could not agree on the proposed terms and language.

Based on input from an advisory committee of grower and labour representatives, as well as medical advice, the Board issued a 10 page finding that, while aimed at protecting worker health, incorporates numerous exemptions and special conditions. Organic operations are exempt, as are high density plantings and seedling crops, and crops grown in tubs or planters where a long handled tool is unsuitable. Hand operations are permitted if growers can justify that other means of weeding are unsuitable. Occasional or intermittent hand operations are permitted if performed by workers no more than 20% of the time during any one week period. Additionally, workers engaged in hand operations now must be given training in methods to prevent injury, and must be provided with gloves and knee pads, as necessary, along with being allowed additional periods of paid rest time during hand operations. **IPMNet News**

Declared Plants of Australia CD-ROM

A New Interactive Software Identification Tool from CBIT University of Queensland

Declared Plants of Australia is an interactive CD-ROM that uses the Lucid identification software. It will be an invaluable tool to anyone required to identify declared plants (or noxious weeds) in Australia. Containing over 5000 colour photographs, *Declared Plants of Australia* also provides a comprehensive source of information on over 300 species of declared plants. An additional 500 weed species commonly occurring in Australia are included in the key.



in any way that suits their specific information or identification needs. The unique combination of images and text, together with a customised search function, provides a rapid path to identification and to specific topics.

What's included: It contains an introduction, a tutorial, the identification key, fact sheets on all the State declared weed species

in Australia, references, a glossary and links to other relevant web sites. There is also an interactive tutorial within the key that explains how to use Lucid™.

Who Will Be Interested: The Declared Plants of Australia CD-ROM is an essential tool for all land owners and land managers required to control weeds on property. Authorised officers in both state and local authorities and anyone involved in research, teaching or giving advice on weeds, will benefit from using this CD.

This CD was developed by Sheldon Navie with financial assistance from the Council of Australian Weed Societies.

For further information or to order your copy visit www.weedinfo.com.au.

Why You Need the Declared Plants CD: Declaration of pest plants under state legislation imposes legal responsibility for control on land holders and land holding agencies. The Declared Plants of Australia CD ROM is a ready reference and a 'must have' tool for anyone required to identify such weed species. Declared Plants of Australia is an important resource to aid identification, incorporating the latest State legislation as at 1st January 2004.

How to Use the Declared Plants CD: Using the Lucid™ identification system, users can navigate through the CD content

Children breed gorse spider mites

Canterbury (NZ) youngsters who have been breeding legions of tiny mites were today releasing the creatures to chomp through gorse infestations near their schools. The programme – based on an Australian idea – is a joint initiative between Landcare Research and weed management umbrella group Weedbusters.

As part of the initiative, pupils at three primary schools in Lyttelton and one in western Christchurch were taught about the role played by biocontrol agents, such as gorse spider mites, and then given the mites to rear in the classroom.

'The children have shown a great degree of interest and responsibility looking after the mites,' Landcare Research technician Julia Wilson-Davey said in a statement.

Sandy Lloyd, via Enviroweeds

National List of Naturalised Invasive and Potentially Invasive Garden Plants

Rod Randall's updated 2004 national garden thugs list has been combined with information from the Richard Groves *et al.* (2003) report, 'Weed Categories for Natural and Agricultural Ecosystem Management', AWC's State and Territory Noxious Weeds lists, and Aussie Plant Finder to form the:

National List of Naturalised Invasive and Potentially Invasive Garden Plants.

It is available on the WWF Australia web site at: http://www.wwf.org.au/News_and_information/Publications/PDF/Conservation_guide/ListInvasive-Plants.pdf

Andreas Glanznig

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

Newsletter Sponsor: Dow AgroSciences

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 Members

Les Mitchell
agriserve@shepparton.net.au
Michael Moerkerk
Michael.Moerkerk@dpi.vic.gov.au