



Newsletter of the Weed Society of Victoria Inc.

volume 22 issue 4 2011

Weedscene

The 2012 AGM Seminar

The seminar is to be held on Thursday 19th April 2012 at the Best Western Airport Motel and Convention Centre, 33 Ardlie Street, Attwood 3049.

The seminar will be entitled *Weedy interactions – from sub-microscopic to species communities* and we invite everyone to attend.

Speakers will include:

- Professor Jim Pratley, Research Professor of Agriculture, School of Agricultural and Wine Sciences, Charles Sturt University, Wagga Wagga. The title of his talk will be
- *Allelopathy – just a fancy word or a tool for future weed management?*
- Associate Professor Ed Newbigin, School of Botany, The University of Melbourne, whose interests include hayfever, flowering plants, cell wall biosynthesis in cereals. The title of his talk will be *Taming the wild radish: from S-alleles to weed control?*
- A Monsanto representative will talk about GMOs.
- Professor Roger Cousens, Department of Resource Management and

Geography at The University of Melbourne, and some of his co-researchers, have been asked to talk on the new project *Coastal Weed Research, Impacts of weeds on beaches* funded by the Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation.

- Prof. John Forster, Department of Primary Industries, Victorian AgriBiosciences Centre & La Trobe University. The title of his talk will be *Genomics and Systems Biology for Future Weed Control Strategies*.

This day will incorporate the AGM for 2012, so please put the day aside to attend the seminar and the AGM.

Help wanted for the Society

At next year's AGM we will be looking for a new President and a new Treasurer. We need a new President as James O'Brien will be retiring due to the Society's constitutional requirement that a President serve no more than two consecutive years, and also his work commitments.

We therefore are seeking a President who will take the Society through the 18th Australasian Weeds Conference and beyond. If you are interested in this position please notify the Secretary.

We are also looking for a new Treasurer to replace Jackie Steel due to the imminence of the birth of her next child. She will be on maternity leave next year and unable to be on the committee. If you are interested in this position please notify the Secretary.

In 2013 the Secretary will be retiring from the committee. The Society is therefore looking for a new Secretary. Why not join next year's committee to learn what the job of Secretary entails. Have a practice year and volunteer for the position of Secretary

in 2012. This is certainly the best way to find out how the Society works and what it is about.

This year we have not had a Newsletter Editor to look after Weedscene. We are therefore seeking an enthusiastic and dedicated Newsletter Editor to keep the newsletter alive. If you would like to do this and keep the members of the Society familiar with all aspects of weeds please notify the Secretary and you will be welcomed on to the committee.

Ros Shepherd

WSV Directory

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Weedscene Editor

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WSV Membership Rates 2011

Concession*	\$20.00
Ordinary	\$55.00
Corporate	\$130.00

* Students and Pensioners

WSV is not registered to collect GST

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Joining the Weed Society of Victoria

The benefits of membership to WSV include:

- Weedscene: newsletter packed full of information
- eWeedscene: regular electronic bulletin on weed news and events
- Discounts to WSV seminars, workshops, conferences and other events
- Opportunities to network with others.

To apply for membership, download and print the membership application form from the WSV website, www.wsvic.org.au, complete the details and mail to the WSV Secretary.

Weedscene Newsletter of the Weed Society of Victoria Inc.

Contributions to Weedscene are welcomed. Please contact the editor for further information.

Readers are free to circulate and reproduce Weedscene material with acknowledgment of the author and source.

The views expressed in Weedscene are those of the contributors and are not necessarily shared by the WSV Executive Committee.

Advertising rates

■ One sixth page	56 mm wide × 128 mm high	\$90.00
■ Quarter page	180 mm wide × 64 mm high	\$135.00
■ Half page	180 mm wide × 128 mm high	\$275.00
■ Whole page	180 mm wide × 257 mm high	\$450.00

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From the Treasurer

When I was asked if I would like to help the Victorian Weed Society organise the 18th Australasian Weeds Conference in Melbourne I thought one thing – “What better way to meet some of the leading researchers in my area of work?”

So I joined the Society’s executive committee and consequently have had the pleasure of meeting some of the well-known names in weed research, such as Joe di Tomaso, Ian Mansergh and Tony Grice, as I helped to organise some of our AGM seminars. As I wanted to help the Society, and have a nutty affection for spreadsheets, I somehow ended up taking on the role of the Society’s Treasurer too.

As luck would have it I will be taking maternity leave in February 2012, which will leave the position of Treasurer open to someone else. I have enjoyed contributing my bit to the running of the Society and, as an invitation was extended to me all those years ago, I now encourage you to consider joining the Committee at the 2012 AGM. The opportunity to shape the next weeds conference has also been rewarding and now is the time when a few extra helping hands would be fabulous.

If you would like to express your interest in joining the WSV’s committee or to help out with the Conference please contact the Secretary at secwssv@surf.net.au.

Jackie Steel

Tool Kit tackles seed bank

A Seed Persistence Tool Kit is being funded by the National Weeds and Productivity Research Program to help determine how long you need to keep checking for seeds that may be left in the soil after weeds have been cleaned up.

There is some research around which may suggest Weed A can last for X years in the soil and still have the ability to germinate, but that doesn’t take into

account climatic conditions, soil type or other factors that can have an influence.

Researchers hope the Tool Kit will allow land managers to collect seed and soil samples, send them to a laboratory with climatic and other data, and run tests to determine how long those weed seeds are likely to persist at that particular site.

More information about this project can be found on the RIRDC web site.

From the RIRDC



Weeds in a digital era

In the same way that we are managing the environmental landscape, the National Weeds and Productivity Research Program is adapting to the changed information landscape.

Digital media is a vital tool for sharing information in order to make better decisions about how we manage weeds and prevent their incursion.

The program is currently using Twitter to raise awareness of its research projects, and of the weeds issues that are currently in the news.

And I can report that significant progress has been made towards the development of a new national online weeds web portal.

The program’s research projects are now in the midst of their core activities and many of these, such as the use of unmanned aerial devices to spot weeds, are very exciting to watch.

Can I suggest to researchers to take the opportunity to capture some of the exciting elements of your work on video – it could provide a vital resource for communicating your research findings in the future via digital channels such as YouTube.

In the meantime, RIRDC has used its website to publish the final reports of the DAFF-managed projects from Phase 1 of the National Weeds Program – some great work and interesting reading.

Hon John Kerin AM, Chairman
RIRDC Weeds Advisory
Committee

the weed’s network



The Weed’s Network has added several sections to its popular website, providing yet more services to the more than 9,000 subscribers to the online newsletter digest The Weed’s News.

Sponsored by the National Weeds and Productivity Research Program and Monash University’s e-Research Centre (MeRC), the website now has a Discussion Space where people can post comments or questions on weed prevention and control, as well as reading the content already there.

There’s also now a place to browse, compare and apply for Weed Jobs in Australia, which aims to eventually cover all weed career opportunities in Australia. Traffic has exceeded expectations, with 1800 page visits in the first week of operation.

A database of Australia’s weed risk assessments is also being progressively loaded, to help land managers determine a weed’s invasiveness, its present and potential distribution, and the impacts of the plant on social, economic and environmental values.



WSV News

Do you have a business that you would like to advertise?

The Weed Society is still looking for sponsors for the upcoming 18th Australasian Weeds Conference to be held in Melbourne in October next year. If you feel that you are unable to be a major sponsor but would like to help the Society why not be a minor sponsor instead?

Advertise your business by taking out a place in the Proceedings of the Conference. One half page will cost \$500.00 and a quarter page will cost \$250.00, layout and logos to be provided.

If you are interested please contact the Sponsorship Chair of the Organising Committee, Greg Wells at WELLS1@dow.com.

Available for sale

If you would like to purchase a copy of the Proceedings of the Weed Society of Victoria's 2011 AGM seminar – *Contentious perspectives on weeds*, these are now available from the Secretary for \$20.00 including postage.

Please contact Ros Shepherd on secwssv@surf.net.au.

The 18th Australasian Weeds Conference

The Program Chair, Nigel Ainsworth, is seeking people to help vet the abstracts that are coming in for the conference. If you would like to help with these please contact him on his email, Nigel.Ainsworth@dpi.vic.gov.au. Please can you let Nigel know what your field of interest is so that you are sent suitable abstracts to vet.

Travel Grant

Each year the Weed Society of Victoria provides travel grants to enable up to two of its members to attend a weeds conference. The WSV travel grants are awarded annually or less frequently depending on the standard of the applications.

Through supporting or providing the travel grants the WSV aims to:

- support the exchange of information and ideas based on weed research and practice
- encourage the study of weeds and the dissemination of findings
- encourage cooperation and networking
- promote the Weed Society of Victoria.

Information about the Travel Grant and forms can be found on the Society's web site at www.wsvic.org.au.

Parks Victoria 2011/12 Volunteer Hawkweed Surveillance Program

Help to protect Australia's biodiversity from King Devil and Orange Hawkweed on the Bogong High Plains. Native to Europe, Hawkweeds have recently become established on mainland Australia. Posing a serious threat to Australian biodiversity and the structure of natural communities, it is imperative that the incursion is eradicated before it's too late.

Survey sessions will be conducted during the active flowering period. All of the sessions will be five days long. Attendance for the full sessions is preferred but is not essential. Accommodation will be provided at Falls Creek. Breakfast and snacks will

be provided as well as one dinner at a local eatery, other meals self catered. Transport will be provided from Falls Creek.

The surveys for 2011/2012 season will be held over the following dates:

- Session 1: Tuesday the 27th – Saturday the 31st of December
- Session 2: Monday the 16th – Friday the 20th of January

Further information: Keith Primrose hawkweed@parks.vic.gov.au Mt. Beauty Parks Victoria 5754 4693. If any participants are willing to offer lifts to others, it would be greatly appreciated.

Threat to the Alpine Region of Victoria

Hawkweeds (*Hieracium* species), introduced from New Zealand, are becoming invasive in the alpine regions of Victoria and New South Wales. As a result Parks Victoria are asking for help to try and survey their distribution for eradication. If interested, please contact Keith Primrose.

Forage plants, grass and weeds from China

For more information visit <http://www.hceis.com>.

Innovative pack wins top honours at national awards

A new way of delivering agro-chemicals to growers has won two medals at the Packaging Council of Australia's (PCA) Australian Packaging Design Awards.

The QuikPour pack received a gold medal in the Innovation category, a silver medal in the Packaging for Industry category and was the overall best of show winner at the awards presentation dinner held in Melbourne last month.

QuikPour is a 15 litre container consisting of a collar, flexible liner and outer carton. The design offers faster and more accurate pouring when compared to a 20L plastic drum, as well as a 25% reduction in weight and an 80% reduction in plastic packaging per litre.

Lachie McKinnon, General Manager for Nufarm Australasia, said the award recognised more than four years of research and development by Nufarm Australia with key technology partner Scholle Packaging, along with Visy and other project partners.

"QuikPour is a tangible example of how Nufarm is investing in one of our key strategic objectives to innovate the business and the awards recognise the hard work, dedication and innovative thinking that went into designing the QuikPour pack," Mr McKinnon said.

"Since July, more than 24,000 15L QuikPour packs have been assembled, filled and delivered to our customers across Australia and we plan to deliver three million litres of Nufarm product in QuikPour packs over the coming year."

Products currently available in the 15L Quikpour packs are Agritone 750, Roundup 360, Roundup Biactive, Roundup DST, Glyphosate CT, Kamba M, Kamba 500, Amitrole T, Arsenal Express and Weedmaster Duo.

New products, Roundup Attack with iQ inside and Amicide Advance 700, will become available in the packs over the next 12 months.

For more information on QuikPour, speak to your local Nufarm distributor or visit nufarm.com.au/quikpour.



Professor Kate Auty, Victorian Commissioner of Environmental Sustainability, with Lachie McKinnon, Nufarm Australasia General Manager testing QuikPour box against the traditional 20L agro-chemical container (water only).

Victorian Environmental Assessment Council

On Thursday 24 November 2011, the Victorian Government tabled and publicly released its response to the Victorian Environmental Assessment Council (VEAC) Remnant Native Vegetation Investigation. VEAC's Final Report for the Investigation was submitted to the Hon

Ryan Smith MP, Minister for Environment and Climate Change, in March 2011.

You can access the Government response and associated media release through links on the VEAC website www.veac.vic.gov.au.



South Gippsland Weeds Website – a ‘go-to point’ for all things weedy in South Gippsland

The South Gippsland Landcare Network supports a community reliant upon accesses to current information with regard to weed identification and control. South Gippsland’s significant agricultural, horticultural, environmental and social values place a high level of community importance on managing threats such as weeds. In fact, weeds and their control is raised as the *number 1 land management issue amongst rural landholders in South Gippsland (*based on topics raised at Landcare group meetings).

In response to the communities’ need for such information a website was established

by the South Gippsland Landcare Network in early 2009 (through sponsorship from South Gippsland Water).

The aptly named South Gippsland Weeds website (www.southgippslandweeds.com.au) has made it possible for the community to receive up to date, locally relevant information on all matters relating to weeds and their control.

Amongst other things on the site, weed related events and monthly weed talk articles are posted on the site to promote awareness education. The website attracted roughly 5000 visits during a one year

period from June 2010 to June 2011 with visitor rates fairly consistent since 2009.

For further information on the site or for suggested content inclusions please feel free to contact Kate Williams, South Gippsland Landcare Network Project Officer on T: 5662 5759 or E: katew@wgcm.vic.gov.au.

Are you interested in South Australia’s native flora?

Recently the new State Herbarium Publications web-pages www.flora.sa.gov.au/publications were launched.

These include –

- Full access to all issues of the *Journal of the Adelaide Botanic Gardens* www.flora.sa.gov.au/jabg.
- Information on books published by the Adelaide Botanic Gardens; with some out-of-print books are available for download
- The web-pages for the new, 5th edition of *Flora of South Australia* www.flora.sa.gov.au/ed5. The first 17 treatments are now available online as PDF documents, as well as an Introduction and Glossary. For people who want to bind the PDFs, or compile all treatments in a folder Cover Pages are also available.

Please note that you have to switch the display on ‘Show all entries’ at the bottom of the page with the family list, to be able to see the families that have been published.

Almost all Flora chapters have line-drawings, with photographs in some of them (depending on availability). The PDF files on the web are in slightly lower resolution.

Free offer: Lucid 3.3 key builder software

Lucid, arguably the best interactive, matrix key software available, is celebrating the 10th anniversary of its initial release of the ‘Lucid Professional’ identification tool by providing FREE copies of ‘Lucid 3.3’. Initially released in 2006, Lucid 3.3 operates on Windows 98, ME, NT, 2000, XP, 2003, Vista; Mac-OSX; Linux; and Solaris - and is capable of producing keys for deployment on CD or the Internet. To take advantage of this free offer, please go to the website and click on ‘Lucid 3.3 free offer’.

This offer is likely to be of particular interest to lecturers and trainers who can now provide their students with free Lucid key builders for project and field work, although anyone is eligible to download this free product. Lucid 3.3 is forward compatible with the latest Lucid 3.5 builder, so that any keys developed using Lucid 3.3 can be imported to Lucid3.5.

Lucid is arguably the best interactive, matrix key software available, especially in combination with the fact sheet compiler – Fact Sheet Fusion. Keys developed using Lucid.3 software enable students, natural resource managers and others to use line drawings, images and a range of Lucid database functions to identify biological taxa.

If interested please contact:

Greg Blackburn, Business Manager, QAAFI, Level 6 Hartley Teakle Building, The University of Queensland, St Lucia, Queensland, Australia 4072. Ph: +61 7 33651872, Mob: 0420 754 262, Fax: +61 7 33651855, Email: g.blackburn@cbit.uq.edu.au.



INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE 18-22 FEBRUARY 2013 • PERTH AUSTRALIA •



Adrian Burrows, Australia

GLOBAL HERBICIDE RESISTANCE CHALLENGE



Global Herbicide Resistance Challenge 2013 Conference

A multidisciplinary forum focused on all aspects of herbicide resistance in crops and weeds and their impact on global food production.

Scientific sessions will range from the molecular basis of herbicide resistance through agro-ecology and agronomy to on-farm resistance management.

The Global Herbicide Resistance Challenge 2013 conference will offer private and public sector researchers, crop consultants and others an opportunity to present their work to an international audience.

The Australian Herbicide Resistance Initiative, University of Western Australia, will host this conference in the beautiful portside city of Fremantle, Perth, Western Australia.

We welcome everyone who wishes to discover the latest advances in herbicide resistance to Perth in February 2013, to experience a magnificent Western Australian late summer.

Confirmed keynote speakers

H Beekle, Canada
R Busi, Australia
F Dayan, USA
C Délye, France
T Gaines, Germany
J Green, USA
T Hawkes, UK
I Heap, USA
D Kaundun, UK
B Laber, Germany
R Llewellyn, Australia
C Manechote, Thailand
P Neve, UK
J Norsworthy, USA
C Preston, Australia
Q Yu, Australia
M Renton, Australia
D Sammons, USA
D Thornby, Australia
P Tranel, USA
M Vila-Alub, Argentina
M Walsh, Australia
T Wright, USA

www.herbicideresistanceconference.com.au

18th Australasian Weeds Conference 2012



The Sebel and Citigate Albert Park,
Melbourne, Victoria, Australia
8 October – 11 October 2012



Weed Society
of Victoria

Developing Solutions to Evolving Weed Problems

18th Australasian Weeds Conference 2012

Destination and venue

Melbourne is a city with plenty to offer visitors. Share a drink while snacking on high end tapas in a laneway eatery, take on a Szechuan chilli dish in Chinatown, or break out of the CBD and discover the city's specialist eating destinations – Richmond for Vietnamese, Carlton's 'Little Italy', Fitzroy for Spanish and Brunswick for Lebanese or simply enjoy coffee and cake with a great view at the Observatory Café, Botanical Gardens. Melbourne features an ever-changing number of trendy clubs and bars and live music venues, as well as theatres and cinemas including Bennetts Lane Jazz Club, The Forum and Festival Hall. There are also a range of unique attractions to see such as Federation Square, cruising on the Yarra River, the Puffing Billy Steam Railway, Great Ocean Road and the Old Melbourne Gaol.

The Sebel and Citigate Albert Park is a stylish Melbourne hotel opposite picturesque Albert Park Lake, and minutes from Melbourne's CBD and one off Melbourne attractions.

Who should attend?

The program will provide valuable information and networking opportunities for anyone with an interest in aspects of weed legislation and development of practical solutions to evolving weed problems.

- Local, state and federal government employees
- Policy makers and planners
- Landowners and managers
- Natural Resource Management personnel
- Researchers, academics and students involved in weed issues
- Community groups including Landcare, Friends of Parks etc.
- Consultants and agricultural advisors

Visit www.18awc.com for Conference updates

For more information contact:

18th Australasian Weeds Conference Office
PO Box 3873, South Brisbane BC QLD 4101
Phone: 07 3334 4400 Fax: 07 3334 4499
Email: awc@eventcorp.com.au

