

2010 WSSA Committee Progress Report Summary for 2010 and Action Plan for 2011

Committee Code and Name: W13 Weed Alert Committee
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon. Galleria 2
Committee Chair: Alan V. Tasker 2010-NE

Committee Members, 2010: Tasker, Alan 2010-NE
 Anderson, Lars 2010-W; Webster, Ted; I 2014-S; Mervosh, Todd 2010-NE; Randall, John 2014-W; Richardson, Rob 2014-NC; Westbrooks, Randy 2012-S; Madsen, John ex-off 2011 (E4)

Board Coordinator: Jacob Barney VPI

Committee Members Rotating Off: **Appropriate Replacements:**
 Chair Tasker, Alan 2010-NE * All three are re-enlisted
 Anderson, Lars 2010-W*
 Mervosh, Todd 2010-NE *

2010 Summary of Activities

1. List the committee's accomplishments

1. Worked with WSSA on Press release for Witchweed program [50-YEAR WAR AGAINST WITCHWEED MAY BE NEARING ITS FINAL SKIRMISH \(Dec 7, 2010\)](#)
2. Parasitic Plant symposium
http://www.aphis.usda.gov/plant_health/plant_pest_info/weeds/weed_conference.shtml
3. Drafted/Edited over 90 FNW factsheets
4. The FNW program developed a final rule responding to comments on the proposed rule Docket 07-0146, implementing a number of revisions to the weed regulations. The final rule was published in early FY11 Nov 10 2010, adopted as final Dec 10, 2010. Updates were:
 - o Expand the definitions section,
 - o Add explanation to the permit section
 - o Add guidance for petitioning process to add or remove a weed from regulation
 - o Add requirement for a specific treatment for imported *Guizotia abyssinica* (niger) seed and *Cuminum cyminum* (cumin) seed, (consistently contaminated with Federal noxious weeds)
 - o Update various scientific names.
 - o Add regulation for seven new species

Proposed	Date	Final	Date	Adopted as final	Taxa
74 FR p27456	10-June-09	75 FR p68945	10-Nov-10	10-Dec-10	Major revision of 7 CFR 360 + add <i>Acacia nilotica</i> <i>Ageratina riparia</i> <i>Arctotheca calendula</i> <i>Euphorbia terracina</i> <i>Inula britannica</i> <i>Onopordum acaulon</i> <i>O. illyricum</i>

5. Added 2 *Lygodium* spp. to FNW list (Federal Order: 30-May-08)

74 FR p53397 (Interim)	19-Oct-09	75 FR p23151	3-May-10	3-May-10	<i>Lygodium</i> Federal Order: 30-May-08
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6. Developed plan for a A National Survey of Selected Federal Noxious Weed Specimens in U.S. Herbaria

7. New noxious weed infestations detected or programs developed in FY2010: Mile-a-minute (*Mikania micrantha*) detected in Florida, Branched broomrape (*Orobanche ramosa*) detected in California at the end of FY 2009 with a program developed in 2010.
8. Program reviews were held in the PPQ Western Region on Hydrilla in California and Mexico, and several species (*Salsola vermiculata*, Salvinia, Japanese dodder) in California. A program review in the Eastern Region was held on Mikania in Florida to assist program development.
9. Weed Risk Assessments (WRAs) in draft:
 - *South American Sponge Plant (Limnobium laevigatum)*
 - *Wavyleaf basketgrass (Oplismenus hirtellus ssp. undulatifolius)*
 - *Narrow-leaf Ginger (Alpinia modesta)*
 - *Artemisia (Artemisia austriaca)*
 - *Artemisia (Artemisia japonica)*
 - *Kahila garland-lily (Hedychium gardnerianum)*
 - *Praxelis (Praxelis clematidea)*
 - *Beach vitex (Vitex rotundifolia)*
10. Taxa placed in the queue to develop WRAs to determine eligibility to be added to the Federal Noxious Weed (FNW) list:
 - *Sea berry shrub (Hippophae rhamnoides)*
 - *Bush morning-glory (Ipomoea fistulosa)*
 - *Yellow pond-lily (Nuphar lutea)*
 - *Crested floating heart (Nymphoides crista)*
 - *Yellow floatingheart (N. peltata)*
 - *Water snowflake (N. indica)*
 - *Sticky nightshade (Solanum sisymbriifolium),*
 - *Sickle grass (Parapholis spp.),*
 - *Poison Devil's Pepper (Rauwolfia vomitoria),*
 - *Italian Buckthorn (Rhamnus alaternus),*
 - *water soldiers (Stratiotes aloides),*

2. What information was posted on the WSSA website?

None

3. How much funds were requested? How much was spent?

none

4. What was the impact of the committee activities/accomplishments on the following: membership, publication, policy, legislation, and/or education?

- The FNW fact sheets will add content to the APHIS weed webpage
- The FNW fact sheets are also an educational outreach activity of APHIS & the society

5. What is the current state of the committee's projects and activities?

- We have an additional set of fact sheets in draft (+90)

Plan for Committee Activities

- Committee's goals for 2011?

1. Finalize factsheets for Federal Noxious Weeds (FNW)s and post on APHIS FNW website; draft more factsheets and other publicity pieces for FNW targets

2. Evaluate for FNW status new weed detections, petitions, & information discovered
3. Develop various outreach and educational projects regarding weed programs, including support of educational programs through FICMNEW agencies and non-federal stakeholders.
4. Cooperate with E4 committee (Federal Noxious and Invasive Weeds Committee) on projects of joint interest, including factsheets from the APHIS/WSSA Project "Creation of a Prioritization Model to Identify Weeds of Global Significance"

- Plan of Action:

We will discuss future areas of action at the 2011 annual meeting, and through e-mail.

1. Consider with E4 committee implementation of attached plan "A National Survey of Selected Federal Noxious Weed Specimens in U.S. Herbaria"

Recommendations for Board/Society Action:

- Funds requested for 2011:

Will consider with E4 committee implementation of attached plan "A National Survey of Selected Federal Noxious Weed Specimens in U.S. Herbaria" and develop a funding proposal.

- Other requests for the Board:

None

A National Survey of Selected Federal Noxious Weed Specimens in U.S. Herbaria -Survey plan-

Purpose statement and objectives

History:

The last national survey of herbaria was conducted in 1992. Many collections have grown considerably since then, and there have been additional weeds added to the Federal list as well. Results of the last national survey directly contributed to detection and eradication activities of FNW infestations in North and South Carolina, Georgia, and Virginia.

Objectives:

- Identify where FNWs have been collected in the United States.
- Ensure that voucher specimens are safeguarded in order to prevent accidental dispersal of FNWs.
- Encourage the development of a working relationship between local PPQ personnel and herbarium curators at major institutions in each state.

Purpose statement:

To investigate the occurrence of Federal noxious weed (FNW) specimens through a survey of U.S. herbaria. These voucher specimens will serve to collect accurate data on the distribution of FNWs that are subject to the Plant Protection Act of 2000.

Currently, 100 taxa of foreign plants have been designated as FNWs by the US Department of Agriculture. Several of these species are said to occur in the United States, and eradication programs are under way for some of these. This survey will help to identify collection sites that might have gone unreported to the USDA. Subsequent field surveys will take place to determine the existence of an infestation, and if so, to what extent. In order to prioritize species which are not known to be present in the US, or have very limited distribution, the list has been divided into three groups. The first two groups (A1 and A2) will be the main focus of the survey, but as time and resources allow, the C1 list should be consulted as well to identify possible new infestations.

Steps for survey coordinator

Prior to survey:

- Identify herbaria to be surveyed (I've done this using the info provided by NYBotGarden)
- Seek assistance in creating the survey data collection template in IPHIS
- Develop survey guide materials, which will include:
 - Introduction w/ purpose, objectives, guidelines
 - Include an opportunity for curators to report species in their collections that are not FNWs, but they believe are exotic in origin or harmful that we ought to

consider for listing. Mention the soon to be released Not Allowed Pending Risk Assessment (NAPRA) group.

- Link to fact sheets or herbarium sheets
- List of herbaria
- Herbarium information form
- Voucher specimen collection forms
- List of FNWs – arranged by priority group
- Present brief presentation at National Plant Board Meeting on the intention of the survey and what will be involved as far as cooperation from field staff, resources, etc.
- Introduce survey to Regions during a bi-weekly WR and ER SPHD call prior to emailing the info
- Draft and send letter or email to selected herbaria

Initiating the survey:

- Email to Regions (for fwd'ing to SPHDs) with info, timeline, expectations
- Schedule informational conference calls with Assistant Regional Directors' subgroups of SPHDs/SOSOs (if necessary)
- Encourage the collaboration between PPQ and State Dep't of Agriculture staff. This will be important when deciding who will perform site visits for geographical reasons, as well as an attempt to get inspectors with experience in botany or just a high interest in the field and survey.

During the survey:

- Provide support to the field

Finalizing survey and follow up:

- Analyze data for quality and completeness
- Check survey data for FNW occurrences and determine need for follow up surveys

Steps for local PPQ

Prior to survey:

- SPHD or their designee reviews survey information and attends orientation conference call (if held)
- Communicate with SPRO and exchange ideas on how the survey will be performed in the state.
- Review of herbaria for survey within state. Check with State's weed authority on their thoughts on the selected herbaria for possible additions or omissions.
- Assign staff for contacting/reviewing herbarium collection lists/site visits and forward information with timeline, data collection requirements, etc.

Initiating contact and fact gathering:

- Local PPQ contacts herbarium curators for introduction, survey purpose, and inquires about their collections. The curator should have received an email or letter from the national survey coordinator prior to this call.
- If collection is available digitally, or a listing of holdings can be provided to PPQ, request this and perform a search via this. If not, set up an appointment to visit the herbarium.
- Inquire about FNW specimens on loan to other institutions. If there are, relay this info to survey coordinator.

Conducting the survey:

- Depending on resources, survey should be performed using the priority list of FNWs.
- Voucher specimens should be recorded using the data sheets, and later entered into the IPHIS survey database.
- If the specimens are collected from another country and held as an exchange, no data collection is necessary.
- FNW specimens should be examined and determined whether they are adequately safeguarded. If not, a fact sheet or specimen sheet can be added as a placeholder while the FNW specimens are placed in a safeguarded location at the herbarium. (work with curator on this)

Finalizing survey and follow up:

- Notify institution that the survey is complete.
- Verify that data is properly entered into IPHIS
- Notify survey coordinator that work is complete
- Survey coordinator analyzes data and determines if field visits are needed to investigate possible infestations. If so, these are coordinated with the SPHD for assistance.