

Maryland Invasive Species Council  
Maryland Department of Agriculture, Conference Room 110  
October 10, 2000

Minutes

Introductions

Attendees:

Dick Bean, MDA  
Carole Bergmann, M-NCPPC, MA-  
EPPC\*  
Carol Bordelon, Nation Arboretum  
Don Cober, SHA  
Elmer Dengler, USDA-NRCS\*  
Carol Holko, MDA  
Donnelle Keach, Nature Conservancy  
John Lyden, USDA-ARS

Fred Mann, USDA-APHIS-PPQ  
Betty Marose, UM  
Jennifer Kujawski, USDA-NRCS  
Monaca Noble, CRS\*  
Bob Rabaglia, MDA  
Don Robbins, MDA  
Louisa Thompson, MA-EPPC\*  
Bob Trumbule, MDA  
Larry Hurley, Behnke Nurseries  
John Peter Thompson, MNLA

\*indicates new attendee

Call to order ~9 a.m.  
Dick Bean, moderator

Review minutes of June 13 meeting  
minutes accepted

Reports from Working Groups

Projects:

Bob Trumbule reported on draft list of species from all taxa

Draft list currently out for peer review by DNR zoologists; committee will work closely with experts in field and go through several rounds of review before becoming official; list is not meant to be comprehensive, rather to capture the most widely-recognized and invasive species until a more refined list can be developed

Criteria include: 1) currently regulated by state and/or federal law, 2) widely recognized by biologists and natural resource managers to degrade natural ecosystems and/or impact native species, 3) known to have impact on agricultural ecosystems, natural resources, or human health. The committee is reviewing more developed and formal criteria.

Current list has two purposes:

- 1) provide MISC members and others with a tool for public education and focus of management and research areas

2) support fund raising for inventory, control, and monitoring of invasive species.

Donnelle Keach reported on early detection and rapid response:

1. Information Management System per DISC - will consult with Karen Bennett of Delaware Natural Heritage Program which maintains inventory of invasive species
2. Link rapid response and detection system to DNR staff who will be encouraged to add feedback to those who can take management action, i.e. project group will meet with ad hoc DNR working group to plug into existing system
3. Expand existing data bases, e.g. CAPS to include natural areas and weeds

Organization:

no action taken

Education and Outreach:

haven't met since last meeting

Betty Marose - Mary Kaye Malinoski has placed links for invasive species on Home and Garden Information Center home page and created a list serve for MISC

Bob Tichenor - trying to get MISC web page set up through MDA (not through the MDA web page)

### New business

Bob Trumbule - MDA is experiencing an increase in imported fire ants (IFA) on nursery stock from the south as a result of the building boom in residential and commercial job sites; MD nurseries can't keep up and seek material from out of state; federal quarantine area includes from central North Carolina west to central Texas and south

1st MD detection and eradication in 1988; subsequently less than 20 incidents, 15 of those in last 2 years; reasons include oversight in compliance with federal quarantine and increased turnover

IFA are agricultural and human health problems, and have negative impact on native wildlife, i.e. out-compete other insects, small animals, and birds

Maryland's eradication efforts have been successful so far; Dick Bean reported that MDA has applied for CAPS funding for survey; the request was rejected, we will reapply

Bob Trumbule - IFA will migrate up to 10 miles, avg. 3 mi./year with turf, sod, nursery stock, hay as primary sources of spot infestations

Bob Trumbule (responding to question by Malcolm Sarna) - research shows that IFR can overwinter on their own as far north as Philadelphia, can also survive in microclimates

Dick Bean - Plum pox (Sharka) disease of stone fruits

Pennsylvania has expanded quarantine area from just the two townships in Adams County into Cumberland Co., the only positive site in the US  
Canada has discovered PPV around Niagara, extremely serious situation  
10,600 samples collected in Maryland, 8000 processed in lab, all negative

Bob Rabaglia - Asian longhorn beetle (ALB) has not been found in Montgomery County; false alarm in Potomac by someone who had been to Chicago, thought they found one here and let it go; sent letter to neighborhoods and conducted small survey - resulting calls all false alarms

Dick Bean - an exotic soybean aphid, *Aphis glycines*, was found in Midwest; the Asian lady beetle, *Harmonia*, also an exotic, controlled the aphid

Donelle Keach - recommended the book Life Out of Bounds by Chris Bright, published by World Watch; discusses link between natural and agricultural systems, feedback loop

Dick Bean - Giant Salvinia, *Salvinia molesta*  
aquatic plant established in Texas; can't overwinter vegetatively in Maryland;  
produces infertile spores, reproduces vegetatively

Fred Mann - suspect plant found at Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens identified as *S. rotundifolia*; came from a nursery in Ohio; Washington Post was on site for eradication attempted before positive ID was made; Fred serves District of Columbia which doesn't have a State Plant Health Director

Bob Trumbule - rotting biomass could be a winter problem even if *Salvinia* doesn't overwinter

Louisa Thompson- 1) list needs to be revised, 2) planning committee for invasive plant conference summer, panel discussion, workshop on alternative dispute resolution, creative problem solving; who should be in group, 3) found 25 invasive species in flood plain - how to protect areas rather than diminish species, other than at quarantine level, i.e. increase natural defenses

Monaca Noble - Chesapeake Research Consortium, branch of the Chesapeake Bay Foundation

- 1) Management plan - most important terrestrial and aquatic species
- 2) suggest natural ballast water plan

Carol Bergmann - Montgomery County

- 1) Management program - works with park regional managers, responsible for 30,000 acres of parkland
- 2)"Weed Warriors" program - use volunteers to pull weeds, porcelain berry, English ivy, kudzu; park regional managers spray what's left

Don Robbins prefers the term "pesticides" over "poisons"

John Peter Thompson - re. organizational committee

Do we have a task? Should we stay informal for now?

If and when MISC has, e.g., a newsletter there should be general group oversight,  
must be voted on by 50% of membership

Carol Holko - what is the official voting membership?

Betty Marose - identify "membership" v. mailing list?

11:15 Working group breakout

11:50 Reports from working groups

I. Organization

Carol Holko - committee will determine voting membership by categories with input from group; MISC participants should contact member of the organizational meeting with comments (Bill Gimpel, Carol Holko, John Peter Thompson, Don Robbins, Malcolm Sarna); committee will check with PA and DE councils re membership protocols  
Bob Trumbule asked if by-laws and charter are the next step

II. Projects

Donelle Keach - passed out draft list - \*DO NOT DISTRIBUTE OR COPY\*, contact Bob Trumbule for copy; committee will meet on January 9<sup>th</sup>

III. Education and Outreach

Bob Tichenor - continue web page design and include why this is important

Final Business

Agreed to have the next meeting on Thursday, February 8, 2000 at MDA Headquarters, Annapolis, 9:30 a.m.\*

Donelle Keach - suggested future meeting agenda items might include self-education activities such as bus tours, annual meeting with presentations, one-day conference?

Adjourn ~12:15 p.m.

Final minutes as corrected February 8, 2001

Respectfully submitted by:

Carol Holko

\*addendum: Feb. 8 meeting will be held at BARC; details to follow