

MARYLAND INVASIVE SPECIES COUNCIL
April 15, 2004
Maryland Department of Agriculture
Annapolis, Maryland

Minutes

Call to order - Bob Tichenor

Introductions

Dick Bean, MDA
Carole Bergmann, M-NCPPC, MNPS,
MAEPPC
Dave Clement, MCE HGIC
Eric Duce, MDOT MSHA (for Don Cober)
Anne Hairston Strang, MD DNR Forest
Service
Ruth Hanessian, MAPI
Lane Heimer, MDA
Michael Hemming, Eastern Shore
Nurseries, Inc.
Carol Holko, MDA
Larry Hurley, Behnke Nurseries
Sylvan Kauffman, Adkins Arboretum
Kerrie Kyde, USDA ARS, MA-EPPC

Chris Lockett, MDE
Mary Kay Malinoski, MCE HGIC
Betty Marose, UM-IPM
Jonathan McKnight, MDNR
Ellen Nibali, MCE HGIC
Bob Rabaglia, MDA
Pete Rupp, MDA
Sean Sipple, MDE (replacing C. Myers)
Jil Swearingen, NPS
Sara Tangren, Chesapeake Native Nursery
John Peter Thompson, MNLA
Bob Tichenor, MDA
Bob Trumbule, MDA
Joe Vorgetts, USDA APHIS PPQ

Membership

New Membership requests to be voted on at the next meeting they attend:
Eric Duce, Sean Sipple, Chris Lockett, Sara Tangren, Mike Hemming

Approval of minutes from February, 2003

Minutes – page 3 "downsize" should be "down side"

Motion to approve minutes as corrected. Motion passed.

Update on Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) in Maryland - Dick Bean

- all outplanted ash that we could find have been removed, 159 trees at 51 sites
- almost all ash have been removed within ½ mile buffer zone around infested nursery – over 1000 trees removed on @500 acres; cooperation between MDA, PEPCO, PG Co. Health Dept., DNR, others
- will put out sentinel trees to trap adult EAB, wrap trunks with plastic wrap and Tanglefoot; 60 around nursery, others at two outplanted sites
- stumps treated by MDA Weed Control personnel with Garlon 3

Update on Sudden Oak Death (SOD) – Bob Rabaglia, Carol Holko

- pathogen *Phytophthora ramorum* identified in 2000 as causal agent in oak mortality in northern California, a.k.a. sudden oak death, ramorum blight
- since then has been confirmed in nurseries and nature in California and Oregon, and nurseries in Washington State
- In March, 2004 confirmed in two southern California nurseries, Monrovia, Azusa, and Specialty Plants, Inc. in San Diego County
- Suspect host plants shipped from Monrovia to many states including 10 nurseries in Maryland

- Suspect bonsai camellias shipped to over 200 individuals in Maryland
- Other states have issued quarantines against California and others, with varying degrees of restrictions; USDA is taking action that will supercede all state quarantines
- MDA has set up a Web page for up-to-date information on the situation and what Maryland is doing, <http://www.mda.state.md.us/plant/sod2004.htm>
- Discussion
 - Kerrie Kyde (with ARS SOD team) – host range testing: rhododendrons highly susceptible, azalea less so, mountain laurel worse than anything else; stem and foliar testing: stem – chestnut and white oaks most susceptible, foliar – Chestnut oak more, red oak less
 - Use other states (eg. EAB in Michigan, SOD in Oregon) as models for action?
 - Environmental conditions? All infestations in OR and CA are coastal; cool, wet preferred by pathogen
 - Spirited debate on what action should be taken in Maryland, whether nursery stock should be presumed innocent or guilty, potential implications for Maryland forests, nurseries ...

Legislative Update – Holko, McKnight

- SB151 – killed in committee
- HB 1100 – withdrawn; DNR will work with sponsor on crafting meaningful legislation relative to sustainable landscaping, backyard wildlife habitat
- Unusual activity on Noxious Weed Law in 2004 session, none passed but may indicate piqued interest in invasive species

Update on Mute Swans – Jonathan McKnight

- 2004 mute swan permit refused by Federal government based on 2003 ruling
- Migratory Bird Treaty Reform Act (H.R.4114) in Congress would remove all introduced species (86 species including mute swan) - sponsored by Wayne Gilchrest; to support, write Congress; Jonathan will distribute letter of support to MISC list serve; Bob Tichenor will sign for MISC if okay.
- Anecdotal indications of significant winter mortality – no action can be taken in 2004 to prevent reproduction, @3600 last fall.

Motion to find a resolution to support proposed H.R.4114 as proposed by Gilchrest. Motion seconded and passed.

- Blackwater Wildlife Refuge essentially nutria-free – natural wetland regeneration faster than expected.

Brochure/Invasives list - Carol Holko

- Out of brochures, need to reprint; additions, deletions, changes?
 - Add *Ralstonia solanacearum*, race 3 biovar 2, Southern bacterial wilt
 - Mosquito fish should stay on - *G. holbrooki* is the native species; change *G. affinis* to “Western” mosquito fish; Ruth Hanessian would like to know where to purchase *G. holbrooki*
 - Sara Tangren - propose to add *Sericea Lespedeza*, *L. cuneata*; Eric Duce - SHA opposes because: 1) useful on highly erodible slopes, 2) legume benefits, 2) has not been invasive; Would change opinion if shown publishable research, peer-reviewed literature, and/or anecdotal info.
 - Discussion - Innocent until proven guilty? Should SHA take responsibility? SHA follows up on complaints; Sara, Jonathan McKnight will follow up with SHA, Sylvan will distribute material.
 - Sawtooth oak? DNR would oppose adding to list,

Motion to discuss at next meeting to add species below to list. Motion seconded and passed.
Callery Pear - MNLA needs to talk to membership
Inula britannica

Pilot partnerships – Kerrie Kyde

- Request names of individuals who could provide botanical expertise
- Kerrie will hand pick committee

Formalization

- Referred to Organizational Committee, with input from Betty Marose, Sara Tangren, Kerrie Kyde

Projects Database - Kerrie Kyde

- Passed out Survey Instrument for Website-based Invasive Species Networking
- Who will manage the database?
- Maintenance could be grant funded. Carol and Dick will add to 2005 CAPS grant request
- Will post for comments

Invader of the Month

- April – zebra mussel, coincides with DNR outreach and education efforts, McKnight
- May – plum pox, Kyde
- June – water chestnut , McKnight
- July – sudden oak death, Holko, Rabaglia
- August – porcelain berry, Carole Bergmann
- Winter – sawtooth oak, nutria (success story)

NEW BUSINESS

- J. P. Thompson needs speaker for June 17 MNLA field day; Trumbule will cover, 5-10 minutes
- Joe Vorgetts - APHIS biocontrol facility in Niles Michigan is closing in mid-July

Future meeting dates and locations

June 23 or 25, MDA. TBA

Early August, MDA

October, Croyden Creek Nature Center

Respectfully submitted by Carol Holko, Recording Secretary.