

MARYLAND INVASIVE SPECIES COUNCIL
August 5, 2004
Adkins Arboretum
Ridgely Maryland

Minutes

Call to Order - Bob Tichenor

Additions to the agenda
none

Introductions

Jim Bean, BASF	Carol Jelich, MNPS
Carole Bergmann, M-NCPPC, MNPS, MAEPPC	Sylvan Kaufman, Adkins Arboretum
Stephen Bullington, USDA APHIS	Kerrie Kyde, MD DNR
Donald Cober, MD SHA	John Lydon USDA ARS SASL
Eric Duce, MD SHA	Pete Rupp, MDA
Anne Hairston-Strang, MD DNR FS	*Laura Sanford, Adkins Arboretum
Ruth Hanessian, MAPI	Jil Swearingen, NPS
Michael Hemming, Eastern Shore Nurseries, Inc.	Al Tasker, USDA APHIS
Carol Holko, MDA	Sara Tangren
Lane Heimer, MDA	Sara Tasker
Mike Hollins, Ecosystem Recovery Institute	Edith Thompson, Rep. Wayne Gilchrest
Larry Hurley, Behnke Nurseries	John Peter Thompson, MNLA
Hyesuk Kong, USDA ARS SASL MD	Bob Tichenor, MDA
*Adrienne Kurtz, Adkins Arboretum	Bob Trumbule, MDA
Lisa Jameson, NCR EPMT NPS	R. Jay Uganski, NRCS

* indicates new attendee

Memberships

Motion to accept Eric Duce, Lisa Jameson, Sara Tangren as voting members. Seconded and passed.

Approval of Minutes from June 24, 2004

Sylvan Kaufman spelled with one "f". Remove extraneous "Hemming". Approved as corrected.

Welcome - Sylvan Kaufman

Adkins Arboretum is on State-owned land on long term lease; funded by memberships, grants, endowments.

UPDATES AND DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

MDA Updates:

Sudden Oak Death - Carol Holko

Homeowner survey, outreach ongoing - MDA, UM HGIC, DNR others

Red imported fire ant - Bob Trumbule

several new detections this year; 3 detections in 6 years in lirioppe, hard to trace back to source in quarantine states; root balls can be tested to see if treated

DNR Updates - Kerrie Kyde

New HB1100

...to permit natural habitat gardens within traffic laws and most local mowing ordinances; to be involved in this contact Kerrie, kkyde@dnr.state.md.us

Discussion:

- suggestion to present to Maryland state Chamber of Commerce for review before presenting to legislature - 1) draft language, 2) invitation to review
- also county health departments - rat habitat concerns
- J. P. Thompson - MNLA supports reasonable bay-safe measures

Other

- Jonathan McKnight did invasives piece on NPR - rave reviews from those who heard it

Pending snakehead regulation - Ruth Hanessian

Upcoming hearing - pet industry opposition to regulating at family level; many species are tropical; food industry should be target; notification is also important

Discussion:

- Who owns backyard ponds? Surface water regulations - Section 404 of Clean Water Act; Kerrie will find out

APHIS Updates - Al Tasker

Joe Vorgetts is new biocontrol national program manager

Hydrilla issues at NC, VA border

Giant hogweed (GHW)

...is getting a lot of attention - could use to build PR template

Discussion:

- John Peter Thompson: GHW is still being touted as a good plant selection by some garden designers
- Allow possession under permit? Too risky.
- Distinction between GHW and cow parsnip? Cow parsnip shorter, rarely >6' and never spiny; visit <http://www.mdinvasivesp.org> for link to site showing differences.
- *Caulerpa taxifolia* - petition to list as noxious weed at genus level; impacts on fish/aquarium trade; enforceable? Will be available for comment soon in Federal Register.
- Weed Action Plan - soon to be posted in Federal Register, after *C. taxifolia*

Invader of the Month - Bob Tichenor

- At bat: Draft SOD ready to go for August
- On deck: September - Giant African Snails, Gaye Williams
- In the hole:
 - October - *Phragmites*, Kristin Saltonstall, Bob will contact
 - November - privet, Jil Swearingen (4 species)
- In the lineup: *Miscanthus*, Kerrie is researching this (interesting note: late varieties not as likely to set seed)
- People are reading our Website and noting our IOM; Maryland Science Center in Baltimore features our IOM in environmental display

NEWS AND NEW BUSINESS

John Peter Thompson

- MA EPPC Annual Meeting September 29, Ft. Detrick - propose list of plant invaders in mid-Atlantic areas
- John Peter is now a member of National Invasive Species Council

Edith Thompson (Congressman Wayne Gilchrest's office)

- HR 4114 - proposed to exclude non-migratory birds from Migratory Bird Treaty Act; in response to Maryland mute swan court challenge; pigeons, starlings, etc. would be protected under current rationale of "taxonomic family"; need letters of support - Edith will send out contact information on MISC list serve

Jim Bean (BASF Environmental Resource Specialist)

- review of new products and technologies for invasive weed control

Lisa Jameson

- Good article on invasive weeds recently in Washington Post Style section

Kerrie Kyde

- PTI - NFWS Pulling Together Initiative (PTI) for the formation of weed management strategies across geographic areas; would like to fund projects in the East; would like to find two people to cooperate to develop 1) MISC project database, 2) Maryland invasive species database; ~\$30-40K, include funding for IT person to design or modify database; need control and/or survey component; MISC needs to be on steering committee; Kerrie will take the lead
- Early detection, rapid response at state level; system to require B&B material to be sprayed to kill weeds? - existing regulation hard to enforce, e.g roots hidden if tops clean

Carol Holko

- Master Gardener Regional Conference to be held in Baltimore in October - Carol Jelich will take up material from MISC (poster, handouts); get in touch with Carol J. to send plants, display boxes, etc. (thanks, Carol)
- New data needed for \$\$ spent on invasive species in Maryland; 2000 is most current year available
Discussion: Dr. Lisa Wagner, UMD has been developing economic model for invasive species

Lane Heimer

- Increased Canada thistle populations and control activities this year; musk thistle also on rise; also more calls statewide to treat invasive weeds on private land including mile-a-minute, kudzu, Japanese hops, others

Anne Hairston-Strang

- Stream Relief Implementation Plan; goal of 10,000 miles of riparian buffer by 2010; currently 2000 miles; invasive species control to be part of plan

Don Cober

- Canada thistle inventory complete
- Budget enhancement to support MDA Canada thistle suppression is in business plan for next four years; 28 "thistle managers"; Jil Swearingen reports thistle weevil, released by MDA in 1990's; John Lydon is developing program using eriophyid mites specific to C. thistle

Mike Hollins

- PA DCNR field guide with downloadable programs available

Future meeting dates and locations

October - Croyden Creek Nature Center

December - Beltsville, USDA BARC-W - Dr. Lydon will ask Dr. Lewis Ziska to speak

~ adjourn ~

Post-meeting field trip to see native v. invasive *Phragmites* stands with Dr. Kristin Saltonstall was well attended, informative.

respectfully submitted by:

Carol Holko, Recording Secretary