

**Maryland Invasive Species Council
Derwood Agricultural History Farm Park
Gaithersburg, MD 20878
Thursday July 18, 2013**

Call to order

Facilitator Dick Bean called the meeting to order at 9:35 am

Introductions

Dick Bean - MDA, PPWM	Carolyn Puckett Carroll County Forestry Bd
Conor Bell -- USFWS, CBFO	Bud Reaves - Anne Arundel County
Carole Bergmann -- M-NCPPC, Mont. Parks	Kim Rice-- MDA
Anne Goodman—Rockville NSN	Bob Tatman - MDA Forest Pest Mangmt.
Lane Heimer -- MDA	Bob Trumbule - MDA Biocontrol
Kerrie Kyde—MDNR, NHP	Jim Young—USDA APHIS
Deborah Landau - TNC	

Additions to the Agenda

None

Approval of minutes from July , 2013 meeting

May minutes approved as amended.

Memberships

- Mike Greenberg SHA requested membership in May; not present today, will vote on his membership at next meeting he attends.
- Mike Sowers wrote and requested membership, sending resume; Dick responded, inviting him to join us
- Anne Goodman formally approved for membership, which had been overlooked in past meetings.

Address and Affiliation Changes

- Lane Heimer presented information on the active MISC members, with a spreadsheet showing the people who have attended a MISC meeting in the last year. According to our originating document, members who have not attended in more than a year are dropped from membership. We amended the spreadsheet further, based on our knowledge of the status of people listed. The MISC listserv will remain open to non-members as well, upon request to be added to the list.
- Dick requested that cleaned up list be sent to webmaster Carol Jelich for posting on the website

Invader of the Month

- Tim Culbreth is fighting fires in Alaska. Bud reported that they've had some communication issues about posting, although authors have been great about getting us the material on -- Zebra mussels are up now, and they were the April posting. Moved, seconded and passed suggestion to post the EAB update written by Kim Rice for the remainder of July and then catch up with the regularly scheduled posting, Ravenna grass, by Jil Swearingen and John Peter Thompson.

Agency Updates

APHIS -- Jim Young:

- Passed out new finds sheet (Jim sent this out to the MISC listserv on July 22nd, pdf icon is attached below). New bug, pest on *Digitalis*, intercepted at Baltimore; new snail feeding on citrus, soybeans and cereals, intercepted at Norfolk; an Asian gypsy moth egg mass suspected, but DNA too degraded to allow ID (NOT *Lymantria dispar*, which is what we have now and is European). Noctuid moth *Emmelia trabealis* intercepted in June in the cargo hold of military transport – a first for the Eastern seaboard. It was reported in Britain for a few years, but then declined.

Discussion of a recent quarantine violation of ash wood – Bob Tatman

- An MDA Inspector doing walnut tree visual inspection in Elk Neck State Park observed a delivery truck loaded with wrapped firewood which contained ash. Elk Neck is outside the current quarantine area. Firewood reportedly came from Fawn Grove, which straddles the PA-MD line in Harford County, which IS in the quarantine area. Problems exist concerning current ownership and legal licensing of the business. The truck was returned without delivery.
- Jim Young, Dick Bean, Bob Trumbule: Due to local connections of park staff, there have been at least 15 deliveries of firewood to the same park. APHIS investigation taking place now. If firewood was cut and delivered from PA, this incident is a federal violation – movement across state lines. If from Harford County, it is a state violation. Bob Tatman has met with DNR foresters and park service to resolve. Elk Neck SP is now getting firewood from Elk Neck State Forest, so knowledgeable foresters are cutting it; ENSP will post proper warning signage for EAB. This is the only state park that has had this problem, to Bob Tatman's knowledge. Jim Young: National Arboretum submitted 4 EAB finds this year; the first time EAB was found in the District of Columbia was 2012.

USFWS -- Conor Bell:

- Continuing wavyleaf basketgrass control work on Bacon Ridge Natural Area; infestation has expanded along pathways and beyond. Paths normally used just by naturalists, but now hunting is allowed, and further spread is likely; Grass is already in bloom in this area!
- Discussion of control mechanisms for WLBG – Conor Bell, Bob Trumbule, Carole Bergmann, Kerrie Kyde
Use of preemergent? Bob Trumbule used preemergent herbicide at Middle Patuxent Environmental Area, where it was hugely labor intensive, requiring raked soil prior to application. And it didn't work. Kerrie noted that WLBG is perennial and the seed bank is small; preemergents work best against annuals or where there is a lot of seed production to interrupt. Carole asked why use a preemergent at all in a natural area, as it would affect native seed germination as well. She has created her own seed mix of native known to occur in the same habitat as WLBG and has sewn that mix following herbicide treatment of WLBG as erosion control and a nurse crop. She will share this mix with MISC. Kerrie reported Dr. Vanessa Beauchamp's as yet unpublished findings that WLBG is not much of a competitor.
Dick Bean – cautioned that if you plant small grains too early, you get a spike in Hessian fly success and agronomic crops will suffer. Carole reported that her seeding sites are very far from any ag fields.
- Conor reported treating Callery pear at Washington Navy Yard in Crofton – Removed trees, there is prolific sprouting, will treat it later this summer, but treatment must be organic; Lane Heimer suggested using a forestry mower with a big grinding head, which will get the roots rather than having you mow forever; Keep the sprouts down

on the ground otherwise they will eat your tires alive; Get some replacement trees started to shade out the pear after treatment. Conor said horticultural vinegar had been suggested; Bob Trumbule and others explained that this was an extremely dangerous substance and ineffective on woody plants.

- Weevils released to control mile-a-minute are doing well – completed monitoring protocol yesterday, and there is less MaM and fewer seedlings; release was 1000 weevils last season. Bob Trumbule reported releasing in Western Maryland in all counties except Garrett and expects to do that this summer, in southern MD as far south as Charles, and on the Eastern Shore, in Cecil and Wicomico counties. Trying to get weevils established at the edges of the invasion area, so they can spread on their own to far southern MD and the lower Shore. The ideal situation resulting from release is a low level of both weed and weevil. Weevil moves around on its own, and will recolonize areas where controlled MaM rebounds; observations show them moving as far as 20 miles in a year. But went to release outside Cumberland and found them already present, when the closest release site was the Frederick/Washington County border, almost 100 miles away; formally documented to move 6 miles. Currently, Bob is the only person permitted by APHIS to release weevils in MD. Carole Bergmann saw them in Sligo Creek recently – likely moved north from Magruder Park.

Maryland Department of Agriculture

Kim Rice:

- EAB has now been found in Frederick and Calvert counties; Carroll, Baltimore and Harford, and Balt city do not have, nor eastern shore. Anne Goodman – EAB reported from Twinbrook Park in Rockville, Montgomery County; Dick Bean provided a map of trap sites (see attached).
- Fire ants – found in only one site in Ocean City, enforced treatment at the site
- Conducting Farm Bill surveys in farm fields and stone fruits, trapping for exotic moth species
- Kudzu bug is now in MD, Alan Leslie doing survey work in 5 counties on kudzu, including Anne Arundel, Calvert, Prince George's, Charles and St. Mary's; it's in Sussex county DE. Carolyn Puckett reported that kudzu bug was JUST found in Carroll County, unknown whether on kudzu or soybean. Dick Bean – can result in 45% losses on soy. Deb Landau – is it effective at controlling kudzu? Bob Trumbule, Dick Bean – no, it's a plant pest, a smelly stink bug, but does the sort of damage on kudzu that Japanese beetle does.

Lane Heimer:

- Bumper crop of thistle and Johnson grass this year, so spray crews are still busy; lots of complaints of unsprayed areas; not enough manpower, just trying to put out fires

Bob Trumbule:

- Mile-a-minute control money coming from SHA with some from APHIS PPG, so we are concentrating on weevil release sites near enough to state highways to fulfill those responsibilities; trying to concentrate on areas where it isn't yet
- We may have first find of boxwood blight (Eastern Shore) in a Queen Anne's nursery, means completely destroying the crop. Nursery is spraying preventatively with fungicides, nursery produces 500,000 containerized boxwood; CT homeowner bought boxwood that did not thrive, trace back was to MD nursery (which is a subsidiary of a CT company) ARS pathology lab helping out to positively ID the fungus.
- Galerucella – no longer rearing or releasing for purple loosestrife control; did some releases last fall in Cumberland area, along Potomac. Continuing to monitor sites where beetles were released in past.

Dick Bean:

- Have been contacted by the North American Invasive Species Network – a 501(c)(3) consortium of research and academic organizations working on EIS. They are doing a survey on budget obligations on EIS on public land, he will send this out to MISC members; please complete if possible.
- Clarification re *Imperata cylindrica* 'Red Baron' – Thanks to a policy change in 2010, this cultivar is listed as federal noxious weed, cannot be moved across state lines without a 526 permit and the acceptance of the receiving state; MD does not accept it, however, what is raised and sold in the state is unregulated, although MDA discourages use of this cv. Bud Reaves – seeing bloom scapes on supposedly sterile 'Red Baron' and reverted 'Red Baron' all over the place
- Received a letter from Liz Engel– DCR in VA is revising its EIP terrestrial list, using our list as a cross reference
- Giant African land snails found in Dade County, FL, trying to eradicate; have changed chemical regimen a bit and are making progress; these can live in MD, have been intercepted at Dulles Airport. Consume 500 different plants including ornamentals and crops, can eat houses, carry human pathogens. Update from Jim Young: There is only one species of Giant African Land snail in Florida; the notification email referenced both its new and old names, *Lissachatina fulica* and *Achatina fulica*, respectively. Dick has a video about rat lung worm that these snails carry.

Bob Tatman:

- In late May, finished 12K ac of gypsy moth spraying, with one spray block in St Mary's County, one in Calvert, all others in Garrett; the *Entomophaga* fungus is very active in Garrett County, but not seeing effects in other places like Wicomico; would expect more effect given this year's weather.
- Two seasons of HWA suppression completed under USDA CARP (Competitive Allocation Request for Proposals) grant, both by tree and soil injection on public lands, at Prettyboy Reservoir (Hemlock Gorge), several sites in Monocacy watershed, the Frederick watershed, Washington and Allegany counties, but mostly in Garrett Co. at Swallow Falls. Two more seasons to go, want to remove this grant source from the CARP process, which goes through the state forester (DNR) to try to continue the work; finding efficacy of material to be 5-6 years; we are releasing predators but they haven't been really effective yet.
- Finished trapping for southern pine beetle, about to start walnut twig beetle traps (has not been found in MD yet but it is right across the river in VA, in Bucks Co in PA, also in NC), then will begin gypsy moth egg case surveys

Discussion of TNC's Cranesville Swamp HWA – trying to get money from DNR's USDA Forest Service grant to cover insecticide for application at Cranesville, with local, volunteer labor under MDA supervision; Bob Tatman and Debbie Landau will connect

MDNR – Kerrie Kyde

- EAB Forester on board, who is now doing ash inventory in western Maryland
- Forestry and MBSS personnel not present; Kerrie's been on leave so little to report.

News and New Business

Anne Arundel County – Bud Reaves

- Found a champion for EAB report -- Assistant Director of Public Works, who recognizes that EAB and ash plantings will affect county planning for watershed implementation plans, may move it forward more quickly
- Pat Kelley resprayed invasive tamarisk in Sullivans Cove

M-NCPPC – Carole Bergmann

- MA-IPC Conference to be held at NCTC in late August -- Paths to Restoration Success, topics include climate change, biocontrol, prescribed fires, pollinators, web-based mapping for EIP; www.mapic.org will soon have info posted.
- WLBG found in two new natural areas in Montgomery 1) in Rachel Carson Park, where volunteers under Meghan Fellows did two days of work pulling last week (in the middle of 650 acres); 2) At least an acre in Paint Branch Park.

Anne Goodman – Rockville City document that recommended English ivy, tree of heaven and Oriental bittersweet for planting due to their historic status, has now been revised. Although language is waffley, the text no longer recommends planting these invaders.

Ruth Hanessian had surgery recently – MISC members wish her a speedy recovery.

TNC – Deborah Landau: We are working to control *Lespedeza* on Eastern Shore and various other invasives throughout the state with our seasonal crew.

Deb Landau: Rockville’s next Science Café is on September 17, on the brown tree snake.

Next Meeting

September 19, 2013

Discussion of fall meeting as annual field trip meeting, suggested visit to Hart-Miller Island to conduct the mile-a-minute monitoring protocol, as Bob Trumbule is releasing weevils there next week. Conor Bell will check to see if USFWS has a boat large enough to ferry the group out to the island; Bob Trumbule will check to see if MES/MDE can provide MISC with a tour. Hart-Miller is an island in Baltimore County off the mouth of Back River. It has been augmented with dredged materials and provides acres of wildlife habitat and public recreation, reachable only by boat.

Meeting Adjourned: 11:35 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Recording Secretary Kerrie Kyde



Handout for July
2013 MISCem.pdf



2013_EAB_Trap_Sur
vey_v5.pdf

Carole Bergmann's suggested seed mixes for invasion sites post-control

Grass Mix for moist, partially shaded area

Common name	Scientific name	Pounds of PLS/acre
Virginia wild rye	<i>Elymus virginicus</i>	5
Bottle-brush	<i>Elymus hystrix</i>	1
Canada wild rye	<i>Elymus canadensis</i>	5
deer tongue	<i>Dichanthelium clandestinum</i> / <i>Panicum clandestinum</i>	3
purple top	<i>Tridens flavus</i>	1
Creeping red fescue	<i>Festuca rubra</i>	5

To the 20 lbs/acre of Pure Live Seed (PLS) native mix above, Add 20 lbs/acre of either cereal oats (*Avena sativa*), or cereal rye (*Secale cereale*), or cereal barley (*Hordeum vulgare*) as a companion crop/quick starting cover crop (= total 40 lbs of seed /acre). This will take the place of the often used annual rye as an erosion control method while the other grasses are establishing.

Stream-side Mix: for a total of 18 pounds PLS/acre + 20 pounds cereal oats/ acre

Creeping red fescue- 6 pounds PLS/acre

Deer tongue- 6 pounds PLS/acre

Virginia Wild Rye -6 pounds PLS/acre

Cereal Oats – 20 pounds/acre (used as a quick starting nurse crop)

Another formula often used =

.Virginia wild rye 34% *Elymus virginicus*

Canadian wild rye 33% *Elymus canadensis*

creeping red fescue 33% *Festuca rubra*

cereal oats *Avena sativa* (r cereal rye or barley) add 20-30 lbs /acre to the above mix to help with erosion control/quick start