

**Maryland Invasive Species Council  
Maryland Department of Agriculture  
Annapolis, MD 21401  
Thursday January 23, 2014**

Call to order

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

Introductions

Dick Bean - MDA, PPWM	Jay Kilian – DNR-- MANTA
Barbara Beelar – Friends of Deep Creek Lake	Kerrie Kyde—MDNR-- NHP
Tim Culbreth – DNR, MFS	Yousuf Nejati – EQR, Inc.
Anne Goodman—Rockville Native Spp Network	Bud Reaves – Anne Arundel County
Mike Greenberg -- SHA	Kim Rice -- MDA
Anne Hairston-Strang – DNR, MFS	Pete Rupp -- MDA
Ruth Hanessian -- MAPI	Matt Salo – Cheverly Green Infrastructure
Lane Heimer -- MDA	Bob Tatman – MDA Forest Pest Mangmt
Shelley Hicks – MDA	Mark Thurmond – USDA APHIS
Carol Holko -- MDA	Matt Travis – APHIS PPQ
Marc Imlay, MNCPPC, Sierra Club	Tyler Wakefield – DNR-- MFS
	Kevin Wilsey -- SHA

Additions to the Agenda

Tyler Wakefield – introduction and work recap

Approval of minutes from November, 2013 meeting

November minutes approved as amended.

Memberships

- Mike Farley and Yousuf Nejati will share the membership for EQR; Yousuf attended today. Committee did not formally vote on this membership (needs to next meeting).
- Dick Bean modified Lane Heimer’s chart of members and attendance to list by number of meetings attended. Lane will rerun chart with attendance only in the last year. MISC by-laws require that members attend one meeting/year. Moved, seconded and passed: remove all names from the website list of MISC members of people who have not attended one meeting in the last year, so that website reflects only active membership. All names will remain on the listserv.
- Barbara Beelar and Tyler Wakefield requested membership.

Invader of the Month

- Marc Imlay’s piece on biocontrols for 18 different species is posted for January. Marc recommended that members go to the link to the MA-IPC website to get the full report, where there is a longer list. If you find blight on Japanese stiltgrass, please contact Dr. Bill Bruckart at USDA-ARS. MA-IPC’s next workshop will be held in July or August at Rock Creek Nature Center, entirely on biocontrol.
- Bud Reaves distributed spreadsheet of past IOTMs. Discussion re
  - difficulty of posting monthly write-ups

- changing frequency of postings to bi-monthly or when new invader comes up
  - changing name IOTM to Hot Invaders or other to reflect less frequent postings
  - archived IOTMs are not up to date
  - "In the News" segment not up to date and very hard to keep current
  - Unclear whether MDA still sends them out as press releases
  - Carol Jelich is requesting that another person take over as webmaster
  - Possible species for 2014: updated bittersweet, biocontrols for insects, bushkiller (*Cayratia japonica*), Carpinus borer, Walnut twig beetle and 1000 canker disease; *Hydrilla* (update), Eurasian watermilfoil
  - Explanation of Botanical Heritage Work Group's report – better done as a news item when the final report is released.
- Decision: Carol Holko will 1) remove the In the News section from the website; 2) check on the hits the site gets; 3) look into changing web software to Word Press or similar easy-to-use software, so that News Items could be reported and added by anyone as tweets. Given the references that are made to the MISC website elsewhere and the emails the group gets about it from all over the country, it is clear that the IOTM provides a service.

#### Mid-Atlantic Panel meeting report

- Kerrie Kyde attended the Fall 2013 MAP meeting as MISC representative. Project funded by MD Sea Grant on bait bucket introductions is finishing up. Focused on bloodworms and the hitchhikers, diseases and other creatures, that come in with them from ME. Fifteen distributors essentially control the global traffic, but are not willing to consider changes from "wormweed" as packaging material unless required to by law. Grant insufficient to allow assessment of social marketing effects to create changes in angler behavior.
- Moved, seconded and passed: Jay Kilian will replace Kerrie as MISC rep to MAP, pending completion of USFWS process for changing MAP members.

#### Agency Updates

##### *APHIS* – Mark Thurmond:

- Completed weed seed training in Port of Baltimore for 12 Customs and Border Patrol agents, focusing on contaminants that come in with herbs and spice seeds to McCormicks; will do a similar training at Dulles Airport. Created a federal noxious weed seed poster with over 125 species with detailed photos and descriptions, leave for reference at each port. Am available for trainings elsewhere, concentrating on the species historically reported as interceptions from a specific port. Seeing the actual seed is so much more helpful in educating CBP staff than photographs.
- Matt Travis:  
Handed out flyer (attached as PDF) with recent interceptions. Many hitchhikers found on tile; winter is the season when lots of tile comes in. Also interceptions in passenger baggage. Non-compliant wood packaging (not marked as treated, sterilized, inspected) is on the increase. Creates a problem because APHIS has to return it to the port of origin, as nothing in the law allows treatment and release here. Holding cargo until sufficient amount can be returned is increasing the number of days prior to turnaround from 3.5 to 9.5. Matt is encouraging importers to put pressure on their suppliers to comply.

Farm bill 10-201: thought that by the end of Jan we would have something, but now not until February.

- Customs and Border Patrol is putting pressure on APHIS to provide more species identification services, especially on ships, due to expansion in trade in ports.  
Ex: Atlanta helping support Miami. Building more space and adding identifiers in New Jersey for trade through Newark.
- Two bills introduced to amend Lacey Act (HB3324) to allow importers not to file import declarations with APHIS, to alleviate importing requirements on the trade. Lacey Act was expanded to all plants, plant products, EX:for wooden buttons on shirts, need to report the type of wood. Amendments were originally designed to stem the trade in rare logged hardwoods. The amendments would not affect importation of animals.
- Carol Holko: What is happening with the King amendment? Would prevent one state from imposing restrictions on production of a product in another state. MD's concern is checking on state's production methods in order to reduce plant pest introduction on materials shipped into MD. The way the bill is written is very broad, and creates difficult questions about states' rights and enforcements.
- Marc: concerned about how many EIS we export to other countries. Matt Travis and Dick Bean explained APHIS and MD's methods for minimization of harmful organisms
- MDA -- Bob Tatman: Have ID'd 5500 acres for spring gypsy moth treatment, half in Garrett, half in Allegany, 200 ac in Talbot. Had a really cool, wet June but the *Entomophaga* fungus did not do a good job of controlling gypsy moth. Hot dry spring will increase gypsy moth populations.
- Hemlock woolly adelgid project coming together for TNC's Cranesville Swamp preserve. Will do 30 ac of soil injection; 20 ac. of trunk injection, using TNC staff, volunteers, MDA staff, USFS staff to provide labor. Insecticide purchased using funds from a DNR grant from USFS.
- Confirmed walnut twig beetle in MD at Fair Hill Natural Resource Management Area (managed by DNR MD Park Service), trap detection of insects rather than disease symptoms, 30 beetles. Jennifer Juzwik, pathologist at USFS in MN has received the samples, will take about a week to confirm ID. Meeting scheduled to talk about next step. Display given to MDA by University of Tennessee for outreach and education use. Need to delimit surveys to find out distribution; odds of carrying 1000 cankers is quite high, but we don't know that these beetles are carrying the fungus. Fair Hill is a big horse park, beetles may have come in with firewood in visitors vehicles. Carol Holko: MD will probably be added to the regional quarantine of central states, This is not a federally listed spp. DNR is concerned about impacts on riparian buffers. Anne Hairston-Strang: green ash, sycamore, black walnut, pin oak are our four dominant species in floodplains.
- Kim Rice: Now cutting "rearing" trees for cooler for rearing beetles for USDA ARS use. Anne Arundel County is now infested.  
Dick Bean: Have not yet released biocontrol parasitoids in Garrett county, expect to in 2014; new sites found in trap sites - Garrett, Calvert, and Frederick; egg parasitoid is persistent but doesn't travel well, impacts of the parasitoid releases

have yet to be documented, but is being studied. Cold weather isn't going to kill the EAB.

- Lane Heimer: working on budgets, attended NEWSS meeting – there is not a lot of new chemistry coming out, manufacturers are using enhancers to improve plant uptake; Roundup resistance is showing up more and more, e.g. Palmer amaranth is resistant, young tree plantings are like row crops so the amaranth could be a problem there. On one site, Johnson grass outcompeted all the trees in a tree planting.
- Discussion of S.B. 44 – mandating addition of *Phragmites australis* to the state noxious weed list. Carol Holko: This bill would require that any landowner, including state agencies, treat the Phrag on their land. It is prohibitively expensive – \$6.5 million annually for DNR, e.g., plus almost all of the Phrag we have is in the Critical Area. Treatments would have to be done by air, over water, requiring toxic materials permits. Farmland is affected in a more minor way. Following a letter to Dorchester County councilman from Senator Colburn, SB44 was withdrawn.
- Pete Rupp: We are losing members of our County weed coordinating committees, primarily to retirement. Need for new, younger contributors.

*MDNR* – Tyler Wakefield: Hired six months ago to do street tree assessment for community risk from EAB, write response plans for those communities and do outreach for alternative uses and disposal of urban ash and destroyed trees. Have assessed Cumberland, Catonsville, College Park, LaPlata; sent ID cards to 1800 licensed tree experts, drafted fact sheets for landowners; discussing with the Maryland Municipal League providing staging areas for urban wood storage and disposal.

- Anne Hairston-Strang: planning for 2014 season for grant to do invasives removal in high diversity sites, hiring seasonal crews now for work beginning later in the spring
- Tim Culbreth: Administering DNR's Tremendous program, removed crape myrtles and Yoshino cherries from the tree list, program is only natives now
- Ruth Hanessian: re EAB, can purple traps be labeled, used as an outreach and education tool? Dick Bean/Kim Rice: the trees the traps are set up in are labeled. Mark Thurmond: Is there an effective treatment? Tyler: 3-year efficacy for trunk injection with insecticide for larger diameter trees, soil drench for smaller dbh trees; we have some funds in our grant to do stem injection. Anne Goodman: How do you choose communities to survey? Anne: Interagency committee reviews maps of MDA survey results and determines high risk areas, will choose 2-4 communities for 2014. Lane: treatment is less expensive than removing ash, at least for Washington County.
- Kerrie Kyde: IPAC has drafted a survey for licensed nursery producers to elicit feedback on the costs to producers and the time involved in growing species that may be determined to be Tier 1 or banned species. Meets terms of IPAC's task to consider the effects on the economy of listing Tier 1 plants.
- Jay Kilian: DNR's Invasive Species Matrix Team and its Fisheries unit reviewed a permit request to live ship Australian barramundi from a closed-system Eastern Shore aquaculture operation. Committee of 5 reviewed all the literature and USFWS did temperature tests on live fish; Group determined that permit will be modified to

allow live shipping, as it is unlikely that barramundi will survive in water with temperatures lower than 13 degrees C, that is, much north of Florida. Reproduction would be impossible in Maryland, the group believes. We made a presumption of guilt for this fish, and were surprised by the results of our analysis. McKnight reported to MAPAIS to alert the SE states. No reports of their being invasive anywhere, but related to Nile perch, one of the most invasive fish anywhere. Florida permitted a fee-fishing area for barramundi, despite the considerable risk of establishment in FL. The decision in MD will not increase invasion risk. Ruth Hanessian: if temperature tests were done on fry, it is possible that adults would not be so affected. Please refer to the "collector" industry for monster fish, not the pet industry.

SHA – Kevin Wilsey: have contracts for 10-12 invasive removal projects throughout the state, targeting vines, Callery pear, *Ailanthus*. There are projects in development – Route 50 from Beltway to the Anne Arundel/Prince George's county lines, and the Beltway from the American Legion bridge to the 95 split; also I-83 from 695 to the state line, and the Howard County portion of I-95, working up proposals for these

- We have continued doing *Rhinocomimus* releases for mile-a-minute with MDA; agreement continues thru 2014. Pilot project to test bamboo control compatible with the highway maintenance schedule; did one removal on Route 50 at Rt 424; MDA's Mark Smith sprayed it last fall
- Mike Greenberg: we are looking at the activity of various enhancers (adjuvants) with Escort

#### News Roundtable and New Business

Cheverly Green Infrastructure Committee – Matt Salo: No new invasive species have emerged in the past year; have seen MaM weevil damage on plants, so we apparently have it without doing formal releases; two new areas of Japanese stiltgrass, one under control, the other spreading; we see slight spread of *Mahonia*, we're doing hand control; We also have *Castor aralia*, not widespread – it doesn't seem to be a fast mover. Marc Imlay has sprayed large areas of lesser celandine within Cheverly. This spring, he is scheduled to treat a larger infestation on lower Beaverdam Creek floodplain, where it is suffocating spring ephemerals.

Friends of Deep Creek Lake -- Barbara Beelar: Impressed with MISC, helps people work together. DCL tends to focus on aquatics but as we work on watershed planning will be doing more terrestrial work. Need to strengthen non native aquatic spp law; need boat inspection implementation, compared with model legislation in Minnesota. Have to be able to ban importation of *Hydrilla*; DNR looking at controls, brought in Cornell expert on *Hydrilla*; Can't let anymore of this stuff in, the cheap way is to prevent introduction; DCL is 2nd highest tourist destination in MD, local govt has difficult decisions to make re treatment due to negative publicity about herbicide. Need lots of community education to teach people to clean their boats.

EQR, Inc. Yousuf Nejati: We are a for-profit ecological restoration company; I was brought on to head up the invasive division 6-7 months ago. Wanted to bring a face from the private sector to MISC; we're the ones that are doing the applications.

Anne Arundel County – Bud Reaves: Bureau of Highways, which has jurisdiction over street trees, has gotten concerned about cost of tree replacements, due to finding of scale, has begun taking an interest in EAB issue. Hope for some preventative action.

Rockville Native Species Network -- Anne Goodman: Interested in doing work similar to Matt's in Cheverly. Would like to talk to Matt about this outside the MISC meeting. To Tyler: EAB recently found in Rockville, City forester is supposed to develop a program. How does the city interact with DNR? Tyler: City should contact us.

Ruth Hanessian: think about participating as an exhibitor in April 6<sup>th</sup> Science Day in Rockville, 25th anniversary celebration. Would specifically like to see walnut twig beetle and EAB displays. Please consider coming. Science Café now 5 years old, going really well. Now started one at Rockville Senior Center—Science Tuesdays.

Marc Imlay: look at January IOTM for link that pulls up the full report; if we missed anything, please let me know.

#### Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held at the National Agricultural Library (John Peter Thompson has arranged) in Beltsville from 9:30 to 12:30 on Thursday, March 20. Lane Heimer tentatively scheduled to present on State and County weed control structure and operation.

Meeting Adjourned: 12:35 pm

Respectfully submitted,  
Recording Secretary Kerrie Kyde

Attachments: Jim Young's pest ID handout (See next two pages)

# Pests Intercepted in the Mid-Atlantic



The actionable stinkbug *Dolycoris baccarum* was intercepted in a shipment of tiles from Italy. This pest has not been found in Norfolk since early 2009.



*Dolichoderus quadripunctatus* was intercepted at the port of Baltimore for the first time and it was only the second time this species has been intercepted entering the US (first interception: Seattle 2009).



A scale identified by the national specialist as *Palmaspis* sp. (Asterolecaniidae) was intercepted on *Arenga* sp. from Jamaica. This is the first time this genus has been intercepted at BWI.

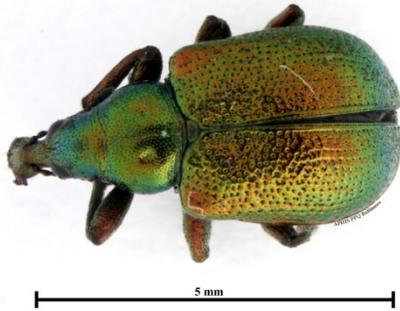


*Tetraleurodes andropogoni* was intercepted again by the port of Baltimore. Baltimore continues to be the only port in the US that has intercepted this pest.



USDA APHIS PPQ Baltimore

A caterpillar was found in a shipment of Tulip popular from Chile. The caterpillar was identified as *Elaphria sp.* There are more than 100 species of *Elaphria* described however very few of the caterpillars are known. According to Olivares *et al.* *Elaphria bucephalina* is the only species known from Chile



USDA APHIS PPQ Baltimore

Two male and two female *Byctiscus betulae* (Attelabidae) were found in a shipment of tile from Italy at the Port of Norfolk. This is the first time this species has been found entering the US. This pest is a leaf roller that is reported to feed on *Betula sp.*, *Populus tremula* and occasionally *Salix sp.*



USDA APHIS PPQ Baltimore

The hopper *Neophilaenus sp.* Aphrophoridae (previously Cercopidae) was intercepted for the first time at the port of Norfolk and only the second time nation wide



USDA APHIS PPQ Baltimore

The stinkbug *Eysarcoris ventralis* was intercepted for the first time in 2 years in the Mid-Atlantic and only the second time by Norfolk CBP (first Nov. 2008).



USDA APHIS PPQ Baltimore

The actionable snail *Xerotracha conspurcata* was intercepted in the Mid-Atlantic region 76 times in 2013 (41 Baltimore, 35 Norfolk).