

Maryland Invasive Species Council
October 7, 2003
Maryland Department of Agriculture
Annapolis, MD

Minutes

9:45 Call to order, Bob Tichenor

Attendees:

Dick Bean, MDA, PPWM	Jonathan McKnight, DNR, Wildlife and Heritage
Carole Bordelon, USDA National Arboretum	Bob Rabaglia, MDA FPMS
Bill Gimpel, MDA PPWM	Don Robbins, MDA PPWM
Lane Heimer, MDA PPWM	Carol Jelich, MNPS
*Mike Hollins, Ecosystem Recovery Institute	Pete Rupp, MDA PPWM
Sylvan Kaufman, Adkins Arboretum	Stacy Scott, USDA APHIS PPQ
Hyesuk Kong, USDA-ARS	Al Tasker, USDA APHIS
Kerrie Kyde, USDA-ARS	Bob Tichenor, MDA FPMS
John Lydon, USDA-ARS	*Joe Vorgetts, USDA APHIS PPQ
Fred Mann, USDA APHIS PPQ	

* Indicates new attendee

New memberships

New memberships for Nancy Turner, Lisa Jameson and Mike DeGrazia were not voted on due to absence of requesting parties.

Approval of minutes from August 5, 2003

Motion to approve minutes. Motion passed.

Presentation: Emerald Ash Borer: From Michigan to Maryland, Dick Bean, MDA

- Forest pest management surveys in 2003 found no EAB, but nursery inspection staff found them in a PG County nursery on August 8. Infested ash was purchased from TN nursery, which bought the trees and had them shipped directly from an uninspected site in Novi, MI.
- 94 nursery trees ordered destroyed, 27 others sold traced. 25 planted out in various MD and VA sites, including Vienna, Lodonton, Ft. Washington, and Laurel
- In September, EAB larvae were found in 2 sites in non-MI ash. Based on inventory and source data from grower, MDA staff visited all jobsites planted by this nursery with ash between April and September, seeing a contact person at each site. Trees at Patuxent site pulled out late in month, and chipped using fine mesh screens, as larvae can go through screens larger than 1"
- MDA stopped all sale of ash, will remove all ash outplanted from importing nursery, continue to survey around nursery; where trees were planted on private land, will work with Forest Service to provide replacement trees
- Survey methodology will be to look for 2nd-year damage: D-shaped exit holes, swelling above branches, bark cracks produced by larval feeding, plastic wrap around trees smeared with Tanglefoot, heavily pruned trees act as attractants; EAB overwinters as late instar larvae and emerges in spring
- Bob Rabaglia passed samples around of bark and serpentine galleries.
- Financial effects of this infestation: TN nursery will reimburse MD nursery, after MI reimburses him. MI grower may be criminally liable; MD nursery will take the hit for trees in MD found infested after a Stop Sale and Destruction order is released, which cannot be traced back to any other grower.

Giant Hogweed Update: Don Robbins

- MDA received grant from USDA to survey for Giant Hogweed, *Heracleum mantangazzianum*. Did a media blitz, with great response, Don Robbins did an interview with WTOP. Responding to reports from citizens, MDA surveyed 101 sites. 26 were positive. Negatives were lots of species, esp. Cow Parsnip.
- MDA will map locations, but they occurred primarily in two locations: Little Gunpowder watershed, and Ruckston. All found positives were destroyed.
- Nursery owner who sold it heavily during the 80s as an ornamental wants to keep it as a specimen. Federal law does not allow destruction unless private landowner is transporting it; MD cannot trespass, or remove private property from private land unless the species is quarantined. John Peter Thompson convinced nursery owner to allow MDA to treat the plant on his property.
- MDA will revisit sites of positives to retreat and eradicate the seedbank.
- AI Tasker reported that APHIS is putting together a regional agreement for the Mid-Atlantic to fund a regional surveyor for Hogweed.

MISC Website Changes: Bob Tichenor in Carol Holko's absence

- Kudos to Carol Holko (not in Carol's report!) for the tremendous job she has done on the site.
- Check out the membership status section; no links will be used to news medium that allows pop-up ads, e.g. The Washington Post; calendar of upcoming events;
- There are funds left to "spruce up the site", which should be done annually; graph of site activity shows hits going steadily up with peak in July during Hogweed activity;
- Carol Holko has added a "favicon" to the MISC URL; a kudzu leaf will appear next to the MISC site when bookmarked in Internet Explorer, increasing the visibility of the site for repeat visitors.
- Please continue to forward information to Carol for site additions.

Updates to MD Species of Concern list

- MISC has no formal procedure for updating list. Bob Tichenor suggested that we continue to do it as we have: pass additions or subtractions by vote of those present at meeting.
- After discussion, moved, seconded and passed: Anything other than housekeeping changes to the list will be announced via the list serve and the opportunity given to vote on the change by people who cannot attend the meeting; the formal vote on any change will take place at the next scheduled meeting. The list serve will be checked to make sure that only official members' votes are counted.
- Discussion of dropping Red Alert status for Giant Hogweed, and addition to the list of Emerald Ash Borer – both already done.
- Discussion of addition of *Ralstonia solanacearum*, due to danger to potatoes as well as ornamental geraniums. Discussion of imperative to list all federal select agents if we list *Ralstonia*. Decision made not to list.
- Dick Bean proposed to add *Pryeria sinica*, the Euonymus moth, and *Sirex noctilio*, a wood wasp, to the list, and the brown marmorated stink bug to Red Alert status, at the next meeting. *Pryeria* has been found in pupal stage coming in in tires from Japan. Small weak flyers, the moths will be emerging at the end of October, beginning of November. They have decimated Euonymus in Fairfax VA and in Glen Burnie, MD gardens. *Sirex* is found in dunnage in ports; it is a major pest in South America and on New Zealand pines. It is on the national CAPS list.
- AI Tasker reported that APHIS is considering adding *Inula britannica*, a biennial aster, to the regulated list. He will forward information to Carol.

Field Project Reporting: Bob Tichenor

- Suggested that we compile a spreadsheet, similar to one published by the Smithsonian Environmental Research Center, of field projects each of us are working on, with topic, site and contact information, indexed by subject. This could be a separate section on the website.
- Sylvan Kaufman said that the MA-EPPC is going to do the same on its website.
- Carol Jelich reported that Maryland Native Plant Society currently maintains on its website a list of scheduled field projects, usually invasive removals.
- Discussion and general approval of idea; members are willing to forward to MDA descriptions of what they are doing.

Invader of the Month Update: Bob Tichenor

Following discussion of various proposed species, including the original October species, pine shoot beetle, as well as six-spined bark beetle and wineberry, we decided on these species for the fourth quarter of 2003:

October: *Harmonia axyridis*, Mary Kay Malinoski

November: *Pryeria sinica*, Dick Bean

December: Asian bittersweet, Sylvan Kaufman

New Business:

- Al Tasker: Reminder about IPMNS meeting in Florida in early November; will send info. to Carol Holko.
- Bill Gimpel: Congratulations to Bob Trumbule, who was awarded the Entomological Society of America's award for Distinguished Achievement in Regulatory Entomology!
- Bob Rabaglia: Asian Long-horned Beetle found at a third site in Toronto
- Mike Hollins: Have formed a not-for-profit company to do ecological education, workshops, teaching landowners about invasives; with ongoing Community Forest Restoration Projects at Oregon Ridge and Marshy Point.
- Jonathan McKnight: Oscars, an aquarium fish, have been found in 3 ponds in the DC Metro area. DNR is making a list of "thermal refuges" where they might be able to overwinter; compiling a list of where grass carp have been found. Mute swans update: Federal judge issued injunction to keep DNR from culling swan population. Fish and Wildlife Service has asked judge to dismiss the swan activists' case, if they pull MD deprecation permits and the environmental assessment of swan damage. He is leaning toward doing this. DNR is pursuing other routes for control, including request for deprecation permit for eggs in the spring, removing the swan from the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (it was listed in 2000), and codefending the activists' lawsuit with the Department of Justice.
- Kerrie Kyde: MA-EPPC is encouraging the formation of state affiliates – does MISC want to be one? Are we interested in sending people to EPPC meetings, and/or sponsoring EPPC events within MD? If so, we could incorporate under the EPPC 501(c)(3) umbrella, if desired. We need funding in order to create a statewide system and interactive database to track inventories and control efforts of invasive species. Kevin Heatley of ACRT will come to the December meeting to show us what one of these databases looks like and how we could use it. How can we do that unless we are a legal entity? Project Working Group will look at these questions and report back to the Council.
- Don Robbins: City of Annapolis has added a thistle to its new logo on its trucks, because thistle was on the original city seal. Who knows what the species is...
- Bob Tichenor: The Integrated Pest Management Center has released a pest alert on Sudden Oak Death, that Carol Holko and Kerrie Kyde helped write. MDA has ordered 5000 copies, which are available to those who need them. A MISC poster was prepared for a meeting this summer; the file is available on disk for anyone who wants to exhibit a MISC poster at a meeting or presentation. FICMNEW has published guidelines for early detection and rapid response to exotics. Randy Westbrooks would like to present it to MISC and have Maryland be involved in the testing protocol, because of the activity level of MISC. Bob will invite him to the February meeting.

Requesting voting membership in MISC:

Mike Hollins, Ecosystem Recovery Institute

New Meeting Dates

Next meeting: Tuesday December 16, at Riverdale office of APHIS. Stacy Scott will send directions.

Adjourn: 12:35

Respectfully submitted by Kerrie Kyde