

## Maryland Invasive Species Council (MISC)

Minutes 19 March 2015

National Agricultural Library, Beltsville, Maryland.

Meeting was called to order by Robert Trumbule, facilitator at 9:35

### Introductions:

Gary Barkman, Montgomery Co. Weed Control	Rea Manderino, USDA APHIS PPQ
Eric Duce, Ba Co DEP & Sustainability	Nicole Myers, Carrol Co. Weed Warriors
Mike Ellis, MNCPPC/PG Rangers	Damien Ossi, MAIPC, DC Dept of Environment
Judy Fulton, MNPS, UME Master Gardeners	Earl "Bud" Reaves, AA Co
Anne Goodman, Rockville Native Species Network	Pete Rupp, MDA PPWM
Anne Hairston-Strang, DNR	Matt Salo, Cheverly Green Infra. Comm.
Marc Imlay, MNCPPC	Mike Sowers
Alice Imlay, Sierra Club	Robert Tatman, MDA, FPM
Jay Kilian, DNR	Mark Taylor, MDA PPWM
Wesley Knapp, DNR	John Peter Thompson, MNLBA
Kerrie Kyde, DNR	Matt Travis, USDA APHIS PPQ
Robert LaRoche, SHA	Jim Young, USDA APHIS PPQ
Mark Lewandowski, DNR	

1. A scribe is needed to record meeting minutes. Kevin Wilsey has been promoted and can no longer attend MISC meetings. A scribe was volunteered: Mark Taylor
2. Introductions of attendees.
3. Additions to agenda
  - a. Will need a scribe for each meeting.
  - b. Anne Hairston-Strang will discuss EAB and radio broadcast.
  - c. Deadlines for attendees coming to meeting and minutes to be distributed in a timely manner.
4. Approval of previous meetings minutes:
  - a. September and November 2014 minutes: Motion made by Kerrie Kyde to accept, motion seconded and passed. These will be archived and posted.
  - b. January 2015: Most recent set of minutes will be sent to Mike Sowers.
5. Membership: Three new members requesting admittance to MISC. Motion made, seconded and passed to accept the following new members.
  - a. Rea Mandeino, USDA, APHIS, PPQ
  - b. Nicole Myers, Carrol County Weed Warriors
  - c. Bob LaRoche, State Highway Administration

John Peter Thompson, MISC Parliamentarian explained to new members that the MISC group meeting voting system is unique. Thumbs up means the decision on the floor passes. Thumbs down (rarely occurring) means no. Voting is basically a group consensus.

- d. Welcome to new prospective member Mark Lewandowski
- 6. Deadlines:
  - a. Meeting minute comments must be available by the first of the next meeting month.
  - b. Minutes will only be distributed for comments to people who attended that meeting.
- 7. Invasive Plant Advisory Committee (IPAC) update: Kerrie Kyde
  - a. Group has eleven members
  - b. Risk assessment protocol used to determine invasive plant species.
    - i. Tier 1 species not allowed in Maryland
    - ii. Tier 2 species can be sold but must be labeled with cautions and encouragement to plant non-invasive species
    - iii. Note: doesn't apply to current possession or real estate transfers.
  - c. Group has been meeting for three years.
  - d. Using a tool developed by APHIS.
  - e. Intensive training in October with USDA.
  - f. Of 30 plants under consideration, five have had final review for Tier rankings
    - i. ***Euonymus alatus*** (Burning Bush)
    - ii. Wisteria complex
    - iii. Iris pseudacorus
    - iv. Shining Geranium (not in Maryland)
    - v. Border Privet ***Ligustrum sinense***
  - g. There is a gap in Tier designation process in reference to Maryland Filter (a screening tool with questions about plant distribution, history and difficulty of control). Does or can the plant affect rare native species or habitats? Kerrie Kyde noted that a University of Maryland, College Park student used the Heritage Data Base to look at exotic species references in ecologically significant areas and demonstrated gaps in information.
  - h. IPAC will continue working on the initial 30, and submit completed weed risk assessments to the MDA Secretary of Agriculture for his consideration.

Note: The list is on Maryland Department of Agriculture website with target list (plants/pest) and links. Derived from 90 species of DO NOT PLANT LIST from Maryland Department of Natural Resources (an internal document). The initial assessment list is a subset, thought to be the worst offenders or those for which MISC/IPAC/DNR have received the most feedback or plants that might have a significant impact on the nursery industry. It is also important to note that just because a species is NOT on the list does NOT mean it is OK to plant.

- i. Group discussion about New York's plant list.
- j. Group discussion about regulations and phase in/out. A laborious review of the plant species.
- k. Maryland is the first to adopt APHIS weed risk assessment protocol.
  - i. Is this being embraced by nursery industry? Reference to Vanessa Finney with Maryland Nursery and Landscape Assn. (MNLA) (now MNLGGA) Maryland Nursery, Landscape and Greenhouse Growers Association).

- ii. A survey was sent to licensed businesses: few are growing the plants on the list and the designation as Tier 1 or 2 for these plants is not anticipated to have an economic impact.
  - iii. Is there funding for enforcement of this action? Reference: Tier 1 plants not to be sold; Tier 2 plants to be properly labeled?
  - iv. There is no funding for enforcement, but substantial fines for violators.
  - v. Will MDA nursery inspectors be on the lookout for the species?
  - vi. Enforcement currently has no affect on mail order or internet website (Amazon or Ebay) sales.
  - vii. Possession is NOT illegal, but purchase IS!
  - l. National Invasive Species Council has discussed electronic commerce within the US.
  - m. Matt Travis mentioned: How do you prove intentional violations versus ignorance (“I didn’t know it was illegal”) and adjudication (emphasis on a winnable case).
  - n. Discussion about electronic commerce companies (Amazon, Ebay and others cooperation) and using a web-crawler to search for specific plants.
8. Discussion:
- a. Guest speaker scheduled for May 21<sup>st</sup> meeting: Janean Romines; USDA APHIS: “Feral swine---an ecological train wreck”.
  - b. September field trip to Deep Creek Lake (seeking suggested dates)
  - c. Standing request for meeting speakers.
  - d. John Peter Thompson talked with acting director of NISC.
  - e. Anne Hairston-Strang spoke about Radio time (WYPR) Dr. Mike Raupp will be on the show with two to three other experts discussing Emerald Ash Borer. Other shows will highlight other invasive species. Any additional ideas from group? Need to contact Tyler Wakefield at DNR.
9. Invader of the month (IOTM)
- a. Thanks to Mike Sowers.
  - b. Mark Imlay, talked about Sierra Club, Maryland Native Plant Society has notes on volunteer invasive plant activities and weed warrior efforts.
  - c. Discussion about IOTM webpage is text limited, links and other volunteer activities on invasive species.
  - d. There is an IOTM schedule for the rest of the year.

2015	Subject	Author	Animal	Plant	disease
Dec 2014	Thousand cankers	Dave Clement			X
January	Zebra mussel update	Matt Ashton	X		
February	WNS update	Dana Limpert			X
March	Weed volunteers	Salo/Puckett/Bergmann/Goodman/		X	
April	Exotic earthworms	Kerrie Kyde	X		
May	Spotted	Bob Tatman	X		

	lantern fly				
June	Clean your gear update	Jay Kilian		Other	
July	Tetradium daniellii	Sylvan Kaufman		X	X
August	Ailanthus & verticillium	Aaron Cook		X	
September	Ravenna grass	JPThompson/ Jil Swearingen			
October	Porcelainberry	Sylvan Kaufmann		X	
November	Arum italicum	Carolyn Puckett		X	
December	Preventing invasives	Jim Young/Matt Travis		Other	

e. Mark Imlay noted invasive plants and biocontrol link will be updated as more information becomes available. The link is

[www.maipc.org/Workshop2014.MAIPC\\_BiocontrolWG\\_July2014.pdf](http://www.maipc.org/Workshop2014.MAIPC_BiocontrolWG_July2014.pdf) .

f. Bud Reaves stated Carolyn Puckett is scheduled to write the November IOTM.

10. **Agency updates** (Bob Trumbule suggested that in the interest of time, 5 minutes each)

a. APHIS

i. Jim Young (handout) Pests intercepted in the Mid-Atlantic

1. Seed bugs found in Norfolk in December
2. Snails
3. Lace bug

ii. Matt Travis

1. Mediterranean Fruit Fly Restriction from Dominican Republic, also a possible new species of fruit fly.
2. Farm Bill section 10007: where the funds have gone. Listed by state.
3. Monthly interdiction trade compliance (electronic commerce) and seed traders.

b. Maryland Department of Natural Resources

i. Kerrie Kyde

1. Working on and need input on statewide citizen mapping on ecologically significant state lands.
2. DNR is looking at working on design of a statewide interactive database that tracks invasive species. What fields in the database do we want to see?
3. Chesapeake Coastal Services in DNR to do series of invasive plant control activities in state parks with state personnel.
4. DNR needs input for effort in aquatic nuisance species plan. There is a draft and important for MISC to weigh in.

ii. Jay Kilian

1. Starting internal check list on practices to prevent spread of aquatic invasives.
  2. Anne Hairston-Strang noted that Forest Action Plan and Wildlife and Heritage Service is updating the Wildlife Action Plan
  3. Jim Young stated that the invertebrate section is meeting this weekend.
- c. State Highway Administration (SHA): Bob LaRoche mentioned that Kevin Wilsey has been promoted and will not be able to attend MISC meetings.

There was discussion about trying to get a representative from Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) to become a MISC member.

- d. Maryland Department of Agriculture (MDA)
- i. Bob Tatman
    1. No gypsy moth suppression project in 2015
    2. Limited Hemlock Woolly Adelgid (HWA) activities
    3. There is a deregulation process in reference to certain pesticides. We have a six month grace period, so we can use imidacloprid and emanectin benzoate until September 10. This is on State Forests only and does not include State Parks, Wildlife etc.
  - ii. Bob Trumbule: Suggested a presentation by Professor Dennis vanEngelsdorp, University of Maryland Department of Entomology on Honeybee Health might be of interest to the group
  - iii. Pete Rupp: MDA Weed Control
    1. There have been changes in weed control activities and SHA agreements.
    2. Safety is the number one priority.
    3. As with all others, funding is tight.
- e. Anne Arundel County—Bud Reaves
- i. County getting ready for EAB insecticide applications.
  - ii. Budgets are limited.
- f. MNCPP---Carole Bergman Montgomery County:
- i. Best Management Practices (BMPs) for managing invasive plants on line.
  - ii. Maryland Native Plant Society (MNPS) has declared 2015 “The year of the Vine.”
  - iii. Montgomery County pesticide bill currently in limbo. There is concern over exposure.
- g. Marc Imlay, talked about Sierra Club, Maryland Native Plant Society has notes on volunteer invasive plant activities and weed warrior efforts. Information can be found at <http://maryland.sierraclub.org/pages/invasive-plant-removal-outings> .
- h. City of Cheverly: Matt Salo:
- May 16: There will be a bio-blitz (biodiversity day). MISC members are invited to share their expertise and lead groups.
- i. Damien Ossi also reported on Mid-Atlantic Invasive Plant Council (MAIPC) activities at Juniata College, Pa., August 4 and 5 2015. Keynote speaker John Randall.

Mid-Atlantic Invasive Council will be meeting August 4 & 5, Huntington Pennsylvania.

Invasive Plant removal day: May 2.

Next meeting: May 21 at National Agricultural Library.

Adjourn Noon.