



Maryland Invasive Species Council
Wednesday May 20, 2009
Maryland Department of Agriculture
Annapolis, MD

Call to Order: ~ 9:40 am, John Lydon, Facilitator

Introductions

Eric Duce, SHA

John Lydon, ARS

David Clement, UME

Mary Kay Malinoski, UME

Dick Bean, MDA

Mike Hemming, Eastern Shore Nurseries

Sarah Widman, MDNR

Richard Orr, Mid-Atlantic Invertebrate
Field Studies

John Peter Thompson, MNLA

Marc Imlay, AWS

Bud Reaves, Anne Arundel County

Ruth Hanessian, MAPI

Bob Trumbule, MDA

Lane Heimer, MDA

Bob Tichenor, USDA APHIS

Additions to the Agenda

None.

Approval of Minutes, January 2009 meeting.

Motion to approve minutes. Motion seconded and approved.

Membership

None.

Invader of the Month

Kerrie Kyde will be consulted to see if she needs any volunteers for invader of the month

Presentation:

John Peter Thompson – Principles: Precautionary vs. Proactionary

- Issue – Public thinks invasives are tame problems and they are not
- Invasives are wicked problems – which are problems that cannot be categorized into disciplinary boxes
 - Wicked problems cannot be understood until there is a solution
 - Wicked problems have no stopping rule
 - Solutions to wicked problems are not right or wrong and every solution is unique with unintended consequences
 - Wicked problems are related to other wicked problems (i.e. invasives and global warming)
 - Invasives might be considered a super wicked problem
- Sustainability eco-system services affected by invasives

- Precautionary vs. proactionary principles in dealing with invasives
- Proactionary
 - Freedom to innovate
 - Objectivity
 - Comprehensive
 - Simplicity
 - Openness
- Precautionary
 - Shift burden of proof
 - Scientific uncertainty
 - Recognize diverse positions
 - Least harmful solution
 - Duty to act
- Proactionary – regulations least important, informing most important
- Precautionary – opposite – regulations are most important
- People who regulate tend to be precautionary and the people they are trying to influence tend to proactionary
- Those talking with stakeholders about invasives need to change their tactics and strategies and use these ideas as tools for facilitating conversation between the two philosophies

Questions:

- Does this dialogue always work?
 - Has so far, just another tool for facilitator to use
- How do you get one side to listen to the other?
 - Will have people on edges, but still can get others to meet in the middle

HR 669, Nonnative Wildlife Invasion Prevention Act

Ruth Hanessian

- Went to subcommittee hearing on HR 669, Nonnative Wildlife Invasion Prevention Act
- 5 people testified including:
 - David Luge (sp) – University of Notre Dame – thought that there could be discussions on potential of invasiveness
 - Representative from Israel – discussed “clean list” of species which they allow in Israel and said they had no new known invasions since instituting that list considered two criteria for listing on “clean list” – 1) invasiveness in other countries and 2) climate for invasion in Israel; people can petition to add species to this list
 - Fish & Game, Arizona – brought up state rights
 - Fish farmer from West Virginia – Raises tilapia and ships across state lines; was concerned that bill would preclude him from doing this

- Pet industry lawyer – had good testimony in support of pet trade
- Problems with bill:
 - Would exclude things with parasites – how could you do that??
 - No import or export of invasives – this is to keep from “valuing” invasives

Comments:

- Bad bill – easily amendable to plants
- Definitions are problematic
- Interstate commerce issues
- Bill may end up straight in court if it passes
- Bills are always full of gaps – devils in the details – regs would be more problematic than the bill if and when it passes

Misc. Items – John Lydon

- Alma Solis – has money – Can we use some for wavyleaf basketgrass?
- Can Kerrie contact her and find out and let MISC know if the money can be used for this?

Wavyleaf Basketgrass Update – Marc Imlay

- Had 47 people at meeting of Wavyleaf Taskforce
 - John Lydon had tried to get money for control from Recovery Act, but didn’t get any headway with that; maybe money for area-wide program
 - Shared infestations sites
 - Discussed how to proceed with all players
- Wavyleaf is emerging right now
- Worse than Japanese stiltgrass – more damage
- Handpulling works well
- No immediate seed bank, but could be delayed (looking into this)
 - Comment – Shouldn’t use round-up because it will kill everything and invasives are likely to come back first
- Clethodim herbicide working well on wavyleaf
- May have been brought over on “shoes” rather than as ornamental – researching this
- 18 people came to training here in MD
- Decontaminate and not spread – get out there before September
- DNR working with 25 landowners through Landowner Incentive Program with a cost share to eradicate
- VA reporting wavyleaf is at base of trees because of likelihood that deer are spreading it
- Having everyone send info to the southeast (Bugwood) program
- Started listserv – let Marc Know if you would like to be on it; so far has 90 people
- Re-iterating that second year funding is crucial
- Can someone draft a grant for multi-agency effort for eradication?

Kerrie Kyde – March field trip review

Not in attendance; revisit topic at July meeting?

Agency Updates

MDA

- Weed control program – working on Canada thistle
- Right now bud weevils are active which help suppress the thistle but not control it
- Mile-a-minute weevil and leaf beetle for purple loosestrife are ramping up their numbers from over wintering
- MD hoping to raise own weevils – have 2 year grant to work on this
- Checking on rose rosette disease – will send to listserv
- Exotic wood borer traps out
- Wood wasp detected in NY, PA, Canada – surveying all counties bordering PA; Real impact will be southern US
- Euonymus Leaf notcher (*Pryeria sinica*) not a big threat – easy to control; insecticide kills them
- Looking at grape exotic insects
- EAB still here – trying to get 4,000 traps out (concentrating in southern MD)
 - Changing methodology – trying to keep it in a limited distribution using a stomach poison; looking at Safari to spray tree trunks
 - Have 3 permits for parasitoids
 - Issues with trap trees for EAB because Minnesota where we get some now has EAB

MDNR

- Working on new invasives website this summer
- Three reg packages being proposed:
 - Blue/Flathead catfish
 - Snakeheads and crayfish
 - Three new nuisance species (Rapa whelk, Brazilian elodea, parrot feather)

UME

- Website being worked on that would have what symptoms to look for and new factsheets and pest alerts
- www.plantprotection.umd.edu - Send comments to Mary Kay

APHIS

- Brochure on biocontrol “The Battle against Saltcedars”
- People moved leaf beetle on own and has injured endangered bird in Southeast – unintended consequence
- Gave money to NJ to rear mile-a-minute weevils through Emergency and Domestic Program

- Has agreement with ARS to look at honeybees and injected plants
- New forest pest program manager

SHA

- Working on Canada thistle

News and New Business

MAPI – Ruth Hanessian

- Montgomery Science Café is going well – lots of high school kids attending; next one is in June on transgenic organisms; one on pets in July and August 12 at Civic Center looking at meteorites

Next Meeting- July

Adjourn – 12:20pm

Thanks to Sarah Widman for taking minutes!