

Internodes

Mark your calendar

- SE-EPPC Annual Symposium, co-hosted by the Georgia Exotic Pest Plant Council, March 20-22, 2007, Athens, GA. www.gaeppc.org
- Florida Vegetation Management Association Conference, April 18-20, 2007, Daytona Beach, FL. www.fvma.info
- Association of Southeastern Biologists 68th Annual Meeting, April 18-21, 2007, Columbia, SC. <http://www.asb.appstate.edu/index.php>
- Florida Native Plant Society 27th Annual Conference, April 19-22, 2007, Gainesville, FL. www.fnps.org
- FLEPPC 22nd Annual Symposium, April 30-May 3, 2007, Cocoa Beach, FL. www.fleppc.org
- 2007 Aquatic Weed Control Short Course, University of Florida-IFAS, Aquatic, Upland and Invasive Weed Control; Aquatic Plant Identification, May 14-18, 2007, Coral Springs, FL. <http://conference.ifas.ufl.edu/aw>
- Annual Florida Lake Management Society Conference, held in conjunction with the NALMS SE Regional Conference, June 4-7, 2007, Naples, FL. <http://flms.net>
- Aquatic Plant Management Society 47th Annual Meeting, July 15-18, 2007, Nashville, TN. www.apms.org
- International Soil & Water Conservation Society Conference, July 21-25, 2007, Tampa, Florida. The five-day conference will include a session on invasive species. http://www.swcs.org/en/swcs_international_conferences/
- Mid-Atlantic EPPC biannual symposium, cosponsored with the Morris Arboretum, August 15-16, 2007, Philadelphia, PA. <http://www.ma-eppc.org/>
- 9th International Conference on the Ecology and Management of Alien Plant Invasions, September 17-21, 2007, Perth, Australia. www.congresswest.com.au/emapi9/
- 14th North American Weed Management Association (NAWMA) Conference, September 24-27, 2007, Las Vegas, NV. www.nawma.org
- Florida Aquatic Plant Management Society (FAPMS) Annual Meeting, October 1-4, 2007, St. Petersburg, FL. www.fapms.org

Online education

Ken Gioeli, Extension Agent in Natural Resources at the University of Florida, St Lucie County Cooperative Extension Office has developed several online CEU courses for pesticide applicators in need of aquatics, natural areas, right-of-way and other CEU categories. Biological control and IPM are featured in several courses. A complete list of online courses is available at <http://kgioeli.ifas.ufl.edu>

2007 Online CEU Courses:

- Aquatic Weed Control Arithmetic
- Brazilian Pepper-tree
- Controlling Old World Climbing Fern
- Aquatic Plant Management
- Pesticides & the Environment
- Pesticide Arithmetic
- Taming Melaleuca

Chemically Speaking is a monthly newsletter compiled by Mark Mossler of the University of Florida/IFAS Pesticide Information Office. The online newsletter and other educational programs provide information and materials to persons who use pesticides as a part of their livelihood, consumers with questions about the use and impact of pesticides in their daily lives, and decision makers, such as local, state, and federal government regulators and legislators. <http://pested.ifas.ufl.edu/>

Books and Reviews

Invasive Species in the Pacific Northwest, edited by P.D. Boersma, S.H. Reichard and A.N. Van Buren, 2006, University of Washington Press, ISBN 0-295-98596-8. This book examines invasive species of plants, fish, invertebrates, birds and rodents. Features for each species include current range, impacts on communities and native species, control methods and management, life histories and history of invasiveness. Color photos accompany each species account.

Unnatural Landscapes – Tracking Invasive Species by Ceiridwen Terrill. University of Arizona Press, 2007, ISBN 0-8165-2523-4. The author draws on field observations, research, and interviews with scientists, resource managers, and local residents while kayaking through areas of the southwestern U.S. and Mexico. Thus, her book includes tales of personal adventure as she introduces the subject of invasion ecology. She is an assistant professor of literary nonfiction, including environmental journalism and science writing, at Concordia University in Portland, Oregon. An interesting and welcome addition to the body of literature on invasive species.

Weeds of California and Other Western States by Joseph M. DiTomaso and Evelyn A. Healy. University of California Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources, 2006. This two-volume, 1900-page reference describes more than 750 weed species and is accompanied by 3000 color photographs of infestations, whole plants, flowers, seedlings, and seeds. Includes a CD containing all photographs in the book, copyright-free for educational use. Order online at <http://www.cal-ipc.org/shop/index.php> or call 510-843-3902. \$100 plus tax and shipping.

The Role of Wildfire in the Establishment and Range Expansion of Nonnative Plant Species into Natural Areas, an 80-page review and synopsis of current literature by M. Johnson, L. Rew, B. Maxwell, and S. Sutherland, is available for free download from http://www.weedcenter.org/products_pub/prod_pub_new.html#res. This is a companion to the previously published literature review by P. Rice that focused on prescribed burning and invasive plants, which also may be downloaded.

Inventory and Survey Methods for Nonindigenous Plant Species, a 75-page compilation of techniques written by 20 experts from land management agencies, conservation groups, and academia emphasizes practical applications and choosing the most appropriate inventory and survey methods according to land management objectives. Examples are primarily from the western U.S., but the concepts are intended to be universal. Edited by L. Rew and M. Pokorny, co-published by Montana State University Extension and the Center for Invasive Plant Management. \$20, including postage and handling; bulk discounts available. See http://www.weedcenter.org/products_pub/prod_pub_new.html#pub

The Invasive Species Cookbook by Joe Franke promotes the “If you can’t beat ‘em, eat ‘em!” method of controlling invasives. It includes recipes from famous chefs for nutria, garlic mustard, kudzu, and Japanese knotweed. Nutria recipes include Enola’s Smothered Nutria, Stuffed Nutria Hindquarters, and Heart Healthy “Crock-Pot” Nutria. There are plant recipes for lambsquarters, dandelions, and other wild greens. Bullfrogs, pythons, and green crab recipes round out the menu. Available from www.bradfordstreetpress.com for US\$24.95. <http://www.bradfordstreetpress.com/Nutria.pdf>

Other publications

Colubrina asiatica (Lather Leaf) Management Plan, compiled by Cheryl M. McCormick, Chair, Colubrina Task Force, Florida Exotic Pest Plant Council, January 2007. This first edition of the lather leaf management plan provides comprehensive information, references, and contacts to aid in the development of integrated management strategies for eliminating established populations of *Colubrina asiatica* (L.) Brongn. (lather leaf) in coastal south Florida. 61 pp. Available on the FLEPPC website at www.fleppc.org

Seed ecology, allelopathy, and post-hurricane recovery of Colubrina asiatica (Rhamnaceae) "Latherleaf" in coastal south Florida, by Cheryl McCormick and Ken Langeland, Final Report to the National Park Service, January 2007.

Tennessee's Native Plant Alternatives to Exotic Invasives – A Garden and Landscape Guide, a new brochure on AlterNatives in Tennessee. The brochure covers all plant types and lists wildlife uses of the native species. To obtain a copy contact Margie Hunter, mhunter55@comcast.net, or view the brochure online at the TN-EPPC website: <http://www.tneppc.org/Native%20Substitutes.pdf>

Risk assessment for invasive species produces net bioeconomic benefits, by Reuben P. Keller, David M. Lodge, and David C. Finnoff. Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, Environmental Sciences-Biological Sciences, PNAS 2007 Vol. 104: 203-207; published online before print as: 10.1073/pnas.0605787104.

The Nursery and Garden Industry of Australia (NGIA) has issued a Technical Nursery Paper, *Weeds and the Nursery Industry*. Written by Robert Chin of NGI Victoria, the paper suggests that nurseries learn which plants are on local council "hit lists," stop selling them and instead "proactively offer customers low invasive alternatives." Find the paper at www.ngia.com.au Publications -> Nursery Papers, Issue 11, 2006.

The occurrence of Ficus spp. on high-rise buildings in Singapore, by Y.C. Wee, International Biodeterioration & Biodegradation 29:53-59 (1992). *Ficus* was found growing on buildings up to the 11th floor. "Generally, plants were larger at higher levels because they were less accessible to the maintenance staff." In two townships, colonization of buildings by *Ficus* spp. exceeded 90%.

Adding biofuels to the invasive species fire? by S. Raghu, R.C. Anderson, C.C. Daehler, A.S. Davis, et al. Science 313, 22 Sept. 2006. "Experts must assess ecological risks before introducing biofuel crops, to ensure that we do not add biofuels to the already raging invasive species fire."

Wetland nightshade (Solanum tampicense) growth response to temperature, and winter survival, in relation to potential spread, by C.T. Bryson, A.M. Fox, and J.D. Byrd. Weed Technology 20:778-783 (2006). "...wetland nightshade has the potential to continue to spread in the United States."

Cultivar selection prior to introduction may increase invasiveness: evidence from Ardisia crenata, by K. Kitajima, A.M. Fox, T. Sato, D. Nagamatsu. Biological Invasions 8:1471-1482 (2006). "Comparison of the wild genotype that grows in mature evergreen broadleaf forests in central Kyushu, Japan, with the ecotype invading north central Florida revealed how selection for desirable cultivars might have inadvertently selected for traits that enhance the invasive potential of the species."

Other news

Brazilian pepper expands its range
In December 2006, Ft Clinch State Park staff members in Nassau County (Pete Scalco, Heath Alboher and District Biologist Rick Owens) discovered four occurrences of Brazilian pepper (*Schinus terebinthifolius*) in full bloom on the NE corner of the park boundary. Park staff photographed, then eradicated the peppers and will continue to monitor the area. This would extend the northern spread of BP in Florida beyond Duval County and into Nassau County, basically to the Florida-Georgia border. (Previous reports from UF-IFAS and the FLEPPC BP Management Plan, April 2006, listed the species only as far north as St. Johns County). Contact Pete Scalco, 904-277-7238; Peter.Scalco@dep.state.fl.us for further information.

Robins gorge on Brazilian pepper berries
"I've lived here in North Naples, Collier County, Florida for nearly seven years and have spent quite a few winters and winter vacations here long before that, starting in the early 80's. However, I've NEVER seen so many American Robins in Collier County as I have this winter. Their numbers are staggering. Today for example, it sounded much like springtime in the northeast Ohio area from



VINCENT LUCAS

where I last lived for any length of time. AMROs were singing everywhere today! My backyard, which abuts Greg "The Shark" Norman's Tiburón Golf Course, was completely inundated with noisy flocks of AMROs in the thousands. They were after the Brazilian Pepper berries of course. I went outside and it was literally "raining" pepper berry seeds! You could actually hear them dropping on the ground and they would stick to my exposed arms. I estimate 25,000 AMROs had to be coming through with probably 500 or so Cedar Waxwings among them. I was able to photograph a few of the AMROs eating Brazilian Pepper berries. The last "invasion" of AMROs that came anywhere near these numbers in Collier County was in 2005, but even then, I don't think they were in the high numbers that I've witnessed recently in this county. Given these AMRO's propensity for Brazilian Pepper, I'm sure there will be many, many more of this nasty invasive exotic sprouting up in the neighborhood in years to come...."
– Submitted by Vincent Lucas, Naples, FL, vlucas@swfla.rr.com
<http://www.caloosabirdclub.org>

Zanthorrea Nursery, a Western Australian garden nursery, has been named Australia's Most Weed-Wise Nursery by the Council of Australasian Weed Societies (CAWS). Agriculture and Food Minister Kim Chance said Zanthorrea stood out among nurseries in Australia for its proactive approach to the problem of environmental weeds which present major threats to native plants, wildlife and environments. "This nursery does not sell plants that have the potential to become serious environmental weeds threatening our native plants, wildlife and environments," he said. Zanthorrea was nominated for the new national award by the Weeds Society of Western Australia, a professional association that brings together researchers, agribusiness consultants, farmers and others working with weeds. The Minister said garden escapes were a major environmental problem for Australia. "It comes down to a combination of good public education and legislation to discourage the use of plants which pose an environmental risk if they escape from gardens," he said.