Mark Your Weed Calendar
A new weed activity calendar has been created on the web. A joint venture between Kate Blood of the Weeds Cooperative Research Centre and Rod Randall of the Weed Science Group at WA Agriculture has brought together the environmental, agricultural and related weed activities around the world. It's a great way to advertise your meetings! Check it out at: http://wwwagr.wagovau/progserv/Plants/weeds/calendar.htm
Send updates and new event information to Kate Blood at Kate.Blood@nre.vic.gov.au

Have you HEARd?
The Hawaiian Ecosystems at Risk (HEAR) project's Harmful Non-Indigenous Species website has had an overhaul, and several full-color 1-page information sheets about selected alien pest plant species have been added. See the following site for more info: http://www.hear.org/hear/HEARwhatsnew.htm Contact: Philip Thomas, HEAR project pt@philipt.com

Spatial Invaders
The INVADERS Database (http://invader.dbs.umt.edu) is an interactive web site that tracks the historic spread of over a thousand "weeds" that have been introduced to 5 Pacific northwest states since 1875.

The core data include 80,000 distribution records obtained from herbaria, specialized weed identification laboratories, agency surveys and other sources. All distribution records have at least county level spatial resolution. Data can be verified by the source, and most have voucher specimens.

Online outputs include county level distribution maps, time lapse maps, spread rate plot graphics, lists of exotics by user-specified state or county groupings, and a database listing with live links to other URLS. The site also includes examples of how to use INVADERS data for risk assessment and practical on-the-ground projects.

Taxonomically qualified users can now submit new weed findings directly to the INVADERS web site distribution database. The new distribution records are immediately available for inclusion in output graphics and lists. An Active Server Page component provides users with automatic e-mail notification of new weed reports. Users can specify which species will be on their custom alert notification list. The INVADERS web software scans the database each night at 11:00 p.m. for any new matching distribution records and sends next day e-mail notices to subscribers. Beta testing is being initiated for the weed alert function. The INVADERS team plans to provide open subscription access by early winter.

The site was developed by staff and students at the University of Montana under the direction of Peter Rice. The INVADERS team hopes to expand geographic coverage from the current 5 northwestern US states to at least the 50 US states or continental North America, if not the entire western hemisphere. Towards his goal they welcome review and critique of the site and suggestions on how to obtain multi-agency support for expanding geographic and species coverage. Comments and critiques can be returned directly through the web site or to Peter Rice's personal e-mail at biopmr@selway.umt.edu.

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Wildland Weeds subscription - $15/year (does not include other membership benefits)