

Invasive Ornamental Plant Symposium

Speaker Biographies

Bethany Bradley is an assistant professor of spatial ecology in the department of Environmental Conservation at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. She received a PhD in Geological Sciences from Brown University in 2006, where she worked on satellite remote sensing of terrestrial ecosystems. From 2006-2009, she was a postdoctoral researcher at Princeton University, modeling the potential shifts of invasive plant distributions in response to climate change. Bethany is interested in how the geographical locations of species across landscapes and regions can inform risk assessments and conservation planning. Her research has a strong focus on plant invasion ecology, with a goal of understanding invasion risk in the context of anthropogenic disturbance and climate change. Email: bbradley@eco.umass.edu

Mark Brand is a Professor of Horticulture in the Department of Plant Science and Landscape Architecture at the University of Connecticut. He earned a B.S. in Horticulture from Cornell University and a M.S. and Ph.D. from The Ohio State University. Part of Mark's responsibilities at UConn is to work with the nursery producers to help them find solutions to issues facing their industry. For the last dozen years, Mark has been studying the invasive potency of horticultural forms of *Berberis thunbergii* and *Euonymus alatus*. He has also focused on determining how few seeds a plant must generate to be "safe", as well as development of sterile forms of barberry. Email: mark.brand@uconn.edu

Christiana Conser is the Project Scientist for the Sustainable Conservation's PlantRight, an initiative to prevent the introduction of ornamental invasive plants through California's nursery industry. She is currently working toward a Ph.D. in Plant Sciences at UC Davis, developing a Plant Risk Evaluation (PRE) system for the nursery industry to screen plants for invasive characteristics prior to importation. Christiana is the current Secretary of the California Invasive Species Advisory Committee (CISAC), part of the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA). Her previous work included designing large-scale riparian habitat restoration and invasive species removal projects for River Partners in Northern California and for the Instituto de Ecología in Mexico. She received a M.A. in Ecology and Systematics from San Francisco State University and her thesis research, which looked at restoring coastal habitats invaded by iceplant (*Carpobrotus edulis*), was published in *Biological Invasions* in 2009. Email: cconser@ucdavis.edu

Theresa Culley is an Associate Professor in the Department of Biological Sciences at the University of Cincinnati. She graduated from the University of Irvine, California with a B.S. and earned a Ph.D. from The Ohio State University. Theresa is a plant population biologist with a variety of interests ranging from rare to invasive species, focusing on reproductive biology, ecology, and genetics. She is especially interested in species of ornamental or horticultural importance, including the Asian tree *Pyrus calleryana* and the ornamental grass *Miscanthus sinensis*. She has over 43 publications and is a past president of the Ohio Invasive Plants Council (OIPC). Theresa currently serves as Chair of the OIPC Plant List Assessment Team, charged with revising the list of invasive plants for the state.

She also serves as editor-in-chief of the journal Applications in Plant Sciences for the Botanical Society of America. Email: theresa.culley@uc.edu

Kelly Kearns has a B.S. in Horticulture and Landscape Design from Purdue University and an M.S. in Restoration Ecology from the Landscape Architecture Department of the University of Wisconsin - Madison. She is primarily responsible for coordinating work regarding terrestrial invasive plants for the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Land Division. This includes education and outreach, policy and rule revisions, working with partners and researchers, early detection and sharing control information. She has worked with a team since 2004 to develop and implement the comprehensive invasive species rule, NR 40, which is currently being revised to add certain economically useful plants.

Stacey Leicht-Young received her Ph.D. from the University of Connecticut working with Dr. John Silander on the comparative ecology of oriental and American bittersweet. From there, she moved on to work for the U.S. Geological Survey at Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore for six years with Dr. Noel Pavlovic on a variety of projects involving bittersweet, including fire effects, and its interaction on the landscape with American bittersweet. Currently, Stacey is a Putnam Fellow at Harvard University's Arnold Arboretum in Boston, where she is researching comparative traits of native and East Asian lianas in their vast living collection. Email: stacey.leicht@gmail.com

Brian McCarthy is Professor and Chair of Environmental and Plant Biology at Ohio University, Athens, Ohio. He earned a B.S. in Biology from Saint Peters College, an M.S. in Botany from Ohio University, and a Ph.D. in Ecology from Rutgers—the State University of New Jersey. He is author or co-author of over 135 peer-reviewed publications about the ecology of central Appalachian hardwood forests. He has made over 300 presentations at various conferences and secured in excess of \$2M to support his research. A large component of his research program focuses on the ecology and effects of invasive plant species in mixed oak forests. He has examined a number of species including *Ailanthus altissima*, *Alliaria petiolata*, *Lonicera maackii*, and *Paulownia tomentosa*. He is a founding member of the Ohio Invasive Plants Council (OIPC), Iron Furnace Cooperative Weed Management Area (IFCWMA), Southeastern Ohio Cooperative Weed Management Area (SEOWMA), and now the combined Appalachian Ohio Weed Control Partnership (AOWCP). Email: mccarthy@ohio.edu

Cathy McGlynn has been the Coordinator for the Northeast Illinois Invasive Plant Partnership (NIIPP), a cooperative weed management area including the 18 counties of northeast Illinois, since August 2010. Prior to becoming coordinator she was the Volunteer Coordinator for the Hudson River Submerged Aquatic Vegetation Project, Program Manager for the New York State Department of State Coastal Fish and Wildlife Habitat Project, and an editor for the Tibor T. Polgar Fellowship anthology. Cathy received her Ph.D. from the State University of New York at Stony Brook where her dissertation focused on the effects of common reed and purple loosestrife on native plants, small mammals, and birds in freshwater tidal wetlands of the Hudson River. As NIIPP coordinator she currently serves on the Illinois Invasive Plant Council and works on the Stop Aquatic Hitchhikers! Clean Boats Crew program with IL-IN Sea Grant, assists with the New

Invaders Watch Program; and collaborates with Midwest Invasive Plant Network on green industry outreach in addition to co-coordinating the Illinois Hydrilla Task Force. Email: cathy.mcglynn@niipp.net

Tim Power is a regulatory consultant for the Minnesota Nursery and Landscape Association (MNLA). He was co-owner of Law's Nursery in Minnesota, a wholesale B&B shade tree grower selling in the upper Midwest. He served on MNLA committees and board for over 30 years, becoming heavily involved in MNLA's Government Affairs program during his volunteer service. In 2010, Tim sold his interest in his business and began his current position. Among his other responsibilities with MNLA, he represents the Green Industry on the Minnesota Invasive Species Advisory Council and on the listing subcommittee of Minnesota's Noxious Weed Advisory Committee. During his MNLA presidency, Tim instituted an "Invasive Species Education Initiative" in an effort to broaden the exposure of his industry colleagues to invasive species issues. Tim has a B.A. in biology from Grinnell College and did graduate coursework in plant pathology at the University of Minnesota before becoming a business owner in the Green Industry. He is currently president of the board of a local nature center and enjoys road biking in the summer and cross-country and backcountry skiing in the winter. Email: timpower@powerconsults.com

Sarah Reichard is a Professor at the School of Environmental and Forestry Sciences at the University of Washington and Director of the UW Botanic Gardens. Her research focuses on biological invasions including the traits of invasive plants, prediction of invasive ability, early detection and rapid assessment of new invaders, and the impacts of plant invaders on native ecosystems and plants. In addition she studies the impact of anthropogenic disturbance on rare species and the use of horticultural techniques in rare plant reintroduction. Dr. Reichard received a B.S. in Botany, and an M.S. and Ph.D. in Forest Resources from the University of Washington.

Connor Shaw and his wife Jo reside in Monee, Illinois at their place of business, Possibility Place Nursery. Established in 1978, the nursery has specialized in growing native plant material that is indigenous to the Chicago area. With degrees in Forest and Wildland Hydrology, Connor acted as resource consultant on zone changes in the Chicagoland area. He determined what effect proposed developments would have on water, soils and vegetation in the report area. Connor has taught classes on Arboriculture and Plant I.D. at Joliet Junior College and has taught seminars at the Morton Arboretum, and the Chicago Botanical Garden. Connor is invited to give many lectures each year at garden clubs, golf courses, association meetings, and arborist meetings. Connor can be reached at 708.534.3988 or at oakguy@possibilityplace.com

Troy Weldy is the Director of Ecological Management for The Nature Conservancy of New York. He is author of over 75 articles and other publications including the New York Flora Atlas and a chapter on invasive species management within Conserving Biodiversity on Military Lands (<http://www.dodbiodiversity.org/ch7/index.html>). Troy has worked closely with the nursery industry on various projects, led the passage of multiple invasive species legislative bills and secured over \$35M in funding to support invasive species actions. His previous roles include North American Director of Forest Health for The Nature Conservancy, Director of US Network

Operations for NatureServe, Director of the New York Flora Association, Botanist for the New York Natural Heritage Program, Research Associate for the New York State Museum and Faculty Research Associate for Vassar College. He received his bachelor's degree from Butler University and master's degree from the College of William & Mary.