

NIIPP Bulletin February 2013

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1. Wild Things Conference

On February 2, 2013 the fifth biennial Wild Things Conference will convene at the Student Center East at the University of Illinois at Chicago. Walk-in registrants are welcome. Additional information can be found at <http://www.habitatproject.org/WildThings2013/overview.html#gettingthere>

2. Amended IL Boater Registration and Safety Law

The recently proposed Aquatic Weed Transport Bill (HB 3888) has been incorporated into the IL Boater Registration and Safety Law. Effective January 1, 2013 it is now illegal to transport any aquatic plants or animals on recreational water vehicles, sea planes, or equipment in the State of Illinois. For more details please see <http://www.ilga.gov/legislation/publicacts/fulltext.asp?Name=097-0850>

3. Forestry Stewardship Conference

Registration is now open for the nineteenth annual Tri-State Forest Stewardship Conference on Saturday, March 9, 2013 from 8:00a.m.-4:45p.m. at Sinsinawa Mound Center, Sinsinawa, WI.

Cost: \$40/person before February 8 (early bird); \$50/person after February 9. **Registration deadline is February 23, 2013.** Online Registration: <http://extension.illinois.edu/go/tristateforest>

4. Upper Midwest Invasive Species Conference presentations

In case you were unable to get travel clearance or did not have the time to attend, the UMISC 2012 presentations are now available online at <http://www.mipn.org/UMISC-2012.html>.

5. National Invasive Species Awareness Week

(NISAW) will take place from March 3- 8th this year. Additional information can be found at this link - <http://www.nisaw.org/>

6. Herbicide Effectiveness on Invasive Plants in Wisconsin publication

Newly revised and available at the Learning Store: Herbicide Effectiveness on Invasive Plants in Wisconsin (A3893) Author: Mark Renz

Based on research and field observations, this newly revised publication highlights the effectiveness of 35 herbicides on 32 different invasive plants commonly found in fields enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) in Wisconsin, all in a sturdy fold-out poster form for easy reference (4 pages; 2013).

Plants listed include: burdock, Canada goldenrod, Chinese lespedeza, common tansy, crown vetch, curly dock, dames rocket, field bindweed, garlic mustard, giant hogweed, giant ragweed, hawkweeds, hill mustard, Japanese hedge parsley, Japanese knotweed, knapweeds, multiflora rose, phragmites, poison hemlock, purple loosestrife, Queen Anne's lace, reed canary grass, spurge (leafy and cypress), sweet clover (white and yellow), teasel (cutleaf and common), thistle (bull, Canada, marsh, musk, and plumeless), wild chervil, and wild parsnip.

Visit the Learning Store to learn more about A3893, to download a PDF, or to order a booklet. <http://learningstore.uwex.edu/Search.aspx?k=A3893>

7. National Invasive Species Information Center - Best Management Practices

The National Invasive Species Information Center has compiled links to Best Management Practices to prevent the spread of invasive species and these can now be found on the Illinois Invasive Species Awareness Month website: <http://illinoisiam.blogspot.com/2013/01/best-management-practices-for.html>

8. Free Invasive Plant Webinar Series

A series of informative invasive plant webinars is currently being offered by Invasive Plant Control, Inc. The next webinar will focus on "The Landscape Approach to Early Detection and Rapid Response-Strategies for Partnership Development" on February 5th 12:00 EST. For more information please use this link- <http://www.ipcwebsolutions.com/index.htm>

9. Third National Climate Assessment Report open to public comment

The National Climate Assessment Development and Advisory Committee (NCADAC), the federal advisory committee for the National Climate Assessment, approved their draft of the Third National

Climate Assessment Report for release for public comment. The draft report is available for download-- both as a single document and by chapter - at <http://ncadac.globalchange.gov>.

The public comment period for the report will run January 14 - April 12, 2013. All comments must be submitted via the online comment tool <http://review.globalchange.gov/>. The draft will be undergoing review by the National Research Council at the same time.

The draft report is a product of the NCADAC and is not a product of the federal government. The authors of the report will use the comments received during the public comment period to revise the report before submitting it to the government for consideration.

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10. Invading Species Can Extinguish Native Plants Despite Recent Reports to the Contrary

Jan. 9, 2013 — Ecologists at the University of Toronto and the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich (ETH Zurich) have found that, given time, invading exotic plants will likely eliminate native plants growing in the wild despite recent reports to the contrary.

A study published in Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (PNAS) reports that recent statements that invasive plants are not problematic are often based on incomplete information, with insufficient time having passed to observe the full effect of invasions on native biodiversity.

"The impacts of exotic plant invasions often take much longer to become evident than previously thought," says Benjamin Gilbert of U of T's Department of Ecology & Evolutionary Biology (EEB) and lead author of the study. "This delay can create an 'extinction debt' in native plant species, meaning that these species are slowly going extinct but the actual extinction event occurs hundreds of years after the initial invasion."

Much of the debate surrounding the threat posed to biodiversity by the invasions of non-native species is fueled by recent findings that competition from introduced plants has driven remarkably few plant species to extinction. Instead, native plant species in invaded ecosystems are often relegated to patchy, marginal habitats unsuitable to their nonnative competitors.

However, Gilbert and co-author Jonathan Levine of ETH Zurich say that it is uncertain whether the colonization and extinction dynamics of the plants in marginal habitats will allow long-term native persistence.

"Of particular concern is the possibility that short term persistence of native flora in invaded habitats masks eventual extinction," says Levine.

The researchers conducted their research in a California reserve where much of the remaining native plant diversity exists in marginal areas surrounded by invasive grasses. They performed experiments in the

reserve and coupled their results with quantitative models to determine the long term impacts of invasive grasses on native plants.

"Invasion has created isolated 'islands of native plants' in a sea of exotics," says Gilbert. "This has decreased the size of native habitats, which reduces seed production and increases local extinction. It also makes it much harder for native plants to recolonize following a local extinction."

"Our research also allows us to identify how new habitats for native flora could be created that would prevent extinction from happening. These habitats would still be too marginal for invaders, but placed in such a way as to create 'bridges' to other habitat patches," says Gilbert.

The findings are reported in the paper "Plant invasions and extinction debts" in PNAS' Early Edition this week. The research is supported by funding from the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada and the Packard Foundation.

http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2013/01/130109162030.htm?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+sciencedaily%2Fplants_animals%2Fbotany+%28ScienceDaily%3A+Plants+%26+Animals+News+--+Botany%29

11. Invasive Plant of the Month- Common Valerian (*Valeriana officinalis*)

Common Valerian (Family Valerianaceae) is a perennial that is native to Eurasia <http://www.flowers.goodpages.co.uk/index.php?page=common-valerian>. It was intentionally introduced to the United States for medicinal and ornamental purposes. Its dried rhizomes yield valerian, a natural sedative.

Common Valerian can be found in open or semi-shaded areas, roadsides, forest and stream edges, and fields and will grow on a variety of soils. It grows up to 5ft. tall with characteristic sparsely-leaved stems that have pairs of branches which end in flowers during the summer (June-September). The white to pink flowers are arranged in umbel form with three umbels topping the central (tallest) stem which is grooved, round, hollow, and hairy near the base. Leaves are paired and formed of leaflets with coarsely cut teeth, strongly veined on top and hairy below. Individual flowers are tubular with five lobes and have a distinctive spicy, vanilla ice cream fragrance. Common Valerian spreads by seeds and above ground stolons. It has been reported in Lake County, Illinois by Lake Forest Open Lands Association.

Additional information and photos can be found at these sites:

UK: <http://botanical.com/botanical/mgmh/v/valeri01.html>

UK: [http://wildflowerfinder.org.uk/Flowers/V/Valerian\(Common\)/Valerian\(Common\).htm](http://wildflowerfinder.org.uk/Flowers/V/Valerian(Common)/Valerian(Common).htm)

US: <http://www.invasive.org/browse/subinfo.cfm?sub=6580>

US (IL): http://www.eddmaps.org/county.cfm?sub=6580&id=us_il_17097



(Photo taken from www.flowerfinder.org.uk)



(Photo taken from www.naturespot.org.uk)



(Photo taken from www.herbaextractsplus.com)