



Unwanted Invaders

Volume 7

Issue 5

July 2014

Invasive Species Council of Manitoba
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Leafy Spurge Awareness Event

By Rachel Cherka, ISCM Technician

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One form of control for Leafy Spurge is biocontrol, more specifically using *Aphthona lacertosa*, a Leafy Spurge flea beetle that controls Leafy Spurge by eating it. This method in addition to mechanical and chemical controls can help control the spread of Leafy Spurge populations. Leafy Spurge is notorious for damaging rangeland and pastures as well as poisoning livestock. It causes millions of dollars in damages each year and is highly invasive, spreading both by seed and rhizome.



Insect Collector Funnel
 Photo Credit: Richard Warkentin

On July 18, 2014 a small group of volunteers collected the Leafy Spurge flea beetles from a patch a half mile west of Morden, MB. This event not only

allowed volunteers to acquire their own beetles to control the patches on their land but also to spread awareness and education. Thanks to all who participated and to Richard Warkentin for organizing the event!



Leafy Spurge Flea Beetles (*Aphthona lacertosa*)
 Photo Credit: Richard Warkentin

If you spot Leafy Spurge or would like more information on it and how to control it, please contact ISCM by phone: 204-232-6021 or by email: info@invasivespeciesmanitoba.com

Would you like to help spread the word about invasive species?



Visit us on Facebook and Follow us on Twitter @ISCM1

Email us at info@invasivespeciesmanitoba.com for pamphlets, pens and more!

Emerald Ash Borer

By Fiona Ross, Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship



D-shaped exit holes, Photo credit: CFIA

Emerald ash borer (EAB), *Agrilus planipennis*, is a highly destructive invasive wood boring beetle that kills ash trees. Originally from Asia, EAB was first detected in North America in 2002. This highly destructive pest continues to spread throughout North America through the movement of nursery stock and untreated ash wood, particularly firewood. Millions of ash trees have been killed in Ontario, Quebec and the U.S. The nearest populations of EAB to Manitoba are in Minneapolis, Minnesota and Superior, Wisconsin. Emerald ash borer has not been found in Manitoba. However once found it will forever change the urban, commercial and recreational forest.

To monitor for this invasive insect the

Province, the Canadian Food Inspection Agency and some Municipalities and communities have placed green prism trap in ash trees across the province. The traps are hung in ash trees in areas that have a high risk area for introduction (ex campground and parks). ISCM was able to help with the mid season trap check that have been put up by Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship. The traps get a look over in the middle of the summer; we did not find any emerald ash borer, and will be checked at the end of summer when they are taken down.



Emerald Ash Borer (*Agrilus planipennis*)

Photo credit: bugwood.org



ISCM Technician retrieving EAB trap, Photo credit: Fiona Ross

(continued on next page...)

As EAB is very hard to detect in low numbers these traps are used in combination with a visual survey and education to help detect emerald ash borer in Manitoba. If you suspect an ash tree has EAB, here is what you should look for:

- ✦ Tree decline
- ✦ Crown thinning
- ✦ Suckers or water sprouts
- ✦ Vertical cracks in the bark (from the larval tunneling)
- ✦ S-shaped larval tunnels
- ✦ “D-shaped” adult exit holes in the bark

If you think you have found infested trees or ash material, you can let make a report on the provinces of Manitoba’s new Sick tree questionnaire: www.gov.mb.ca/conservation/forestry/questionnaire/ or call the Provincial Tree Line: 204-945-7866.



S-shaped larval tunnels

Photo credit: CFIA

DO NOT MOVE FIREWOOD! Firewood can contain harmful forest pests.

Meeting the Challenge Conference

Meeting the Challenge: Preventing, Detecting, and Controlling Invasive Plants
 University of Washington Botanic Gardens, Seattle, WA
 September 16-17, 2014

Invasive plants are a significant threat to biodiversity and ecosystem function. New introductions continue to emerge through a variety of pathways and vectors, while existing invaders continue to persist and expand their range. Changes in climate, land use, and biotic interactions present new challenges in controlling the spread of these invaders. Land managers and scientists will hear the latest information on how to effectively prevent, detect, and respond to these persistent and emerging threats. Conference presentations, both invited and contributed, will stimulate dialogue, raise new questions and offer innovative solutions. Participants from throughout northwestern North America will contribute ideas and meet colleagues for collaboration.

Keynote Speakers:

September 16 - Dan Simberloff, University of Tennessee

September 17 - Jason S. McLachlan, University of Notre Dame

Contact the conference e-mail for general questions at InvasivePlantsConf@gmail.com or call (206) 685-8033. Questions regarding registration should be directed to Sasha McGuire at urbhort@uw.edu or (206) 685-8033

Diffuse Knapweed Event



Members of the event team pulling Diffuse Knapweed, Photo credit: Rachel Cherka

By Rachel Cherka, ISCM Technician

On Friday, July 25th the Diffuse Knapweed event took place in Morden, MB. Although our group was small we got a lot accomplished and surveyed a lot of ground. Because of this event, we were able to locate a previously unknown patch within our survey area and pull it before it spread any further.

Diffuse Knapweed (*Centaurea diffusa*) is confined to only a few properties around Stanley Centennial Park, near Morden, MB. The goal is to keep it that way and ideally to wipe it from the province all together. During the event, the group surveyed multiple pastures on the property; when a Diffuse Knapweed plant was spotted it was dug up and disposed of immediately. Every plant that was found was removed, this will help to dwindle the seed bank and contribute to eliminating it for good.

Since Diffuse Knapweed spreads only by seed, controlling it before it has a chance to seed can be a good way of depleting the population. While hand pulling is an effective method, herbicides can be used as

well as mowing before the plant goes to seed. However, mowing will not remove the root so the chance of it re-sprouting from its root is pretty likely. With mowing, there is also the risk that seeds could be further dispersed if mowing is not done at the proper time. For these reasons, hand pulling and spraying herbicide are generally the best course of action for this invasive.

A big thank you to all who were able to attend and all those involved in the planning of this event.



Diffuse Knapweed (*Centaurea diffusa*)

Photo credit: Rachel Cherka

Weed Spotters Program

Join us **Wednesday, August 20th** starting at **10:00am** for a Weed Spotters Workshop.



Leafy Spurge

Photo: bugwood.org

With tremendous biological diversity and a large inventory of intact aquatic ecosystems, Manitoba is highly vulnerable to new biological invasions. Over the last decade, there has been a growing awareness that introduced invasive species are having significant and increasing impacts on Manitoba's economy, environment, and human health.

Currently, there are many more invasives threatening Manitoba borders including European Frog-bit, Yellowflag Iris and the weed that ate the south – Kudzu; for this reason the Invasive Species Council of Manitoba (ISCM) has begun developing a Weed Spotters Program. The Weed Spotters Program is a network of volunteers that assist the Invasive Species Council of Manitoba by keeping an

eye open for and reporting potential new or emerging invasive weeds. It's a community based weed alert system, a model developed by the Australian Weed Management Program. By discovering a 'not seen before' or 'this is new' weed species in the early stages, there is a greater opportunity to deliver an effective response before the weed has spread. Weed spotters report, collect, and identify new and emerging weeds in their region. They can be landholders, gardeners, members of community groups or concerned members of the public. Weed spotters do not need to have formal botanical training. Just an interest in plants and their environment – ANYONE CAN HELP OUT!



Common Tansy Photo: ISCM

ISCM will be holding one of these workshops to train weed spotters on the species to keep an eye out for; it will be on **August 20th** starting at **10am** at the **A Rocha Interpretive Centre in the Pembina Valley Provincial Park, southwest of Morden**. The morning will feature a Weed Spotters training presentation from an ISCM board member and a common tansy pull in the afternoon inside the Pembina Valley Provincial Park. We hope you can join us!!

For more information on this workshop or to become a weed spotter please contact ISCM at 204-232-6021 or email us at info@invasivespeciesmanitoba.com

Weeds Across Borders Conference

Wednesday, October 15, 2014 through Thursday, October 16, 2014

To register go to: <https://www.regonline.com/builder/site/default.aspx?EventID=1544147>

Pre-Conference Workshops: **Oct 14, 2014**

Post Conference Field Tours: **Oct 17, 2014**

Weeds Across Borders (WAB) is an international conference covering the interests of professionals and organizations from various jurisdictions across North America with a common interest in sharing information and improving invasive species management, including weeds, throughout North America.

This conference will be held at **the Delta Ottawa City Centre, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada** and will provide a forum for educating, sharing and disseminating knowledge about invasive species management (including weed management), regulatory issues and concerns about invasive species spread across and between all jurisdictional boundaries throughout Mexico, Canada and the United States.

WAB Conference (Oct 15-16, 8:30am to 4:30pm)

Registration Includes: Conference all day sessions (\$175.00 + 5%GST = \$183.75)

Pre-Conference Concurrent Workshops (Oct 14, 1:00 to 5:00pm)

Choose one:

Workshop A: Moving from Awareness to Action: New Approaches for Communications Programs (\$40.00 + 5%GST = \$42.00)

Workshop B: Leading the Way Against Invasives through Horticulture (\$40.00 + 5%GST = \$42.00)

Post-Conference Concurrent Field Tours: (Oct 17, 8:00am to 2:00pm)

Choose one:

Tour 1: Biocontrol and on-the-ground Management (\$45.00 + 5%GST = \$47.25)

Tour 2: Invasive Species Management: Tools at Work, (\$45.00 + 5%GST = \$47.25)

Tour 3: A Self-Guided Tour of our Nation's Capital and a Snapshot of its Urban Invasive Species (Free)

For more information, please contact: Gail Wallin, co-chair, Canadian Council on Invasive Species at (250) 305-9161 or gwallin@bcinvasives.ca

Who we are...

The Invasive Species Council of Manitoba (ISCM) is a non-profit organization providing a centralized and coordinated province-wide leadership body adopting a collaborative approach to invasive species in Manitoba.

Vision...

Maintain a healthy, bio-diverse landscape through the prevention, early detection, and education and awareness of invasive alien species management practices in order to eradicate or limit further spread.

Websites

Invasive Species Council of Manitoba: <http://www.invasivespeciesmanitoba.com>

EDDMapS: <http://eddmappings.org/prairieregion/>

Leafy Spurge Stakeholders Group: <http://leafyspurge.ca/>

Manitoba Purple Loosestrife Project: <http://www.purpleloosestrife.org/>

EDDMapS
Early Detection & Distribution Mapping System



LSSG

Thank you!

To all of our partner, funders and stakeholders without you we would not exist!



The Invasive Species Council of Manitoba is now on **Twitter**, follow us **@ISCM1**



For more information contact:
Invasive Species Council of Manitoba
 c/o 5006 Roblin Blvd. Winnipeg, Manitoba R3R 0G7
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 E-mail: info@invasivespeciesmanitoba.com

STOP THE SPREAD

Diffuse Knapweed

Centaurea diffusa

Diffuse Knapweed is a prolific seed producer, up to 18,000 seeds per plant which can remain dormant for years!

UNWANTED PLANTS

Origin

A biennial or short-lived perennial native to Eurasia. It was accidentally introduced through contaminated seed.

Status

Has invaded most areas of the United States and Canada. In Manitoba, it is classified as a noxious weed and is currently only found near Morden, MB.

Impacts

Diffuse Knapweed invades rangelands where it crowds out and suppresses desirable plants through allelopathy (release of toxins). Can also cause yield losses in forage crops.

Where to Look

Knapweed occurs over a wide range of ecological habitat types. Though common in disturbed areas of wildlife habitat, pastures, and grasses, it can also be found in undisturbed native habitat.



Look For:

◇ Grows to be 0.3-0.6 m tall.

◇ Alternate leaves divided into linear segments, lance shaped, gray-green with fur-like hair.

◇ Flowers are white to pale pink with bracts that are spine-tipped.



Prevent the Spread in Manitoba

Diffuse Knapweed reproduces solely by seed, which are spread quickly and easily by wind, animals, farm equipment and recreation vehicles as well as infested feed or gravel. Remove this species from your property either by hand-pulling, mowing or herbicide.

Report a Sighting:



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ph: (204) 232-6021 fax: (204) 986-7236

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Canada

Funding for this project was provided in part by the Invasive Alien Species Partnership Program, a Government of Canada initiative.

EDD Maps Prairie Region
Early Detection & Distribution Mapping System Manitoba & Saskatchewan

<http://www.eddmaps.org/prairieregion/>

Photo Credits: Banner and pink flower photo: S. Dewey, Utah State University, Bugwood.org; White flower photo: USDA APHIS PPQ Archive, USDA APHIS PPQ, Bugwood.org. Stem and buds: