

Noxious Weed Advisory Committee – Draft Meeting Minutes
September 30, 2019

Voting members in attendance:

Brian Waymack (VDOT)
Chris MacDonald (VA Association of Counties)
Raymond Fernald (DGIF)
Rod Walker (Blue Ridge PRISM)
Jacob Barney (Virginia Tech)
John Repair (VA Forage and Grasslands Council)
Kevin Heffernan (VDCR)
Kyle Shreve (VA Agribusiness Council)
Laura Greenleaf (James River Park System – Invasive Plant Task Force)
Lori Chamberlin (VDOF)
Ruth Douglas (Native Plant Society)
Seana Ankers (VNLA)

Other meeting attendees:

David Gianino (VDACS)
Tina MacIntyre (VDACS)
Larry Nichols (VDACS)
Kaitlin Mooneyham (VDOF)
Jim Hurley (Blue Ridge PRISM)

Committee Member Roles

The meeting was attended by 12 voting members, which constituted a quorum.

VDACS Giant Hogweed Update

Tina MacIntyre provided a brief update on the giant hogweed survey, identification, and treatments from 2018 and 2019. There are three positive sites in VA; one site in Clarke County, one site in Rockingham County, and one site in Fauquier County.

Review of Noxious Weed Assessments

- 1) *Dioscorea polystachya*
Chinese yam, cinnamon vine
Discussion: The committee reviewed the assessment and utilized the Digital Atlas of Virginia Flora and noted the plants dispersal and distribution. The plant was widely distributed in Virginia.
Motion action: **Nominate to Tier 3.**
Member who made the motion: **Ruth Douglas**
Member that seconded the motion: **Rod Walker**
Motion passed unanimously.

2) *Elaeagnus umbellata*

Autumn olive, oleaster

Discussion: The committee discussed the hybrid *Elaeagnus* plants and the implications of adding the plant to the list. The committee verified that *Elaeagnus umbellata* was being grown and commercially sold in VA and species is therefore commercially viable in Virginia. *Elaeagnus umbellata* is not eligible for listing as a noxious weed.

Motion action: **Table the discussion.**

Member who made the motion: **Seana Ankers**

Member that seconded the motion: **Rod Walker**

Motion passed unanimously.

The committee decided to list species and subspecies only, and not include their hybrids.

3) *Persicaria longiseta*

Smartweed, oriental lady's thumb, Asiatic smartweed, bristled knotweed, bunchy knotweed

Discussion: Committee cited concerns regarding a lack of research and information on the impact of the plant, and the low impact score on the assessment.

Motion action: **Table discussion until next meeting.** Jim Hurley will review the assessment, research more and resubmit the assessment for the next meeting.

Member who made the motion: **Ray Fernald**

Member that seconded the motion: **Rod Walker**

Motion passed unanimously.

4) *Pueraria montana*

Kudzu

Discussion: No committee discussion on this weed.

Motion action: **Nominate to Tier 3.**

Member who made the motion: **Jim Hurley**

Member that seconded the motion: **Kevin Heffernan**

Motion passed unanimously.

5) *Trapa bispinosa*

Two-horned trapa, water chestnut

Discussion: This species has been identified as *Trapa bispinosa*, which is different than *Trapa natans* L. This new species has minimal science attributed to its impact and invasiveness. According to the Integrated Taxonomic Information System (ITIS), *T. bispinosa* is a taxonomic synonym for *T. natans* L. The available research for *T. natans* is applicable to *T. bispinosa*.

Motion action: **Nominate to Tier 2.**

Member who made the motion: **Ray Fernald**

Member that seconded the motion: **Rod Walker**

Motion passed unanimously.

6) *Ulmus pumila*

Siberian elm

Discussion: The impact of Siberian elm was low with only limited observations of instances of invasiveness in VA. Discussion on the potential for this plant to be invasive, but there was limited evidence Siberian elm is invasive in Virginia and it does not appear to be widely distributed or spreading in the Commonwealth.

Motion action: **Table discussion.**

Member who made the motion: **Kyle Shreve**

Member that seconded the motion: **Rod Walker**

Motion passed.

Assessments that will be considered at the next meeting: *Ficaria verna*.

Summary:

Dioscorea polystachya - Chinese yam, cinnamon vine: **Nominated to Tier 3;**

Elaeagnus umbellata - autumn olive, oleaster – **Discussion tabled** (*commercially viable*);

Persicaria longiseta - Smartweed, oriental lady's thumb, Asiatic smartweed, bristled knotweed, bunchy knotweed - **Table discussion until next meeting** (*resubmit with more information*);

Pueraria montana – Kudzu – **Nominated to Tier 3;**

Trapa bispinosa - Two-horned trapa, water chestnut - **Nominated to Tier 2;** and

Ulmus pumila - Siberian elm – **Discussion tabled** (*committee discussion revealed low impact*).

Action Items:

VDACS will schedule next meeting;

VDACS will update the committee on regulatory process status at next meeting;

VDACS will review a 'general permit' for Tier 3 plants;

Specific references and direct web-links to each reference should be included in future assessments;

NWAC will further discuss permitting process; and

VDOT will look into alternative seed mixes that do not contain *Lespedeza cuneata*.