

**SHORT SUBJECTS
AND TIMELY TIPS
FOR PESTICIDE USERS**

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BIOLOGICAL CONTROL, IPM, AND EXOTIC PESTS PEST CONTROL

**INTEGRATED STRATEGIES OFFER SITE-SPECIFIC
CONTROL OF YELLOW STARHISTLE**

(Joseph M. DiTomaso, Guy B. Kyser, Steve B. Orloff, & Steven F. Enloe)

(Source: *California Agriculture*, Volume 54, Number 6, November-December 2000)

Abstract – Ongoing research projects integrate chemical, mechanical, cultural and biological techniques to control yellow starthistle, a prolific weed now infesting between 10 million and 15 million acres in California. With many options available to land managers, developing a long-term, strategic management plan most suitable to a specific area can be complicated. It requires careful consideration of the advantages and disadvantages of each option and how best to

incorporate appropriate ones into an effective program. Management strategies include timely mowings, grazing, clover plantings, biological control insects, prescribed burning and selective applications of herbicides. In addition to new developments in the management of yellow starthistle, public awareness of invasive weed issues has translated into major legislative changes that should encourage and assist private and public landowners and managers to initiate long-term programs to prevent and manage invasive weeds, particularly yellow starthistle.

For a copy of the article –

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**UC SCIENTISTS APPLY IPM TECHNIQUES TO
NEW EUCALYPTUS PESTS**
(Timothy D. Paine, Donald L. Dahlsten, Jocelyn G. Millar,
Mark S. Hoddle & Lawrence M. Hanks)

(Source: *California Agriculture*, Volume 54, Number 6, November-December 2000)

Abstract – Eucalyptus trees have been important components of the California urban landscape for almost 150 years. Until 1984, they were free of both insect and disease pests. In the last 16 years, however, a series of herbivorous insect species have been introduced into the state, probably accidentally, causing significant damage to the trees. Research programs have provided solutions to some of these pest problems, but more pests are continually introduced, recently the red gum lerp psyllid, the lemon gum lerp psyllid, and the eucalyptus tortoise beetle. Scientists are developing new strategies to control the recent invaders in concert with existing pest management programs, integrating methods across broad geographic, horticultural and economic scales.

For a copy of the article -

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PEST CONTROL

LICHENS: AN UNLIKELY SOURCE OF NEW HERBICIDES

(Source: *Agricultural Research*, Vol. 49, No. 1, January 2001)

In the search for “new and more environmentally friendly herbicides” Agricultural Research Scientists in collaboration with the National Center for Natural Products Research, University of Mississippi-Oxford “have found a natural compound in lichens that may be a potential new herbicide.” It has been discovered that one common lichen metabolite, usnic acid, inhibits carotenoid synthesis. “This chemical compound has also been found to have antihistaminic, antiviral, and antibacterial activities.” Usnic is toxic to plants because “it works by bleaching the

first leaves a plant forms, causing a decrease of both chlorophylls and carotenoids in treated plants.” The bleaching was found to work in several plants, including barley, lettuce, and cucumber. It is thought that it may also work for controlling the growth of weeds. “The lichen project provides the basis for developing an entirely new area of research: exploiting lichens as sources of natural herbicides.” For a copy of the article contact Pat Skyler, (916) 454-0817, pskyler@fs.fed.us

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REGULATORY

EPA ANNOUNCES ELIMINATION OF ALL INDOOR USES OF WIDELY-USED PESTICIDE DIAZINON; BEGINS PHASE-OUT OF LAWN AND GARDEN USES

(Source: EPA Headquarters Press Release, Washington, DC, 12/05/00)

“Today, EPA announced an agreement to phase-out diazinon, one of the most widely used pesticides in the United States, for indoor uses, beginning in March 2001, and for all lawn, garden and turf uses by December 2003. ‘The Clinton-Gore Administration continues to aggressively target for elimination those pesticides that pose the greatest risk to human health and the environment, and especially those posing the greatest risk to children,’ said Carol M. Browner, EPA Administrator. ‘The action we are taking today is another major step toward ensuring that all Americans can enjoy greater safety from exposure to harmful pesticides.’ ‘Today’s action will significantly eliminate the vast majority of organophosphate insecticide products in and around the home, and by implementing this phase-out, it will help encourage consumers to move to safer pest control practice,’ said Browner. Diazinon is the most widely used pesticide by homeowners on lawns, and is one of the most widely used pesticide ingredients for application around the home and in gardens.”

The full press release plus additional documents on the phase out can be accessed at <<http://www.epa.gov/oppsrrd1/op/diazinon.htm>> or –

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FINAL RULE ON METHYL BROMIDE PHASEOUT

(Source: *Maryland Cooperative Extension Newsletter*, Vol. 19, No. 11, November 2000)

The EPA has issued a Direct Final Rule on the accelerated phase out regulations that govern the production, import, export, transformation and destruction of substances that deplete the ozone layer under the authority of Title VI of the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990. Specifically, the new amendments reflect the Protocol’s reductions in the production and consumption of class I,

Group VI controlled substances (methyl bromide) for the 2001 calendar year and subsequent calendar years as follows: beginning January 1, 2001, a 50% reduction in baseline levels; beginning January 1, 2003, a 70% reduction in baseline levels; and, beginning January 1, 2005, the complete phase out of class I, Group VI controlled substances. The rule takes effect on January 29 unless the Agency receives adverse comments on the action by December 28. The EPA contact is the Stratospheric Ozone Information Hotline at 1-800-296-1996 or (202) 564-9295. The entire document is available in the EPA November 28 Federal Register: http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=2000_register&docid=00-30109-filed

HUMAN HEALTH

LYME DISEASE PAMPHLET AVAILABLE

Lyme Disease & Related Disorders is an online pamphlet produced by Pfizer Global Research & Development with assistance from Drs. Louis a. Magnarelli and Kirby C. Stafford, III, Department of Entomology, Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station, New Haven, CT; Dr. Robert T. Schoen, Department of Rheumatology, Yale School of Medicine, New Haven, CT; Dr. Joseph J. Gadbaw, Jr., Infectious Diseases Department, Lawrence & Memorial Hospital, New London, CT; and Dr. Steven A. Levy, Durham Veterinary Hospital, Durham, CT. The 3-page informative pamphlet discusses tick bites and transmission, tick removal, symptoms of Lyme disease, treatment, prevention and related disorders. For a copy of the pamphlet contact Pat Skyler (916) 454-0817, pskyler@fs.fed.us or it can be accessed at http://www.lymediseaseinformation.com/acknowledgment_bodytext.htm

MISCELLANEOUS

CALCULATING THE BENEFITS OF HOUSTON'S URBAN TREES

(Source: *American Forests*, New Release)

“WASHINGTON (December 13, 2000) – At a news conference today in Houston, TX, AMERICAN FORESTS released a report showing dramatic tree loss in the region over a 27-year period. The study, known as an Urban Ecosystem Analysis, found that between 1972 and 1999 areas with heavy tree canopy (50% or greater tree cover) declined by 16%, contributing to an estimated total annual loss of \$55 million in environmental benefits.”

The study, which was sponsored by the USDA Forest Service and Houston Green (a coalition of local conservation organizations), “used satellite data to document the urban forest of an area covering 3.2 million acres. In addition experts in AMERICAN FORESTS’ Urban Forest Center analyzed 25 specific sites with aerial photography using the organization’s CITY green computer software to map and measure tree-cover and calculate the benefits of Houston’s trees.”

For additional information contact Stevin Westcott (202) 955-4500, x234 or Dan Smith, x208 at AMERICAN FORESTS. Summaries of AMERICAN FORESTS' Regional Ecosystem Analyses

can be viewed online. Full reports and satellite images can be downloaded. The website is located at <http://www.americanforests.org/trees_cities_sprawl/urban_analysis/index.html>. For a copy of the above press release and/or a copy of the article "Picture This", *American Forests Magazine*, Autumn 2000, which discusses the decline of canopy cover in urban landscapes, technology to detect the decline, and ecosystem analyses conducted using computer software –

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SOLARIZATION AND BIOFUMIGATION HELP DISINFECT SOIL
(James J. Stapleton, Clyde L. Elmore & James E. DeVay)

(Source: *California Agriculture*, Volume 54, Number 6, November-December 2000)

Abstract – "Preplant soil fumigation with methyl bromide is scheduled to be phased out by 2005. Chemical and nonchemical alternatives are being researched and identified. Soil solarization and/or biofumigation can help fill the gap in certain cases. These alternative methods of soil disinfestation are also of value to organic growers, home gardeners and others who will not or cannot use the soil fumigation chemicals employed by many conventional commercial growers."

For a copy of the article -

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ON THE INTERNET

Weeds Gone Wild: Alien Plant Invaders of Natural Areas is a web-based project of the Plant Conservation Alliance's Alien Plant Working Group. The site provides a compiled national list of invasive plants infesting natural areas throughout the U.S.; background information on the problem of invasive species; illustrated fact sheets that include plant descriptions, native range, distribution and habitat in the U.S., management options, suggested alternative native plants, and other information; and selected links to relevant people and organizations. The web site is located at <<http://www.nps.gov/plants/alien>>.

EPA has established a new web site that provides information about the EPA pesticide program. Under the Freedom of Information Act, U.S. government agencies are required to divulge information about their duties and performance. The EPA established this new web site to better inform the public about the way that pesticides are regulated. Access it at <<http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/foia/>>

EPA has created a label with pop-up text that explains the basic statements found on pesticide product labels. As you pass your mouse pointer over the different parts of the label a window will open and provide an explanation of the label statement. Access this new website at <<http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/label/>>

The National Pesticide Telecommunications Network has developed a new web site for the West Nile Virus. It addresses Background, Federal, and Toxicology information as well as provides a series of informational and interactive maps. Access the site at <<http://ace.orst.edu/info/nptn/wnv.htm>>.

PUBLICATIONS

Skyler, P. and H. Thistle. 2000. Tenth Report – National Spray Model and Application Technology Working Group Meeting (July 12-13, 2000 – Milwaukee, WI). FHTET 00-04. USDA Forest Service, Forest Health Technology Enterprise Team, Morgantown, WV. For a copy of the report contact Pat Skyler, (916) 454-0817, pskyler@fs.fed.us

Invasive Plants of California's Wildlands, edited by Carla C. Bossard, John M. Randall, and Marc C. Hoshovsky, provides specific information about the biology and control of the 78 nonnative plant species that are listed by the California Exotic Pest Plant Council as being of greatest ecological concern in California. The text addresses the following questions about each species: How do I recognize it? Where would I find it? Where did it come from and how does it spread? What problems does it cause? How does it grow and reproduce? How do I get rid of it? For ordering information contact KW Publications, Fax (858) 271-1425.

Pampasgrass and Jubatagrass Threaten California Coastal Habitats by Joseph M. DiTomaso, Evelyn Healy, Carl E. Bell, Jennifer Drewitz, and Alison Tschohl. University of California Cooperative Extension Leaflet #99-1, January 1999. The leaflet covers the following topics: Where do they come from? What problems do they cause? Where are they weedy in California? How do you tell the difference between the two species? What makes them invasive? What can be done to prevent further spread? Can they be controlled? The leaflet is available online at <<http://wric.ucdavis.edu/information/pampasgrass.html>> or contact Joseph M. DiTomaso (530) 754-8715.

UPCOMING EVENTS

16-18 January 2001. **22nd Annual Forest Vegetation Management Conference: Water, Aquatic Resources, and Vegetation Management**, Holiday Inn, Redding, CA. Contact: Sherry Cooper (530) 224-4902, Email: shcooper@ucdavis.edu

16-19 January 2001. **USDA Interagency Research Forum on Gypsy Moth and Other Invasive Species**, Loews Annapolis Hotel, 126 West Street, Annapolis, MD 21401. Contact: Kathy McManus, USDA Forest Service, NERS, 51 Mill Pond road, Hamden, CT 06514, (203) 230-4330, email: kmcmamus@fs.fed.us

31 January – 1 February 2001. **Second Meeting - California Oak Mortality Task Force**, Marin Center, San Rafael, CA. Contact: Livia DiPirimo, (510) 643-4446, Fax (510) 643-3490, Email: livia@nature.berkeley.edu or visit their website at <<http://www.suddenoakdeath.org>>.

5-8 February 2001. **Forest Health Monitoring Workshop**, Las Vegas, NV. Contact: Ken Stolte (919) 549-4022, Email: kstolte@fs.fed.us or Kurt Riitters (919) 549-4015, Email: kriitters@fs.fed.us

11-14 February 2001. **Weed Science Society of America – 2001 Annual Meeting**, Greensboro, NC. Contact: Rhonda Green (800) 627-0629 or (785) 843-1235, E-mail: wssa@allenpress.com or visit their website at <<http://ext.agn.uiuc.edu/wssa/wssagg.html>>

13-15 February 2001. **Southeast Regional Public Health Pest and Vector Management Conference**, Panama City, FL. Contact: Jack Peterson (850) 872-4184, ext. 36, Email: drjack3@hotmail.com

23 February 2001. **Lyme Disease in California and the Wildlife Profession Workshop**, Raddisson Hotel, Sacramento, CA. Contact: Kent Reeves (209) 365-1096 or Dr. Reg Barrett (510) 642-7261.

13-15 March 2001. **Western Society of Weed Science**, The Coeur d'Alene Resort, Coeur d'Alene, ID. For information, visit their website at <http://www.wsweedscience.org/annual_meet/meeting_index.html>

15-16 March 2001. **The First International Knapweed Symposium of the New Millennium**, The Coeur d'Alene Resort, Coeur d'Alene, ID. Contact: Linda Wilson at lwilson@uidaho.edu, Barb Mullin (406) 444-5400, or Rita Beard (970) 295-5745 or visit their website at: <<http://www.sidney.ars.usda.gov/knapweed>>.

1-5 April 2001. **2001 American Chemical Society National Meeting**, San Diego, CA. Contact: American Chemical Society (202) 872-4486, Email: expo@acs.org or visit their website at <<http://www.acs.org/meetings/sandiego2001/>>.

13-18 May 2001. **Aquatic Weed Control – Short Course 2001: Aquatic Weed Control; Upland and Invasive Weed Control; Aquatic Plant Culture and Revegetation**, Ft. Lauderdale, FL. Contact: Beth Miller-Tipton (352) 392-5930, Fax (352) 392-9734, Email: bamt@gnv.ifas.ufl.edu or visit their website at <<http://www.ifas.ufl.edu/~conferweb/aw/index.html>>.

14-18 May 2001. **North American Forest Insect Work Conference**, Crown Plaza-Chateau Lacombe Hotel, Edmonton, Alberta. Contacts: Jan Volney (780) 435-7329, Hideji Ono (780) 427-8474, John Spence (780) 492-3003 or check out their website at <<http://nofc.cfs.nrcan.gc.ca/nafiw/c/>>

1-6 June 2001. **Invasive Alien Species and Their Management**, as part of the **Pacific Science Intercongress**, Guam. Contact: R. Muniappan, RMuni@uog9.uog.edu

30 July – 2 August 2001. **The Western Forest Genetics Association 2001 Conference**, University of California, Davis, CA. The conference is hosted by the Institute of Forest Genetics, Pacific Southwest Research Station, USDA Forest Service. Contact: Dr. David Neale, (530) 754-8431, Email: dneale@dendrome.ucdavis.edu or visit their website at: <<http://dendrome.ucdavis.edu/ifg/WFGA/wfga.htm>>

2-5 August 2001. **The Practice of Biological Control: Importation and Management of Natural Enemies in the New Millennium**, Bozeman, MT. For additional information contact: Tim Kring (501) 575-3186.

13-17 August 2001. **The 6th International Symposium on Adjuvants for Agrochemicals**, Amsterdam, The Netherlands. Contact: H. deRuiter, ISAA 2001 Foundation, P.O. Box 83, NL-6870 AA Renkum, The Netherlands, Fax 31-317-350-812, h.deruiter@issa2001.com

10-14 September 2001. **Dynamics of Forest Insect Populations**, University of Aberdeen, Aberdeen, Scotland. Contact: Andrew Liebhold, USDA Forest Service, Morgantown, WV, (304) 285-1512, Email: sandy@gypsy.fsl.wvu.edu or visit their website at http://salava.metla.fi/iufro/iufro/d7/wu70307/aberdeen_firstannounce.htm

23-26 September 2001. **Resistance 2001: Meeting the Challenge** (the meeting will review the latest research on the origins, nature, development, and prevention of resistance to insecticides, fungicides, and herbicides), Harpenden, Herts, United Kingdom. Contact: Resistance 2001 Secretariat, IACR-Rothamsted, Harpenden, Herts AL5 2JQ, UK 44-0-1582-763133, Email: res.2001@bbsrc.ac.uk

21-24 October 2001. **2001 Joint Annual Meeting of the Entomological Societies of Canada and Ontario – 2001: An Insect Odyssey—Exploration and Discovery**, Niagara Falls, Ontario. Contact: Cynthia Scott Dupree (519) 824-4120, ext. 2477, Email: csdupree@evbhort.uoguelph.ca

26-28 November 2001. **Southern Forest Science Conference – Contributions of Forest Research to Sustainable Forestry**, Atlanta, GA. Contact: Sam Foster or Nancy Walters, (828) 257-4307 or visit the conference website at <www.southernforestscience.net>.

CALL FOR ARTICLES

Please forward to me all articles, meeting announcements, publications, reports, or other items of interest that you would like included in the next issue of *Short Subjects & Timely Tips for Pesticide Users*. Please include the name, State, and telephone number of the individual who can be contacted for further information:

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The Washington Office, Forest Health Protection, Forest Health Technology Enterprise Team sponsors, compiles, edits, and distributes this informal newsletter as a means of providing current information to forestry pesticide users. Comments, questions, and items of input are welcome and may be sent to Pat Skyler, Editor, USDA Forest Service, Remote Sensing Lab, 1920 20th Street, Sacramento, CA 95814, or by E-mail: <pskyler@fs.fed.us>. Reference to a commercial product or source in this newsletter does not constitute endorsement by the USDA Forest Service. Information should be verified by contacting the original source of information as neither the editor nor the USDA Forest Service guarantees the accuracy of the information provided in this newsletter. Pesticides can be injurious to humans, domestic animals, desirable plants, and fish or wildlife if they are not handled or applied properly. Use all pesticides in accordance with label precautions.

Dear Reader,

I am in the process of updating the Short Subjects and Timely Tips Mailing List. If you would like any of the following actions taken, please complete and return this form.

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