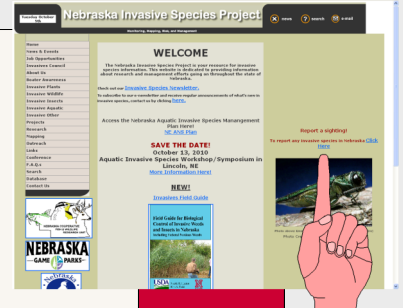


NEBRASKA INVASIVE NEWS NETWORK

SUMMER 2011

ONLINE REPORTING NOW AVAILABLE!
REPORT YOUR INVASIVE SPECIES SIGHTINGS!

[HTTP://WWW.SNR.UNL.EDU/INVASIVES](http://www.snr.unl.edu/invasives)



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Interested in attending a conference on invasive species?

Nebraska Invasive Species Project Calendar: <http://snr.unl.edu/invasives/events.htm>

National Conference Information: <http://www.invasivespeciesinfo.gov/news/calendar.php>

Missed a Conference? Proceedings here: <http://www.invasivespeciesinfo.gov/news/proceedings.shtml>

NOXIOUS WEED REPORTING SYSTEM NOW AVAILABLE IN 11 WESTERN STATES—INCLUDING NEBRASKA!

From the Center for Invasive Plant Management

Now there's an even easier way to report noxious weed sightings is using the Web-based, Missouri River Watershed Coalition-Early Detection and Distribution Mapping System. Developed by the Center for Invasive Species and Ecosystem Health at the University of Georgia and launched in September, the MRWC-EDDMapS is fast, easy to use, and is freely available to anyone in the headwater states of Montana, Colorado, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota and Wyoming. The system allows for reporting new sightings of select invasive species, automatically alerts state weed coordinators of those reports, automatically alerts EDDMapS users of verified reports, and generates distribution maps for reported species. Now, because of additional support from the Montana Noxious Weed Trust Fund and the U.S. Forest Service, State and Private Forestry Program, this system has been expanded to five additional western states: Idaho, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, and Washington.

To sign up and use the EDDMapS tool to report sighting of new plant invaders, go to <http://www.eddmaps.org/mrwc>



Nebraska Invasive Species Project:
<http://snr.unl.edu/invasives>



CONFERENCES/EVENTS IN NEBRASKA

[NGPC Family Fishing Nights](#)—throughout the summer

[NGPC Carp-O-Rama 2011](#)
June 25, Pawnee SRA

[Nebraska Wildlife Federation Adopt a Stream Summit](#)
June 28, NGPC Headquarters

[Prescribed Fire & Managing for Wildlife in the Niobrara Valley](#)
July 7, Lynch

[Nebraska Grazing Conference](#)
Aug 9-10, Kearney

[2011 Great Plains Field Day](#)
Aug 12, Ashland

[America's Grasslands Conference](#)
Aug 15-17, Sioux Falls, SD

[World of Water Festival](#)
Aug. 20, Omaha

Check out what's going on in Nebraska!

[Nebraska State Fair](#)
Aug. 26-Sept 5, Grand Island

[Husker Harvest Days](#)
Sept 13-15

NEW INVASIVE PLANT LIST FOR NEBRASKA



Check out the new list of invasive plants in Nebraska!

Invasive species collectively constitute one of the gravest threats to the biodiversity of wildlands—conservation areas and other native habitats. Two critical components of managing invasions by non-native species are (1) identifying those species that threaten biodiversity and other ecological func-

tions and values, and (2) prioritizing species for management efforts, which must be based, at least in part, on the ecological impacts imparted by the invasive species. In hopes of meeting these components, the Nebraska Invasive Species Council developed a new framework for iden-

tifying and categorizing invasive plants in Nebraska. In turn, a new categorized list was released and welcomes public input and comment.

[View the lists and how they were developed.](#)

INVASIVE SPECIES PROJECTS DATABASE

The Nebraska Invasive Species Project connects natural resource managers and researchers with policy makers and the public with this NEW database of invasive species-related projects. This site is intended as a tool for anyone with an interest in invasive species, and is useful for managers, researchers, legislators,

government officials and constituents alike to keep track of the multitude of invasive species-related projects across Nebraska.

Included with each project report is contact information for the primary researcher and others involved with the project, as well as links to more detailed infor-

mation about the project where appropriate.

If you or someone you know is involved in invasive species research or management, please submit your project info!

[Explore the database](#)



Submit your invasive species project info!

NEBRASKA AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES PREVENTION PROGRAM



By Kelly Smith—UNL: Beginning May 9 at a boat ramp near you, Nebraska Invasive Species Project outreach workers will be on hand to help boaters prevent the spread of zebra mussels. This effort to keep zebra mussels and other aquatic invasive species

from muscling out other lake-dwellers is made possible with a \$100,000 grant from the Nebraska Environmental Trust and a continued partnership with the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission. “This allows us to hire temporary employees to go out and provide outreach materials at lakes across the state,” said Karie Decker, project coordinator. “It also allows us to buy

decontamination units for boaters that just came from an infested lake somewhere.” The workers will distribute information about why boaters should “clean, drain and dry” when moving from lake to lake, and they’ll provide boat decontaminations, as needed. The outreach teams will be at Lake McConaughy, Harlan Reservoir, and rotating spots across eastern Nebraska, Decker said. In Nebraska, zebra mussels have previously been found in Zorinsky Lake in Omaha and at Lake Offutt. Zebra mussels are native to the Caspian Sea and have spread to the United States, where they have no natural predators, by hitching rides on or in ocean-going vessels. Without predators, they crowd out other species and clog underwater equipment such as intake pipes. The Nebraska Invasive Species Project is part of the Nebraska Cooperative Fish and

Wildlife Research Unit at the University of Nebraska’s School of Natural Resources. The invasive species grant was one of 94 projects that received a total of \$15.4 million in awards from the Trust this year.

[Check out the website](#)



Extensive Zebra Mussel Sampling Around the State
[Click Here To Learn More](#)

AIS Prevention Crew 2011. Stationed at various reservoirs throughout Nebraska, the crew is working to provide information to boaters about how to prevent the spread of zebra mussels and other aquatic invasive species.
Photo: Karie Decker

Platte Valley and West Central Weed Management Area’s Invasive Species Control in the Central Platte River 2008 - June 2011 Summary

By Rich Walters—In 2008 the Platte Valley Weed Management Area (PVWMA) and West Central Weed Management Area (WCWMA), collectively referred to as WMA’s, collaborated to apply and receive grant funding for invasive plant species control within the Platte River channels. This joint effort allowed a larger landscape approach. The WMA’s consist of 12 counties in south-central Nebraska. The WMA’s boundary is Kingsley Dam on the North Platte River, the Keith/Deuel county line on the South Platte through the convergence at the town of North Platte, con-

tinuing downstream to Columbus, Nebraska. Approximately 336 river miles of the Platte River flow through the WMA’s. Prior estimates have shown over 14,000 acres of Phragmites infestation within this river stretch. Other invasive plants such as salt cedar, Russian olive trees and purple loosestrife also inhabit this stretch of the river. The western half of the river in this project area is classified as over-appropriated, and the remaining portion is classified as fully appropriated. WMA’s goal is to reduce invasive plant species within the Platte River corridor. Objectives in-

clude 1) increase flow conveyance 2) increase wildlife habitat 3) reduce water usage by invasive plant species 4) ensure long-term sustainable control by landowners. Major control efforts started in both WMA’s in 2008-09 and continues to date (table 1 and table 2). In total approximately 18,641 acres of phragmites have been treated with herbicide and 1,800 acres of dead biomass have been mechanically removed.

[Read the Full Summary](#)



Aerial Herbicide Application on Phragmites:
Photo: Rich Walters

Restore invasive species funds for states

ALBANY, N.Y. (AP) - New York Sen. Charles Schumer says a proposed funding cut in Washington will allow a marauding beetle to continue to kill ash trees from the Midwest and to New York state. Schumer has proposed restoring a \$464 million cut to an invasive species fund. He says that despite fiscal problems, the nation must stop the emerald ash borer first seen in 2009 in

western New York's Cattaraugus County and threatening to sweep across the upstate region. The green beetle has already ripped through 13 Midwestern states and Pennsylvania. Schumer says the funding is needed to create more traps designed to attract the pest to trees that are sacrificed to save the forest.

The beetle burrows into bark and stops a tree from bringing water up through its roots.

[More here](#)

[DON'T MOVE FIREWOOD THIS SUMMER!](#)



FLOOD FEARS: FEROCIOUS ALIEN FISH WILL SPREAD INTO NEW AREAS



Photo: USGS

By Jennifer Welsh: The flooding in the south last month may be just what a ferocious fish ordered, as scientists say the overflowing Mississippi River may lead to a surge in the giant invasive fish called the Asian carp in new areas of the Mississippi and Missouri river basins. The flooding stretched from the Midwest to the

Gulf of Mexico covering 6.5 million acres of land. This water could serve as a throughway connecting the Mississippi and Missouri rivers to other lakes, bayous and marshes in the basin. The young fish, which float downstream before making their homes in a quiet "nursery," could ride these waters to other, not normally connected bodies of

water. "These fish do really well in a flood situation, it gives their young very good quality nursing habitat. Floods induce the fish to spawn," Duane Chapman at the U.S. Geological Survey, told LiveScience. "It should be a good year for reproduction and a lot of young will get trapped up on the floodplain."

[Full Story](#)

Tree Survey Efforts in Ohio Due to the Discovery of Asian Longhorned Beetle

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) and the Ohio Department of Agriculture (ODA) announce that surveys are under way in Bethel, Ohio, after the detection and identification of the Asian longhorned beetle. Bethel is located 30 miles southeast of Cincinnati. First discovered in the United

States in 1996, Asian longhorned beetles attack several species of trees including maple, willow, horsechestnut, buckeye and American elm. While in its larvae stage, the Asian longhorned beetle (ALB) kills trees by tunneling into large branches and the trunk. Ohio is the fourth state to detect ALB, which APHIS confirmed in Bethel after

a citizen reported finding unusual damage in three maple trees to an Ohio Department of Natural Resources Division of Forestry service forester. Previous infestations sites, where the beetles are being successfully contained, include Illinois, Massachusetts, New Jersey and New York.

[Full Story](#)



Asian Longhorned Beetle
Photo: USGS

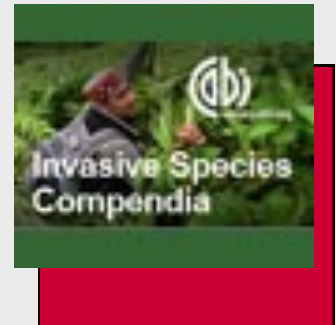
NEW INVASIVE SPECIES COMPENDIUM

The [Invasive Species Compendium](#) is in beta version and available to use. The Invasive Species Compendium is an online, open access reference work covering recognition, biology, distribution, impact and management of the world's invasive plants and

animals. The Compendium currently covers over 1,500 species with over 7,000 basic summary datasheets and 1,500 detailed datasheets. You can also access over 800 full text articles (PDF) and 65,000 abstract summaries, with plans to add 10,000 more by

the end of 2011. This new resource has been built upon a brand new technical platform which enables our experts to update the datasheets and bibliographical data on a weekly basis.

[Find the database here](#)



CLIMATE CHANGE ALLOWS INVASIVE WEED TO OUTCOMPETE LOCAL SPECIES



UGA1459653

ScienceDaily (June 1, 2011) – Yellow starthistle already causes millions of dollars in damage to pastures in western states each year, and as climate changes, land managers can expect the problem with that weed and others to escalate.

When exposed to increased carbon dioxide, precipitation, nitrogen and temperature – all

expected results of climate change – yellow starthistle in some cases grew to six times its normal size while the other grassland species remained relatively unchanged, according to a Purdue University study published in the early online edition of the journal *Ecological Applications*. The plants were compared with those grown under ambient conditions. "The rest of the grassland didn't respond much to changes in conditions ex-

cept nitrogen," said Jeff Dukes, a Purdue associate professor of forestry and natural resources and the study's lead author. "We're likely to see these carbon dioxide concentrations in the second half of this century. Our results suggest that yellow starthistle will be a very happy camper in the coming decades."

[Full Story here](#)

USDA Establishes a New Category in Regulations Governing Nursery Stock Importation

By USDA
With the publication today of a final rule, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) is changing the way it regulates imports of nursery stock into the United States, also known as the Agency's Q37 regulations. "Protecting the nation's food, agriculture and natu-

ral resources is one of the Secretary's top priorities," said Rebecca Bech, deputy administrator of APHIS' plant protection and quarantine program. "These regulatory changes, crafted with input from our stakeholder partners at the State and local levels, reflect this commitment and allow our Agency to better prevent the intro-

duction and spread of foreign pests and diseases." Today's regulatory change establishes a new import category for plants whose importation is "not authorized pending pest risk analysis," also known as NAPPPRA.

[Read about the new Policy](#)



The Nebraska Invasive Species Project

The Nebraska Cooperative Fish & Wildlife Research Unit, along with partners both state-wide and nationally, have joined together to provide information to the public and private sector on invasive species issues. This information includes basic invasive species biology, monitoring and management methods, and actual and potential impacts and risks of invasive species throughout the state.



NEBRASKA INVASIVE SPECIES PROJECT

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<http://snr.unl.edu/invasives>



YOU CAN HELP PREVENT THE SPREAD OF INVASIVES



Gardeners—Plant Native...If you don't know it, don't grow it! Native plants often require less water!

Boaters and Fishermen—

Don't dump your bait buckets into the water supply. Drain and clean your boat and equipment.



Burn it where you buy it!

Never transport firewood—it can harbor harmful insects like the Emerald Ash Borer.

Pet Owners—never release your pets into the wild. They can release exotic diseases and damage habitats.

GET INVOLVED!!!

Stay informed; share your knowledge with others. You are our first line of defense.

The Nebraska Invasive Species Council

The purpose of the *Nebraska Invasive Species Advisory Council* is to coordinate invasive species management and research across the State for the prevention and detection of invasive plant and animal species. Through a coordinated effort, we intend to provide land managers with the information needed to utilize funding and resources more effectively and efficiently. Our goal is to minimize the effects of harmful invasive species on Nebraska's citizens and ensure the economic and environmental well-being of the state.

Nebraska Invasive Species Project:

<http://snr.unl.edu/invasives>