



# Aquatic Plant News

A Newsletter of The Aquatic Plant Management Society, Inc.  
P.O. Box 821265, Vicksburg, MS 39182-1265  
LeeAnn Glomski, Editor

Issue 105

March 2014

## Savannah, Georgia—Site of our 54<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting



The 54<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Aquatic Plant Management Society will be held July 13-16, 2014 at the Hilton Savannah DeSoto in Savannah, Georgia. Standing 15 stories in Savannah's Historic District, overlooking Madison Square, historic mansions, and oaks draped in Spanish moss, the Hilton Savannah DeSoto is a timeless sparkle on the Savannah skyline. The downtown hotel is steps from Savannah's treasured landmarks, museums, theaters, parks, and incredible dining and shopping. Walk to exciting attractions like River Street, City Market, Forsyth Park, Historic Savannah Theater, Savannah Civic Center and Savannah College of Art & Design.

The Society will continue to use a 2½ day format for the meeting. The technical program will begin Monday morning and end around noon on Wednesday. Our meeting will kick off with the President's Reception on Sunday evening. As the official welcoming event of the meeting, this reception is an excellent time to reacquaint with old friends, meet new friends, and just relax. Heavy hors d'oeuvres and your favorite beverages will be served. The Monday evening Poster Session and Reception presents a great opportunity to examine posters and exhibits while enjoying great food and beverage. **The APMS Reception and Awards Banquet on Tuesday evening will be another memorable event where we will recognize those who have served and contributed to our Society, welcome new officers and directors, and present student paper and other awards. This year, a**

## 54<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting continued...

**three hour cruise down the river on the Savannah River Queen will be our venue for the awards banquet.** These special events are free to all registered delegates, students, and guests. Non-registered guests may purchase individual tickets for these events at the registration desk.

Hotel reservations can be made online at: <[http://www.hilton.com/en/hi/groups/personalized/S/SAVDHMF-APM-20140712/index.jhtml?WT.mc\\_id=POG](http://www.hilton.com/en/hi/groups/personalized/S/SAVDHMF-APM-20140712/index.jhtml?WT.mc_id=POG)> or by calling the Hilton Savannah DeSoto directly at (877) 280-0751. When making your reservations by phone, be sure to mention that you are part of the Aquatic Plant Management Society. The cutoff date for reservations at the special group rate is **June 23, 2014**. Our special APMS guest room rate is \$134.00 for single and double occupancy per night plus applicable tax. These group rates are available three days prior to the conference and three days post conference. The Hilton DeSoto requires that all reservations be guaranteed with a major credit card or a deposit. Cancellations must be made 72 hours prior to arrival or you will be charged one night's room and tax. Check in time is 4:00 p.m. and check-out time is 11:00 a.m. If you choose to depart earlier than your reserved departure date, the hotel will charge one night room and tax.

This year, our spouses, children, and guests will be treated to a trolley tour of Savannah. You will be picked up at the Hotel at 10:00 a.m. and will return by 3:00 p.m. The experience begins with a trolley ride through historic Savannah, home to stately Southern architecture and distinctive park-like squares and a visit to the Juliette Gordon Low Birthplace, the founder of the Girl Scouts. We will also visit The Cathedral of St. John the Baptist which is compared to some of the most beautiful churches in Europe. We will continue with lunch at Uncle Bubba's Oyster House. Named after Paula Deen's brother, this restaurant offers the best and freshest seafood in the coastal low country. After lunch, we will travel back roads with beautiful marsh views, have great picture opportunities in front of a mile long oak lined drive of a former plantation, see elegant homes on "The Bluff" overlooking the waterway, and then end for refreshments and cookie sampling at Byrd Cookie Company, a Savannah favorite since 1924.

The meeting registration fees are \$275.00 for a delegate and \$130.00 for a guest (spouse, partner, child over 12 years of age) if received by **June 23, 2014**. After this date, registration fees at the door will be \$330.00 for a delegate and \$155.00 for a guest. The meeting registration fee for a student competing in the student paper contest (oral or poster) is waived and the registration fee for a student not competing is \$75.00. Delegate and student registration includes all technical sessions, President's Reception, refreshment breaks, Poster Reception, and Awards Banquet. Guest registration includes President's Reception, refreshment breaks, Guest Tour, Poster Reception, and Awards Banquet. Non-registered guests may purchase individual tickets for these events.

The Hilton Savannah DeSoto is only a 20 minute drive from the Savannah / Hilton Head International Airport and is easily accessible by taxi, limousine, rental car or commercial shuttle service. Getting around the city is very convenient. Free shuttle service and the free River Street Streetcar are available along with the downtown Trolley. Trolley tours that take you around the Historical District are also available.

## 54<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting continued...

This is guaranteed to be an extraordinary meeting, so plan to attend and bring the family! Please help us in planning for the 54<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting by submitting the **Meeting Registration Form** enclosed in this newsletter by **June 23, 2014**.

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## Meeting Sponsorship

Would you like to be a Meeting Sponsor and assist the APMS in conducting an informative and successful meeting for the education, scientific, and operational advancement of aquatic plant management? Information on sponsorship and exhibiting at the annual meeting is available on the APMS web site (apms.org), or contact Craig Aguillard (phone: 337-290-1096, e-mail: [caguillard@landolakes.com](mailto:caguillard@landolakes.com)).

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## APMS 2<sup>nd</sup> Call for Papers

You are invited to submit a title and abstract for the 54<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Aquatic Plant Management Society to be held July 13-16, 2014, at the Hilton Savannah Desoto in Savannah, GA. Both oral and poster presentations of original research on the biology or ecology of aquatic and wetland plants, control methods (biological, chemical, cultural mechanical) for invasive, exotic or nuisance plant or alga species, and restoration projects involving wetland or aquatic plants and alga are solicited. This year's meeting will be a joint meeting with the MidSouth Aquatic Plant Management Society with regional presenters strongly encouraged to consider presenting.

Oral presentation will be allotted a total of 15 or 20 minutes. An LCD projector/computer and laser pointer will be available for oral presentations. Only PC-based PowerPoint presentation will be accepted. All presenters will be required to submit a CD or flash drive with your final PowerPoint presentation upon registration. *Note: All presentations that include externally run programs; models or special animation must be reviewed and approved by the Program Chair prior to the meeting. You will not be allowed to set up a personal computer for your presentation.* A poster session will also be scheduled. Free-standing display boards (4' x 4') will be provided for posters.

Please go to the WSSA Title and Abstract Submission System at <http://WSSAbstracts.com> to submit your information online. You will receive a confirmation email to indicate your title and abstract has been received and uploaded. The title and abstract submission system will be activated February 1<sup>st</sup> and will remain open until April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2014.

If you have any questions, please contact the APMS Program Chair, Dr. Cody Gray at [cody.gray@uniphos.com](mailto:cody.gray@uniphos.com) or 954-562-0254.

## **APMS Awards Committee Solicitation for Nominations for 2014**

The APMS Awards Committee is soliciting nominations for the various awards bestowed upon individuals each year at our annual meeting. There are many deserving members, but they must be nominated for consideration. Please consider making a nomination. The awards are:

1. Honorary Membership—one of the Society's most prestigious awards, the criteria are delineated in our by-laws.
2. T. Wayne Miller Distinguished Service Award—recognition for “Service to the Society and the Profession”.
3. Max McCowen Friendship Honor—recognition given to a member whose demeanor and actions display sincerity and friendship in the spirit of being an ambassador for APMS.
4. Outstanding Graduate Student—a graduate student (or recent graduate) recognized for outstanding achievement during graduate studies in the field of aquatic plant management.
5. Outstanding Research and/or Technical Contributor Award—an individual (or team) recognized for a research project or technical contribution related to aquatic plant management that constitutes significant advancement to the field.
6. Outstanding International Contribution Award—an individual recognized for research and/or outreach activities that are international in nature.
7. Outstanding Journal of Aquatic Plant Management Article Award—recognition given to an author(s) for unique research published in the JAPM the previous year as determined by the Editor and Associate Editors.

All nominations must be supported by descriptions of the individual's accomplishments and/or service or publications merit. To nominate an individual for an award, please go to the Society's website. Under “Awards” click on “Nominations”. Procedures and criteria are delineated for each award, as well as the Nomination Form. The Awards Committee selects the final candidates from the nominees for each award. Then the BOD makes the final selection.

**All award nominations must be submitted to the Awards Committee by April 30.**

Please send or e-mail your nomination to the Awards Committee Chair at the following address:

e-mail: [mdnether@ufl.edu](mailto:mdnether@ufl.edu)

Michael D. Netherland

US Army ERDC

7922 NW 71<sup>st</sup> St.

Gainesville, FL 32653

## APMS GRADUATE STUDENT RESEARCH GRANT

A graduate student research grant in the area of aquatic plant management and ecology is being offered by the Aquatic Plant Management Society's research and education organization. Co-sponsors of this academic award may also include regional APMS chapters: Florida, MidSouth, Midwest, Northeast, South Carolina, Texas and Western.

**Objective:** To provide a grant for a full-time graduate student to conduct research in an area involving aquatic plant management techniques (used alone or integrated with other management approaches) or in aquatic ecology related to the biology or management of regionally or nationally recognized nuisance aquatic vegetation.

**Applicants:** Solicitation for proposals is open to any full-time faculty member and/or graduate student of an accredited U.S. academic institution. A faculty sponsor must be identified if the application is submitted by a graduate student.

**Amount:** \$40,000 (it is the policy of APMS not to pay overhead or indirect costs).

**Duration:** Two (2) years (\$20,000 per year).

**Proposal Deadline:** Applications must be emailed no later than April 15th, 2014.

**Guidelines for Proposals:** Proposals should contain a concise statement of the project, including its purpose and justification, as well as sections that discuss study objectives, methodology, schedule, budget, and planned publication of results. The resumé of the faculty applicant and graduate student (if known) should not exceed two (2) pages each. Proposals should not exceed ten (10) pages, and must be signed by the applicant (principal investigator) and an appropriate university official. Include copies of your five (5) most recent peer reviewed publications. Please submit a pdf file of your full application via email to Dr. Michael D. Netherland at [mdnether@ufl.edu](mailto:mdnether@ufl.edu).

**Award:** Notification of award will be provided to the faculty member in time to make arrangements to attend the APMS 54<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting (July 13 to 16, 2014 – Savannah, GA). Formal announcement of the recipient will be made at the annual meeting, with initiation of the stipend scheduled for the 2014-2015 academic year. Payments will be made before January 31<sup>st</sup> of each year.

**Requirements:** Semi-annual progress reports must be submitted to APMS prior June 30<sup>th</sup> and December 31<sup>st</sup> for each year of the grant. The faculty member and student must participate in at least one annual APMS Board of Directors meeting and attend the annual APMS meeting. The student must present results of the funded research at least one time over the duration of the grant, although it is preferred that presentations are made annually. Upon completion, a final report must be submitted to APMS.

**Inquiries:** Dr. Michael D. Netherland, US Army ERDC, 7922 NW 71<sup>st</sup> Street, Gainesville, FL 32653  
Phone - 352-392-0335 and e-mail - [mdnether@ufl.edu](mailto:mdnether@ufl.edu)

## **Aquatic Plant Management Society Announces Annual Student Paper Contests for July 2014 Meeting in Savannah, Georgia**

The Aquatic Plant Management Society (APMS) is inviting student papers for the upcoming 54<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Aquatic Plant Management Society. The meeting will be held July 13-16, 2014 at the Hilton De Soto in historic Savannah, Georgia. Oral and poster presentations of original research on the biology or ecology of aquatic and wetland plants, harmful algal blooms, control methods (biological, chemical, cultural, mechanical) for invasive exotic or nuisance native plant species, and restoration projects involving wetland or aquatic plants are solicited. We had outstanding participation at the 2013 San Antonio Meeting with nine student presenters from five different Universities, but we want to surpass those numbers at this year's meeting!

The APMS has a strong ethic of student support. The society will provide all student presenters room accommodations and complimentary registration. First, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place prize money will be awarded in separate contests for both oral and poster presentations. In addition, all students are invited to attend a hands-on tour of local aquatic plant management sites. In addition, this meeting presents an opportunity for students to develop their presentation skills, learn about the field of aquatic plant management, and network with key Government, University, Industry representatives and peers with similar educational and professional interests.

Please log on to [www.apms.org](http://www.apms.org) to learn more about the Aquatic Plant Management Society and this year's meeting. Students may register and submit an abstract by following the instructions under the "annual meeting" link. The submission deadline for Title and Abstract is April 20, 2014.

For more information please contact the **APMS Student Affairs Committee:**

**Becca Haynie, PhD**  
SePRO Corporation  
11550 North Meridian Street  
Suite 600  
Carmel, Indiana 46032  
317-452-0579

**Chris Mudge, PhD**  
School of Plant, Environmental and Soil Sciences  
Louisiana State University Agriculture Center  
108 Sturgis Hall  
Baton Rouge, LA 70803  
225-578-1208

# 54th Annual Meeting of the APMS Registration Form

## Delegate/Student Information

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ M.I.: \_\_\_\_\_

Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State/Province: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip/Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Country: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

## Registration *(Includes Refreshment Breaks, President's Reception, Poster Reception, and Banquet)*

	<b>Early</b> <i>(by June 23, 2014)</i>	<b>On-site</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Delegate Registration	\$ 275.00	\$ 330.00	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Student Paper Competition Registration	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ <u>0.00</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Regular Student Registration (non-competing)	\$ 75.00	\$ 75.00	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Guest Registration (spouse, partner, child over 12 years-of-age) <i>(also includes the Guest Tour)</i>			
Name(s): _____	\$ 130.00	\$ 155.00	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> One-day Meeting Registration <i>(includes refreshment breaks on day of attendance only)</i>			
Day of Attendance: _____	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00	\$ _____
Individual Special Event Tickets for Non-registered Guests			
<input type="checkbox"/> President's Reception      Name(s): _____	\$ 40.00	\$ 50.00	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Guest Tour                      Name(s): _____	\$ 40.00	\$ 50.00	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Poster Reception              Name(s): _____	\$ 40.00	\$ 50.00	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Banquet                          Name(s): _____	\$ 55.00	\$ 65.00	\$ _____

## Membership Dues (2014)

<input type="checkbox"/> Individual	\$ 75.00	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Student	\$ 20.00	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Sustaining	\$500.00	\$ _____

**Total Payment Amount:** \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

## Payment Method (Check One)

☐ Check *(Make Payable to APMS, Inc.)*      Credit Card: ☐ Visa      ☐ Master Card      ☐ American Express

Credit Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name as it Appears on Card: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature of Card Holder: \_\_\_\_\_

**Send Completed Form and Payment to:**  
The Aquatic Plant Management Society, Inc.  
P.O. Box 821265  
Vicksburg, MS 39182-1265  
Fax: 601-634-5502

**Early registration accepted if form and payment received by June 23, 2014. Registration questions,** please phone: 601-634-2990 or E-mail: Sherry.L.Whitaker@usace.army.mil

**Cancellation/Refund Policy:** Registration fees are fully refundable prior to June 30, 2014, less a \$25.00 processing and handling fee. No refund of any fees will be issued if cancellation of participation is received after June 30, 2014. Notice of cancellation must be received by APMS via mail, fax, or e-mail. **Phone cancellations will not be accepted.**

## 2014 MidSouth Aquatic Plant Management Society Scholarship

The MSAPMS is seeking applications for the 2014 graduate student scholarship to be awarded at the 2014 annual meeting, which will be in conjunction with the national APMS meeting July 13-16 2014, in Savannah, GA. We request that the successful applicant attend the meeting and give a presentation, if possible. One scholarship of \$2,500 will be awarded to a qualified student applicant. Please note that, due to the earlier date of the annual meeting in 2014, the applications will be due much earlier in the year.

To apply, The Scholarship Committee should receive the following information before March 30, 2014:

1. A cover letter which includes the applicant's previous, current, and future relationship to the aquatic plant management industry, and a comment on the importance of the proposed research to aquatic plant management;
2. Copies of unofficial or official transcripts of undergraduate and any graduate work completed to date (these transcripts may be those issued directly to the student by the institution);
3. A letter from the student's major professor recommending the student for the scholarship, indicating that the student is currently enrolled and in good standing and has had their research proposal approved by their graduate advisory committee;
4. A copy of the approved graduate research proposal; and
5. One letter of recommendation, other than the major professor.

All submissions may be made with either hardcopy, addressed as below, or electronically via e-mail.

To enter an application or request more information, contact:

Dr. John D. Madsen  
Mississippi State University  
Geosystems Research Institute  
Box 9627  
Mississippi State, MS 39762-9627  
Ph. 662-325-2428  
E-mail. [jmadsen@gri.msstate.edu](mailto:jmadsen@gri.msstate.edu)



## SCAPMS 2014 Scholarship Award

The South Carolina Aquatic Plant Management Society is seeking applications for its annual Phillip M. Fields Scholarship Award. The Society intends to award a \$3,000 scholarship to the successful applicant in the fall of 2014. Scholarship funds may be used by the recipient to cover costs associated with education and research expenses. Eligible applicants must be enrolled as full time undergraduate or graduate students in an accredited college or university in the United States. Course work or research in an area related to the biology, ecology or management of aquatic plants in the Southeast is also required.

Applications must be received no later than June 1, 2014 and will be evaluated on the basis of relevant test scores (ACT, SAT, GRE, etc.), college grades, quality and relevance of course work or research, a proposed budget, information obtained from references, and other related considerations. Other factors being equal, preference will be given to applicants enrolled in Southeastern and South Carolina academic institutions. The successful applicant may be requested to present an oral report on research activities at the annual meeting of the Society. Application forms and additional information are available at [www.scapms.org/scholarship.html](http://www.scapms.org/scholarship.html). Note: All application information is to be submitted electronically. Also, high school grades and transcripts are no longer needed.

Steven J. de Kozlowski  
Chairman, Scholarship Committee  
SCAPMS  
207 Canterfield Rd.  
Columbia, SC 29212  
803-600-7538  
[sdekoz2@gmail.com](mailto:sdekoz2@gmail.com)

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## APMS Membership Survey

The APMS Membership Committee has developed a membership survey to identify ways to better serve the members of the Society. It includes items related to the Society, the board of directors, and the annual meeting. This survey should only take 5-10 minutes to complete, and results of the survey will be shared with the board, as well as members at the APMS Annual Meeting in Savannah, GA. The survey can be completed at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/96VJB85>. Please complete the survey at your convenience, and feel free to contact me with any input or questions regarding the survey.

Joe Vassios  
[joseph.vassios@uniphos.com](mailto:joseph.vassios@uniphos.com)

## Calendar of Events

### 2014

- Mar 30-Apr 2 [Western APMS Annual Meeting](#); Reno, NV
- Apr 23-25 [Florida Vegetation Management Association](#); Daytona Beach, FL
- May 5-8 [UF/IFAS Aquatic Weed Control Short Course](#); Coral Springs, FL
- May 18-22 [Joint Aquatic Sciences Meeting](#); Portland, OR
- Jul 13-16 [APMS Annual Conference](#); Savannah, GA
- Oct 13-16 [Florida APMS Annual Meeting](#); Daytona Beach, FL
- Nov 12-14 [North American Lake Management Society](#); Tampa, FL

## APMS Promotional Information Available

The APMS has two tabletop displays and posters, suitable for presentation at conferences and stakeholder meetings. Also available are tri-fold membership brochures and an eight-page color booklet with additional information about the APMS programs and initiatives. You may borrow the display for your next conference and obtain copies of the brochure and booklet by contacting one of the following:

Jeff Schardt: (850) 617-9420 or [jeff.schardt@myfwc.com](mailto:jeff.schardt@myfwc.com)

Mike Netherland: (352) 392-0335 or [mdnether@ufl.edu](mailto:mdnether@ufl.edu)

## 2014 Sustaining Members

- Alligare, LLC
- Applied Aquatic Management, Inc
- Applied Biochemists®, A Lonza Business
- AquaServices, Inc.
- AquaTechnex, LLC
- Aquatic Control, Inc.
- BioSonics, Inc.
- Brewer International
- Clarke Aquatic Services
- Crop Production Services, Inc.
- Cygnet Enterprises, Inc.
- Lake Restoration
- SePRO Corporation
- Syngenta Professional Products
- United Phosphorus, Inc.
- Valent Professional Products
- Vertex Water Features

# *There's an APP for That!*

**Now available in the iTunes store for iPhone, iPad, iPad Mini, iPod Touch, MAC, & PC**



AquaCide – \$2.99

<https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/aquacide/id722031732?ls=1&mt=8>

The Aquatic herbicide selection, effectiveness, and restriction guide is a tool for recreational pond managers as well as aquaculture professionals. This comprehensive visual guide helps you select the most effective herbicides for all aquatic vegetation classes, including the most common North American algae and floating, submerged, and emergent aquatic vegetation. Only herbicides that provide good or excellent control are provided for each species. AquaCide provides the environmental restrictions of all aquatically labeled herbicides, such as restrictions for human use (drinking, swimming, and fish consumption), livestock watering, irrigation (turf and crops), and other general comments pertaining to restrictions and differences in formulation.

Keywords: AquaCide, herbicide, pond management, aquaculture



AmmoniaCalc - \$1.99

<https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/ammoniocalc/id722048864?ls=1&mt=8>

The un-ionized ammonia calculator is an invaluable resource for on the go aquaculture producers and managers as well as home aquarium hobbyists. Ammonia is the major end product in the breakdown of proteins in fish. Total ammonia nitrogen (TAN) is

composed of toxic (un-ionized) ammonia ( $\text{NH}_3$ ) and nontoxic (ionized) ammonia ( $\text{NH}_4^+$ ). Over time the buildup of ammonia within the fish system, combined changes in pH and temperature causes fluctuations in the concentration of toxic un-ionized ammonia. AmmoniaCalc allows the user to input simple, easily measured water chemistry measurements such as pH and temperature to instantly calculate the un-ionized ammonia concentration.

Keywords: ammonia, calculator, aquaculture, aquarium, fish, toxic, water quality



AquaPlant - \$5.99

<https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/aquaplant/id722310302?ls=1&mt=8>

AquaPlant is designed to help pond owners and their advisors in the identification and management of aquatic vegetation. Aquatic vegetation management can be a perplexing problem. The first part of that problem is proper identification. Management of most aquatic plant species depends on properly identifying the desirable or nuisance plant. After identification of the aquatic plant is achieved with the visual index and description pages of AquaPlant, the user can then use the management section for each species to learn the correct treatment options including biological, mechanical, and herbicide controls.

Keywords: aquatic, vegetation, management, plant, identification, herbicide, grass carp



AquaRef - \$0.99

<https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/aquaref/id704586063?ls=1&mt=8>

AquaRef – The aquaculture and pond manager quick reference guide is an inclusive set of tables and conversion factors for aquaculture professionals. Conversion factors range from the weight of chemical units that must be added to water to achieve particular concentrations to temperature conversion to volumetric water conversion factors to metric-English conversion for chemicals. This guide is packed full of useful information including pond filling time, pumping rate equivalents, discharge rates from standpipes, net mesh sizes for grading fish, length/weight relationships for fish, oxygen saturation points, pounds of fish that can be hauled at temperature, egg development stages, stocking guides, fertilization rates, and much more. Texas A&M AgriLife Extension's AquaRef is credited in large part to Larry Dorman with the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff, as he developed many of these materials for the quintessential Aquaculture Producer's Quick Reference Handbook. Tables were reproduced with permission.

Keywords: aquaculture, pond, reference, guide, conversion, fish



PondCalc - \$1.99

<https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/pondcalc/id709517896?ls=1&mt=8>

PondCalc is a comprehensive tool for recreational pond users as well as aquaculture producers. One of the most common problems in pond management is over-estimation of pond size. This tool allows the user to quickly and easily calculate the surface area of any shaped pond and then calculate the number of acre feet, all without

having to do any math. These calculations allow the user to determine accurate pond area and volume for the application of chemical treatments and herbicides.

Keywords: pond, area, volume, acre-feet, calculator

**Look for more Apps coming soon! Upcoming releases include the *Texas Pond Management* app and the *Texas Deer Management* app!**

TEXAS A&M  
AGRI LIFE  
EXTENSION



## Washington Report

### **2014 Farm Bill Becomes Law**

After more than two years of negotiating and two extensions of the 2008 Farm Bill, the President signed a new Farm Bill into law on Feb. 7. Led by the “Four Principals” - Agriculture Committee Chairs Senator Debbie Stabenow (MI) and Congressman Frank Lucas (OK), and Ranking Members Senator Thad Cochran (MS) and Congressman Collin Peterson (MN), the new law is largely seen as a victory for research, education, and extension. Most notably, the Research Title of the Farm Bill creates a new nonprofit foundation, the Foundation for Food and Agriculture Research (FFAR), that is intended to complement--not replace--USDA's research, education, extension, and economics activities conducted mainly by the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA), the Agricultural Research Service (ARS), and the Economic Research Service (ERS).

FFAR is modeled after existing Foundations that were established to leverage private funding such as the Foundation for the National Institutes of Health and the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation. FFAR will have \$200 million in mandatory funding as a match to solicit private donations for additional research on plant health; animal health; food safety and nutrition; renewable energy, natural resources and environment; agricultural and food security; technology; and agricultural economics and rural communities. FFAR will be led by a Board of Directors comprised of 15 members, of which 8 will be recommended by the National Science Foundation and 7 by industry. All 15 members will be appointed by the Secretary of Agriculture and 4 other ex-officio Agency scientists. This public-private partnership represented by FFAR could be very beneficial for advancing weed management research and innovation.

Another highlight from the Research Title in the new farm bill is that it provides \$80 million per year for the Specialty Crop Research Initiative (SCRI) and \$20 million per year for the Organic Agriculture Research and Extension Initiative (OREI). These programs have been stranded without funding since 2012. The new funding levels are significant increases for both programs compared to the 2008 Farm Bill levels. In addition, the new funding that is authorized for SCRI is permanent funding.

Unfortunately, there were a couple issues that didn't go quite the way we would have liked them to. One was a House provision that will require non-governmental organizations and private research institutions to provide a 100% match on all competitive research grants. However, the land grant universities are exempt from this matching funds requirement.

Inclusion of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) fix language was not allowed in the House version of the Farm Bill. There was strong bipartisan support for this language in both houses of Congress that would have clarified Congress's intent for the regulation of pesticides applied to or near water. As you know, pesticides are regulated through FIFRA, including sites to which aquatic pesticides can be applied. However in 2009, a three judge U.S. Circuit Court panel ruled that pesticide applications to or near waters required additional processing under the Clean Water Act NPDES permits. These permits impose additional resource and liability burdens on small businesses, farms, municipalities, state agencies, and federal agencies. The National and Regional Weed Science Societies have supported a legislative fix for this issue since the Circuit Court ruling and will continue to support efforts to resolve this issue going forward.

## Washington Report Continued...

Last but not least, I wanted to put in a reminder about the noxious weed control provision in the Commodity Title that has been in effect since the 2002 Farm Bill. In order for farmers to receive payments under the Commodity Title, the farmers shall agree ---- “to effectively control noxious weeds and otherwise maintain the land in accordance with sound agricultural practices, as determined by the Secretary.” The provision is part of the “Producer Agreements” section that also discusses conservation compliance for Highly Erodible Land and Wetland Conservation. The Farm Service Agency (FSA) and the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) have primary responsibility for enforcing these requirements. Having to “effectively control noxious weeds” and maintain conservation compliance is a pretty fair tradeoff, in my opinion, for the taxpayer subsidies that cover about 60 percent of the cost of each crop insurance premium.

### **Jacobs-Young Named New ARS-Administrator**

On Feb. 24, Dr. Chavonda Jacobs-Young was named Administrator for the USDA Agricultural Research Service (ARS) by USDA’s Chief Scientist, Dr. Cathy Woteki. Dr. Jacobs-Young recently served as ARS Associate Administrator for National Programs, where she led the Office of National Programs which manages the research objectives of the Agency. Prior to moving into her role at ARS, she served as the Director of the Office of the Chief Scientist at USDA as well serving as the Acting Director for USDA-NIFA.

Dr. Jacobs-Young is a native of Georgia. She holds M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in Wood and Paper Science and a B.S. degree in Pulp and Paper Science and Technology from North Carolina State University. She also is a graduate of American University’s Executive Leadership in Public Policy Implementation Program.

### **EPA Seeks Comments on Draft Guidance Documents for Evaluating Spray Drift**

EPA announced the availability of two draft guidance documents for public comment. These documents describe how off-site spray drift will be evaluated for ecological and human health risk assessments for pesticides. The January 29, 2014, Federal Register Notice specifically seeks public input on approaches that include:

- a policy for conducting human health risk assessments associated with the potential for exposure from off-site drift during pesticide applications and
- an updated method for estimating environmental exposures associated with spray drift.

The 60-day public comment period will close on March 31, 2014. For details and to submit comments, please go to: <http://www.regulations.gov/#!documentDetail;D=EPA-HQ-OPP-2013-0676-0001>

### **EPA Seeks Comments on New Worker Protection Standards**

New proposed rules meant to safeguard farm workers from pesticide exposure were announced Feb. 20 by EPA. The proposed regulations are the first updating of its Worker Protection Standard (WPS) in 20 years. Proposed changes to the WPS include:

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- Increased frequency of mandatory trainings (from once every five years to annually) to inform farm workers about the protections they are afforded under the law, including restrictions on entering pesticide-treated fields and surrounding areas, decontamination supplies, access to information and use of personal protective equipment. Expanded trainings will include instructions to reduce take-home exposure from pesticides on work clothing and other safety topics.
- Expanded mandatory posting of no-entry signs for the most hazardous pesticides; the signs prohibit entry into pesticide-treated fields until residues decline to a safe level.
- First time-ever minimum age requirement: Children under 16 will be prohibited from handling pesticides, with an exemption for family farms.
- No-entry buffer areas surrounding pesticide-treated fields will protect workers and others from exposure from pesticide overspray and fumes.
- Measures to improve the states' ability to enforce compliance including requiring employers to keep records of application-specific pesticide information as well as farm worker training and early-entry notification for two years.
- Personal Protection Equipment (respirator use) must be consistent with the Occupational Safety & Health Administration standards for ensuring respirators are providing protection, including fit test, medical evaluation, and training.
- Make available to farm workers or their advocates (including medical personnel) information specific to the pesticide application, including the pesticide label and Safety Data Sheets.
- Additional changes make the rule more practical and easier to comply with for farmers.
- Continues the exemptions for family farms.

For details and to submit comments, please go to: <http://www.epa.gov/oppfead1/safety/workers/proposed/index.html>

## **Drought Forecasting Program Reauthorized**

The House and Senate expeditiously passed legislation and the President signed into law (P.L. 113-86) a measure that reauthorizes the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's system for monitoring and forecasting droughts nationwide. P.L. 113-86 authorizes \$13.5 million for the National Integrated Drought Information System each year from fiscal 2014 through 2018. The program was authorized at \$16 million in fiscal 2012, which is when its funding expired. The measure specifies which agencies should be consulted for the National Integrated Drought Information System's forecasts. It also would require the system to monitor the effects of droughts, including on water supplies and soil moisture, and to coordinate federal, state, regional, public, private and academic early-warning research.

## **Secretary Vilsack Announces Seven Regional Climate Hubs**

On Feb. 5, USDA Secretary Vilsack announced the creation of the first ever Regional Hubs for Risk Adaptation and Mitigation to Climate Change at seven locations around the country. "Climate Hubs" crippling droughts on a regional basis, aiming to translate science and research into information to farmers, ranchers, and forest landowners on ways to adapt and adjust their resource management. Vilsack said "USDA's Climate Hubs are part of our broad commitment to developing the will address increasing risks such as fires, invasive pests, devastating floods, and next generation of climate solutions, so that our agricultural leaders have the modern



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technologies and tools they need to adapt and succeed in the face of a changing climate."

The Hubs will provide outreach and information to producers on ways to mitigate risks; public education about the risks climate change poses to agriculture, ranchlands and forests; regional climate risk and vulnerability assessments; and centers of climate forecast data and information. They will also link a broad network of partners participating in climate risk adaptation and mitigation, including universities; non-governmental organizations; federal agencies such as the Department of Interior and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration; Native Nations and organizations; state departments of environment and agriculture; research centers; farm groups and more.

The Hubs were chosen through a competitive process among USDA facilities. In addition to the seven Hubs, USDA is designating three Subsidiary Hubs ("Sub Hubs") that will function within the Southeast, Midwest, and Southwest. The Sub Hubs will support the Hub within their region and focus on a narrow and unique set of issues relative to what will be going on in the rest of the Hub. The Southwest Sub Hub, located in Davis, California, will focus on specialty crops and Southwest forests, the Southeast Sub Hub will address issues important to the Caribbean, and the Midwest Sub Hub will address climate change and Lake State forests.

The following locations have been selected to serve as their region's center of climate change information and outreach to mitigate risks to the agricultural sector:

- **Midwest:** National Laboratory for Agriculture and the Environment, Agricultural Research Service, Ames, Iowa
- Midwest Sub-Hub in Houghton, Mich.
- **Northeast:** Northern Research Station, Forest Service, Durham, N.H.
- **Southeast:** Southern Research Station, Forest Service, Raleigh N.C.
- Southeast Sub-Hub in Rio Piedras, Puerto Rico
- **Northern Plains:** National Resources Center, Agricultural Research Service, Fort Collins, Colo.
- **Southern Plains:** Grazinglands Research Lab, Agricultural Research Service, El Reno, Okla.
- **Pacific Northwest:** Pacific Northwest Research Station, Forest Service, Corvallis, Ore.
- **Southwest:** Rangeland Management Unit/Jornada Experimental Range, Agricultural Research Service, Las Cruces, N.M.
- Southwest Sub-hub in Davis, Calif.

Lee Van Wychen, Ph.D.

Science Policy Director

National and Regional Weed Science Societies

5720 Glenmullen Place

Alexandria, VA 22303

[Lee.VanWychen@wssa.net](mailto:Lee.VanWychen@wssa.net)

cell: 202-746-4686

[www.wssa.net](http://www.wssa.net)



## 2013-2014 APMS Officers, Directors, Committee Chairs and Special Representatives

<u>Office</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Telephone</u>	<u>E-mail</u>
President	Michael Netherland	(352) 392-0335	mdnether@ifas.ufl.edu
Immediate Past President	Terry Goldsby	(256) 582-9101	terryg@aquaservicesinc.com
President Elect	Cody Gray	(954) 562-0254	cody.gray@uniphos.com
Vice President	Rob Richardson	(919) 515-5653	rob_richardson@ncsu.edu
Treasurer	Sherry Whitaker	(601) 634-2990	Sherry.L.Whitaker@usace.army.mil
Editor	Jason Ferrell	(352) 392-7512	jferrell@ufl.edu
Secretary	Jeff Schardt	(850) 617-9420	jeff.schardt@myfwc.com
Director	Vernon Vandiver	(352) 376-9333	vvv@ufl.edu
Director	Michael Masser	(979) 845-7473	m-masser@tamu.edu
Director	David Isaacs	(812) 497-2410	davidi@aquaticcontrol.com
Director	Larry McCord	(843) 761-4101	rlmccord@santeecooper.com
Director	Rebecca Haynie	(317) 573-6173	rebeccah@sepro.com
Director	Joe Vassios	(719) 740-9291	joseph.vassios@uniphos.com
Student Director	Elizabeth Edgerton	(210) 386-6682	elizabeth.edgerton@ag.tamu.edu

<u>Committee</u>	<u>Chair</u>	<u>Telephone</u>	<u>E-mail</u>
Awards	Michael Netherland	(352) 392-0335	mdnether@ifas.ufl.edu
Bylaws and Resolutions	Jim Schmidt	(800) 558-5106	james.schmidt@lonza.com
Education and Outreach	Jeff Schardt	(850) 617-9234	jeff.schardt@myfwc.com
Exhibits	Craig Aguiard	(337) 290-1096	caguillard@landolakes.com
Finance	John Gardner	(954) 977-7736	john.gardner@aquaticsystems.com
Legislative	John Madsen	(662) 325-2428	jmadsen@gri.msstate.edu
Meeting Planning	Tommy Bowen	(704) 875-5422	tommy.bowen@duke-energy.com
Membership	Joe Vassios	(719) 740-9291	joseph.vassios@uniphos.com
Nominating	Terry Goldsby	(256) 582-9101	terryg@aquaservicesinc.com
Past President's Advisory Program	Terry Goldsby	(256) 582-9101	terryg@aquaservicesinc.com
Publications	Cody Gray	(954) 562-0254	cody.gray@uniphos.com
Regional Chapters	Jason Ferrell	(352) 392-7512	jferrell@ufl.edu
Scholastic Endowment	Rob Richardson	(919) 515-5653	rob_richardson@ncsu.edu
Strategic Planning	John Gardner	(954) 977-7736	john.gardner@aquaticsystems.com
Student Affairs	John Rodgers, Jr.	(864) 656-0492	jrodders@clemson.edu
Website	Rebecca Haynie	(843) 991-8069	rebeccah@sepro.com
	Ryan Wersal	(678) 624-5891	ryan.wersal@lonza.com

### Special Representative

AERF Representative	Carlton Layne	(678) 773-1364	laynllll@bellsouth.net
B.A.S.S. Representative	Gerald Adrian	(610) 594-1948	gerald.adrian@uniphos.com
C.A.S.T. Representative	Ryan Wersal	(678) 624-5891	ryan.wersal@lonza.com
N.A.L.M.S. Representative	Terry McNabb	(360) 527-1271	tmcnabb@aquatechnex.com
R.I.S.E. Representative	Joe Bondra	(810) 744-0540	joebondra@sbcglobal.net
W.S.S.A. Representative	Cody Gray	(954) 562-0254	cody.gray@uniphos.com
Director of Science Policy	Lee Van Wychen	(202) 746-4686	lee.vanwychen@wssa.net

## ***Mission***

**The Aquatic Plant Management Society (APMS) strives to promote environmental stewardship through scientific innovation and development of technology related to integrated plant management in aquatic and riparian systems.**

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