

# THE HYACINTH CONTROL SOCIETY, Incorporated

Dedicated to the Control of Noxious Aquatic Weeds

BOX 508, FLORAL CITY, FLORIDA 32636

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NEWSLETTER No. 15

April 16, 1971

1971 MEETING: There are still some people confused as to where the 1971 meeting will be held. We are meeting at the Manger Motor Inn, 200 Ashley Drive, Tampa, Florida on July 11-14, 1971. I hope each of you has these dates marked on your calendar. The dates are the same as set at the meeting. Only the site was changed to Tampa.

ATTENTION: Conservation 70, Inc. advised the press, recently, that they would lobby for a legislative package which includes the following bills:

(1) Amendments to the Pesticide Act of 1970. C-70 will ask the legislature to set a deadline of July 1973 on phasing out pesticides in Florida. In addition, a system of safe disposal of pesticides will be requested.

(2) Aquatic Weed Control. C-70 will sponsor legislation to eliminate noxious aquatic vegetation from our waterways. Specifically, 2.6 million will be sought by utilizing 2% of the first 4¢ of the Florida gasoline tax. Taxes on gasoline used for boating are presently directed to highway use. C-70 feels its rightful use is to clean up our threatened waterways.

The Society's Legislative Committee is considering these two bills and the next NEWSLETTER should contain their evaluation and recommendations on these two bills. Meantime, the Committee will take their stand and present it to our State legislature.

ADDITIONAL RESEARCH SUPPORT: In its March NEWSLETTER, the Florida Waterways Association gave its 1971 legislative program, which included support for more funds for research and eradication of harmful aquatic weeds. I had the opportunity to discuss the problems of aquatic weeds in Florida with the members of this Association several months ago. They are very interested in helping our cause.

2,4-D: Several organizations are now working in the State of Florida to ban the use of 2,4-D in aquatic weed control. This could be a costly move for this state and should be given careful study. Research information has never indicated that the use of 2,4-D is detrimental to our waterways. We, in research, and I hope, you, in control operations, must stand up and defend what we are doing in aquatic weed control. I sat in on several meetings recently where our use of 2,4-D was criticized and no one stood up to defend it. I suppose your NEWSLETTER Editor is wrong, but I always feel I need to put in my 2¢ worth. If we all put in our 2¢ worth, we may be heard.

PLACE THE BLAME: Most of our troubles with herbicides is not with the herbicide but with the application. We may be forced into having herbicides applied only by a professional and licensed applicator.



DID WE JUMP TOO QUICKLY? In a recent issue of PESTICIDES MONITORING JOURNAL, by B. E. Frazier, G. Chesters, and G. B. Lee, they found "apparent" residues of chlorinated hydrocarbon pesticides in soil sealed since 1909-1911, some 35 years before these pesticides were discovered.

CONTROLLED RELEASE HERBICIDES: A lot of research effort is being placed on controlled release herbicides for use in aquatic weed control. It looks very promising and I am sure you will be hearing more about it in the future.

BIFLUID SYSTEM: The Southwest Florida Water Management District, Maintenance Division has been doing some experimental work with a new tool known as the Bifluid System. Its use eliminates working with parts per million concentrations of chemicals. This is a very slow-release system and a number of the experimental plots are showing considerable potential for future use. This type of experimental work must be permitted by the Department of Natural Resources, Department of Air and Water Pollution Control, and the Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission.

FISH STORY: Many of you have expressed interest in the research that we are doing in Fort Lauderdale with the amur (Ctenopharyngodon idella) as a biological control for aquatic vegetation. Our research program is progressing very rapidly and we are very pleased with the cooperation that we are obtaining from the various state and federal agencies. Results look very promising at the present time. We hope to have a few papers to present on these findings at the 1971 meeting in Tampa.

NEW COMMERCIAL SUSTAINING MEMBERS: During 1970 we welcomed two new commercial companies to our Society membership: (1) Applied Biochemist, Inc., 1748 North Farwell, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, who has placed on the market a complex of copper; and (2) Sweeney Environmental Controls, Inc., Spring Valley, Wisconsin, has established a commercial aquatic vegetation management service. Their southern office is located in Homosassa Springs, Florida and is supervised by Mr. Art Barrett and Mr. George Moore. We welcome these companies to the aquatic field.

OLD FRIEND GETS NEW NAME: Wilson & Toomer Fertilizer Company and Florida Agricultural Supply Company are now Kerr-McGee Chemical Corp. They will retain the Wilson & Toomer brand fertilizers and FASCO brand pesticides; however, the old company names will be gone and they will be known as Kerr-McGee Chemical Corp.

WEED SCIENCE SOCIETY MEETING: I had the opportunity to attend the 1971 meeting of the Weed Science Society held in Dallas, Texas. The aquatic program was excellent. The panel discussions created a lot of participation from members of the audience. Some of the discussions became very lively, but everyone departed with a friendly handshake.

INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM: The Third International Symposium on Aquatic Weeds will be held in Oxford, England on July 5-9, 1971. Scientists working on aquatic weeds from around the world will be presenting papers. I hope to attend this meeting; thus I will not be attending the meeting in Tampa. This is the first meeting I have missed. I will miss seeing many of you at the annual meeting.

FAREWELL: One of our faithful members, Mr. Hari, of Bangalore, India, died recently after a brief illness. I had an opportunity to meet him while in India several years ago. We extend our sympathy to his family.



BOOKS OF INTEREST: (1) The second edition of the "Herbicide Handbook of the Weed Science Society of America" has just been published. This book compiles the technical information on more than 200 herbicides. If you want a copy, write: Weed Science Society of America, Department of Agronomy, University of Illinois, Urbana, Illinois 61801. The price is \$4.00.

(2) A nice little book has just been published on aquatic plants. It is entitled "How to Know the Aquatic Plants" by G. W. Prescott. It can be obtained from the William C. Brown Company, Publishers, Dubuque, Iowa. The price is approximately \$3.00. Some of the line drawings are quite good.

WEEDS, TREES & TURF: Our good friend and fellow-member, Art Edwards, has all our members' names on his mailing list for 1971. We thank Art for sending this fine magazine to us.

CALL FOR PAPERS: Please write to the President and give him the title of the paper you plan to present at the 1971 meeting. You received the first "Call for Papers" back in January. I hope you already have your paper written. Remember, look at a previous issue of the Journal to see how your paper should be written for publication. We need your paper published in the Journal.

JOB WELL DONE: Your Secretary has done an excellent job on the brochure which tells about the Hyacinth Control Society. I have found them very helpful in explaining our Society when talking with someone, or when corresponding by letter. I distributed approximately 25 at the WSSA meeting. I know that several of those taking the brochure have now joined our Society. Please start using it and help our Membership Committee. A copy is enclosed for your convenience. Please contact your Secretary if you require additional copies.

1970 HYACINTH CONTROL JOURNAL, Vol. 9: Your Editor hopes to get the next issue of the Journal out in early May. The proof pages are now being prepared by the printer. I had a real problem in trying to get some of the manuscripts and finally had to give up on a number of the authors.

CERTIFICATE OF MEMBERSHIP: Inflation has caught up with us again. The cost of obtaining a Certificate of Membership in the Hyacinth Control Society is \$5.00. This is due to the increase in printing costs. Many of you have expressed a desire to have one of these certificates to hang in our office. Now is the time to contact the Secretary.

HERBARIUMS: The Society has worked out an agreement with the University of South Florida to prepare the aquatic plant herbarium. If you are interested in obtaining one, please contact the President, Stan Abramson, 7501 Paradise Place, Tampa, Florida for further details.

BACK ISSUES OF THE HYACINTH CONTROL JOURNAL: Some members have expressed an interest in purchasing back issues of the Journal. Volumes 1 through 8 are available at a cost of \$5 per volume. Some of the older volumes are in short supply, so do not delay placing your order.

MECHANICAL HARVESTER: Sarasota Weed & Feed, Inc., 1834 N. Washington Blvd., Sarasota, Fla. has been conducting field experiments with a water hyacinth harvesting machine for the past two years. Results of these tests are very encouraging. A major point of interest is that the harvested plants are converted into a valuable product after removal. Scientists at the University of Florida are determining the nutritional value of the feedstuffs produced. Interested parties are invited to contact this firm.



1971 DUES: I sure hope you have paid up for this year. Our Assistant Secretary is running a tight ship and if you haven't paid you will receive another notice with this NEWSLETTER. Please pay up and help your Society remain solvent and avoid the confusion of paying at the meeting itself.

EDITOR'S CORNER: This issue of the NEWSLETTER terminates my duties as Editor. In November, 1966, you received your first NEWSLETTER. Since that time you have received these periodically, giving information about our Society and things of general interest concerning aquatic weed control. Many times I have put a little Blackburn philosophy into the NEWSLETTER. This philosophy has pleased some of the membership, angered others, and the rest just did not react. I have asked many of you to serve as a reporter for the NEWSLETTER, but have received few suggestions. A new Editor will bring new ideas.

It has been enjoyable preparing the NEWSLETTER; however, it has required time and effort that many times I did not have at my disposal. I am a charter member of the Society. Since that time, I have served as a Director, Secretary-Treasurer, Vice-President, President, Editor of the Journal and Editor of the NEWSLETTER.

Today, I know the Hyacinth Control Society is the recognized Society on aquatic weeds. The talent that is available to the Society is tremendous and I am looking forward to some of it being used for this NEWSLETTER and in other areas.

Research duties here at Fort Lauderdale and around the Southeast, are requiring more and more of my time. It is about time to turn the old horse out to pasture and let the young ones take over. I will continue to be a dedicated member and whenever there is a need I will always be available to help.

FINAL COMMENT: The decade of the Seventies presents challenges and opportunities probably far greater than any ever known. I hope that aquatic weed scientists will join with other scientists in meeting these. I hope that members of this Society will join with me in telling our fellow citizens about what happens when our agricultural chemicals can no longer be used in and near water. We must place before the public and decision-makers enough sound scientific information to put our aquatic weed control problems in proper perspective. Remember, we have dedicated our Society to the control of all noxious aquatic weeds.

Bob Blackburn