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# THE HYACINTH CONTROL SOCIETY, Incorporated

Dedicated to the Control of Noxious Aquatic Weeds

BOX 508, FLORAL CITY, FLORIDA 32636

ROBERT J. GATES, PRESIDENT  
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NEWSLETTER NO. 18

April 1972

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New Newsletter Editor: Dr. David Sutton, Hyacinth Control Editor, recommended to the Board of Directors, that I take over the editorial duties of the Society Newsletter. The recommendation was approved at the March Board meeting. As many of the members of the Society know, I served as the Newsletter Editor for several years. During the time that I served in this capacity, I tried to keep the membership aware of Society business, research information, aquatic weed problems, new recommendation and occasionally a little personal philosophy. It was often the latter that got me into trouble with some of the membership. I haven't change my ideas about the purpose of the Newsletter, but perhaps I have gotten a little older and wiser. This Newsletter will indicate that Blackburn is back.

1972 Meeting: The Board of Directors voted to make the theme of the meeting "Environmental Management for Mankind". This theme reminds me of a writing by St. Paul which stated "The good that I would I do not: but the evil which I would not that I do". Herein, I believe, is combined the whole problem of conservation, pollution, and our environment. Today we all discuss environmental problems, but what we do today will be reflected in the environment tomorrow. The Society is giving the membership a chance to speak out on its ideas about the aquatic environment so all of you pitch in and support the program. I've already mailed in the titles for my presentations: have you ??? The deadline for your title is May 1.

Field Tour: The field tour, for the 1972 meeting of the Society, will be the Aquatic Research Laboratory at Fort Lauderdale. We are looking forward to having you all here at the station. If you haven't visited the station in the last year or so, you will be surprised at the growth and change. I've heard by way of the Local Arrangements Committee that there will also be a catfish fry after the tour. Ya'll better be here for some real southern catfish and hush puppies. The rumor is also out that white amur (Ctenopharyngodon idella) may be served to those who have a gourmet taste. Please don't spread this information around because everyone associates my name with rumors about the white amur. Ladies a tour and slide presentation on "Tropical Foliage" has been planned for you at the same time. Don't let daddy go off without you this year.

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Reservations: The 1972 meeting will be held at the Miami Spring Villas and Hotel in Miami, Florida. If you have never visited this complex you have a real thrill in store. The membership has already received information on the hotel. Please write or call early for your reservations because I have the idea that there is really going to be a big crowd at this meeting. The rates are excellent, the rooms are fabulous, and the food is scrumptious. Mama you had better tell big daddy that this is your year to travel with him to the Hyacinth Control Society meeting.

New Guidelines: The new "Guidelines For Aquatic Weed Control" has been published by the Florida Department of Natural Resources. I would suggest all of you involved in aquatic weed application obtain a copy of these guidelines. Requests should be forwarded to: Department of Natural Resources, Bureau of Aquatic Plant Research and Control, Larson Building, Tallahassee, Florida 32304. Dr. Alva Burkhalter prepared the 1972 guidelines.

New Scientist: Dr. David Perkins, Entomologist, with the U. S. Department of Agriculture, has joined the aquatic research team at the Aquatic Research Laboratory, Fort Lauderdale, Florida. Dr. Perkins has just returned from a 3 year tour of duty in South America, where he did research on insects feeding on waterhyacinth. He will be conducting research on three insects that he found attacking waterhyacinth in South America. Dr. Perkins may make experimental releases of one of these insects as early as this summer. We have already signed Dr. Perkins up to discuss his research at the 1972 Hyacinth Control Society meeting.

Membership: The interest in aquatic plants and their control has increased tremendously in the past year. Every member of the Society should have signed up at least one new member. Those members in Florida should sign up at least two new ones. The Hyacinth Control Society is now recognized as the aquatic weed society in the U. S. This means that you must begin to assist in reaching others interested in the field. I will be disappointed if we have not increased our membership by 50% before the July meeting.

Regional Botanists: The Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission, in the near future, will have 5 regional botanists stationed in various areas of the state. These botanists will review your proposed aquatic weed control programs, assist in recommendations, and enforce the guidelines that have already been discussed in this Newsletter. These fellows are out there to help you with your aquatic weed problems, and they will expect you to assist them in carrying out their duties. I hope to have Dr. Alva Burkhalter write a feature article for the next Newsletter concerning the Department of Natural Resources program. I'm sure he will cover the location of the regional botanists in his article.

Copper Tolerance: The Environmental Protection Agency has evaluated all the data submitted in three pesticide petitions and other relevant material and determined that a food additive tolerance of 1 ppm should be established for residues of copper in potable water (Federal Register, page 3352). Such residues result from the use of the algicides or herbicides copper sulfate pentahydrate and basic copper carbonate (Malachite) to control aquatic plants.



Those of you in the state of Florida remember that the copper tolerance is set at 0.5 ppm. We hope that EPA will start working on clearance of other aquatic herbicides.

Comments Needed: Send me your comments on the following subjects and I'll publish them in one of our Newsletters.

- 1) The cost of aquatic weeds in the various states.
- 2) Fisheries Biologist: tell us how aquatic weeds reduce fish production, and what is the desired aquatic weed density in a body of water.
- 3) Cost comparison on various methods of aquatic weed control.
- 4) Where should we direct the research dollar in aquatic weeds.
- 5) How are our aquatic weed control programs destroying the aquatic environment or how are they helping the aquatic environment?
- 6) Stopping the use of herbicides in aquatic sites.
- 7) Hyacinth Control Society Newsletter: How To Improve.

Journal Editor: Dr. David Sutton is working hard to have your next issue of the Hyacinth Control Society Journal in the mail by mid-May. Most of the authors have already returned their galley proofs. Dr. Sutton has done an excellent job in assembling this issue. The printer of the Journal has been working very hard to meet the May deadline. Many of you did not submit your papers for publication. I hope you prepare them for the next issue of the Journal.

Year of Change: This is going to be a big year for the Hyacinth Control Society. The membership voted to change the name of the Society to "Aquatic Weed Science Society". The Constitution and By-Law Study Committee will probably recommend a number of changes to be voted on at the 1972 meeting. This is the year the ecologist and conservationist is asking and demanding a change in aquatic weed control programs. In summary, we can say we are in the decade of the change. Unless you are involved in a group or organization that wants a change, you are not with it. This means that if you aren't at the 1972 Hyacinth Control Society meeting, you are not with it.

Dues: Please pay your 1972 dues if you have not already done so. It will help the secretary and also help in the operation of your Society. It requires money to operate any society

Last Comment: Mama starting packing your bag so daddy knows you are going to the 1972 Hyacinth Control Society meeting in Miami. I'll see you all there with mama.

*Bob Blackburn*



### Recent Publications:

- 1) Ferguson, F. F. 1971. Current controls for aquatic weeds inimical to public health. East African Med. J. 48: 456-459.
- 2) Michewicz, Jane E., D. L. Sutton, and R. D. Blackburn. 1972. The white amur for aquatic weed control. Weed Sci. 20:106-110.
- 3) Blackburn, Robert D., David L. Sutton, and Thomas Taylor. 1971. Biological control of aquatic plants. J. Irrigation and Drainage Div. ASCE, Vol. 97, No. IR3, Proc. Paper 8362, pp. 421-432.
- 4) Sutton, David L., R. D. Blackburn, and W. C. Barlowe. 1971. Response of aquatic plants to combinations of endothall and copper. Weed Sci. 19:643-646.
- 5) Tucker, David P., Richard L. Phillips, and Thomas W. Oswalt. 1971. Weed control guide for Florida citrus. Fla. Ext. Circular 355. 26 p.
- 6) Odum, Eugene P. 1971. Fundamentals of Ecology. W. B. Saunders Co., West Washington Square, Philadelphia, Pa. 574 p. (\$12.00).
- 7) Rodgers, Charles A. and D. L. Stalling 1972. Dynamics of an ester of 2,4-D in organs of three fish species. Weed Sci. 20:101-105.
- 8) Toetz, Dale W. 1971. Diurnal uptake of  $\text{NO}_3$  and  $\text{NH}_4$  by a Ceratophyllum periphyton community. Limn and Ocean. 16: 819-822.
- 9) Haller, W. T., E. B. Knipling, and S. H. West. 1970. Phosphorus absorption by and distribution in waterhyacinths. Soil and Crop Science Society of Florida 30:64-68.
- 10) Knipling, E. B., S. H. West, and W. T. Haller 1970. Growth characteristics, yield potential, and nutritive content of water hyacinths. Soil and Crop Science Society of Florida 30:51-63.