

South Carolina Aquatic Plant Management Society **N**ewsletter

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Annual Meeting Huge Success

The magnificent Madren Center at Clemson University drew record crowds to the upstate. We had the highest attendance of all upstate meetings to date with 88 participants.

“The Board wanted to hold the 2000 meeting someplace special this year to start the new millennium out right”, said President Larry Dyck, “and the Madren Center is one of the finest meeting places in the upstate.”

Presentations included the regular updates on management programs on public waters, National initiatives by Sea Grant on invasive species, quantitative GPS survey techniques, herbicide updates, excellent presentations on herbicide safety and the legal use of aquatic herbicides by Clemson University staff. The dominant theme for this meeting was shoreline habitat restoration and enhancement. All three student papers and several other papers addressed this increasingly important aspect of managing aquatic vegetation.

Door prizes abound during the meeting with the Fields duo (Phil and Malynn) keeping attendees busy checking their tickets at each break and at the banquet. The Student Scholarship Fund raised over \$550 from ticket sales.

Further contributions were made to the Scholarship Funds from the Annual Scholarship Golf Tournament, which was played on the beautiful and challenging Walker Golf Course. Low gross was won by Bob Gunkel, low net by Larry Feller, closest to the pin by Harry Knight, and longest drive by Steve de Kozlowski. Everyone had a great time and many thanks go out to the guys at **Elf Atochem** for sponsoring the tournament again this year and to Larry Feller for organizing it.

Many thanks are also extended to all those on the Local Arrangements Committee for putting on such a nice meeting: Larry Dyck for arranging the facility; Phil Fields and Joe Dennis our beverage brigade; Bo Burns with **SePRO** for the food at the Wednesday evening social; and Larry Feller with **Zeneca** for cooking a delectable Frogmore Stew for the banquet; and all the others that just chipped in when needed.



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Johnson and Inabinet Receive Award



The South Carolina Aquatic Plant Management Society presented the “Member of the Millennium Award” to Danny Johnson (left) with the S.C. Department of Natural Resources and John Inabinet (right) with Santee Cooper. The beautiful engraved crystal bowl awards were presented at the Society’s annual meeting in Clemson in recognition of many years of outstanding service and leadership in the Society during the last millennium.

In presenting the award, Larry Feller, Chairman of the Awards Committee, stated “When we evaluated the contributions of these gentlemen over the past 20 years, it was so close that we had to give it to both of them.”

Starting with his first meeting in 1979, Danny became active in the Society serving every year since either on the Board or as chairman of one the committees. He is the only member to serve in every position on the Board.

John was one of the founding fathers of the Society in 1978, the second president and has served as Director, Editor, Vice President, and has chaired several committees.



John Hayes Member of the Year

Congratulations go out to John Hayes (left) for receiving the SCAPMS 2000 Member of the Year Award. John manages of Outdoor Appearance, LLC and Carolina Aquatics, LLC, an aquatic plant management company in Dalzell (Sumter), SC. This award is one of the most prestigious awards presented by the Society and it is earned by members that make outstanding contributions to the Society and the aquatic plant management profession.

In addition to serving as a board member of SCAPMS, John also serves on the Board of the SC Landscape and Turfgrass Association. He has worked to expand membership of SCAPMS by interacting with other pesticide applicator groups and landscape associations, and by direct mailouts to Georgia and North Carolina aquatic applicators.

John has presented programs on aquatic plant management to South Carolina School Teachers as part of an environmental symposium for teacher rectification.

He has helped promote a better understanding by the public and his clients of illegal aquatic plants. John has taught classes in record keeping, safety, calibration and has given aquatic herbicide application demonstrations at Clemson University Cooperative Extension Service In-service training for county agents and specialists. John, we thank you for your dedication.



State Funding Eliminated

State funding totaling \$400,000 for the Aquatic Nuisance Species Program was eliminated for the 2000-2001 fiscal year following a shortfall in the Supplemental Appropriations.

“The loss of these funds will have a devastating impact on our ability to prevent and manage the growth of invasive plant species in our public waterways” says Steve de Kozlowski, Program Manager. “And the timing couldn’t have been worse, with monoecious hydrilla moving down from North Carolina and *Salvinia molesta* threatening from all directions.

Most funding for the S.C. Department of Natural Resources programs comes from General Appropriations; however, funding for the Aquatic Nuisance Species Program comes from Supplemental Appropriations, which are surplus funds at the end of the prior fiscal year. Financial planners projected the surplus would be \$100 Million, but actual revenues only amounted to \$39 million, a 61% shortfall. Out of the 85 projects/programs funded from these funds only the top 27 received funding.

The program originally cost-shared project expenditures with 70% state funds and 30% local funds. Since the loss of funding, local sponsors have been asked to match 70% of the cost of projects conducted between July 1 and August 22, and 100% of the cost of projects conducted after August 22.



Mitchell Wins Student Paper Contest

Julie Mitchell, a graduate student at Clemson University, won first place in the annual student paper contest at the SCAPMS Annual Meeting. Julie presented a paper titled "Use of Silky Dogwood for Shoreline Restoration: the Biology of Rooting." to capture the \$200 first place prize and bragging rites for a year.

Stephanie Tomczyk and Michael Dorn, both also from Clemson University, took second and third place, respectively.

The judges had a difficult time selecting the best paper because all were so good. The Society holds a student paper contest each year to encourage student participation at the annual meetings and in the field of aquatic plant management, and to help students hone their presentation skills.



Pictured from left to right; Michael Dorn, Stephanie Tomczyk, Danny Johnson, and Julie Mitchell.



Dorn Receives \$2K Scholarship Grant

Michael Dorn (pictured above), a graduate student at Clemson University, was awarded the \$2,000 SCAPMS Scholarship Grant for 2000. Mr. Dorn is a prime example of the type of student the Society likes to encourage in the field of aquatic plant management.

Mr. Dorn has received a Bachelors Degree in Horticulture from Clemson University and is currently completing work on a Master Degree in Botany at Clemson. Under the direction of Dr. Larry Dyck, he is conducting research on the use of grasses for shoreline stabilization and habitat enhancement on Piedmont reservoirs. In addition to being an excellent student, he also finds time to manage the Aquatic Shoreline Plants Nursery at Clemson and assists with the installation of most plants produced by the nursery.

Mr. Dorn has made a presentations at the past two SCAPMS Annual meetings and been awarded a student paper prizes at each. Congratulations Michael!!



New REWARD label for South Carolina

Zeneca Professional Products announces a Special Local Need Registration for use of Reward Landscape and Aquatic Herbicide in South Carolina.

"The new label has two important changes", says Steve Kammerer, Technical Service Representative at Zeneca Professional Products, "First, it clarifies use of the product near drinking water intakes at different application rates, and 2) it allows the use of Reward based on depth like other herbicides used to control submersed aquatic vegetation."

Drinking Water Restrictions: For flowing water, do not apply within 1600 feet upstream or within 400 feet downstream of operating potable water intake sites. For standing water, do not apply within 1400 feet for rates at 2 gals/surface acre, within 700 feet for rates at 1 gal/surface acre or within 350 feet for rates equal to or less than 0.5 gals/surface acre. For applications inside of these distances, the intake must be turned off for the time period specified on the Federal label.

Deepwater Treatment Restrictions: Also, within the same SC Special Local Need, Reward may be used at rates greater than 2 gals/surface acre for submersed vegetation depending on water depths. There is an allowance for an extra 0.5 gal Reward per surface acre for each foot of water depth beyond 4 feet. For example, if the water depth for the treatment area is 5 feet, the maximum use rate is 2.5 gal/surface acre. The maximum use rate is 6.0 gals Reward /surface acre at water depths of 12 feet or greater. With the dilution factor of greater water depths, the concentration level of Reward can be maintained to maximize control of the submersed weed.

For copies of the South Carolina Reward Special Local need, please contact either Steve Kammerer, (steve.kammerer@AGNA.zeneca.com) or Larry Feller, Territory Sales rep. (larry.feller@AGNA.zeneca.com) or call 1-888-617-7690.

REWARD[®]
Landscape and Aquatic Herbicide



Weed Alert! *Salvinia molesta* Escapes in North Carolina

Stratford H. Kay, North Carolina State University

Giant salvinia (*Salvinia molesta*) first appeared in North Carolina in October 1998 at an aquatic nursery display at the State Fair. This highly invasive, floating aquatic plant subsequently was found in wetland nurseries, water garden dealerships, and ornamental pools in 19 NC counties, but was not known to exist outside of cultivation until this summer. Following a tip received in August from a commercial aquatic applicator, this weed was found in several ponds on a golf course in Brunswick Co. In September, the weed was reported in two ponds on another golf course at Wilmington. The identity of the weed at these sites was confirmed by personnel from the North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (NCDA&CS) and North Carolina State University (NCSU).

During a pond management workshop on September 20 in Kinston, a property owner brought in a live sample of giant salvinia from a pond in Jacksonville, and another aquatic applicator reported a large infestation in a swamp pond within a subdivision adjacent to the Northeast Cape Fear River east of Burgaw. Thursday, September 28, a joint task force of personnel from NCSU, NCDA&CS, the North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources Division of Water Resources, the Cooperative Extension Service office at Wilmington, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Wilmington District, visited the sites at Wilmington, Jacksonville, and near Burgaw. Both ponds at the golf course in Wilmington were completely covered with giant salvinia, and small patches of plants were present in a drainage ditch into which the lower pond flowed. Data collected using GPS equipment indicated that the upper and lower ponds were about 0.25 and 0.5 acres, respectively, and the ditch was 0.1 acre. Both ponds had been infested for more than two years.

The site in Jacksonville was of much higher concern as flooding two weeks earlier had washed large masses of giant salvinia from a small pond (0.25 acre) into the adjacent wetland, which flows into Northeast Creek. Very little salvinia remained in the pond. A survey of the wetland revealed large mounds of plants piled against the tree line and smaller patches of live plants on wet soil up to 100 yards from the pond. A few plants were found within 25 ft. of the creek in the wetland. Giant salvinia has been in this site since 1999. No plants were found downstream at this time, but there is concern that flooding in the fall of 1999 and mid-September 2000 may have washed plants into Northeast Creek and the adjacent wetlands downstream.

The site currently of greatest concern is the swamp pond beside the NE Cape Fear River. Property owners here indicated that this weed has been present for at least three or four years. Giant salvinia is present in the open water that encircles a swampy wetland. Plants were visible well back into the trees in the wetland and in a small drainage canal paralleling the road just east of this site. Some waterhyacinths also were seen in the canal. The pond, including the encircled wetland, occupies 15 acres, and has been flooded several times. In fall 1999, ten to twelve ft. of water covered the road next to the pond. Dead salvinia was found hanging in trees ten to twelve ft. above the ground, where they were stranded during the flooding following Hurricane Floyd in 1999. This site is only 100 ft. from the Northeast Cape Fear River, and stranded plants were found in trees within 30 ft. of the river. It is highly probable that giant salvinia has been distributed widely downstream into the swamps along the river. Control of giant salvinia in sites such as this is essentially impossible due to obstructions preventing herbicide treatment. Surveys of adjacent wetlands will be conducted during the next two weeks by NCDA&CS. Updates will follow pending the findings of this survey.

For more information contact Stratford Kay at stratford_kay@ncsu.edu.



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New Board Members Elected

The membership voted into office two new directors Steve Hoyle and Bo Burns both from Raleigh, NC, and tapped past director Troy Diel for Vice President.

Steve holds a B.S. degree from NCSU and is an Agricultural Research Technician in the Aquatic and Non-cropland Weed Management Program at NCSU. He has had extensive field experience in chemical and non-chemical weed management techniques and has assisted with numerous workshops and other extension and outreach programs. Steve has been active in SCAPMS for about eight years and has made numerous presentations on aquatic weed management at regional and national weed science meetings, including SCAPMS, APMS, SWSS, and NEWSS.

Bo received a M.S. in Environmental Management from Duke University School of the Environment in 1983. He has worked directly or indirectly with aquatic vegetation management for the past 15 years. Beginning his career in the Aquatic Weed Control Program at the North Carolina Division of Water Resources in 1984, Bo went to work for American Cyanamid in 1989 and has been employed by SePRO Corporation as an Aquatic Specialist since 1995. Bo currently resides in Raleigh, NC.

Troy Diel is a Technical Associate for the Analytical and Biological Services Section of Santee Cooper. Troy is responsible for conducting aquatic weed control activities and ambient water quality monitoring on Lakes Marion and Moultrie. He lives in Goose Creek, South Carolina.



South Carolina Aquatic Plant Management Society Newsletter

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SCAPMS Financial Statement

Checking	\$ 3,337
Scholarship Fund	\$52,070
Operational Reserve	\$ 3,058
TOTAL ASSETS	\$58,465

\$2000 College Grant Now Available!

The Society is seeking applications for its annual scholarship grant. The Society intends to award a \$2,000 grant to the successful applicant in the fall of 2001. Grant 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 May 1, 2001 and will be evaluated on the basis of relevant test scores (ACT, SAT, GRE, etc.), high school and/or 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.

Persons interested in applying for the scholarship grant should contact Danny Johnson, SC Department of Natural Resources, 2221 Devine Street, Suite 222, Columbia, SC 29205, phone (803) 734-9099, or E-mail at johnsond@water.dnr.state.sc.us for additional information on application procedures.

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