



2003 Annual Meeting in Cypress Gardens, August 13-15

It is only fitting that we return to the place, or at least close to it, where it all began 25 years ago. Although we've outgrown the quaint conference center at Wampee, the new conference center at Cypress Gardens located close by will provide a beautiful, comfortable, and entertaining setting for our 25th Annual Meeting on August 13-15. Cypress Gardens is located in Berkeley County about 24 miles north of Charleston near Moncks Corner (see insert).

The Gardens, known as the *Gem of Berkeley County*, offers visitors the rare experience of being one with nature as they explore the swamp on flat bottom boats, or by walking on a variety of nature trails. Once part of Dean Hall Plantation, a rice plantation dating to the 1700's, Cypress Gardens was one of the first sites of well-managed aquatic plants in the state. In fact, what is now "Cypress Gardens Swamp" was formerly an old rice reservoir. The conference center features flat bottom boats, nature trails, an aquarium, reptile center, and wonderful butterfly house.

Our Program Committee Chairman, Steve Hoyle, has been putting together an excellent program for this special anniversary meeting. Expect a mix of the old and new, and count on a nostalgic trip into the past for some of the talks, as members relive the good ole days of aquatic plant management. We have also invited all the past presidents to join us for this very special event! (Take a look at the list inside the newsletter.)

We are holding to the new format of starting on Wednesday, August 13 at 1:00 and continuing through Friday, August 15 at noon. Thursday afternoon is reserved for two excellent workshops on 1) Integrated Aquatic Plant Control and 2) Aquatic Plant Identification and Restoration. Also on Thursday afternoon is the Annual Scholarship Golf Tournament at Berkeley Country Club. All proceeds from the tournament go to support our students through scholarship grants, meeting registration, room costs, and student paper contest prize money.

Unlike last year where everything was at the hotel, the meeting activities this year are scattered over three venues. Most participants will be staying at the Holiday Inn Express in Moncks Corner, the actual conference site is located about 15 miles away at Cypress Gardens, and the Wednesday night social will be held at historic Santee Canal Park located virtually across the street from the hotel. Please make early reservations at the Holiday Inn Express so we can expand our block of rooms.



MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS EARLY AND WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU ALL THERE!!

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Santee Canal

America's first summit canal, the Santee Canal, began operating in 1800. It was considered one of the crowning engineering achievements and economic development projects of its day. Before the canal opened, crops from the fertile uplands were shipped overland by wagon or floated down the Santee River into the Atlantic and along the coast to the busy port of Charleston.

Neither mode of transportation was very cost-effective and the unpredictability of the Atlantic Ocean made the sea journey dangerous at best. The business and political leaders of Charleston realized that a better route needed to be established in order to compete against rival seaports.

The Commons House of Assembly proposed a survey in 1770 to determine the most favorable routes for a canal to connect the Santee River with the Cooper River which would provide a direct outlet to Charleston Harbor. To this end, Henry Mouzon Jr. was commissioned in 1773 to survey routes for such an inland waterway.

The onset of the Revolutionary War silenced talk of the canal until 1785 when the newly formed General Assembly granted a charter to the Santee Canal Company.

THE CANAL BECOMES A REALITY

Construction began in 1793 under the supervision of Col. Christian Senf, a Swedish-born engineer who had served with Hessian troops during the Revolution. Over 700 laborers worked for seven years with picks and shovels to complete the project.

The finished canal was 22 miles long, 35 ft. wide, and 5 1/2 ft. deep. It was completed at a cost of \$650,667.14. The canal was designed to handle a 34-ft. rise through three locks and a 69 ft. fall through seven more for a net difference of 35 ft. between the two rivers. Boats and barges laden with cotton and other goods were initially pulled down the canal by mules and horses using 10-ft.-wide towpaths.

Later, the use of horses and mules was discontinued and the boats and barges were pushed through the canal with poles by their crewmen.

Operation of the canal went smoothly for the first 16 years. Goods moved freely to Charleston and the Santee

Canal began to show a profit. Between 1817 and 1819, however, severe droughts dried up the canal, halting all traffic. Corn was planted in the canal bed to take advantage of the fertile soil there.

The busiest year for the canal was 1830, when a total of 700 barges and boats, laden primarily with cotton, traveled through the waterway.

The completion of a railway between Columbia and Charleston in 1840 left the canal dependent on what little traffic trickled down the Wateree River.

In 1846, the railroad tracks were extended to Camden, thus hastening the ultimate demise of the canal. In 1850, the General Assembly revoked its charter at the request of the shareholders.

THE CANAL TODAY

Most of the canal now lies beneath the waters of Lake Moultrie. On private property, some of the upper portions of the waterway are still visible, where boats entered from the Santee and the southernmost sections, which joined the headway of the Cooper River at Biggin Creek.

Old Santee Canal Park is centered where the southernmost section of the canal enters the quiet waters of Biggin Creek and the surrounding swamps.

The high bluff here at the headwaters of the Cooper River has, for generations, been known as Stony Landing. Because of the natural advantages of its setting, it became a crossroads of early commerce.

Boat traffic from the port of Charleston took on the goods of the upcountry and unloaded finished products for overland transportation to the growing frontier and the Indian nations. The construction of the canal further solidified the importance of this area.



Poling Barge

Pesticide License Continuing Certification Hours Update-Crunch Time

*By Jack Whetstone,
Clemson University Extension*

The Clemson University Department of Pesticide Regulation, the regulatory agency in South Carolina responsible for pesticide licensing, has issued an important reminder that the five-year block for Continuing Certification Hours for commercial and non-commercial licenses is ending this year. All individuals with commercial and non-commercial pesticide applicator licenses must have completed 10 Continuing Certification Hours of training by the end of 2003, or they will lose their license and must wait, take and

The Department of Pesticide Regulation strongly encourages license holders to complete their training by September 30, 2003.

pass the licensing tests before being re-licensed to apply pesticides in South Carolina under a commercial or non-commercial license.

Renewal notices will be mailed in early October. If you do not have 10 hours by September 30, you will not receive a Renewal Notice until 10 hours are completed. If proper credits are not completed the paperwork becomes more complicated. The recertification process will be greatly expedited for the licenseholders, if all credits are received prior to September 30.

To determine the number of hours that the agency has recorded for you, you can call Ms. Mikki Gillespie at 864-646-2161 or check the Clemson University Department of Pesticide Regulation Website at:

<http://regfocus.clemson.edu/dpr/commercial.htm>

To help applicators meet their continuing certification requirements, the SC Aquatic Plant Management Society will be conducting a Recertification Workshop at this year's Annual Conference. The August 13-15 meeting date allows applicators to earn recertification credits prior to the September 30, 2003 deadline.

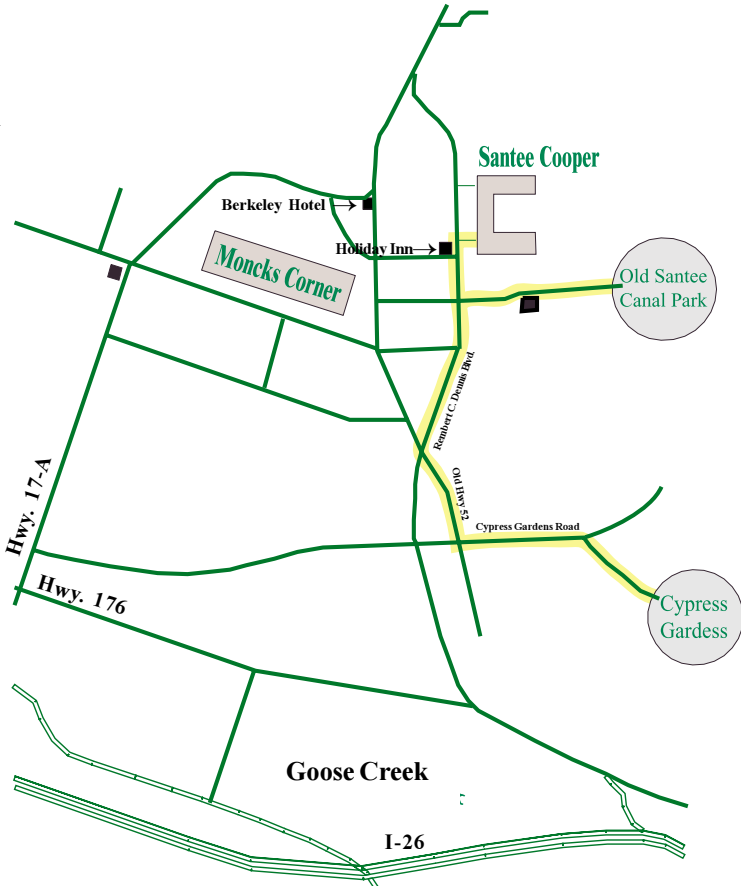
SCAPMS 25th Annual Meeting Schedule and Information

Wednesday, August 13, 2003

Cypress Gardens, Main Auditorium

Board Meeting 10:00am - 11:00am TBA
Registration 11:00am - 5:00pm
Meeting 1:00pm - 5:00pm

Hospitality Gathering
at Santee Canal Park 6:00pm - 10:00pm
 Live music, refreshments, and great tasty
 hors d'oeuvres.



Thursday, August 14, 2003

Cypress Gardens, Main Auditorium

Registration 8:00am - 5:00pm
Meeting 8:30am - 12:00pm
Lunch 12:00pm - 1:00pm

Workshops 1:30pm - 5:00pm
 -Integrated Aquatic Plant Control
 -Aquatic Plant Identification and Restoration

Scholarship Golf Tournament

Berkeley Country Club 12:00pm - 6:00pm
Stress Relief Session 6:00pm - 7:00pm
Awards Banquet 7:00pm - 10:00pm

Exhibits Area
 Exhibits Area

Friday, August 15, 2003

Cypress Gardens, Main Auditorium

Registration 8:00am - 12:00pm
Meeting 8:30am - 12:00pm
Adjournment 12:00pm

Cypress Gardens
25 years
2003

Meeting Registration

Registration fees for the meeting are \$75 for regular members, \$30 for students, and \$215 for sustaining members if paid prior to July 30. After the deadline and on the day of the meeting all registration fees will increase by \$25. The \$30 student fee will be waived for students giving papers.

The registration fee includes admission to the meeting, the hospitality gathering on the 13th, lunch, dinner and stress relief session on the 14th, all breaks, and 2004 membership dues.

Please complete the attached pre-registration form and mail it in with the appropriate registration fee to Chris Page, Sec/Tres. By pre-registering you save a little money (\$25) and help us in planning for the meals, breaks, and ice cold refreshments.

Hotel Accommodations and Reservations

The Society has reserved a block of rooms at the Holiday Inn Express in Moncks Corner for \$69.00 per night, plus tax. This is the nicest hotel and best location for the meeting activities. See the attached map for location in relation to Conference site and hospitality function at Santee Canal Park. Reservations can be made by calling **1-800-774-0600 or 843-761-5900** and remember to mention that you are with **“SCAPMS”**(S.C. Aquatic Plant Management Society) to get your discounted room rate. **Reservations must be made prior to July 14, 2003 to get the discount rate.**

Exhibits

The annual meeting offers the opportunity for the membership to view our commercial member’s displays and talk to them about their products and services. The time spent talking to technical representatives, obtaining new efficacy and safety literature is fundamental to the professional development of our membership. All breaks and hospitality functions will be held in the exhibits area to promote a relaxing atmosphere for obtaining technical assistance from our commercial sustaining members.

Please call Phil Fields 803-755-2834 or Chris Page 803-755-2836 for further details.

Scholarship Golf Tournament

The 2003 SCAPMS Scholarship Golf Tournament will be held at historic Berkeley Country Club. Berkeley Country Club has been described as one of the prettiest courses in the region. A new clubhouse is in the old plantation summerhouse style. Located just outside Moncks Corner on Old Highway 52.

This year the tournament will be sponsored by our friends at SePRO Corporation. There will be awards for the longest drive and closest to the pin along with an award for the overall lowest score and overall highest score. All proceeds from the tournament will be donated to the SCAPMS scholarship fund. The cost of the tournament is only **\$40.00 per person**.

If interested in playing please call Bo Burns at (919) 844-5375 or email at Bo@sepro.com. Spaces are limited so please call and reserve a spot.

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**2003 SCAPMS ANNUAL MEETING
PRE-REGISTRATION FORM**

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____

Organization: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Check one:

Complete form and mail with payment to:

Regular Member: \$75 _____

Chris Page, Interim Sec/Treasurer

Student Member: \$30 _____

2221 Devine Street, Suite 222

Sustaining Member: \$215 _____

Columbia, SC 29205

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South Carolina Aquatic Plant Management Society Newsletter

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Government, Industry Team Up

By Ben Hardin

Scientists are teaming up to find ways to reverse the spread of hydrilla, an exotic weed that grows underwater and clogs numerous waterways and reservoirs in southern parts of North America.

The Agricultural Research Service, building on the success of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, has entered into a three-year Cooperative Research and Development Agreement (CRADA) with SePRO Corporation, Carmel, Ind. The company markets aquatic weed control products. The researchers' goal: to introduce effective bioherbicides that can be integrated with current control efforts.

The fungus tapped for the research is called *Mycocleptodiscus terrestris*, and it may have helped keep some native American weeds in check since time immemorial. Applying a little extra measure of the fungus as a bioherbicide at the right time may be just the ticket for keeping the hydrilla—originally from Asia—from flourishing. The CRADA is aimed at finding ways to mass produce and formulate *M. terrestris* to demonstrate its commercial potential.

Scientists at the Corp's U.S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center, Vicksburg, Miss., isolated *M. terrestris* from microbes collected from diseased hydrilla. After further research, they surmised the fungus was a good candidate for application as a biological control agent and began working with ARS scientists at the National Center for Agricultural Utilization Research (NCAUR), Peoria, Ill. The Peoria scientists also have been developing expertise in producing other potential biopesticides.

Development of a safe, biological control measure should help reduce the environmental and economic impact of hydrilla, which grows so competitively with other aquatic plants that biological diversity may be threatened in many lakes and streams.

ARS is the chief scientific agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Scientific contact: Mark A. Jackson, ARS National Center for Agricultural Utilization Research, Peoria, Ill., phone (309) 681-6283, fax (309) 681-6693, jacksoma@mail.ncaur.usda.gov.

PAST LOCATIONS AND PRESIDENTS OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA AQUATIC PLANT MANAGEMENT SOCIETY

1979	Moncks Corner	Howard Roach
1980	Moncks Corner	John Inabinet
1981	Moncks Corner	Ron Dillon
1982	Columbia	Jim Preacher
1983	Clemson	Mac Watson
1984	Charleston	Danny Johnson
1985	Moncks Corner	Lamar Robinette
1986	Columbia	Harold Ornes
1987	Clemson	Steve de Kozlowski
1988	Moncks Corner	Tim Drake
1989	Charleston	Cindy Aulbach-Smith
1990	Seneca	Ken Manuel
1991	Moncks Corner	Howard Roach
1992	Sullivans Island	Phil Fields
1993	Charleston	Jerry McSwain
1994	Columbia	Lewis Decell
1995	Springmaid Beach	Larry McCord
1996	Springmaid Beach	David DeMont
1997	Seneca	Chip Davis
1998	Litchfield Beach	Jack Whetstone
1999	Columbia	Stratford Kay
2000	Clemson	Larry Dyck
2001	Springmaid Beach	Chris Page
2002	Springmaid Beach	Troy Diel



EPA To Produce Guidance By End of Year

Clarifying Issues on Pesticides, Clean Water

By Karen L. Werner, The Bureau of National Affairs, Inc., Washington D.C.

Environmental Protection Agency officials plan to produce guidance by the end of 2003 to clarify when or if pesticide applications require a permit under the Clean Water Act, an EPA Office of Pesticide Programs official said April 28.

Multiple legal cases have challenged the use of pesticides near or in waters to control mosquitoes without a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit under the Clean Water Act. The challenges arose after localities began to apply pesticides to control mosquitoes and the West Nile virus.

EPA officials are not anticipating legislative changes to resolve legal issues over the applicability of the Clean Water Act and the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act, when it comes to applying pesticides around water, according to Arty Williams. Williams is environmental field branch chief in the OPP's Field and External Affairs Division. She spoke to members of the State FIFRA Issues Research & Evaluation Group Working Committee on Water Quality & Pesticide Disposal.

However, officials are struggling with questions arising from the agency's interpretation of the Clean Water Act as it applies to pesticides, including the issue of what a public benefit is, Williams said.

According to Williams, EPA has said pesticide applications are not a discharge of pollutant requiring a NPDES permit if they meet four criteria, including whether the chemical is applied for a public benefit.

A key question is whether a benefit under FIFRA is considered a public benefit under the Clean Water Act, Williams said. If the answer is yes, then all pesticides have public benefits. If the answer is no, then the agency would need to define what public benefits are, she said.

OPP scientific staff members now are looking at specific pesticides' risk assessments conducted under FIFRA and working with the Office of Water on how the Office of Water arrives at water quality standards for pesticides, Williams said.



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