

Special points of interest:

- If you are interested in the latest news regarding the Industrial Hemp Research Pilot Program, we have proposed a draft of the regulations and are waiting for various agencies to review them.
- If you are interested in participating in the program, watch our website at agriculture.ks.gov/industrialhemp for more information including a Pre-Application form.

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As was mentioned in the last newsletter, the responsibility for determining which species are listed as noxious in Kansas now lies with the Department of Agriculture upon recommendation of the State Noxious Weed Advisory Committee. This is not a responsibility to be taken lightly, therefore, before making any recommendations, the advisory committee with review scientific data compiled to evaluate the risk to the environment posed by each species being considered.

While a final version of the risk assessment will not be developed until the advisory board is convened and can review the draft, the type of information that will

Another decision the advisory committee will have to make is to keep the list as it is or to break the list up into categories. These categories would be based on the infestation size of each of noxious weed species .

The categories, or tiers, would have the following guidelines:

Tier A: Noxious weeds that are generally not found or that small populations throughout the state and are subject to exclusion

be included will be:

Impacts: The level and type of impact the weed species will have on the environment, native and desirable species, both plants and animals.

Invasiveness: How aggressive the weed species is as far as how easily it becomes established, how quickly and easily it spreads and how competitive it is against native and desirable species.

Distribution: How well established is the weed species currently and how many different habitats can it adapt to.

Agricultural and Human Impacts: How does the weed species affect humans physically or eco-

nomically and does it invade, or otherwise impact crop species.

These types of information will be rated on a numerical scale and the final scores will be used by the advisory committee to decide if they should recommend the species as noxious or not. The Secretary of Agriculture could also use the information in deciding whether or not to list the species.

To avoid any perception of bias and because of their access to the latest scientific research, these risk assessments will be developed by weed science students in Kansas State University's Department of Agronomy.

The ABC's of the Noxious Weed List

from the state or active eradication wherever detected in order to protect neighboring lands .

Tier B: Noxious weeds with discrete statewide distributions that are subject to control in portions of the state where they are established.

Tier C: Well-established noxious weeds that are known to exist in larger or populations throughout the state. Control efforts would be directed at eliminating new populations while

known populations would be managed by any approved control method.

The advisory board could also choose to add weeds to the Watch List which would be species that may or may not occur in the state and may pose a threat to the state's agriculture and/or native plant communities; for which information is currently inadequate to make a listing decision. Control efforts are recommended but not required at this time.

Industrial Hemp Research Program Moves Forward

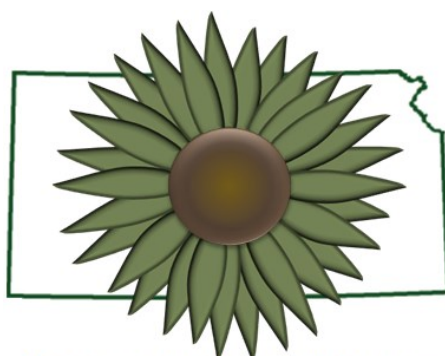
As was mentioned in our last newsletter, the Legislature has charged the KDA with developing a brand new program, research into industrial hemp. At this time the department is still in the process of developing regulations that will outline the procedures and requirements of the program. We expect them to be fully approved early next month.

Because the regulations are needed to be able to initiate the program, we are still not able to accept applications for participation. However, as of this month, KDA has released a Pre-Application and Pre-Application Research Proposal form that will allow people interested in participating a chance to let the department know of their interest and to practice developing a research proposal. Keep in mind that this is not an application to participate, that comes later.

The purpose of allowing people to develop what is in essence a draft research proposal is that there are very few people out there who have ever written a research proposal and the department would like to help with this potentially difficult process. All Pre-Application Research Proposals that are submitted will be reviewed by the Industrial Hemp Re-

search Advisory Board and will be either informally approved or informally denied. Those informally approved will know that they will be able to submit the same research proposal with their formal application next year. Those informally denied will know that they need to work on their proposal before submitting it, or another one, with their formal application next year. Being informally approved or denied does not have any effect on your formal application, it is simply informal feedback from the advisory board on the progress of the draft research proposals.

Filling out the Pre-Application and Pre-Application Research Proposal form is entirely voluntary. Doing so or not will not affect your chances of being approved for a license next year in any way. It is simply a way to help make the process as easy as possible for everyone.



Kansas Industrial Hemp Research Program

Invasive Weed Watch List

As was mentioned above, one decision for the advisory board to make is to recommend the establishment of an official Weed Watch List. Since this list would not have any regulatory requirements, it would be for informational purposes only; KDA would learn where the watch weeds are growing through voluntary reporting by landowners and landowners would learn about some new invasive species that may infest their lands and potentially cause a lot of trouble.

Many of the weeds that could be considered a watch weeds might be candidates for future listing as additions to the official noxious weed list. For this reason the reporting of infestations would be even more important so that KDA will know how large are the populations of each weed. If the existing population is too large, it



would not be a good idea to list the species as noxious.

The picture above shows the current, unofficial watch list with 9 species that KDA is concerned with that are not required to be controlled. Two of these species, however, are quarantined species in Kansas. This means that they cannot be moved into or within the state. These are the purple loosestrife and the Grecian fox-

glove. These 2 species are quarantined because they are both invasive and ornamental plants and the quarantine prevents them from being sold in nurseries.

Another option for these species is that they could be listed by individual counties as county-option noxious weeds. If a county is having a problem with one of these, or just about any other invasive weed, they may list it as noxious in that county. This is another new change in the noxious weed law; previously the counties could only choose between bull thistle and multi-flora rose. If a county chooses to list one of the watch weed species, or any other species for that matter, they would be able to offer cost share chemicals to help landowners in the county control them.



Plant Protection and Weed Control

Any questions comments or article suggestions, please contact:

Scott S. Marsh
State Weeds Specialist
1320 Research Park Drive
Manhattan, KS 66502
Phone: (785) 564-6697
Fax: (785) 564-6779
E-mail: scott.marsh@kda.ks.gov

Visit our website at:
agriculture.ks.gov

Plant Protection and Weed Control staff work to ensure the health of the state's native and cultivated plants by excluding or controlling destructive pests, diseases and weeds. Staff examine and analyze pest conditions in crop fields, rangelands, greenhouses and nurseries. Action taken to control potential infestations of new pests, whether they are insects, plants diseases or weeds, is beneficial to the economy and the environment.

Our mission is to:

- Exclude or control harmful insects, plant diseases, and weeds;
- Ensure Kansas plants and plant products entering commerce are free from quarantined pests;
- Provide customers with inspection and certification services.

Updating Approved Control Options

Along with all of the other responsibilities the advisory committee will have, they will be reviewing the official control programs for each noxious weed species. These control programs list the different types of integrated weed management methods of control that are available for each weed and the best way to implement each of them. They also list the cost share herbicides available for each weed.

These control programs do not show the only methods available for control, nor

are those methods listed required to be used by the landowner. They simply show those methods believed to provide the best chance of controlling each weed. In some cases a control program may not include a certain type of integrated weed management method. This is because that method is not available for, or does not contribute to the control of, that particular weed. For example, the control program for sericea lespedeza does not show any biological control options. This is because there are no

agents available for the control of sericea.

If you are unfamiliar with these control programs, you can find them at our website: agriculture.ks.gov/noxious-weeds. Click on "The Kansas Noxious Weed Law" to find not only the control programs but the weed law (the old one for now) and the regulations as well.

KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE	
OFFICIAL	
HOARY CRESS CONTROL PROGRAM	
DESCRIPTION	Introduced perennial from Eurasia. Reproduces by extensive root system, rhizomes and seeds. Plants grayish-green. Leaves 1 to 3 inches long, alternate, simple, oblong, toothed, the upper leaves are without petioles and attached directly to the stem with a broad clasping base. Flowers white and produced May to July, 1/8 inch across in showy compact racemes. Seed pods heart shaped, flattened, 3/32 inch long. Seeds, one in each valve, slightly flattened, granular, reddish brown, mature June to August.
PREVENTION OF SPREAD OF HOARY CRESS	New infestations of Hoary Cress may be reduced by planting weed free seed, seeding materials free of Hoary Cress seed and cleaning machinery prior to leaving infested areas.
HOARY CRESS CONTROL PRACTICES	Control of Hoary Cress shall mean preventing the production of viable seed and destroying the plant's ability to reproduce by vegetative means.
CULTURAL CONTROL PRACTICES	Cultural control practices have not been developed at this time.
HERBICIDES APPROVED FOR CONTROLLING HOARY CRESS	The following herbicides may be used for cost-share with landowners. Other products labeled and registered for use on this noxious weed in Kansas may be used in accordance with label directions but are not available for cost-share. Be sure to follow all label directions and precautions. For additional information consult the current KSU publication of AChemical Weed Control for Field Crops, Pastures, Rangeland, and Noncropland@.
	2,4-D LV Ester Dicamba (Banvel, Clarity, Vanquish and others) Metasulfuron methyl (Escort) Metasulfuron methyl + 2,4-D + dicamba (Cismaron Max)
BIOLOGICAL CONTROL PRACTICES	There are no biological controls approved for the control of Hoary Cress at this time.