

# Internodes

## Mark Your Calendar

- 12th Annual Exotic Species Workshop for Southwest Florida, December 7, 2007, Takako\_Hashimoto@fws.gov 239.353.8442 x 222
- Cuban tree frogs have become such a worldwide problem that they have their own working group (appropriately named the Coqui Frog Working Group), and they are sponsoring the First International Conference on the Coqui Frog. Naniloa Volcanoes Resort in Hilo, HA. February 7-9, 2008. [www.ctahr.hawaii.edu/coqui/conf08.asp](http://www.ctahr.hawaii.edu/coqui/conf08.asp)
- Invasive Species in Natural Areas: A Conference on Impacts and Management. February 13-14, 2008, Missoula, Montana. Contact Mark Schwarzländer ([markschw@uidaho.edu](mailto:markschw@uidaho.edu)).
- Georgia EPPC Annual Meeting, February 22, 2008, UGA Tifton Campus Conference Center, Tifton, Georgia. <http://www.gaepcc.org/>
- 9th National Invasive Weeds Awareness Week (NIWAW-9), Washington, DC. Feb. 24-29, 2008. [http://www.nawma.org/niwaw/niwaw\\_index.htm](http://www.nawma.org/niwaw/niwaw_index.htm)
- Midwest Aquatic Plant Management Society (MAPMS) Conference, March 1-3, 2008 in Sandusky, Ohio. Contact Jason Broekstra ([jason@prolakemgmt.com](mailto:jason@prolakemgmt.com)).
- Florida Vegetation Management Association Conference, April 16-18, 2008. [www.fvma.info](http://www.fvma.info)
- 23rd Annual Florida Exotic Pest Plant Council (FLEPPC) Symposium, Jacksonville, FL. April 21-24, 2008. [www.fleppc.org](http://www.fleppc.org)
- UF/IFAS Aquatic Weed Control Short Course, May 5-8, 2008. Coral Springs Marriott Hotel, Golf Club and Convention Center in Coral Springs, Florida. [conference.ifas.ufl.edu/aw](http://conference.ifas.ufl.edu/aw)
- 28th Annual Conference Florida Native Plant Society, May 15-18, 2008, Palmetto, FL. [www.fnps.org](http://www.fnps.org)
- 10th Annual Southeast Exotic Pest Plant Council Symposium, hosted by the Mississippi Exotic Pest Plant Council, "Managing Invasive Plants in Disturbed Landscapes," Biloxi, MS. May 20-22, 2008.
- 4th Biennial Weeds Across Borders Conference, May 27-30, 2008, Banff, Alberta, Canada. Details at the Alberta Invasive Plants Council web site: <http://www.invasiveplants.ab.ca/>

## Web Sites

In cooperation with the Missouri Botanical Garden, the USDA/NRCS has developed an automated online key for identifying plants, including wetland monocots and grasses (the latter being limited to the species in the state selected by the user). Users select multiple

characters simultaneously and the program identifies (hopefully) the species. An interesting concept that must have taken a lot of work – check it out at [npdc.usda.gov/technical/plantid\\_wetland\\_mono.html](http://npdc.usda.gov/technical/plantid_wetland_mono.html)

Bookmark-worthy is how I would describe this site: [invasivespecies.blogspot.com](http://invasivespecies.blogspot.com). I don't know if KB has mentioned this site in the past (it could be where I learned of it), but if so it does not matter because the site is so good it is worth mentioning twice.

The USDA Forest Service's Invasive Species Program generates the scientific information needed by forest professionals to effectively manage invasive pests within our nation's forests. This program uses experimental forests and research field stations to study the reproductive biology, dispersal rates, and distribution of invasive forest species. Current projects focus on a number of topics including the use of herbicides in controlling nonnative forest plants, understanding and managing exotic forest pathogens and diseases, and assessing the effects of invasive amphibians in natural wilderness areas. To learn more about this research visit: <http://www.fs.fed.us/invasivespecies/research.shtml>

A newly revised *Compendium of Herbicide Adjuvants* can be found at: <http://www.siu.edu/~weeds/>

## Panhandlers beware!

The recent discovery of a mature Brazilian pepper tree (*Schinus terebinthifolius*) at Fort Clinch State Park alarmed many of us (Wildland Weeds, Spring 2007). Although the plant was quickly dispatched, finding Brazilian pepper in Nassau County (FL), along the Georgia state line, was quite a surprise. Now another mature plant has shown up in northern Florida, this time in the panhandle. St. Vincent NWR Wildlife Biologist Thom Lewis reports that one tree was found at the base of the old bridge on St. George Island in Franklin County near a parking area, suggesting seed dispersal via automobile as a possibility. Like the tree in Nassau County, this specimen also was removed. However, judging by its size, the tree may already have produced seed in this location. MM.

*Brazilian pepper tree found in the Florida panhandle.*



## Other News

The Carolinas Beach Vitex Task Force has had a busy fall, and has amassed an impressive amount of grant money to combat beach vitex (*Vitex rotundifolia*). The task force is a shining example of what a few highly-motivated people can accomplish in combating invasive weeds. For more information, visit their web site at [www.beachvitex.org](http://www.beachvitex.org).

For anyone who needs to control their weeds without herbicides, Brooks Atwood of east Texas is willing to travel anywhere in the southeast with his goat flock (complete with trailers, travel trailer, dogs, and fencing) for pay. Brooks can be reached at (903) 876-2161 or cell (903) 360-4383. While we're on the controlling-weeds-without-herbicides theme, an article in the *Christian Science Monitor* ([www.csmonitor.com/2007/1102/p18s02-hfcs.html](http://www.csmonitor.com/2007/1102/p18s02-hfcs.html)) advocates using prayer to control invasive species. This method may be added to the next Integrated Pest Management website.

The Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS) has approved a significant new use for SePro Corporation's penoxsulam (Galleon® 2F) herbicide (EPA Reg. No. 62719-546-67690) for selective control of aquatic weeds in quiescent bodies of water. It was issued effective 9/12/07.

On September 10, the FDACS issued an experimental use permit (EPA Reg. No. 81179-EUP-1) for the use of tobacco mild green mosaic tobamovirus as a bioherbicide for control of tropical soda apple (*Solanum viarum*) in rangelands, pastures, sod production fields, Conservation Reserve Program acreage, and other natural areas. The product is manufactured by Bioprodex Inc. (FDACS PREC Agenda, 10/4/07).

Though it has not arrived in Florida, agriculture officials fear it is only a matter of time before the red palm mite (*Raoiella indica* Hirst) invades. The mite quickly spread ever closer to the U.S. mainland after it was identified in the Western Hemisphere three years ago on the Caribbean island of Martinique. The mite is now in St. Lucia, Dominica, Grenada, Guadeloupe, Martinique, St. Martin, the Dominican Republic, Trinidad, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the invasion represents the biggest mite population explosion ever observed in the Americas. FDACS surveys for potential palm infestations have been conducted in coastal areas of Miami-Dade, Hillsborough, Sarasota, Manatee, Pinellas, Broward, Monroe (Florida Keys), and Lee counties.

Compiled by Michael Meisenburg.

# HELP FILL THE GAPS!

The Southeast Exotic Pest Plant Councils (EPPCs) need your help to fill in county distribution maps for invasive plant species in the southeastern U.S.

Point your web browser to:

<http://www.se-eppc.org/eddMapS/choosecounty.cfm>

and view the invasive plant species reported in your county.

Then report any plants that are located in your county but missing from the map.

This will help state EPPCs determine which plants should be listed and targeted for

Early Detection and Rapid Response (EDRR) efforts.

**EDD** **MapS**  
Early Detection & Distribution Mapping System



#### STATE CHAPTERS:

Alabama • Florida • Georgia • Kentucky • Mississippi  
North Carolina • South Carolina • Tennessee