



# Ohio Invasive Plants Council

## Newsletter November 2013

### PRESIDENT'S CORNER:

I hope you value this inaugural issue of the Ohio Invasive Plants Council's newsletter. We plan to send newsletters out quarterly, to update our members and friends on OIPC's activities and on issues related to invasive plants in Ohio, such as new invaders to look out for. I encourage you to submit items for the newsletter – just send them to the Editor, Nora Hiland, at [nhiland@columbus.rr.com](mailto:nhiland@columbus.rr.com). Nora is the Secretary of OIPC's Board, and I heartily thank her for stepping up to edit this newsletter! Thanks also to Jennifer Windus, OIPC Vice President, for assisting with this issue.

At our Annual Meeting, which will take place on Dec. 12, 2013, at the Columbus Hyatt Regency, as part of a joint meeting with the Midwest Invasive Plants Network (MIPN) and the North Central Weed Science Society (NCWSS), we will announce the recipient of our first **OIPC Award of Distinction**. This Award is intended not only to bring deserved recognition to individuals and groups making valuable contributions to the awareness, understanding, or control of invasive plants, but also to bring attention to these activities, so they are more broadly adopted or emulated, or that others are inspired by them to make contributions of their own. Please be thinking about who you want to nominate for the 2014 Award.

At the Annual Meeting we will also announce the recipient of our first **Invasive Plant Research Grant** for research by students that enhances understanding of invasive plants in Ohio. So there are now two additional reasons to attend the Annual Meeting – being among

the first to learn who our Award and Grant recipients are, and about their accomplishments and plans. Of



course, there are the usual reasons to attend the Meeting – to hear about the latest research, to learn about the past year's activities of OIPC, to vote for new members of the OIPC Board, to network with others interested in invasive plants, and to get involved with one of our Work Groups. We will also roll out the new OIPC Strategic Plan, and announce the first set of plants to have assessments completed by our Assessment Team following our science-based Ohio Invasive Plant Assessment Protocol. We hope to see you there!

Finally, I encourage you to make a donation of \$25, or more, to support OIPC. Your contribution will help support our outreach efforts, as well as researching sources with information needed to assess species using the Invasive Plant Assessment Protocol. We are a 501(c)3 organization, so your donation is tax-deductible. Send your payment to the OIPC Treasurer, Mark Gilson, PO Box 277, Perry, Ohio 44081; [mark@gilsongardens.biz](mailto:mark@gilsongardens.biz). Let him know if you need a receipt for tax purposes.

Thank you!

*Dave Gorchov, Miami University  
OIPC President*

## INVASIVE SPECIES SYMPOSIUM

OIPC is partnering with the Midwest Invasive Plant Network (MIPN) to host a two-day symposium on invasive plants at the North Central Weed Science Society conference in **Columbus, OH, December 11-12, 2013**. The symposium will focus on invasive plants in natural areas and will include a plenary session, as well as concurrent sessions on a broad array of topics, such as assessing invasiveness of non-native plant species, using online reporting tools for early detection, and management of some of the most problematic invasive plants, including an in-depth session on bush honeysuckle impacts and management.

The plenary session on December 12 will feature the following speakers:

- Daniel Simberloff, University of Tennessee- The future of invasion biology
- Diane Larson, U.S. Geological Survey- Using prairie restoration to curtail invasion
- Don Cipollini, Wright State University- Chemical ecology of invasive plants.

More information, including a link to the registration page, is available at the OIPC website.

*Ryan McEwan, University of Dayton  
OIPC Board Member*

### REVISED INVASIVE PLANT FACTSHEETS AVAILABLE NOW

The Ohio Invasive Plants Council recently completed a revision of 18 factsheets on 26 invasive plant species. The original factsheets were compiled by the ODNR Division of Natural Areas & Preserves in 2001. The latest revisions were done primarily by OIPC Board members and the Division of Wildlife. The newly revised factsheets include color photos and maps of 2010 county distributions in Ohio. The factsheets can be downloaded as PDF files from the OIPC ([www.oipc.info](http://www.oipc.info)) and ODNR websites. In addition, a limited number of printed, bound booklets are available for educational workshops and activities, primarily those sponsored by the OIPC. The factsheets include the following invasive species:

Amur bush honeysuckle	Morrow's bush honeysuckle	Tatarian bush honeysuckle
Common & Glossy buckthorn	Garlic mustard	Purple loosestrife
Common reed grass	Reed canary grass	Autumn-olive & Russian-olive
Multiflora rose	Japanese honeysuckle	Asian bittersweet
Japanese knotweed	Narrow-leaved & Hybrid cattail	Canada thistle
Eurasian water-milfoil	Smooth brome	White & Yellow Sweet-clovers
Common & Cut-leaved teasel		

*Jennifer Windus, ODNR, Division of Wildlife  
OIPC Vice President*

## OIPC INVASIVE PLANT PROTOCOL



*Purple loosestrife in Lake Erie marshes*

OIPC began working on an invasive plant protocol in 2008 in an effort to revise the existing

2000 list of invasive plants for Ohio, first developed by the ODNR, Division of Natural Areas & Preserves. In January of 2013, the OIPC Board announced the completion of its new scientific protocol to assess the invasiveness of plants in our ecosystems. This protocol utilizes two different steps which consist of 22 questions to determine if a plant is invasive, non-invasive, or needs to be reassessed again.

The protocol is being utilized by a five-person assessment team of researchers and botanists who are evaluating potentially invasive plants and establishing a new list to replace the one that was completed in 2000 by ODNR.

The new protocol was developed with cooperation and input from numerous partner groups, including the ONLA (Ohio Nursery and Landscape Association), ODNR (Ohio Department of Natural Resources), The Nature Conservancy, The Holden Arboretum, several Ohio MetroParks, and several universities. OIPC evaluated other state protocols, including Florida, Michigan, and Indiana, in the development of an assessment tool specific to Ohio. The Ohio tool is unique in several ways as it does not consider economic importance, difficulty of control, or aesthetic merit in its scoring process. The main objective from the outset was that the protocol use a science-based approach in its determinations.

Under the direction of Dr. Theresa Culley, University of Cincinnati, and former OIPC President, the assessment team is currently OIPC Newsletter November 2013, issue 1

evaluating over 20 problematic invasive plants. Within a year, the team will begin to evaluate additional species which will include plants that are produced and sold in Ohio nurseries.



For further information on the assessment process and the protocol, please go to the OIPC

*Callery pear along roadside*

website at [www.oipc.info/PlantList\\_public](http://www.oipc.info/PlantList_public) or contact Theresa Culley at [theresa.culley@uc.edu](mailto:theresa.culley@uc.edu).  
*Keith Manbeck, Willoway Nurseries*  
*OIPC Board Member*

## OHIO NATIVE PLANT NETWORK

On November 18, 2010, The Dawes Arboretum called together major stakeholders – local, state and federal agencies, private and public organizations, and respected field professionals, concerned with Ohio native plant conservation. Collectively they formed the Ohio Native Plant Network (ONPN).

An Ohio native plant is one that was in the Ohio landscape pre-European settlement, the late 1700s. Nearly 95 percent of Ohio was forested, with some open prairies, bogs and marshes. Few temperate zone hardwood forests rival Ohio's original, primeval forests in varieties and sizes of trees.

The rapid European settlement of Ohio resulted in a steady decline of cover of forests and wetlands, as they were cleared and drained to make way for agriculture. The Ohio Native Plant Network will focus on those native plant species that survived the vast changes to the ecosystems during times of settlement.

In the initial meeting, The Arboretum proposed the creation of a collaboration comprised of resource professionals who will help establish guidelines for the collection, propagation and distribution of trees, shrubs and herbaceous perennials of wild known origin. The goal of this meeting was to exchange experiences and to create a vision for this collaboration to enhance native plant biodiversity, conserve local genotypes and restore native plant communities in Ohio.

In order to enhance native plant biodiversity, the partnership will address some of the present and most serious threats, such as habitat loss and degradation due to competition from non-native, invasive plant species.

It is a documented fact that the more closely the environmental conditions of the plant material source (seeds) are matched to that of the planting site, the better it will grow. This is because species have become genetically adapted to the local conditions. To attain the goal of conserving local genotypes, the ONPN will preserve not only the diversity of Ohio native plant species, but also genetic diversity within each species. One way to accomplish this is to collect seeds of wild known origin within an eco-region.

Another goal of the ONPN is to restore native plant communities in Ohio. It will require the work of ONPN members working collaboratively with Ohio nursery and landscape industries to ensure the availability and use of common Ohio native plants of local known genotypes. Just imagine the impact if Ohio native trees, shrubs, vines and herbaceous plants could be planted

around newly constructed homes and businesses.

After collecting seeds from common (not rare, threatened, or endangered) Ohio native plants of wild known origins and propagating these seeds, the goal then will be to get these plant materials into the nursery and landscape industries for their use and eventual distribution to anyone responsible for creating backyard landscapes as well as restoring natural ecosystems.

In addition to common native plant species, the ONPN may also be instrumental in saving Ohio native rare, threatened, or endangered plant species through seed collecting efforts and by serving as a seed repository or seed banking system. Saving the gene pool of these plant species is critical.

The ONPN meeting attendees agreed education will be a key component to the success of the project as it moves forward. Education will come in the form of promoting public awareness in regards to Ohio native plant conservation and the value in choosing Ohio native plants of local genotypes for home landscapes.

In June 2013, The Arboretum completed a draft collection policy for the ONPN members to review and comment. For additional information regarding the Ohio Native Plant Network, please contact Native Landscape Manager, Peter Lowe at: [pllowe@dawesarb.org](mailto:pllowe@dawesarb.org) or phone 800.443.2937.  
*Lori Totman, The Dawes Arboretum  
OIPC Board Member*