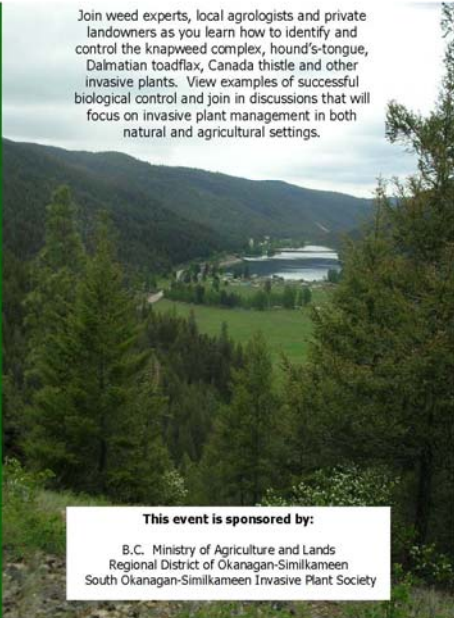




To

Date

Tuesday August 11, 2009

2 pages from Mario Lanthier and Jeanette Merrick

INVASIVE PLANT FIELD DAY IN RURAL PRINCETON	
TUESDAY AUGUST 11 10 AM – 3 PM This event is free of charge but you MUST register. Event starts at 985 Summers Creek Rd. We will be touring various locations along Highway 5A, including the Allison and Borgeson Lakes area. Lunch and refreshments will be provided.	<p>Join weed experts, local agrologists and private landowners as you learn how to identify and control the knapweed complex, hound's-tongue, Dalmatian toadflax, Canada thistle and other invasive plants. View examples of successful biological control and join in discussions that will focus on invasive plant management in both natural and agricultural settings.</p> 
 <p><i>Megaloxes cruciger</i> Hound's tongue biocontrol agent</p> <p>TO REGISTER, CONTACT: Lisa Scott Phone: (250) 404-0115 Email: sosips@shaw.ca</p> <p>PLEASE RSVP by August 7</p>	<p>This event is sponsored by: B.C. Ministry of Agriculture and Lands Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen South Okanagan-Similkameen Invasive Plant Society</p> 

This field day in Princeton was organized by the “South Okanagan Similkameen Invasive Plant Society” (SOSIPS). It was attended by about 30 persons.

The intent was to provide updated information on control efforts for noxious weeds common in the region (such as knapweed) and identification of newly-found noxious weeds (such as leafy spurge).

Noxious weeds are defined as non-native plants that spread rapidly, occupy habitat of native plants, and have a negative economic impact (loss of forage quality or poisonous to livestock).

Invasive Plant Training Program, prepared by the Invasive Plant Council of B.C.

The program offers training to resource workers from silviculture, agriculture and First Nations (see <http://www.invasiveplantcouncilbc.ca/news-and-events/261-free-skills-training-for-resource-workers>). From our company, Jeanette Merrick attended a 5-day course in July. Contents included site inventory, weed monitoring, management options including biological and chemical control), and the provincial examination for “Noxious weeds / Industrial vegetation pesticide applicator certificate”.

Resource material for the IAPP (Invasive Alien Plant Program) can be found at <http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hra/Plants/application.htm> and at the Invasive Plant Council of BC at <http://www.invasiveplantcouncilbc.ca/>.

PUNCTURE VINE (*Tribulus terrestris*)



Above: Close-up of plant. Flowers are found on short stalks, small size with five yellow petals. This annual plant has a shallow taproot. It is adapted to dry, sandy or gravelly soils. Currently found in the South Okanagan and at various locations in the Penticton area.

Below: Close-up of seed pod (picture by Lisa Neilsen) The fruit is circular with hard spines. The spines can puncture tractor tires. This weed is a major nuisance on bicycle paths. Both glyphosate spraying and manual removal provide effective control.



HOUNDS'-TONGUE (*Cynoglossum officinale*)



Above: Rosette (large green leaves) on the ground and flower head (yellowish to gray-brown). On the picture, note the barbed seeds attached to the pants, a common method of spread. This biennial or short-lived perennial is found throughout the Okanagan.

SULPHUR CINQUEFOIL (*Potentilla recta*)

*Below: A relative of the ornamental *Potentilla*, note the similar leaves growing near the ground. It is a long-lived perennial found in disturbed sites, meadows, pastures and rangelands. Control requires hand pulling on small sites or picloram or 2,4-D herbicides for larger sites.*



DALMATIAN TOADFLAX (*Linaria genistifolia*)



Above: Overview of plant. The erected stem with yellow flowers are similar to snapdragon. This perennial generates new plants from creeping roots. It is not the same as yellow toadflax. This invasive weed is found on dry sites all over the Okanagan.

*Below: Biological control with the stem-boring weevil *Mecinus janthinus*. Note the larva in the middle of the picture, foraging inside the stem. Adults feed on new shoots and cause shot holes on the stem.*

