



Canadian Weed Science Society  
Soci t  canadienne de malherbologie



## May 2022 Newsletter: News You Can Use

### CWSS Member Profiles



#### CWSS Member Profile

Get to know Andrew McKenzie-Gopsill, Manager, a Research Scientist in Weed Science with Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, Charlottetown!

[Click Here](#)



#### CWSS Graduate Student Profile

Get to know Marinda Gras, an M.Sc. Candidate at the University of Guelph !

[Click Here](#)

### Dr. Charles Geddes - 2021 Outstanding Associate Editor for CJPS

Congratulations to Dr. Charles Geddes on being selected as the 2021 Outstanding Associate Editor for the Canadian Journal of Plant Sciences !

Thank you for your ongoing contributions to represent CWSS and ensure accurate information is published in CJPS.

### CWSS Member Poll !

We want to hear from you ! Answer this month's CWSS Member poll question:  
How many years have you been a member of the CWSS (or Expert Committee on Weeds)?

Click the [link](#) to complete the poll !

## Livid Amaranth (*Amaranthus blitum*) a New Pest

*Amaranthus blitum* commonly known as Livid amaranth or purple amaranth, was first found in Michigan in 2019 and in Ontario and Quebec in 2021.

Read the article "[Uncommon weeds](#)" by Mike Cowbrough for identification and management tips.

Check out the [Michigan State](#) article for more information on identification.

Pictures by Marie-Josée Simard



## Revitalization of the Alberta Certified Weed Free Forage Program

Invasive species, such as terrestrial invasive plants, are detrimental to Alberta's economy and environment. They degrade natural areas, decrease biodiversity, and reduce food and habitat for wildlife. Economically, they cost Alberta an estimated \$1 billion each year. Contaminated hay is one means by which invasive plants are spread. To address this, the Alberta Invasive Species Council (AISC) intends to revitalize and promote the Alberta Certified Weed Free Forage program in partnership with the Government of Canada and the Government of Alberta through the Canadian Agricultural Partnership.

Through this program, forage can be inspected and certified as weed free per the North American Invasive Species Management Association's standards to potential buyers and help producers sell their Certified Weed Free Forage. This program is designed to limit the spread of invasive plant species through forage and to provide assurance to all participants that forage certified through this program meets a minimum acceptable standard. There are currently thirteen counties in Alberta that are participating in the program and are offering weed free forage inspections. Those include Clearwater County, County of Barrhead, County of Vermilion, Lacombe County, Kneehill County, Mountain View County, Municipal District of Bonnyville, Municipal District of Bighorn, Northern Sunrise County, Parkland County, Red Deer County, Rocky View County and Smoky Lake County.

While demand for these products remains high, there has been dwindling participation in the program, which is largely attributed to lack of awareness of the program itself. Here is some general information for forage producers that are interested in having fields inspected to certify their forage as weed free:

- Inspections must be conducted by a Certified Weed Free Forage Inspector within 10 days of harvest. If the crop is not cut within 10 days, if the crop is not cut within that timeline, a new inspection must be conducted to certify the forage as 'weed-free'.
- Inspectors may certify all or a portion of a field as 'weed free'.
- Invasive species may be present in a field certified as weed free if there are no propagative plant parts (e.g., flowers, seed heads, root fragments) present.
- Participation by municipalities in this program is voluntary. If you produce forage in a municipality that is not participating in the program, but you are interested in having an inspection conducted, please contact the AISC and we will work to find a solution.
- The AISC intends to maintain a publicly available list of producer contact information for producers with inventory of Certified Weed Free Forage. We will update this list frequently and add it to our website. Please let us know if you would like to be added to that list.

Additionally, Weed Free Forage inspections can only be conducted by those with authority under the Weed Control Act (e.g., Weed Inspectors). As such, the actual inspections and certification issuance can only be conducted by Weed Inspectors who have taken recent Certified Weed Free Forage Inspector Training. The AISC will be hosting a free Weed Free Forage Inspector Training on **May 10 from 12:30-4:30PM**, please contact them for details.

For information on how to get your field inspected, contact your local [Agriculture Fieldmen](#) or the [Alberta Invasive Species Council](#). Please help us protect Alberta from the harmful impacts of invasive species by spreading the word (not the plant!) about Alberta's Weed Free Forage program! For more information visit the AISC's website:

[abinvasives.ca](http://abinvasives.ca), phone: 587-999-0954 or email: [info@abinvasives.ca](mailto:info@abinvasives.ca).

## Volunteer Canola Thresholds in RoundUp Ready Soybeans



Image from Manitoba Pulse (<https://www.manitobapulse.ca/2014/05/glyphosate-resistance-management-herbicide-options-for-volunteer-canola/>)

M. Becquerel improved upon this process by sizing the paper with starch previous to the application of the bichromate of potash solution, which enabled him to convert the negative picture into a positive one, by the use of a solution of iodine, which combined with that portion of the starch on which the light had not acted.

Read the full article here: [https://www.topcropmanager.com/agronomy-update-volunteer-canola-competition-in-soybean-is-intense/?oly\\_enc\\_id=1138E9790801G3U](https://www.topcropmanager.com/agronomy-update-volunteer-canola-competition-in-soybean-is-intense/?oly_enc_id=1138E9790801G3U)

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## CWSS Graduate Student Defence Announcements

Congratulations to the graduate students who have recently defended !

Do you advise a graduate student who has recently defended or is about to defend? Let us know !

Share the success and accomplishment of a successful defense with the CWSS-SCM ! Email Tasha Valente, CWSS Communications Director, at [tasha\\_061@outlook.com](mailto:tasha_061@outlook.com) with a brief announcement including the name of the student, the school/faculty, and when their defense is/was.

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## Where Are They Now: Graduate Student Updates

Now that they have successfully defended and completed their graduate studies, what are CWSS graduate students up to now?

Grad students, if you would like to share a career update, email Tasha at [tasha\\_061@outlook.com](mailto:tasha_061@outlook.com) to be featured in future newsletters !

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## Join the CWSS-SCM !

If you have not paid your membership dues for 2022, please contact Kristina Polziehn, CWSS-SCM Executive Assistant, at [cwss.scm.assistant@gmail.com](mailto:cwss.scm.assistant@gmail.com). We can accept cheque or put through the membership dues via credit card over the phone. Please note that if you attended the February 2022 WSSA/CWSS virtual meeting, your membership fees for 2022 were included in the meeting fees.

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## CJPS Featured Article

**The Biology of Canadian Weeds: 158. Galega officinalis L.**  
by Stephen J. Darbyshire, Ardath Francis, Eden S.P. Bromfield, and Subbaiah Mechanda

Read the full article here: <https://cdnsiencepub.com/doi/full/10.1139/cjps-2020-0327>

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## Free Journal Access

You read that right, FREE ! CWSS members now get free access to the Canadian Journal of Plant Science (CJPS) ! One of the many perks of becoming and remaining member. Go to the **CJPS website** to search for and read the latest weed science, and other plant related research.

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## Share Your News and Events

Know of an upcoming conference, meeting, or virtual event ? Let us know !

Share information about upcoming events you think CWSS-SCM members would be interested in learning about !  
Email Tasha Valente at [tasha\\_061@outlook.com](mailto:tasha_061@outlook.com) to have your news or event featured in our upcoming newsletters or monthly email blasts.

## Thank You to Our Sponsors



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[weedsociety.ca](http://weedsociety.ca) | [cwss.scm.assistant@gmail.com](mailto:cwss.scm.assistant@gmail.com)  
6000 C&E Trail Lacombe, AB, T4L 1W1, Canada

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