University of Massachusetts - Amherst
ScholarWorks@UMass Amherst

Cranberry Station Research Reports

Cranberry Station Research, Creative, or Professional Activities

1-1-2010

Weed Priorities March 2010

Hilary A. Sandler
University of Massachusetts - Amherst, hsandler@umass.edu

Follow this and additional works at: http://scholarworks.umass.edu/cranberry_research_repts

Sandler, Hilary A., "Weed Priorities March 2010" (2010). *Cranberry Station Research Reports.* Paper 2.
http://scholarworks.umass.edu/cranberry_research_repts/2

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Cranberry Station Research, Creative, or Professional Activities at ScholarWorks@UMass Amherst. It has been accepted for inclusion in Cranberry Station Research Reports by an authorized administrator of ScholarWorks@UMass Amherst. For more information, please contact scholarworks@library.umass.edu.

Weed Priority Survey

At the January 2010 Cranberry Management Update meeting, a survey was distributed to find out your thoughts about what weeds are of the most concern to you. Approximately 210 growers were in attendance and 65 people returned their surveys (31% response rate). We asked you to select the Top 5 most problematic weeds from a list of about 20 possibilities. The first table below shows how many people ranked each weed as being number 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5. Some folks just circled or checked off the weeds, so those responses are tallied under "not rated". Approximately 60 people answered some or all aspects of this question.

Dodder and dewberries were ranked #1 by 25% of the respondents; next were yellow loosestrife (YLS) and poison ivy, which were noted as the most problematic weeds on the bog by about 10% of respondents. Many growers rated dodder and dewberry as #2 (~20%). Maples and YLS were noted as the second worst weed for about 10% of the respondents. Poison ivy (PI) and dodder were the top #3 ranks, chosen by about 15% of the growers. Sawbrier was noted as #3 or #4 by about 10% of the respondents. Rounding out the Top 5 were perennial grasses, wild bean, and narrow-leaved goldenrod (NLGR).

	Number of people ranking a weed….					
Weed	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**	**Not rated**
Annual grass	1	0	2	2	2	3
Asters	1	0	4	0	2	2
Chokeberry	0	1	0	1	1	2
Cinquefoil	1	1	0	2	2	0
Dewberry	16	13	6	4	1	5
Dodder	17	12	9	4	3	8
Maple	3	6	6	5	6	8
Moss	0	1	0	1	0	1
NLGR	4	3	4	3	7	3
Nutsedge	0	0	1	1	1	1
Perennial grass	0	5	1	4	8	3
Pitchfork	0	2	1	1	2	3
Poison ivy	5	5	10	8	1	6
Rushes	0	2	1	0	2	1
Sawbrier	4	3	7	7	1	3
Sedges	1	0	1	1	2	0
Tree seedlings	0	0	3	1	4	0
Wild bean	3	0	2	5	8	4
Willows	0	1	1	4	2	0
YLS	6	7	5	7	6	3

We also asked you what percentage of your farm was infested with these weeds. Some respondents indicated that a weed was a problem but did not fill in the percentage; these are tallied as "not rated".

Dodder, maples, asters, and YLS were the four species noted to be covering more than 75% of the farm (representing about 10% of the total respondents). Annual grasses,

dewberry, and NLGR were noted as covering 50-75% of the farm by a few growers (in addition to the weeds just mentioned). Almost all weeds (except sedges) fell into the range of covering 10-25% of the farm, with dodder, dewberry, maples and YLS noted most often.

	Percent of Acreage Infested (number responding) for weeds listed at least once as a Top 5 weed					
Weed	**>75**	**50-75**	**30-50**	**10-25**	**<5**	**Not rated**
Annual grass	0	1	2	1	4	2
Asters	1	0	0	5	2	1
Chokeberry	0	0	0	3	0	2
Cinquefoil	0	0	0	5	0	1
Dewberry	0	2	6	17	8	12
Dodder	4	4	8	22	4	11
Maple	1	3	3	17	2	8
Moss	0	0	0	1	0	2
NLGR	0	4	5	10	2	3
Nutsedge	0	0	1	1	0	2
Perennial grass	0	0	1	10	4	6
Pitchfork	0	0	2	2	3	2
Poison ivy	0	0	4	12	11	8
Rushes	0	0	0	2	1	3
Sawbrier	0	0	3	11	5	6
Sedges	0	0	1	0	2	2
Tree seedlings	0	0	0	3	2	3
Wild bean	0	0	2	11	5	4
Willows	0	0	1	3	3	1
YLS	1	2	7	13	4	7

Dewberry and dodder were rated high (problematic) even though they do not cover a lot of the farm (though dodder was pretty variable). Nineteen growers noted that poison ivy (PI) was covering less than 10% of the farm (these data not shown) but PI was still rated as one of the Top 5 by more than half of the total respondents. YLS, maples, and sawbrier also generally fit this pattern (rated problematic even though not infesting a lot of the farm). *Phragmites* was on the list but was not selected by any respondent.

The last table shows the number of growers who reported percent values for infestations of any or all weeds that occur on their farm, regardless of whether it was a Top 5 weed or not. Note the inclusion of clover, broad-leaved panicgrass, pineweed (aka orangegrass or mare's tail), and *Phragmites* in this list. Note also higher numbers for weeds such as annual grasses, asters, cinquefoil, moss, NLGR, nutsedge, perennial grasses, poison ivy, tree seedlings, wild bean, and yellow loosestrife. This indicated the wide array of weed species that are present on cranberry farms, even if all did not make the Top 5 list.

	Percent of Acreage Infested (# responding) for weeds listed at least once by any grower				
Weed	**>75**	**50-75**	**30-50**	**10-25**	**<5**
Annual grass	0	1	3	10	13
Asters	1	0	1	11	8
BdLv Panicgrass	0	0	1	0	0
Chokeberry	1	0	0	5	5
Cinquefoil	0	0	0	8	7
Clover	0	0	1	0	0
Dewberry	0	2	6	20	9
Dodder	5	4	9	22	5
Maple	2	6	2	21	5
Moss	0	0	1	6	11
NLGR	0	4	6	15	6
Nutsedge	0	0	3	7	5
Perennial grass	0	1	1	15	14
Phragmites	0	0	0	0	3
Pineweed	0	0	0	4	0
Pitchfork	1	0	2	6	12
Poison ivy	0	0	3	17	17
Rushes	0	0	0	4	9
Sawbrier	0	0	3	13	12
Sedges	0	0	1	4	10
Tree seedlings	0	0	0	13	4
Wild bean	0	0	2	13	12
Willows	0	1	1	4	7
YLS	2	2	6	16	8

Again, thanks to everyone who filled out the survey. Thanks to Natalie Guerin who helped compiled the data. If you have any further comments or questions, please contact me at ext. 21.

Hilary Sandler