

MidSouth Aquatic Plant Management Society

Newsletter

Volume 24 Number 2

May 2006

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25th Annual Meeting Will Be Held In Paradise!

The 25th Annual Meeting of the MidSouth Aquatic Plant Management Society will be held October 24-26, 2006, at the Perdido Beach Resort in Orange Beach, Alabama. The Perdido Beach Resort is the premier resort of Alabama's Gulf Coast, located directly on the sugar-white beaches and emerald waters of the Gulf of Mexico.

The meeting program will offer exemplary presentations of water resource management topics that will be certain to peak the interest of all attendees. The technical program will begin Wednesday morning and end at noon on Thursday. In addition, industry exhibits will provide useful information on available aquatic plant management products and professional services. Our meeting will get kicked off with the Welcoming Social on Tuesday evening; this is an excellent time to reacquaint with old friends and meet new friends. The Banquet on Wednesday evening will be a memorable event featuring great food and beverage.

To reserve your hotel accommodations, call Perdido Beach Resort reservations at 800-634-8001. You must make your reservation before September 24, 2006, and be sure to mention that you are participating in the 25th Annual Meeting of the MidSouth Aquatic Plant Management Society. Our special guest room rate is \$85.00 single or double occupancy per night plus applicable tax, currently 11%. A \$10.00 surcharge will be applied to each third and fourth adult occupying a room. All reservations must be guaranteed with a major credit card. Cancellation of reservations must be made at least 72 hours prior to arrival date. At check-in, reconfirm your departure date, as an early departure fee of 50% of one night's room and tax will be assessed to the guest's account if changed after the check-in process is completed. Check-in time is 4:00 p.m., and check-out time is 12:00 p.m.

The meeting registration fees are \$75.00 for delegates, \$50.00 for guests (spouse, partner, child over 12 years of age), and \$20.00 for students (not presenting a paper), if received by September 24, 2006. After this date, registration fees at the door will be \$100.00 for delegates and \$75.00 for guests. Please help us in planning for the meeting functions by completing the Registration Form and submitting it prior to September 24, 2006.

Individuals are invited to submit a proposal for a presentation during the meeting. Presentations on all aspects of aquatic plant management, biology, and ecology will



Photos courtesy of Perdido Beach Resort and the GCCVB

be considered. Since the number of presentations is limited, proposals must be submitted by July 31, 2006. Contact Mr. Bob Gunkel at 601-634-3722 or robert.c.gunkel@erdc.usace.army.mil.

An exceptional venue and a variety of things to do will make this a memorable meeting, so plan to attend.

A Message from the President *Craig Aguillard*

It's hard to believe that after two of the most devastating hurricanes on record in 2005, we now have the driest January -to-April on record in 2006 in Louisiana. I'm not sure if I can call where we live paradise, but it sure is an interesting place to live. As people try to rebuild from the storms last year, we can only hope and pray that we won't see the same thing this year.

Bob Gunkel and his planning staff are busy preparing for the 25th annual meeting of the MSAPMS Chapter. We are hoping to have a special meeting this year packed with many interesting topics for all of you. If you have any topics that you would like discussed, please feel free to get in touch with Bob or me. If you have anything you would like published in the newsletter, please let us know; we are always looking for good topics.

As the industry continues to grow and develop, we need to continue to stay abreast of all the new developments coming down the pipe. We are constantly working on new projects with old chemistry, projects with several new compounds, and continued developments from the biological side of the business. One way to stay ahead is to attend the annual meeting of the MSAPMS and hear first-hand from the many experts in their field.

As President of the MSAPMS Chapter, I would like to encourage all of you to get involved in the organization. We need your input not only from the field but also from industry and government entities on issues that affect your everyday business. The Board can help pass along information and express concerns that affect you.

I hope that everyone has a very successful season and look forward to seeing all of you at the 25th annual meeting this fall.

Travel Stipends for Student Presenters at MSAPMS Meeting

The MidSouth Aquatic Plant Management Society is pleased to announce the availability of travel stipends for student presenters at the MidSouth Annual Meeting, October 24-26, 2006, at the Perdido Beach Resort in Orange Beach, Alabama.

Stipends are available to any graduate student working with aquatic plants, fisheries, wildlife management, or a related field. Preference for stipends will be made for residents from the MidSouth Region (Tennessee, Alabama, Georgia, Mississippi, and Louisiana) or students either attending college or conducting research in this area of the country.

Any student interested in more details or applying for a travel stipend should contact Craig Aguillard, (337) 363-6032, craig.aguillard@cerexagri.com.

Aquatic Plant Management Society 46th Annual Meeting

Mark your calendar for July 16-19, 2006, for the 46th Annual Meeting of the Aquatic Plant Management Society. The Portland Marriott Downtown Waterfront Hotel in Portland, Oregon, will be the site for our annual meeting. Located on the bank of the Willamette River, with Mt. Hood as a backdrop, the Marriott offers spectacular views and easy access to a variety of downtown restaurants, shops, attractions, and brewpubs.

The Program Committee promises a diverse and interesting program with excellent oral and poster presentations on aquatic plant research and management. In addition, useful information on available aquatic plant management products and professional services will be provided in the Exhibits room throughout the meeting. The Meeting Planning Committee is planning exciting and entertaining events for relaxing and visiting with friends and colleagues.

This will be an extraordinary meeting! So mark your calendar to attend the meeting and get a look at Portland's natural beauty and active local scene.

Meeting information and a first call for papers is available on the APMS Website at www.apms.org.

Aquatic Plant Community Composition of the Ross Barnett Reservoir

Ryan M. Wersal

Mississippi State University, GeoResources Institute, Box 9652 Mississippi State, MS 39760



In June 2005 a point intercept survey was utilized to assess the aquatic plant community in the Ross Barnett Reservoir. The survey was conducted on a 300 m

grid over the entire reservoir with a total of 1,423 points. A hand-held computer outfitted with a GPS receiver was used to navigate to each point. Spatial data were directly recorded in the hand-held computer using Farm Works[®] Farm Site Mate software for in-field geographic and attribute data collection. Data were recorded in database templates using specific pick lists constructed exclusively for this project. The software provided an environment for displaying geographic and attribute data and enabled navigation to specific locations. At each sample point a rake was deployed to determine the presence or absence of aquatic plants and water depth was recorded.

The occurrence of aquatic macrophytes increased toward the upper reservoir where water depths were shallow. Species occurrence was low in the lower reservoir where water depths were greater. The Ross Barnett Reservoir has water depths and or quality that inhibit light from reaching the bottom in most locations. Hydrilla (*Hydrilla verticillata*) (~ 100 acres) was observed in July 2005 for the first time. If control efforts are not implemented, it is estimated that hydrilla could infest over 7,000 acres of the Ross Barnett Reservoir.

Current Status of Giant Salvinia (*Salvinia molesta* D. S. Mitchell) in Mississippi

Wilfredo Robles and John Madsen
GeoResources Institute, Mississippi State University

Giant salvinia is a nuisance free-floating fern that was first reported into United States in 1995 in South Carolina. Since its introduction, giant salvinia has been

recorded in TX, LA, AL, NC, GA, FL, AZ, CA, VA, and MS. Its rapid growth rate, doubling biomass in 10 days by vegetative reproduction, disrupts waterbodies by affecting ecological interactions and halting boat traffic.

Several control methods such as biological and chemical have been evaluated to manage giant salvinia populations. Constant surveys are required to successfully managing giant salvinia populations. A survey was conducted during March 13-14, 2006 at previously known locations of giant salvinia in the state of Mississippi. These locations were at the mouth of the Pascagoula River, Gautier, Jackson County and Wedgeworth Creek located North-East Leaf River, Petal, Forrest County (Figure 1). At the Gautier site, giant salvinia is no longer present. Apparently, the storm surge associated with Hurricane Katrina in August 2005 changed the water chemistry (salinity), affecting giant salvinia growth at Gautier site. At the Petal site, giant salvinia is still present. The biocontrol agent *Cyrtobagous salviniae* has been released at this site; however, no suppression and damage were noticed on giant salvinia population in this survey. Parrotfeather (*Myriophyllum aquaticum*) was also found growing with giant salvinia at this site. Further surveys will be conducted to track giant salvinia over the Wedgeworth Creek and surrounding area as well as to determine if it has escaped into the Leaf River.

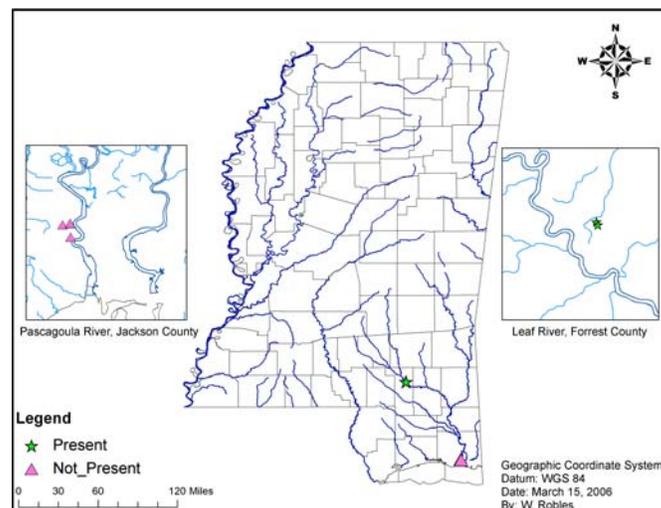


Figure 1. Giant salvinia (*Salvinia molesta*) sites in Mississippi; March 13-14, 2006.

Aquatic Plant Management Society

Announces annual **Student Paper Contests** for
Upcoming July 2006 Meeting in
Portland, Oregon

The Aquatic Plant Management Society is soliciting student papers for their upcoming 46th Annual Meeting to be held July 16-19, 2006, at the Portland Marriott Downtown Waterfront Hotel in Portland, Oregon. Oral and Poster Presentations of original research on the biology or ecology of aquatic and wetland plants, control methods (biological, chemical, cultural, mechanical) for invasive exotic or nuisance native plant species, and restoration projects involving wetland or aquatic plants are solicited.

The Society encourages students who have conducted original research to present their findings and gain a valuable perspective on aquatic plant problems and various management applications throughout the U.S. The meeting locale in Portland provides an excellent opportunity for students from the Pacific Northwest in particular to attend and present research on aquatic plant management in this region.

The APMS has a strong ethic of student support, and all qualified attendees will be provided room accommodations (based on double occupancy) and waiver of registration fees. In addition, 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place prize money will be awarded in separate contests for both oral and poster presentations. This meeting presents an opportunity for students to develop their presentation skills, learn about the field of aquatic plant management, and meet with key Government, university, industry representatives, and peers with similar educational and professional interests.

Please log on to www.apms.org to learn more about the Aquatic Plant Management Society and this year's meeting. Students may register for the contest by submitting an abstract as per web site instructions. For more information about the contest, please contact:

Dr. Mark A. Heilman
SePRO Research and Technology Campus
16013 Watson Farm Seed Road
Whitakers, NC 27891
E-mail: markh@sepro.com
Phone: (252) 437-3282 x223

Visit the MSAPMS Website: www.msapms.org
The membership list can be viewed by using the
following:
UserName: msapms
Password: lilypad

Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration Foundation

The Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration Foundation (AERF) is a non-profit tax-exempt corporation created to conduct and support applied research in the management of aquatic pest species focusing on nuisance vegetation. The AERF's mission is:

1. To support projects that develop strategies and techniques for the environmentally sound use of chemical products in the management, restoration, and stewardship of aquatic ecosystems;
2. To educate the public concerning the benefits and value of conserving and restoring aquatic ecosystems;
3. To promote and facilitate cooperation between the public and private sectors;
4. To enhance interaction among federal, state, and local natural resource and regulatory agencies involved in aquatic ecosystem management and restoration; and
5. To act as a clearing house for information on the proper use of herbicides in the aquatic environment.

Funding for all AERF activities except Special Research Projects come from membership contributions and donations. There are a range of membership options to accommodate all budgets. Donations can be earmarked by the donor to support specific projects or for generic use. For more information contact Carlton R. Layne, Executive Director, AERF, 3272 Sherman Ridge Drive, Marietta, Georgia 30064, Telephone 678-773-1364, FAX 770-499-0158, E-Mail clayne@aquatics.org.

September Newsletter Deadline August 15, 2006

Send Newsletter Items to:
Sherry Whitaker, CEERD-EE-A
U.S. Army Engineer R&D Center
3909 Halls Ferry Road
Vicksburg, MS 39180-6199
Phone: 601-634-2990
Fax: 601-634-2398

E-mail: Sherry.L.Whitaker@erdc.usace.army.mil



25th Annual Meeting of the MidSouth APMS

Registration Form

Delegate/Student Information

Name: _____

Affiliation: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Registration (Includes Social, Breakfast, Lunch, Banquet, and Refreshment Breaks)

	Early <i>(by September 24, 2006)</i>	At the Door	
<input type="checkbox"/> Delegate Registration	\$ 75.00	\$ 100.00	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Student Registration (Presenting Paper)	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ <u>0.00</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Student Registration (Not Presenting Paper)	\$ 20.00	\$ 20.00	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Guest Registration Name: _____ <i>(spouse, partner, child over 12 years-of-age)</i>	\$ 50.00	\$ 75.00	\$ _____

2006-2007 Membership Dues

<input type="checkbox"/> Regular	\$ 10.00	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Student	\$ 5.00	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Sustaining	\$ 50.00	\$ _____

Total Amount

\$ _____

Early registration accepted if form and payment received by September 24, 2006.

Please Mail Completed Form and Payment to:

Greg Wall
P.O. Box 219
Sturgis, MS 39769

Cancellation/Refund Policy

Registration fees are fully refundable prior to September 30, 2006, less a \$25.00 processing and handling fee. No refund of any fees will be issued if cancellation of participation is received after September 30, 2006. Notice of cancellation must be received by MSAPMS via mail, fax, or e-mail. **Phone cancellations will not be accepted.**

Calendar of Events

May 14-19, 2006

14th International Conference on Aquatic Invasive Species
Key Biscayne, Florida
www.icaais.org

June 2-3, 2006

New England Chapter of the North American Lake
Management Society
Farmington, Maine
www.nalms.org/necnalms

June 5-8, 2006

Florida Lake Management Society Annual Conference
St. Augustine, Florida
www.flms.net

July 16-19, 2006

46th Annual Aquatic Plant Management Society Meeting
Portland, Oregon
www.apms.org

August 16-18, 2006

South Carolina Aquatic Plant Management Society Meeting
Springmaid Beach, SC
www.scapms.org

October 24-26, 2006

MidSouth Aquatic Plant Management Society Meeting
Orange Beach, Alabama
www.msapms.org

October 30–November 2, 2006

Florida Aquatic Plant Management Society Meeting
St. Petersburg, Florida
www.fapms.org

November 8-10, 2006

NALMS 2006 International Symposium
Indianapolis, Indiana
www.nalms.org

MidSouth APMS Newsletter

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