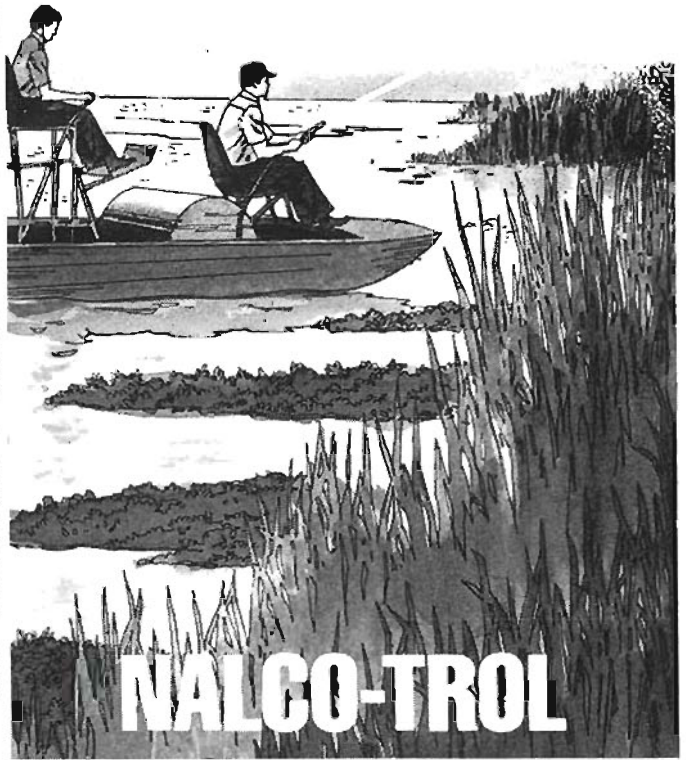
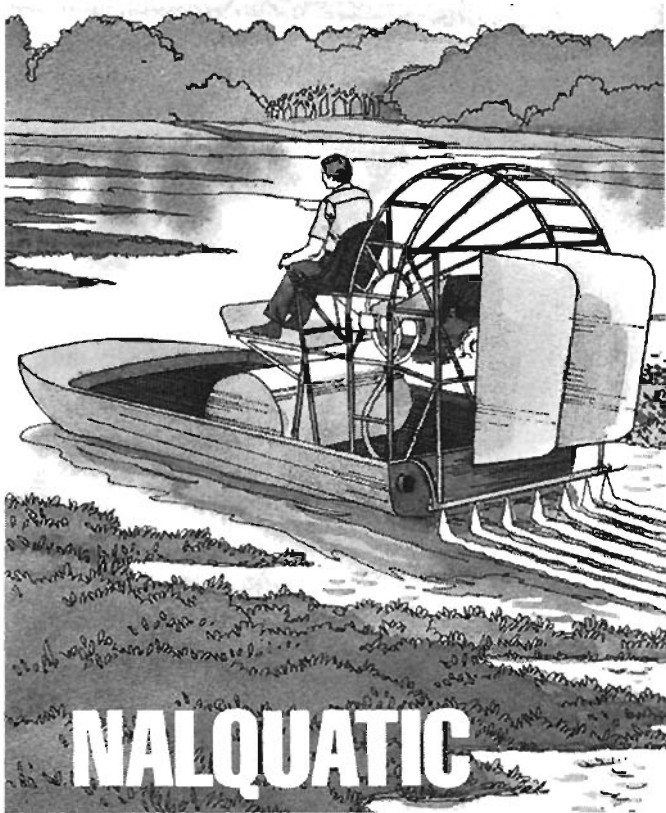


A photograph of a swampy landscape. In the foreground, there is dark water with several green water lilies. In the middle ground, a large, thick tree trunk stands in the water, surrounded by other trees. The background is a dense forest of trees with Spanish moss hanging from their branches. The overall scene is lush and green.

Aquatics

SEPTEMBER 1979

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EDITORIAL

by

Harold F. Brown

We would like to have each of you recall the closing minutes of our 1978 annual meeting at Orlando and re-read the newsletter following that meeting for the text which we feel was the mandate given us, as officers and directors of your Society, concerning improvement of the atmosphere and relationships of the aquatic interest in Florida.

We must all admit that agency actions and operations during this past year and during the legislative session have shown very few signs of improved cooperation or innovative thinking to improve the total atmosphere involved in the industry and especially between the agencies.

We do feel, however, there is reason to have optimism about these improvements being accomplished in the future. Fortunately, we had a change of Directors in DNR and Jay Landers has earnestly listened to our presentation and/or interpretations of the problems involved.

Col. Brantly has also shown a sincere interest to study and hopefully discover the reason for the problems and solutions for the same.

We do believe these two men have improved the communication between the two agencies and the agencies with the industry tremendously. We cannot yet consider this communication as candid but at least a basic realization of the existing situations and problems has begun to evolve.

We do not intend to diminish the importance or take credit from Bob Brantly or Jay Landers as to their efforts and support of the upcoming American Conference for Aquatic Weed Management. It would have been impossible without their cooperation and we wish to extend our most sincere gratitude to each of them for their interest and efforts.

We do, however, want everyone to understand that *your Society* has been the catalyst for this upcoming event (as described in Joe Schweigart's article within this issue).

We realize that Jay will soon be leaving DNR and Bob has said he cannot commit the Commission to acceptance of any recommendations coming out of the Conference but we and they must realize and approach this event with the understanding that parties from all segments and organizations of Florida which touch upon aquatic management shall be represented in what is felt to be one of the most fundamental demonstrations of American democracy and free enterprise, a gathering of lay and professional people actively involved every day in the workings of bureaucracy and the industry as it concerns the subject and from which will come suggestions, for improvement and change, by the best expertise in the State.

These pertinent recommendations, which should be as impartial and relative as can possibly be, will necessarily impose strong implications and needed implementations for a more cooperative and effective, overall interrelationships within the areas of concern upon their successors and/or existing organizations.

We know there exists conflicts of statutes, regulations, concepts and personalities. Hopefully, there will be new concepts and innovative

Aquatics

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AQUATICS: Published quarterly as the official publication of the Florida Aquatic Plant Management Society. This publication is intended to keep all interests informed on matters as they relate to aquatic plant management, particularly in Florida.

CORRESPONDENCE: Address all correspondence regarding editorial matter to William L. Maier, Editor, AQUATICS Magazine, Dept. of Natural Resources, Crown Bldg., 202 Blount St., Tallahassee, Fla. 32304.

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COVER

The Suwannee River, one of the most scenic and historic waterways in the country, has required an extensive aquatic plant management program. (Photo by David P. Tarver.)

CONTENTS

Water Spinach — An Economical Vegetable or a Potential Noxious Aquatic Plant	5
Third Annual Florida Aquatic Plant Management Society Meeting	6
Statewide Conference on Management and Control of Aquatic Weeds	8
People on the Move	Inside Back Cover

CALENDAR NOTES

- Sept. 18-20 American conference on Florida's aquatic weed control program, Tallahassee
- Sept. 21 Special meeting of FAPMS board, following conference, Tallahassee
- October 3-5 Annual Meeting of FAPMS, at Howard Johnson's on I-4 at Lee Road, Orlando

suggestions for improvements forthcoming from this conference. We of this Society, and all other parties involved, must now and in the immediate future dedicate ourselves and our efforts to a determination which will insure that all the time and efforts expended in this endeavor shall not be wasted. When will we again have such an opportunity?

We must stand prepared and resolve to, forcefully if necessary, work for the implementation of the necessary changes whether they be legislative, administrative or judicially accomplished.

We must all now involve ourselves as completely and impartially as possible to help acquire a complete and thorough addressing of all matters of aquatic relevance within the upcoming conference, to assure that all sides, concepts and interests are properly, fully and freely presented.

Only after all interests are heard and clear perspectives are formulated can we extrapolate a document which will express a composite of suggestions that can be used by all parties to better benefit our State and the persons therein as concerns aquatic interests.

We feel if such can be accomplished, the mandate you as members gave us as officers and directors of your Society, shall have been served.



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WATER SPINACH — AN ECONOMICAL VEGETABLE OR A POTENTIAL NOXIOUS AQUATIC PLANT

Ipomoea aquatica Forsk. (*I. reptans* Poir.) or water spinach is an aquatic plant native to southern China, Taiwan, and southeastern Asia. Commercial cultivation has spread its distribution throughout the tropical areas of the world, such as India, eastern and western Africa, Australia, and Hawaii. It prefers a warm climate and cannot survive in areas which receive periods of frost or snow. Water spinach belongs to the morning-glory family, Convolvulaceae, and is the only aquatic vine of the 500 species of the genus *Ipomoea*. It is usually a perennial but in its northern range or under unfavorable habitats it acts as an annual.

One of the distinguishing characteristics of water spinach is the long hollow stems that secrete a milky juice when broken. This secretion is sometimes difficult to detect in the submerged stems but quite evident in the terrestrial or floating forms. Adventitious roots are profusely produced at the nodes, especially when in direct contact with a muddy substrate. The flaccid leaves are



Water spinach growing in an irrigation ditch.

alternate, light-green, and borne to petioles 5-20 cm long. Leaf blade configuration is quite variable, from ovate, elliptic, oblong, or lanceolate with an acute tip and a truncate, cordate, sagittate or hastate base. The leaf margins are entire and the blades are from 8-15 cm long and 2.5-4.5 cm wide.

The inflorescence consists of a solitary or a group (cyme) of 3-7 large showy flowers. Peduncles are from 1-18 cm long while the pedicels are between 2-6 cm long. Water spinach has a typical morning-glory flower, being funnel or bell-shaped. An individual flower consists of five free sepals 6-8 mm long. The center of the flower is sometimes white but is usually dark purple. Its five stamens are unequal in length and are generally shorter than the 2-lobed stigma. The fruit is a dehiscent capsule containing 1-4 small sparsely pubescent seeds. Since percent seed germination is low underwater, branching at the nodes and fragmentation is the primary means of reproduction.

In China and southeastern Asia, water spinach is commercially cultivated as a fresh green vegetable. The young shoots and leaves are cut into small pieces and either fried in oil or boiled in water. The older

stems can be used as feed for pigs and cattle. In the summer months, water spinach accounts for 15% of the vegetable output in Hong Kong. There are two methods of cultivation. The first involves the planting of seeds of small cuttings on raised soil beds. About 60 days are required for the plant to reach market size. The second method is more common and involves cuttings which are planted in a flooded field. With a heavy application of fertilizer and by raising the water level, the first crop can be picked in only 30 days. The two types of cultivation techniques produce two varieties, of which the wetland type yields a higher quality plant bearing thick spongy stems.

Although water spinach is an important food crop in the Old World, there are definite disadvantages to its commercial cultivation. Its extremely prolific growth and ability to spread by fragmentation can cause it to become a severe pest in agricultural rice fields and other cultivated areas. The stems of water spinach can survive as a submersed plant; however, it is normally found floating and creeping horizontally for long distances on the water. Its stems can intertwine emersed wet-

continued on page 8



Typical leaf configurations showing two different leaf blade bases and long petiole.



PROGRAM FOR 1979

The Third Annual Meeting of the Florida Aquatic Plant Management Society, Inc., promises an informative and exciting experience for aquatic weed control experts involved in "Applicator Operating Decisions."

Our meeting will again be held October 3-5, 1979, at the Howard Johnson Motor Inn, I-4 and Lee Road, Orlando, Florida. This facility, centrally located in the State, has all of the necessary first class accommodations, also in-house equipment that will be required for an event of this kind and that will serve a large membership.

Our President, Mr. Harold F. Brown, extends to each member a personal invitation to make plans now to attend. He feels this year will be an important crossroad for each of us as counterparts in participating and sharing up-to-date information related to aquatic plant control here in Florida. Participation activities have already begun to develop a program that will assist mechanical, chemical and biological applicators to make Operating Decisions with professional confidence.

THIRD ANNUAL FLORIDA AQUATIC PLANT MANAGEMENT SOCIETY MEETING OCTOBER 3, 4, 5, 1979

Just a composite of things to happen during these three days of common interest —

- a. Mystery Keynote Speaker.
- b. Applicator Panel — questions and answers.
- c. Annual Award "Applicator of the Year."
- d. Applicator Safety — serious and comical situations.
- e. Member presentations on varied topics of new control application methods.
- f. Business Meeting — interest to all members.
- g. Field Demonstrations — Lake Sheen:
 - 1) Label Review of Herbicides
 - 2) Use of Invert Systems,

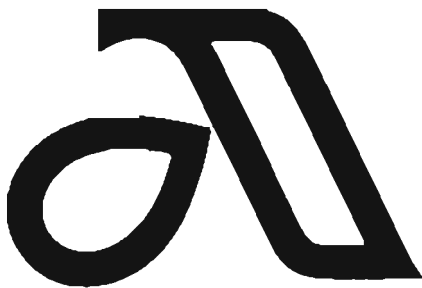
- 3) Use of Polymer Systems,
- 4) Use of Adjuvants.
- h. Old fashion barbecue with traditional get together conversation.
- i. Exhibit rooms will be available for the first 10 exhibitors at the Motor Inn.
- j. Rooms this year will be: Single \$20.00, Double \$24.00.

Come and let this meeting be a rich and rewarding experience after a long spring and summer of hard work in the field. Your Society needs each one of you.

ROBERT J. GATES
Program Chairman
JAMES T. McGEHEE
Associate Chairman

LOCAL ARRANGEMENTS

The local arrangement committee is responsible for locating and securing an area that will be suited for a meeting involving approximately three hundred people. The aspects of choosing such a site that will satisfy the needs of the Society are: a central meeting room sufficient to house the attendants of the meeting comfortably; audio visual equipment; availability of rooms for people to stay; the meeting site should



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be centrally located in the state for the benefit of all people traveling to the area; there should be some amenities at the site, such as board meeting room, display facilities and banquet capabilities; the site should be located in an area that will provide access to other businesses and entertainment areas for the people who are not attending the meeting, such as wives and children; and, the cost of staying at the site and use of the facilities should be within reason.

In addition to locating a site for the meeting, the local arrangement committee is responsible for coordinating with the program committee to establish equipment displays and banquet times. The annual banquet is also a duty of the local arrangement committee. The banquet theme should be designed to fit the interests of the society, to bring the members together for friendship and fellowship.

This year's banquet theme will be one of the country style Bar-B-Que, requiring everyone to be involved. As many of you know for a country Bar-B-Que to be a success everyone has to share in the work, with people cooking, serving, and socializing. This is an informal event to bring people together of mutual interests and socialize on an informal basis. The apparel for the banquet will be typical for a cook-out. Blue jeans, sport shirts, and other casual attire. (Embroidery on jeans optional, but let's not get too fancy.)

The location for the banquet and Bar-B-Que will be at the Orange County Sportsman Association property on Lake Sheen. Lake Sheen is one of the lakes in the Butler Chain in Windermere. This chain of lakes is one of the most beautiful in the central Florida area. While there is no swimming beach at the lake, there are boat ramps for those of you who wish to water ski, fish, or boat through the chain of lakes. This will of course require you to bring your own water transportation. On the property there is an outside pavilion, rustic club house and a large field for outdoor sports if anyone has a desire to do so.

We will also have an organized equipment demonstration at this site with actual operations in the lake. The time will be from 2:00 p.m. until around 4:00 p.m., October 4, 1979 for equipment demonstration,

with the Bar-B-Que and banquet following. At registration, maps showing direction to the area from Howard Johnsons will be given with each packet.

A couple of notes of importance, please help clean up the area after you are finished, and remember this is an informal occasion for people in the aquatic field to exchange ideas and socialize on a backyard basis. Everyone's cooperation will make this year's banquet the best ever.

NICK SASSIC
Chairman

REPORT FROM NOMINATING COMMITTEE:

The Nominating Committee has had several informal phone conversations, but when you consider that the 5 members of the Committee are scattered from Tallahassee to Ft. Lauderdale, the coordinating of a meeting becomes difficult.

However, on the third of July the Committee was able to get together in West Palm Beach. The following slate of officers was nominated and will be presented to the Convention in October.



President	Bill Haller
V.P. or	
Pres. Pro-Tem.	Joe Joyce
Secretary	Clarke Hudson
Treasurer	Carlton Layne
Editor	Dave Sutton
Director	John Adams
Director	Nick Sassic

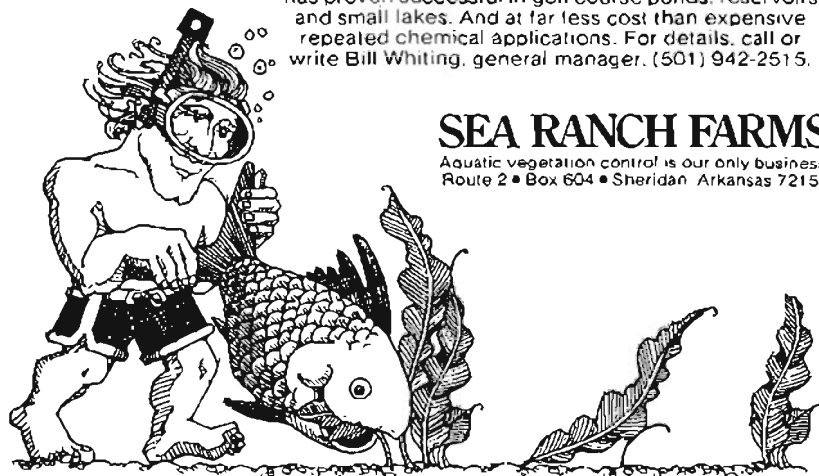
Two Directors carry over for another year's term:

Tom Drda/Bill Maier.

The most difficult job facing a Nominating Committee is to try to get representation from as many segments of aquatic weed control as possible. We consider the Federal and State agencies & Water Management Districts, County Operations, Private Applicators, Industry, University and other researchers, etc. Obviously there are

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more agencies than openings, so some decisions have to be made that may be unpopular. That is why we have nominations from the floor at the convention.

Another point to consider is that people elected to hold office in FAPMS need to be able to take time off from their job to travel to quarterly meetings of the Officers at various locations around the State. This is probably a minor point, but is a consideration for some of us.

There will be time allocated at the convention for any of you to add nominations that you feel strongly about. □

PETE PEDERSON
Chairman

continued from page 5

land plants or grow on top of other floating plants such as *Salvinia* and water-hyacinth.

Due to the low elevation, spring-summer rains, and warm climate, South Florida is ideal for growing water spinach. Interest in cultivating this inexpensive aquatic vegetable may soon create problems in the near future.

Early this year a small cultivation site was detected in Homestead, Florida. A solution of 15 lb. Dalapon plus 1 gallon Banvel 720/acre and a 1 gallon Round-Up/acre was effective in eradicating the submersed and terrestrial forms. Since this plant has the potential to

become a recreational or navigable noxious water plant, it is prohibited to import, transport or cultivate in the State of Florida. Anyone who detects water spinach should report its location to the Bureau of Aquatic Plants in Tallahassee, Florida so appropriate control procedures can be promptly initiated. If there is one thing we do not need, it's another exotic plant species in our waterways. □

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STATEWIDE CONFERENCE ON MANAGEMENT AND CONTROL OF AQUATIC WEEDS IS PLANNED

Readers of this magazine will be pleased to note that a statewide conference on management and control of aquatic weeds is in the making. The conference is being co-sponsored by the Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission and the Department of Natural Resources. Colonel Robert M. Brantly, Executive Director of the GFWFC, and Joseph W. Landers, Jr., Interim Executive Director of DNR, have agreed that the conference should be aimed at addressing "all pertinent issues in aquatic weed control, including management and funding" and have as a final objective the drafting of "specific recommendations on all policy issues in aquatic weed control."

Conference participants will include members of federal, state, regional and local government units, members of the legislature and legislative staff, members of the academic and scientific communities, representatives of the chemical industry, commercial applicators, representatives of agriculture, environmentalists, and other persons from the private sector. The conference format will be that developed by the American Assembly, which was utilized so successfully in September of 1971 when the Governor's Conference on Water Management in South Florida was held in Miami.



Col. R. M. Brantly (left) and J. W. Landers have conferred at numerous meetings on the upcoming statewide aquatic weed control conference. (Photos by Florida DNR)

Conference planning is currently in the hands of an eight-member steering committee who have been charged with the responsibilities of making complete arrangements for the conference, drafting recommendations for the specific topics and questions to be addressed, and proposing a list of conference participants. Members of the steering committee are:

F. G. "Jerry" Banks, GFWFC
Harold F. Brown, FAPMS
Jackie Farmer, Aide to Rep.

Bobby Brantley
Carlton Jackson, DNR
Dr. Arnett C. Mace, Jr.,

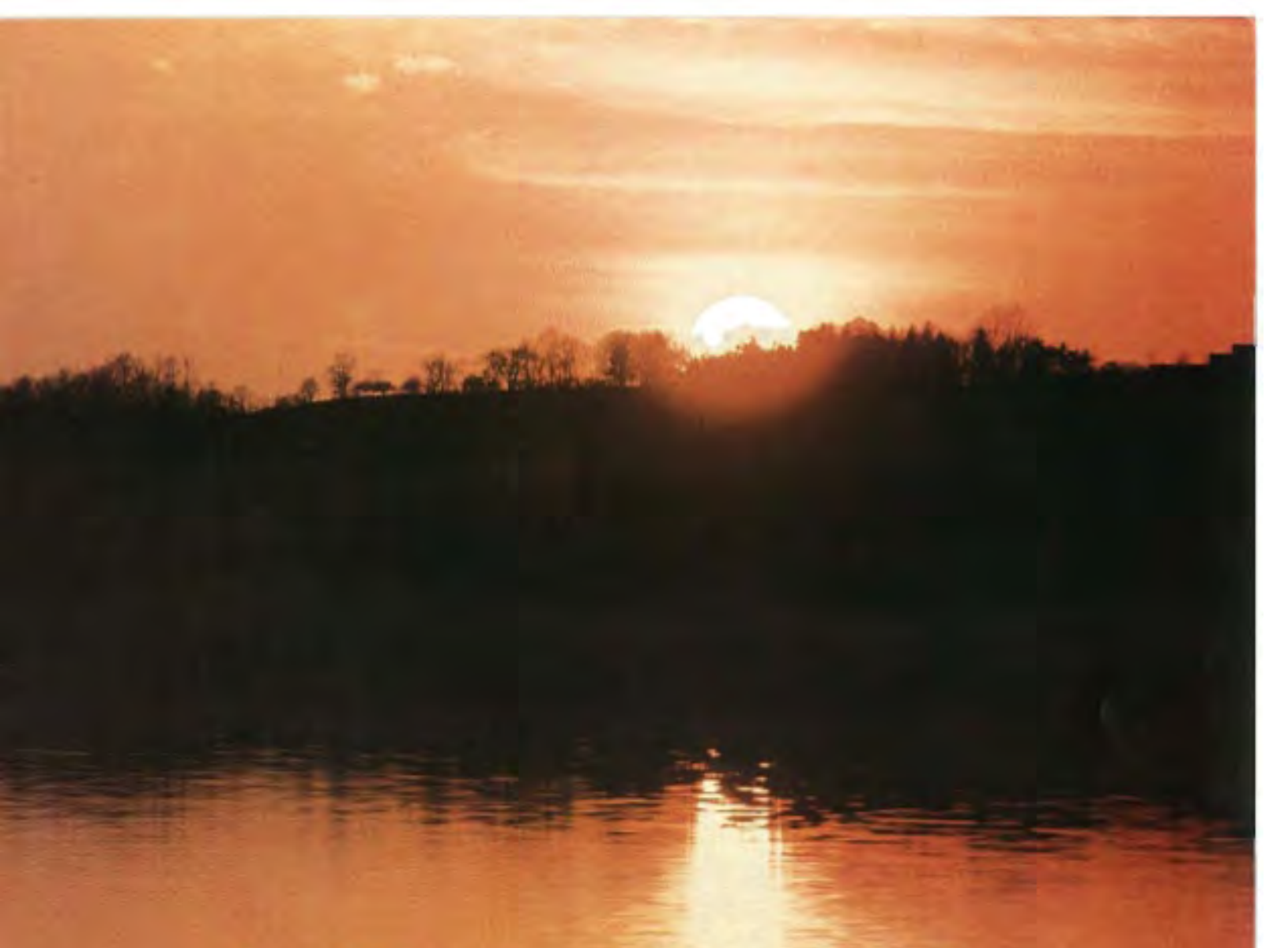
University of Florida
Ross McWilliams, DER
Joseph A. Schweigart, SFWMD

Richard J. Walsh, Aide to
Senator George Stuart

Banks and Jackson appropriately are serving as co-chairmen of the steering committee, inasmuch as they represent the co-sponsoring agencies. Also, our readers will undoubtedly notice that FAPMS is well represented on the committee.

As previously indicated, the format that will be utilized in the statewide conference on management and control of aquatic weeds was developed by the American Assembly. The Assembly is a nonpartisan organization established by Dwight D. Eisenhower at Columbia University in 1950.

The Assembly-type conference format is not one which has general



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familiarity amongst many in the aquatic weed control community, or elsewhere for that matter. It is, however, in this writer's view, a most suitable forum to conduct the dialogue necessary to focus on the pertinent issues bearing down on our State with regard to various aquatic weed control matters. It will serve to ferret out the thoughts and opinions of the conference participants and, finally, it will come to terms with a consensus. Properly organized, it will provide a vehicle in which matters can be aired amongst serious minded people involving a full spectrum of views and a broad range of experience with a synthesis of thought evolving into specific recommendations that could ultimately find their way into our legislative halls. Admittedly, this is a tall order, but one which is necessary in order to properly address the complex issues that presently perplex our society in the area of aquatic weed control. The joint efforts of the Game Commission and the Department of Natural Resources to initiate an Assembly in this regard is a positive and commendable step forward.

Although plans have not yet been firmed up, the conference will most likely last approximately three days and consist of approximately 100 participants. The steering committee has already selected Tallahassee for the site of the Assembly, and is now formulating plans to utilize conference spaces in the State House of Representatives' chambers. The Assembly will most likely be called together some time during late September or early October.

AMERICAN ASSEMBLY-TYPE CONFERENCE EXPLAINED

Prior to the initiation of the Assembly the co-sponsoring agencies must firm up all participants, provide the participants with adequate reference material for their preparation, make selections with respect to key positions and, in general, get all things in order. This must take place well in advance of the actual conference and, as previously mentioned, is a function of the steering committee.

The key positions include chairman, director, administrative officer, publicity director, discussion leaders and recorders. The chairman

welcomes the guests, introduces guest speakers, and above all, presides at the most important session of the Assembly — the plenary session on the final day. He is not a permanent member of any discussion group but audits all.

The director should be well versed in the topic of the Assembly, and is in charge of all matters pertinent to it. One of the most important tasks of the Assembly — drafting the final report — is in his care. Basically, the director has "command responsibility" for the Assembly. Depending upon the situation, the director may double as the Assembly chairman.

The administrative officer works closely with the chairman or director and supervises all staff work. He usually (1) prepares all invitations and keeps the necessary correspondence files, lists, and schedules; (2) makes arrangements for meals, lodging, transportation, meeting rooms, etc.; (3) has charge of supplies and equipment; (4) supervises the stenographers and other staff personnel; and (5) arranges for copying and distributing the final Assembly report immediately after the Assembly ends, and also arranges for printing the report and circulating it widely within eight weeks after the Assembly.

The publicity director stays closely in touch with the chairman or director. He normally (1) prepares and sends out advance publicity; (2) invites press representatives to cover the Assembly; (3) sends out a story on the participants' recommendations to newspapers and wire services not covering the conference directly; and (4) sends out copies of the final statement the day following the Assembly to selected editors and editorial writers.

In some ways, the success of the conference rests with the discussion leaders and recorders. It is the discussion leader whose skill brings the subject matter into focus and elicits the thoughts and opinions of the participants. The recorder's notes provide the substance from which the final report is formed. It is desirable to have a knowledgeable person in the slot of discussion leader who can stimulate free discussion and at the same time provide a sense of direction. Likewise, the recorder must be able to reduce the stream of talk at each session to a page or two of substance, agreement, consensus. The discussion

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leaders and recorders along with the director and chairman comprise the drafting committee for the final report.

Normally, most Assemblies begin with a luncheon or other gathering at which the chairman formally welcomes all the participants. At this time also it is appropriate for the director to outline briefly the purpose and procedure of the Assembly. During the Assembly there may be one or two persons of stature (Governor, Legislator, Cabinet member, etc.) who give formal addresses at appropriate times. These are not to be considered as keynote addresses, but rather the reflections of informed citizens on some phase of the topic.

Discussion sessions will follow the opening of the Assembly and consist of approximately four separate discussion groups. Each discussion group will have about 25 participants with as similar a representative breakdown between groups as possible. If they are available, non-participants who may be considered experts on the issues being discussed may be consulted by the group participants

during the sessions. Each group must remain intact throughout the discussion sessions and should basically follow the same agenda in order that all participants consider approximately the same question at about the same time. Among other things, this facilitates the duties of the director who moves in and out of the discussion groups in order to "feel the pulse" of the Assembly. During each session the discussion groups consider a separate topic along with a series of associated questions. Each session may last approximately 3-4 hours. After a group discussion session, each recorder will prepare a brief — a cogent summary of the agreement reached in that period.

The director will, with the notes of the panel recorders and with his own ideas and impressions from his "feeling the pulse" of the Assembly, prepare his own version of the final recommendations. This document should be prepared after completion of the last discussion session and is considered draft no. 1.

Draft no. 1 is then taken up by the drafting committee which is composed of the discussion leaders,

recorders, director and chairman. This committee works and reworks the draft until what may be considered a satisfactory group revision is arrived at. This revision, which may be about 1500-1800 words, is draft no. 2. It should contain only the opinion reflected in the group discussions and is an integrated report or an "averaging out" of the highest factors of agreement (or majority) of all discussion groups. The draft report should not be a tissue of intact, or separate reports added one to the other. It should contain recommendations that are as positive as the committee feels a majority of the Assembly will support, not the lowest common denominators. The report is then typed and made ready for the plenary session. A copy should be placed in the hands of each participant as far in advance of the plenary session as possible — preferably the night before.

The Assembly chairman (or director) presides at the plenary session. The participants, having read through the entire report, amend and edit as necessary. The principles of simple parliamentary procedure



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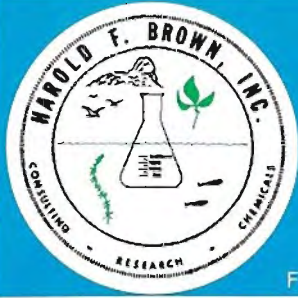
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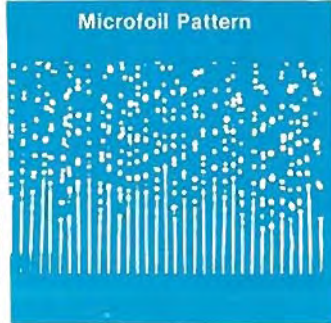
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should apply. They consider the report section by section or paragraph by paragraph, but not sentence by sentence. Decisions to add, delete, or amend are by majority vote of those present. What should emerge after approximately 4 hours is the approved final report of findings and recommendations. Progress depends greatly on the skill of the chairman, who should have experience in presiding.

Despite the emphasis on identifying areas of agreement and majority viewpoints, strong minority points are sometimes made, supported by a significant number of participants. In such cases, the presiding officer must proceed with discretion. It is better to avoid minority expressions on every single point, since this would make the final report overly long and diluted; however, when a *very strong* minority shows up with regard to a specific recommendation, then accommodations may be made for it. There should *not* be two separate reports — majority and minority.

The printed final report should appear as soon after the Assembly as possible. Delay in such publication may cause its usefulness to recede and enthusiasm for it to diminish. Moreover, it should receive the widest of circulation.

TENTATIVE TOPICS AND PROPOSED QUESTIONS OUTLINED

Although the Assembly agenda has by no means been firmed up, a first draft has emerged from the steering committee as of this writing and its content should be of interest to the readers of this magazine. The present proposal calls for four sessions under the headings of Statutes, Rules and Permits; Operations; Research; and Funding. An outline of the proposed agenda is as follows:

Session I

STATUTES, RULES AND PERMITS


1. Is the current jurisdiction of public agencies clearly defined and understood? If not, how can it be better defined for:
 - (a) Public waters
 - (b) Private waters
 - (c) Water classification
 - (d) Field operation coordination
 - (1) Public
 - (2) Private
 - (e) Treatment of aquatic plants
 - (1) Biological

- (2) Mechanical
- (3) Chemical
- (f) Applicators
 - (1) Training
 - (2) Certification
2. Should one or several state agencies be involved in aquatic weed management? Which one or ones?
3. What should be the role of local agencies in aquatic plant management? State agencies and Federal agencies?
4. How should the lead agency/agencies perform the coordina-

tion required to meet future change?


- (a) Technology
- (b) Environmental
- (c) Political Socio
- (d) Economics
5. Are the rules and regulations adequate to regulate the aquatic plant industry?
6. Should industry or private persons be allowed to import, export or transfer exotic or native aquatic species within the state's public waters?

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7. Should there be a permitting system for aquatic plant management? If so, for whom, what and issued by whom?

Session II OPERATIONS

1. Are areas of operational jurisdiction adequate? If not, why?
2. What effect has the conflict between public agencies had on aquatic plant management?
3. Should an operational agency also have regulatory responsibilities?
4. What operational responsibilities in aquatic plant management should the state have vs. private industry? Should private industry involvement be increased? If so, how?
5. Should there be a defined level at which point public funds are expended to control aquatic plants in:
 - (a) Public waters
 - (1) Municipal & industrial water supplies
 - (2) Recreational
 - (b) Private waters
 If so, what criteria should be used for each water use?

Session III RESEARCH

1. Who should be responsible for coordination of the aquatic plant research program for the State of Florida?
2. How should the lead agency perform the coordination of research programs to focus on high priority needs?
3. How should state funded programs interface with federal ongoing programs?
4. How should state fund aquatic plant research? Should the present level be increased?
5. Are research programs addressing current or future needs
 - (a) Biological
 - (b) Social
 - (c) Physical
 - (d) Economic
 - (e) Environmental
 - (f) Political

Session IV FUNDING

1. Is the current level of funding adequate for management and control of aquatic plants?
2. Is the current level or management of funding efficient? If not, what changes are needed?
3. Who should coordinate state budget requests for aquatic plant management?
4. Should federal grants in funding

of aquatic plant management be increased? If so, for what purpose?

5. Should the state's participation in local aquatic plant management be increased? If so, for what purposes?
6. To what extent should local water users pay for aquatic plant management?

Under this proposal each Assembly discussion group would consider each of the four topics along with the thought provoking questions and produce a consensus of thought which would ultimately lead to a set of Assembly recommendations.

In summary, there appears to be great potential for a significant historical impact on statewide activities in aquatic weed control through this upcoming Assembly and the final document it produces. That impact should cause a lasting and beneficial effect in the overall public interest. The heads of the co-sponsoring agencies should expect nothing less. They are together on this issue, and the sincere and dedicated energies of the conference participants will bring these desires and needs to fruition. Time will tell. □

PEOPLE ON THE MOVE

Mr. Ray Spirnock has joined the Department of Natural Resources as an aquatic plant control biologist.

Mr. Bob Lennerty has replaced Ray as the administrator of the pesticide section with the Department of Agriculture and Consumers Services.

Mr. Porter Lambert has recently taken a leave of absence from the Southwest Florida Water Management District and will no longer be able to serve as treasurer of the Society. Porter has done an excellent job for our society and deserves a special thanks for all his efforts. Mr. Tom Minter has been appointed on an interim basis as treasurer by the Board. All membership dues and pre-registration for our annual meeting should be sent to Tom at: Rt. 2 Box 671, Oviedo, Fla. 32765.

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