

Weed Control Authority Lancaster County



February 2011 Monthly Report

The following is a news release put out by Nebraska Department of Agriculture.

Thank you to the Lancaster Board for supporting the NDA with this decision. We already know of 6 locations, and will work toward total eradication.

NDA Adds Japanese Knotweed and Giant Knotweed to Noxious Weed List

LINCOLN - Nebraska Department of Agriculture (NDA) Director Greg Ibach today announced the statewide designation of Japanese knotweed (*Fallopia japonica*) and giant knotweed (*Fallopia sachalinensis*), including any cultivars and hybrids as noxious weeds in Nebraska.

"In order for us to continue being good stewards of the land, we need to work to protect our natural



resources from non-native plants that have no value and have the potential to cause damage to our ecosystem if left unchecked," Ibach said. "This designation is necessary to help

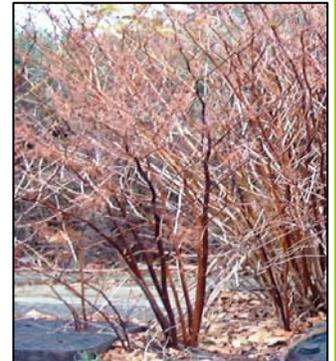
county weed control officials work with landowners to address areas of infestation and to prevent the further spread of this invasive species."

Ibach has the authority to designate weeds as noxious under the Noxious Weed Control Act.

According to Mitch Coffin, NDA Noxious Weed Program Manager, Japanese and giant knotweed can threaten both open and riparian areas. Plants may spread rapidly and from dense monocultures. In riparian habitats, the weeds can increase the risk of flooding and river bank erosion. Prolific rhizome and shoot growth can also damage foundations,

walls, pavement, drainage works, and flood prevention structures.

Other officially designated noxious weeds in Nebraska include: Saltcedar, Canada thistle, leafy spurge, musk thistle, plumeless thistle, purple loosestrife, spotted and diffuse knapweeds, and phragmites.



In the News:

The news release we put out on Japanese Knotweed was picked up by the *Hickman Voice* and *1011now.com*. Plus the *JournalStar* did an interview for the article that appeared in the February 16th newspaper. Check out our updated website: www.lancaster.ne.gov/weeds

Noxious Weed Control Act Q & A

Q: Who is required by the Noxious Weed Control Act to control noxious weeds within cities and villages?

A: All cities and villages in this state shall provide for the control of noxious weeds within their jurisdiction and may appropriate money for and make the necessary expenditures for noxious weed control.

March Planned Activities

- 2 FSA Annual Weed Meeting
- 3 Contractors Meeting
- 8 5 Rivers WMA - Tecumseh
- 10 SE NACO Meeting – Mahoney
- 11 NE Invasive Species Council
- 15 LPWMA Meeting - Wahoo
- 16 New Supervisor workshop
- 29-30 NWCA Spring training - Hastings
- 31 Problem Resolution Team
- 31 Publish general notice
- 31 FY2012 budget to B&F Division