

Minutes of the Alliance of Lake Associations (ALA) August 4, 2009

The meeting called to order at 2PM.

Joe Cargioli stated that he is getting together a list of 10-15 academics who might have students who would be interested in environmental work. He recommended getting Tyler Smith to speak at organizational meetings.

Vince Blando stated that he and Rolf Tiedeman had put together a letter to the APA but decided not to send it at that time. They may want to resuscitate that letter now. He had wanted to invite Curt Stiles of the APA to speak but that might mean that Curt would have to recuse himself from the vote in regard to Lake Luzerne. There was discussion as to what he would be asked to speak about and whether or not it was appropriate for him to speak to ALA.

Originally the letter was not sent because both Lake Luzerne and Eagle Lake had ongoing negotiations with the APA. A phone call was suggested with the explanation that ALA is a new group of lakes which would like information from the APA about Renovate and what the APA point of view is. Vince is interested in the pros and cons of Renovate as a tool—is it a bad thing or, if you comply with APA regulations, is it a good tool? Wendell Lorang made a motion seconded by Jane Smith that Vince make the call without mention the two lakes.

John W. Bennett, Pesticide Program Manager of NYSDEC Region 5 gave a power point presentation on DEC's regulation of aquatic nuisance species with a discussion about the use of Renovate as an aquatic herbicide. The DEC does not support or oppose the use of pesticides. Their position is that it is a tool in the IPM toolbox.

Outside the Adirondack Park, DEC is the regulator and they require 5A certification for aquatic permits. All aquatic pesticides are restricted use pesticides although they can be applied in several different ways. John feels that the APA probably thinks that within the Park every other avenue should be exhausted before pesticides are used. They have never issued a pesticide permit so it would be a precedent setting event.

Tyler Smith made the comment that there could be a difference between native and exotic plant management. John agreed that they would look more favorably on the use of pesticides on exotics. John stated that there is no doubt that both Sonar and Renovate kill native plants. Saratoga Lake has used both on milfoil and now curly leaf pond weed. Beware of nutrients going into the lake. Saratoga is now harvesting native plants because it is a shallow lake and is nutrient rich. A hydro rake needs a permit. Benthic barriers kill all plants but they are effective. Galway Lake does winter drawdowns of the littoral zone. You need dry, cold winters for success. Glen Lake used Renovate this year and Sonar last year.

Renovate is manufactured by Sepro. The active ingredient is ticlopyr. It was in use since 1979 as a right of way herbicide (Garlon 3A). The first aquatic pesticide to be registered with the EPA was Sonar in 1988. Renovate was approved in 2002.

The pros: It is systemic with reduced contact time (hours vs. days with Sonar); it has selectivity to dicots (EQM) vs. monocots (native pondweeds).

The cons: There is a 120 day irrigation restriction (other than grasses). Needs to be less than 1 part per billion; a large setback from potable water intakes (up to 3 miles) is required. For drinking water

it has to be less than 50 parts per billion. There is a three hour swimming restriction but no fishing or hunting restrictions.

Rolf stated that there is an approximate \$1,000 per acre treatment cost. After treatment is also required. John said Saratoga Lake was treated with 66,920 pounds of Renovate for 292 acres in May of 2008. The active ingredient is only 5% by weight. Results showed a significant decline in EWM which went from the #1 plant to the #8 plant. Species richness increased and no impact was shown on fish. The water use restriction for irrigation lasted 4-6 weeks and for drinking 1-2 weeks. A downstream notice was posted for four miles. There was a chemical drift from the east to the west shore. The 2009 treatment will be their third. The first treatment was with Sonar in 2000. Saratoga is happier with renovate.

A new pesticide is coming. Clearcast (active ingredient imazamox) is a raptor herbicide for weed control in soybeans approved in 1997. EPA Registered in March 2008. DEC registered 2009. It is hoped it can be used as a foliar and aquatic herbicide. The big pro with Clearcast is that there is reduced time for the irrigation water use. The big con is that it is not as specific.

Info and contacts:

pmep.cce.cornell.edu/pims/

pmep.cce.cornell.edu/

www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/298.html

518-623-1200 and 518-623-1311

Discussion of the fact that in general each lake has to be considered on a case-by-case basis. Eagle Lake has areas where divers cannot work. Lake Luzerne has been using benthic barriers with hand harvesting but their total milfoil is increasing. They figure the costs to be \$12,000 per year for 15-18 acres of milfoil.

Emily DeBolt passed around a sticker in use on lake Goerge which can be ordered by any lake (with just a change in lake name) from Impressive Imprints in Glens Falls.

Rolf passed around copies of letters from Tim Sinnet and Curt Stiles.

What are the differences between native milfoil and EWM? Tyler says if there are 11 leaflets on the whorl it is native.

Meeting adjourned at 3:45PM

Respectfully submitted,

Helen Wildman