

IPM Committee Meeting Minutes

11/12/2020

In attendance via conference call: Dana Hanson, Kyle Simpson, Rob McClary and Derek Mannion (No quorum was present since 5 IPM Committee members were not present at one time)

- Reviewed amended minutes from IPM meeting on 10/29/2020. and 9/3/2020. DH made two changes to the minutes. Minutes will be amended and tabled until the next IPM meeting on 12/3/2020.
- Committee did not review revised ipm pilot report and the field acreage assessment since JT was not at the meeting. Both agenda items will be kept on the agenda for our next meeting on Thursday December 3rd.
- There was a brief discussion by DM on a conversation he had with Randy Prostat. RP is the UMASS Extension Weed Specialist. The discussion revolved around prostrate knotweed control. RP discussed two scenarios. The first scenario uses Barricade, a Pre-emergent herbicide, in April. The pros for this herbicide choice are three months of pre-emergent control. The cons for this herbicide choice are not be able to do turf work (aerating and slice seeding) for three months. The three-month timeline brings us to mid-July before we could slice seed and/or aerate. Turf work and sports activity during this time would disrupt the herbicide barrier created by Barricade. The second scenario involves using a post-emergent herbicide with the active ingredient: Dicamba. We used Q4 Plus in June 2020. Q4 Plus contains Dicamba at 1.49%. The pros of using Q4 Plus are being able to perform turf work during the spring and after the herbicide application. The cons of using Q4 Plus are prostrate knotweed will grow for three months before the herbicide is applied. RP stated prostrate knotweed does not like loose soil; it thrives in compacted soil.
- DM stated he emailed PBI Gordon inquiring about the timing/rate for a second application of Q4 Plus for the best results with prostrate knotweed. PBI Gordon is the manufacturer of Q4 Plus.
- While reviewing the IPM pilot report at the 10/29/2020 IPM meeting, Dana Hanson asked why we sprayed Albemarle Field with Pylex. DM said he would look through the IPM Minutes for the reason. While reviewing previous IPM minutes on 10/30/2020, DM realized he made a mistake and miss-categorized prostrate knotweed as a grassy weed. Prostrate knotweed is not a grassy weed. It is a broadleaf weed. DM discussed how this mistake was recorded through several IPM meeting minutes: 5/14/2020, 5/21/2020, 5/28/2020 and 6/11/2020. DM discussed this mistake with Commissioner Nicole Banks on 11/2/2020. DH asked what categorized prostrate knotweed as a broadleaf weed. DH asked whether the Pylex application would have eliminated grassy weeds at Albemarle Field. DM will create an IPM checklist to help reduce/eliminate further mistakes. The IPM monitoring sheet will also be amended to further reduce/eliminate mistakes. DH asked DM if this item will be brought up at the next meeting. DM said it would be brought up at the next meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Derek Mannion

12/1/2020