

Texans Welcome the SWSS 2
Message from Program Chair
PowerPoint Rules Tweaked
Regulatory Aspects Workshop
Memorabilia Request 5
Did You Know? 6
NCWSS Weed Contest Results
People & Places 9

**Endowment** 

Foundation Reminder .... 9

### President's Message

#### **DAVID SHAW**

Katrina. That name will forever mean something quite different to us here in the South. The scale of devastation is unparalleled in our country's history, and as a Mississippi resident I've seen first-hand how powerful this storm was.



Words and pictures just simply can't describe it. I know all of us have been touched in some way, from helping with relief efforts to seeing displaced residents wind up in our cities. As a Mississippian, I thank each of you for whatever role you played in helping as we begin the process of recovering.

And, if you didn't realize it, the SWSS had an extremely close call. Debate over

And, if you didn't realize it, the SWSS had an extremely close call. Debate over the location of our 2007 meeting was lengthy, and in the end we decided to return to the Opryland Hotel, rather than go to the Beau Rivage hotel in Biloxi, MS. What most of you don't know, however, is that contract negotiations nearly fell through at the last minute with the Opryland, and for a few hours we had made the decision to revert back to the Beau Rivage. If you've seen pictures of the devastation this hotel and casino took, you'll recognize the sigh of relief that I had regarding our having worked out the contract differences with Opryland.

Jackie Driver and her Program Committee are hard at work developing a topnotch program for our January meeting. I'm sure she'll have an article elsewhere in the Newsletter, so I'll not try to repeat the content here. However, I can assure you that it'll be one of the best conference and program that we've ever had. The conference is always a highlight of my year, partly because of the program content, but also in big part because of the chance to renew old acquaintances and make new ones. Be sure and mark your calendars NOW to be in San Antonio January 23-26.

Since the last newsletter, Lee VanWychen has been hired by the national and regional weed science societies to serve as our Director of Science Policy in Washington, DC. Lee will have his introductory article elsewhere in the Newsletter. He is a great fit for this position, and has a rich background that is well suited to represent our discipline on the Hill and with the various agencies. I encourage you to contact him with any thoughts you might have about needs and directions for policy related to weed science. If you're in DC, drop in and see him.

Last month I sent out an e-mail to the membership, challenging you to think about how our society can reach out to the weed scientists in our region who are not currently members of SWSS. I won't repeat the discussion here, but would summarize briefly. One aspect that all of the experts say an organization must consider is how

#### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE continued from page 1

well the governing board reflects the diversity of membership. Historically, SWSS has been heavily oriented toward applied row-crop agriculture, and our board composition has reflected that. I would submit that in today's environment, however, row-crop weed scientists are in the minority, if you define a weed scientist as a person who has management of unwanted vegetation as some aspect of their position. In our Business Meeting, we'll explore ideas on how to create a board that is representative of all aspects of our society. I urge you to come and

participate in the discussion, no matter how your opinions fall on this matter.

One other reminder – the SWSS has a tremendous quality publication in the DVD entitled "Encyclopedia of North American Weeds." Don't make it a best-kept secret – buy it yourself and promote it to others!!

I wish each one of you a safe and relaxing holiday season. Spend time with family and friends; in our hurried world the important things often take a back seat to the urgent. David Shaw, SWSS President

### Texans Welcome the Southern Weed Science Society

The Omni-San Antonio hotel will provide an excellent venue for our 2006 meeting. Located in the Colonnade Office Complex in northwest San Antonio, it is convenient to the airport, several restaurants, and within reasonable driving distance (20 minutes) to the famous San Antonio Riverwalk. To get to the Omni, you travel on I-10 west, exit Wurzbach Road, stay on the feeder road and the hotel is located on the right. The Omni offers shuttle service on the hour to and from San Antonio International Airport, or if you prefer to take a cab, it will cost from \$18-20 each way. For dining, you have several choices that include Bolo's Rotisserie Grille at the hotel. Within walking distance (2 blocks or less) are Texas Land & Cattle, Bennigan's, Jason's Deli, Thai Orchid, Fuddruckers, Quiznos and Adobe Taco. Sea Island Shrimp House, County Line, and Pappasitos are also a short distance (1 mile) from the hotel.

The contract room rates for the Omni are \$90 / night for a single, and \$100 / night for a double, triple, or quad (plus state and local taxes which are currently 16.75%). Graduate student room (30 rooms max.) rates will be \$80 / night for Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday nights (Jan.23-25). Group rates will be offered three days prior and three days after the annual meeting but will be subject to availability. **The cutoff date for accepting room reservations to get conference rates is January 2, 2006.** You can make reservations by calling the Omni San Antonio directly at 210-691-8888 or Central Reservations at 1-800-400-1700. In either case, refer to the group and meeting name (Southern Weed Science Society annual meeting).

The Omni will provide complimentary transportation (via five motor coaches) to the San Antonio Riverwalk area on Tuesday night. The first motor coach (or however many it takes) will depart the hotel at 6:00 p.m. and return from the Riverwalk at 9:30 p.m. for a four hour round trip. We have arranged for sequential departure times (after 6:00 p.m.), however, since the buses only

hold 55 people, we will have a sign up sheet at the meeting for at least two departure times and it will be on a first come, first served basis. There will be no formal spouses program at the 2006 meeting. The banquet meal Wednesday night will feature a dinner buffet of meats, vegetables, and desserts, so don't miss this one.

Jackie Driver has been working hard on assigning the various sessions and breakouts to rooms that will provide comfortable and suitable settings. If you have specific needs for meeting space or for a breakfast or lunch meeting room, be sure that Jackie is aware of these.

Individual committee members for the Local Arrangements Committee are as follows:

Chairperson: Paul Baumann
PBaumann@ag.tamu.edu
Audio Visual: Todd Baughman
TBaughman@ag.tamu.edu

Registration: Brent Bean BBean@ag.tamu.edu Meal Functions: Paul Nester PNeser@ag.tamu.edu

Room Setup: Arlen Klosterboer Signs & Exhibits: Gaylon Morgan

GMorgan@ag.tamu.edu

Grad Students & Room Res.: Peter Dotray

PDotray@ag.tamu.edu
Public Relations: Monty Dozier
MDozier@ag.tamu.edu
Placement Liaison: Wayne Keeling

WKeeling@ag.tamu.edu

Info. Booth & Messages: Gary Schwarzlose
Gary.Schwarzlose@bayercropscience.com
Equipment Storage & Security: James Grichar

Wgrichar@ag.tamu.edu

We look forward to seeing you in San Antonio and have a safe trip.

Paul Baumann SWSS Local Arrangements Chair

### Message from the Program Chair

The program committee is diligently working to put the final touches on the 2006 program. We are excited about your response to participate in the upcoming meeting. We believe, with your feedback, we have pulled together an excellent collection of papers and posters for presentation during the conference.

The 2005 Program Committee developed an outstanding program last year. As you recall we embarked upon a new format – invited presentations. This was well received; however some of you expressed a preference for the 15 minute presentations. This year we will have a mixture of both the invited presentations and volunteer papers. Our symposia sessions will feature discussions of the following topics: Issues Associated with Formal Instruction of Weed Science, Invasive grasses and sedges: Deep Rooted Issues, Grassy Weed Control in Pastures, Weed Management in Turf with Sulfonylurea Herbicides, and Herbicides: Not what your father used or are they?, and Herbicides in intensive forest management systems. We've also planned a regulatory aspects workshop which will address recent changes and their impact on our discipline. Many thanks to the section chairs for their efforts and energy in identifying topics of interest and building a speaker pool to cover each of the respective topics chosen.

We will continue our focus on our graduate students.

The graduate student contest presentations will be featured on Tuesday morning in two sessions. We have again limited other sessions to only one opposite of these so that you will have opportunity to support the graduate students. The Graduate Student Organization has planned a symposium entitled 'Impact of Ag Policy on Your Career.' Senator Craig Estes is a featured speaker.

Posters will be displayed in two separate sessions. Graduate student contest posters will be displayed throughout the meeting. The remaining posters will be divided into two sessions and displayed at different times during the conference. Please pay close attention to information regarding poster displays in the printed program so that you don't miss those of interest to you.

Updates from our industry colleagues will be given in a general session format. A special section is planned for updates from our seeds and chemical manufacture company colleagues. This idea was passed on from some of the members. We decided to give it a try!

We have had many discussions regarding reaching out and extending our group beyond the current membership. Please share the program with a colleague or friend. Encourage someone new to attend the conference if only for one day. I look forward to seeing you in January.

Jackie Driver Program Chair

### POWERPOINT FILE RULES TWEAKED FOR 2006 MEETING

Please note that the SWSS Computer applications committee has updated some rules for PowerPoint files. The big change is that you should use the 2000-2003 file type—no longer will we have to back-convert files.

As before, we ask that files be limited to 25 Mb in size. We have some excellent instructions on how you can automatically downsize all pictures, without affecting projection quality (*see the instructions on the SWSS website*). Animations are discouraged, and videos require special permission.

Presentation loading will be the same as in the past, although stay tuned—there may be an option to upload your presentation via the Internet—as an alternative to loading on-site. We are glad to accept presentations from USB "jump drives", but for safety, we strongly recommend that you put your presentation on a CD (and double check it). In the last two years, a few USB drives were incompatible.

Andy Kendig

### REGULATORY ASPECTS WORKSHOP

There will be a Regulatory Aspects Workshop on Wednesday, January 25, 2006 during the SWSS Annual meeting in San Antonio, Texas. Please encourage your regulatory colleagues who may not normally attend the SWSS to consider coming for the day. A wide variety of topics will be covered including ecological risk assessments, cumulative risk assessments, the Pesticide Registration Improvement Act, cotton insect and weed resistance management, the endangered species protection program, and herbicide tolerances. If you have any questions about the workshop contact Jerry Wells at 336-632-6324 or jerry.wells@syngenta.com.

### New

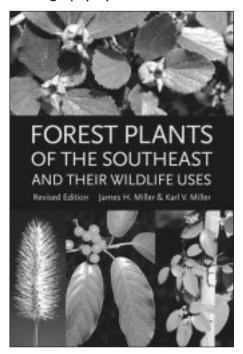
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# Forest Plants of the Southeast and Their Wildlife Uses

Revised Edition

James H. Miller and Karl V. Miller

Photography by Ted Bodner



6 x 9 | 464 pp. 650 color photos, 56 b&w illustrations, I map ISBN 0-8203-2748-4 (paperback) \$34.95 **[disc. \$27.96]** Published in cooperation with the Southern Weed Science Society

# 20% discount to members of the Southern Weed Science Society

This guide to common and unique plants found in forests of the Southeast thoroughly covers 330 species of forbs (herbaceous plants), grasses, vines, and shrubs, with a special emphasis on the plants' role in wildlife sustenance. Packed with detailed color photographs, the book is a must-have for forest landowners, game and wildlife managers, biologists, outdoors enthusiasts, students—anyone with an interest in the intricate and often unexpected interrelationships between the flora and fauna of our region's forests.

#### **FEATURES:**

- Descriptions of native and nonnative (exotic or invasive)
  plants, including 330 species of forbs, in 180 genera: grasses,
  sedges, and rushes; woody vines and semiwoody plants;
  shrubs; palms and yucca; cane; cactus; ferns; and ground lichen
- 650 color photos
- Map of physiographic provinces
- 56 simple black-and-white drawings of flower parts, flower types, and inflorescences, leaf arrangements, leaf divisions, shapes, and margins, and parts of a grass plant
- Glossary
- Index of genera by family, index by wildlife species, and index of scientific and common names

James H. Miller is a research ecologist with the USDA Forest Service, Southern Research Station, at Auburn University. Karl V. Miller is an associate professor of wildlife ecology and management at the University of Georgia.

"Clear, concise, easy to read, and uncluttered in layout. The photos and text are a blend in clarity."—Georgia Forestry

#### PLEASE PRINT:

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[FFP5]

### Let's Have Some Fun and Relive Some Memories

The SWSS has a rich history containing some great memories. We would like to give everyone a chance to remember some of the "good ole days" with a stroll through the memorabilia room at the 2006 annual meeting. This is meant to be a fun event with items from the past displayed to help us remember our history and just plain enjoy the event. It is easy to imagine the surprise and laughter that will be associated with some items and "I remember when that product was introduced", "Hey, look at this", and even "I used to work for that organization" are likely to be heard throughout the room. We may even ask for a couple of dollars as a donation to the Endowment Fund from those enjoying the display.

In order to make this "truly memorable," your help is needed. Dig back in your files and storage rooms and send or bring those items you think will be interesting. Retrieval of some of these items alone will likely bring back memories and be enjoyable. Especially needed are historical company logos, banners, product labels, advertisements, old SWSS meeting announcements, photographs, product and/or university promotional items and "other stuff" that you think will be interesting.

There are a couple of ways to participate:

- 1. Put a note on the product with any needed explanation, significance, date, etc. (print and fill out the form below) alone with your name and address and send to Ken Smith at address below. Each item will be carefully stored and transported to San Antonio for display at the 2006 meeting and will be returned to you after the meeting.
- 2. Bring the item with you to San Antonio and we will put it on display for you. If you elect this option, please fill out the information below for each item and email back to Ken Smith (smithken@uamont.edu). A display card will be prepared and waiting on you when you arrive.

Although this has been approved by the SWSS board and supported by the Program Committee, a self appointed committee consisting of Bob Scott, Tom Holt, Cletus Youmans, Bob Hayes, Randy Ratliff and Ken Smith will oversee the displays. Some members such as Holt and Hayes are old enough to "remember when" and can answer questions about items that most of us may not remember!

The more participation we have from individual members, the more fun and educational it will be for all. When is the last time you saw a Velsicol banner in a SWSS hospitality suite (someone please explain to the younger generation what is meant by hospitality suite)? Surely someone has a Union Carbide flag stored in a closet somewhere or a Probe Herbicide marketing poster stuck back in a filing cabinet. See, this is already beginning to sound like fun. So, let's get to digging.

Please send items to:

Dr. Ken Smith **Extension Weed Scientist** P.O. Box 3508 Shipping: (Agricultural Building UAM Campus) Monticello, AR 71656 (870) 460-1091 office (870) 723-5527 mobile smithken@uamont.edu

#### SWSS Memorabilia Item

Description: (what is it)

Significant information (any information you feel would be beneficial to those viewing):

Approximate size: (to help us determine space needed)

Exhibited by:

Ship or mail items to or email completed form to:

Kenneth Smith **Extension Weed Scientist** P.O. Box 3508 Shipping: (Agricultural Building UAM Campus) Monticello, AR 71656

(870) 460-1091 office

(870) 723-5527 mobile (870) 460-1415 fax

smithken@uamont.edu

### DID YOU KNOW?

### How to get the most from the Interactive Encyclopedia of North American Weeds PART II

The Interactive Encyclopedia of North American Weeds DVD-ROM was originally created to be an interactive teaching tool to introduce weed science students to the basics of plant taxonomy and plant morphology. The program was used in a campus computer lab and provided three separate lessons on Plant Taxonomy and Life Cycles, Vegetative Characteristics of plants, and Reproductive Characteristics of plants. These three lessons each take approximately one hour to complete and are now professionally narrated on the DVD. The lessons also have many interactive quizzes sprinkled throughout to keep learners engaged in the program. There is also an interactive final exam for the entire tutorial. However, you may not know there is traditional print quiz on the DVD-ROM. There is a subdirectory on the DVD-ROM called "Weedexam." In this directory you will find a quiz in html format. Open the file "weedexam.htm" in any browser such as Internet Explorer or Firefox and it will appear in the browser. The file is a 25 question guiz you can print and hand out to your students as a homework assignment to use with the interactive lessons, or as a traditional quiz. There are even illustrations! You can also access the exam from the Identification Tutorial home page. On that home page you will see buttons that go to the three lessons. Just below those buttons is a small button with the label "Print Final Exam." If you click on that button the printed quiz will automatically load in your browser.

Don't forget about the new update to the weed identification keys now available for download at <a href="http://www.thundersnow.com/weedid.htm">http://www.thundersnow.com/weedid.htm</a>. The free update improves the functionality of the grass and broadleaf keys, and fixes several bugs including the "copy" button. The copy button has now been enhanced to give you a complete search report to paste into any text program. Weed matches for a search will also now persist when you click to go to a weed home page and return to the key. This was a much-requested feature. This

update makes the keys easier and faster to use, and also improves the reliability of the search results. You must copy the entire program to your hard drive to use the update. But you will find the entire program more convenient and quicker to use this way.

Look for more short tips on ways to get the most from the *Interactive Encyclopedia of North American Weeds* DVD-ROM in the future. If you have any tips or questions you would like to see answered in a short article, or have features you would like added to the next version, e-mail them to Mike DeFelice at michael.defelice@thundersnow.com. If you don't yet have a copy of the *Interactive Encyclopedia of North American Weeds* DVD-ROM it can be ordered from the SWSS by going to their web site at http://www.weed science.msstate.edu/swss or by calling Bob Schmidt at (217) 352-4212.

### NEWSLETTER SUBMISSION Instructions and Deadlines

ISSUE / DEADLINE

May ..... April 1, 2006

Please send text information as Microsoft Word or WordPerfect files, and pictures as JPEG or BMP files to:

AL RANKINS, JR., Editor Box 9555

Mississippi State, MS 39762 Telephone 662-325-3341

E-mail: arankins@pss.msstate.edu

### 2005 NCWSS Weed Contest Results

Graduate teams from the University of Arkansas and Mississippi State University traveled to Manhattan, KS to participate in the 2005 NCWSS Weed Contest held on July 21, 2005. These graduate students represented the SWSS well with the University of Arkansas and Mississippi State University placing 1st and 2nd, respectively, in the graduate team competition. The staff at Kansas State University did an outstanding job of conducting a challenging and educational contest. The graduate team and individual award results are summarized below.

#### **Overall Graduate Team**

1st University of Arkansas
2nd Mississippi State University
3rd Michigan State University

#### **Overall Graduate Individual**

1st Nathan Goldschmidt University of Arkansas 2nd Vinod Shivrain University of Arkansas 3rd Vince Davis Purdue University

### **Highest Score in Each Event**

Unknown Herbicide Nathan Goldschmidt

University of Arkansas

Written Calibration Chad Brewer

University of Arkansas

Weed Identification Dana Harder

Michigan State University

Problem Solving Darrin Dodds

Mississippi State University

Team Field

Sprayer Calibration Darrin Dodds, Tom Eubanks,

Matt Kirkpatrick, Wade Givens Mississippi State University



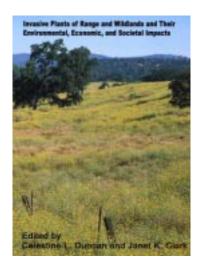
UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS – 1st PLACE OVERALL GRADUATE TEAM

Front row, left to right: Mohammad Bararpour (Coach), Nilda Burgos (Coach), Chad Brewer (team member), Bree Pearson (alternate)

Back row, left to right: Drew Ellis (alternate), Jason Alford (team member), Nathan Goldschmidt (team member), Vinod Shivrain (team member)



MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY – 2nd PLACE OVERALL GRADUATE TEAM Pictured from left to right: Trent Irby (alternate), Darrin Dodds (team member), Tom Eubanks (team member), Matt Kirkpatrick (team member), Wade Givens (team member), and Jonathan Huff (alternate)





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## NEW INVASIVE PLANTS IMPACTS PUBLICATION FROM WSSA

A CRITICAL PLANNING TOOL FOR NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGERS AND POLICY MAKERS

Professionals in natural resource management, planning, research, or conservation disciplines who want to **strengthen environmental documents**, **validate project proposals**, **develop stewardship or management policies**, **prioritize research efforts**, **or develop management plans** will want to order this valuable resource today!

Invasive plants are of major economic and ecological importance on range and wild lands of the United States. However, few studies have assessed the economic or environmental losses caused by invasive plants on these lands.

Invasive Plants of Range and Wildlands... is the only comprehensive literature review focusing extensively on **damages caused by invasive plants**. This resource will be critical to prioritizing management programs, and will provide a basis for consistent and rational management decisions.

The book provides quick reference to over 750 credible citations documenting impacts associated with 16 important invasive plants in the United States. Each chapter contains information on distribution and rate of spread, eight categories of environmental and economic impacts, and perceived value and use of each plant species.

**Edited by:** Celestine A. Duncan and Janet K. Clark.

**Authors:** Melissa L. Brown, Joseph M. DiTomaso, Celestine A. Duncan, Rodney G. Lym, Kirk C. McDaniel, Mark J. Renz, Peter M. Rice.

**Steering Committee:** John Jachetta, Vanelle Carrithers, Mike Foley, Rob Hedberg, Janet Clark.

**Sponsors:** Weed Science Society of America, Dow AgroSciences, Center for Invasive Plant Management.

222 pages

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# PEOPLE PLACES

Cody J. Gray recently completed the requirements for a Ph.D. in Weed Science under the direction of Dr. David Shaw at Mississippi State University. Dr. Gray has accepted a faculty position with the University of Florida, where his area of responsibility is aquatic/wetland weed control. Dr. Gray is located at the Fort Lauderdale Research and Extension Center in Fort Lauderdale, FL.

Andrew W. MacRae recently completed the requirements for Ph.D. at North Carolina State University. The title of his dissertation is "Evaluation of halosulfuron, thifensulfuron, and trifloxysulfuron herbicides for their use in sweetpotato." Andrew is currently working in a post-doctorate position with the University of Georgia with Dr. Stanley Culpepper, focusing on cotton and vegetable weed control.

Andrew W. MacRae was recently awarded the IR-4 Technical Service Award from the USDA IR-4 Program. The IR-4 Program conducts research to generate data that supports registration of pest control products in minor and specialty crops.

### SWSS Endowment Foundation REMINDER

As President of the Board of Trustees of the SWSS Endowment Foundation, I encourage you to consider making a donation to the Foundation in 2006. The Foundation was originally designed to generate interest and support for the graduate student program at the annual meeting. The Foundation currently sponsors the awards for the graduate student paper/poster contest and the outstanding graduate student (MS, PhD). The Foundation would like to do more for our graduate students. However, we can only spend funds generated from interest on the principle that we currently have. Consequently, we need more support from the SWSS membership to make the principle grow. Over the past few years, Dr. Charles Bryson has graciously donated various paintings that have been auctioned at the annual meeting with all proceeds going directly to the Foundation. Be on the lookout for another outstanding painting at the 2006 meeting.

I hope that you will consider making a donation to the SWSS Endowment Foundation and I look forward to seeing you in San Antonio.

> Eric P. Prostko The University of Georgia eprostko@uga.edu

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AL RANKINS, JR., Editor
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### A dynamic interactive reference for plant identification

# Interactive Encyclopedia of North American Weeds Version 3.0

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- 85 additional weed and crop species (447 total)
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- World of Weeds: Weed histories
- Descriptions of 67 plant families
- Professionally narrated lessons on plant taxonomy
- Interactive educational quizzes and games
- Presentation maker for customized navigation

Windows<sup>©</sup> **DVD** 



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### What's New in the Jhird Edition

This award winning interactive DVD-ROM has been completely rebuilt to high resolution (1024 x 768 pixel) graphics with new full color photographs and illustrations. Botanical descriptions, distribution maps, habitats, and over 2400 photographs of 447 weeds and crops common to the continental United States, Canada, and Alaska are included. New features include 85 additional weed species, revised distribution maps that include Canada and Alaska, an expanded illustrated glossary of 565 botanical terms, and updated common and scientific names. The unique interactive visual identification key now covers all weeds in the program. This program is an outstanding resource for agriculturalists, horticulturalists, gardeners, herbalists, and all types of courses in the agricultural and biological sciences at the high school and collegiate level.

The DVD-ROM requires Windows 98 2nd ed./Me/2000 with SP3 or higher/XP, a 500 mhz processor (1 Ghz recommended), at least 128 Mb of RAM, a DVD-ROM drive, sound card, and an XGA video adapter (1024 x 768 pixel resolution or higher) capable of producing 64,000 - 16 bit color (24-bit or greater, 16 million colors recommended).

### Sample Entry: Jimsonweed (Species Screen)

