

# **REPORT TO THE BRITISH COLUMBIA CRANBERRY MARKETING COMMITTEE**

## **TITLE: Publication of a Translated Weed Identification Guide**

### **ABSTRACT**

Funds were requested to support the publication of a plant identification guide, previously published by a Canadian non-profit group (CRAAQ), which is currently only available in French. No comparable cranberry weed guide is available that covers the breadth of information found in this French guide. Regional and international stakeholders have indicated a need to make the guide available in English. We have secured external funding to translate the guide but still require funds to actually publish the book. CRAAQ has agreed to work with UMass and others to edit, design, and publish an English version. An English version of this weed guide will benefit stakeholders throughout the English-speaking production areas in the Northeast as well as other regions of the US and Canada, including growers, research/extension personnel, IPM practitioners, and graduate students.

**Total Amount of Funding Provided:                   \$580.**

### **Principal Investigator**

H.A. Sandler, IPM/Weed Specialist

UMass Cranberry Station, PO Box 569, East Wareham, MA 02538

email: [hsandler@umext.umass.edu](mailto:hsandler@umext.umass.edu) Phone: 508.295.2212, ext. 21; FAX: 508.295.6387

### **COOPERATORS**

Dr. Katherine Ghantous, Research Assistant, UMass Cranberry Station, Dr. Leo Dalbec, MA cranberry grower and translator, and personnel from the Centre de Reference en Agriculture et Agroalimentaire du Quebec (CRAAQ).

### **OBJECTIVES**

- Work with collaborators to complete an English translation of the cranberry weed guide, which includes additional weeds important to North American cranberry growing regions.
- Work with CRAAQ personnel to publish and distribute the guide.

## **BACKGROUND**

More than 80 species of weeds are known to infest cranberry farms. Weeds account for approximately 25% yield loss in cranberry production (Swanton et al., 1993). Cranberry growers currently face tremendous financial pressures and must use every possible integrated management tactic to keep their farms sustainable. Since cranberry is a perennial crop, most of the plants that are problematic on these farms are also perennial species. Many perennial weeds cannot be controlled with one application of any treatment; it is an investment of time and money to attain adequate weed control. It is of crucial importance that growers properly identify the weed that is causing yield loss and/or vine death on their farm before they began their multi-year process to control and manage that weed. Due to the current serious financial downturn in cranberry, many growers may opt to not produce a crop over the next few years. However, they must continue to perform basic maintenance activities to sustain vine health for when the market improves (DeMoranville, 2001); a cornerstone of this maintenance is weed identification and weed management.

## **APPROACH**

- In concert with stakeholders, identify the additional weeds that should be included the English version.
- Obtain the necessary photographs of additional weeds for inclusion in the translated version, and write accompanying text for these species.
- Provide CRAAQ with completed translated guide.
- Work with CRAAQ personnel to facilitate any logistical needs that they may have to get the text ready for publication.
- Work with university personnel, industry groups and growers to raise any additional monies needed to cover the cost of publishing the guide.
- In Years 1-2, we propose to raise/obtain additional funds to make a bulk purchase of the guide to provide the guide to the cranberry grower community at a lowered cost.
- In Years 2-5, we will promote the guide and work with CRAAQ to make an electronic version of the translated guide available to the grower community.

## **ACTIVITIES ACCOMPLISHED THUS FAR**

In late Spring 2014, telephone calls and emails were exchanged among the weed management specialists for the North American cranberry industry and the Maine blueberry industry. An Excel spreadsheet, outlining the current species represented in the French guide and a proposed list of new weed species to add, was circulated to these specialists for their input. We identified 25 species to include as new additions in the translated guide (see Table 1). We decided to keep all of the plants currently represented in the French version, as fewer than 5 species were noted

as being minor or absent in the industry; their inclusion was deemed a simpler approach at this point.

Dr. Leo Dalbec and the PI were in regular contact during the fall regarding the preparation and execution of the translation of the actual text. This process is on-going at this point. We have contacted Ms. Danielle Jacques (CRAAQ liaison) to inform her of our progress. We have agreed on December 1, 2014 as a date by which a draft translation document will be given to CRAAQ. Final appraisal of photograph quality and quantity for the new weeds is also on-going at this point. We still anticipate a Spring 2015 publication.

**Table 1. List of the genus/species latin binomial and common name of the weed species to be included in the translated weed ID guide.**

<i>Andropogon virginicus</i>	broom sedge
<i>Cardamine hirsuta</i>	bitter cress
<i>Clethra alnifolia</i>	sweet pepper bush
<i>Cyperus dentatus</i>	nutsedge
<i>Danthonia spicata</i>	poverty oatgrass
<i>Eleocharis tenuis</i>	needle grass, slender spike rush
<i>Hieracium aurantiacum</i>	orange hawkweed
<i>Hypericum boreale</i>	northern SJW
<i>Hypericum gentianoides</i>	pineweed
<i>Hypochaeris radicata</i>	hairy cat's ear
<i>Kalmia angustifolia</i>	sheep laurel
<i>Linaria vulgaris</i>	yellow toadflax, butter and eggs
<i>Maianthemum canadense</i>	canada mayflower
<i>Melilotus officinalis</i>	yellow sweetclover
<i>Panicum dichotomiflorum</i>	fall panicum
<i>Pteridium aquilinum</i>	bracken fern
<i>Pyrus melanocarpa</i>	black chokeberry
<i>Rumex crispus</i>	curly dock
<i>Sagittaria latifolia</i>	arrowhead
<i>Scirpus americanus</i>	three square
<i>Setaria pumila</i>	yellow foxtail
<i>Setaria viridis</i>	green foxtail
<i>Sisyrinchium angustifolium</i>	(stout) blue-eyed grass
<i>Smilax glauca</i>	silverleaf sawbrier
<i>Vicia angustifolia</i>	common vetch