

GYF DECEMBER NEWS

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NEW NOXIOUS WEED LAW EXPECTED IN 2017

What does it mean to you?

This past year, the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture introduced the *Controlled Plant and Noxious Weed Act* (Senate Bill no. 1110) to the PA General Assembly. The General Assembly did not vote on the law in 2016, but it will be reintroduced and hopefully enacted in 2017. The new Act will help modernize Pa's noxious weed law by prioritizing invasive plant management based on our ability to effectively contain or even eradicate certain species. In addition, it will help build awareness of problem weed species that require proactive attention.

The new Act groups plants into three categories;

- ◆ *Class A* weeds are currently geographically limited in the Commonwealth and are intended to be eradicated if at all possible. Kudzu and giant hogweed are good examples of *Class A* weeds. We have included the two invasive pigweeds (Palmer amaranth and waterhemp) as *Class A* weeds in the new Act.
- ◆ *Class B* weeds are widely established in the Commonwealth and it is not feasible to eradicate them. Although they are still important, we recognize that our limited resources must focus on the species we can have the greatest impact on. Canada thistle and multiflora rose are examples of *Class B* weeds.
- ◆ *Class C* weeds pose a potential threat if introduced, but currently are not known to exist in the Commonwealth. A number of Federal noxious weeds are *Class C* weeds.

What does noxious weed status mean to you? First and foremost, it provides increased awareness to recognize that certain weed species are a big problem. *Class A* weeds will require proactive management and this will help direct some of our educational efforts. Proactive management reduces the chance of movement and introduction onto your farm or in your area. Of course, there are costs associated with monitoring and managing noxious weeds. With the invasive pigweeds, we are importing seed with other commodities and equipment. This will require additional quality control measures for feed, seed, and forage producers. The seed industry will need to think more about where they are sourcing seed and making sure they have a quality product that does not contain noxious weed seed. Custom equipment operators will need to be diligent about where they operate and about cleaning equipment if they encounter a contaminated farm. Farm supply and export enterprises need to be part of the solution making sure they are not transporting and spreading noxious weeds within or out of the state. In the end, the new *Controlled Plant and Noxious Weed Acts* should help secure the Commonwealth and be an example to other states of how proactive weed management ensures a productive and profitable agriculture.

(summarized from *Field Crop News*, posted 12/8/2016, <http://extension.psu.edu/plants/crops/news/2016/12/pennsylvania-controlled-plant-and-noxious-weed-act>)

Dates to Note

Dec. 16, Friday

Hay Production Workshop, PSU Extension Lancaster, 9:30 am-2:30 pm

Dec 22, Thursday

Soybean Production Workshop, Lebanon Valley Ag Center.
Register by 12/15. CCA and Pesticide Credits available.

Jan 6-14, Pa Farm

Show, Harrisburg, Pa.

Jan 6, Friday

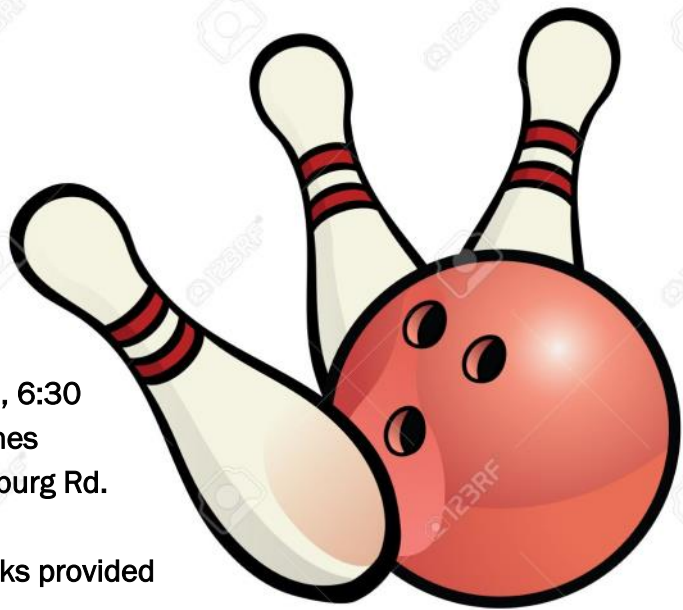
GYF Family Bowling with Battlefield FFA, 6:30, Edgewood Lanes, Emmitsburg Rd. Gettysburg

Jan 19-20, Thurs-Fri

Pa Agronomic Education Society Conference, Penn Stater Hotel, State College
Continuing ed credits for CCA, nutrient management and pesticide license.
Registration contact abradford@pennag.com



Merry Christmas to all!



FRIDAY, JAN 6, 6:30
Edgewood Lanes
1880 Emmitsburg Rd.
Gettysburg
Pizza and drinks provided
Bring snacks

Family, friends,
FFA welcome!

Getting to Know:

Herbicide Resistant Pigweeds

You don't want to see us, but will you know us if we invade your farm?

Weed management specialists at Penn State have released a 5-Part video series on managing, identifying, and preventing the spread of the challenging herbicide resistant pigweeds Palmer Amaranth and waterhemp. These highly competitive weeds are of increasing concern in Pennsylvania, and their resistance to glyphosate and ALS-inhibitor herbicides poses a management challenge in row crops and horticultural crops. We continue to hear of serious infestations in southeastern PA, and more cases spreading throughout the state. Follow these links to watch the videos:

[Entire 5-part playlist](#) (running time about 40 min)

[Part 1: Herbicide Resistant Pigweed Identification](#)

[Part 2: Best Management Practices for Conventional Row Crops](#)

[Part 3: Best Management Practices for Horticultural Crops](#)

[Part 4: Best Management Practices for Organic Systems](#)

[Part 5: Prevention and Disposal of Pigweed](#)

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Farmer Educational
Assoc.

1130 Old Harrisburg Rd.
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*"Young farmers are any farmers
willing to learn"*



Ag Breakfasts

7:15-9:00 A.M.

WATERS OF THE U.S. (WOTUS) and LOCAL FARMS

Dec 14, Guest Speaker: Dana Aunkst,
DEP Deputy Secretary of Water Programs

MANAGING "HUMAN CAPITAL" IN AG INDUSTRIES

Jan 11, Guest Speakers:

Ross H. Pifer, Clinical Professor of Law; Sean High, Staff Attorney

Adams Co. Ag and Natural Resources Center
670 Old Harrisburg Rd. Gettysburg

Thanks to breakfast sponsors: AgChoice Farm Credit and Adams Co. Farm Bureau



"Who let Bessie substitute for Rudolf? I wasted
half the night jumping over the moon!"