

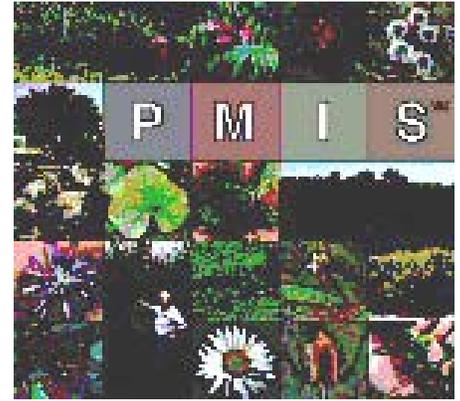


US Army Corps
of Engineers®
Engineer Research and
Development Center

Noxious and Nuisance Plant Management Information System (PMIS)

Technology

ERDC's Environmental Laboratory has developed the Noxious and Nuisance Plant Management Information System (PMIS™), an easy-to-use information retrieval system designed for use by public land managers, educators, weed managers, and technical personnel. PMIS™ provides identification information and management techniques for over 150 species of noxious and nuisance vegetation, including species from the terrestrial, aquatic, and wetland habitats. PMIS™ also includes the "State Noxious Plant and Pesticide Laws Information System (SNPPLIS)," which allows access to noxious weed and pesticide laws as well as noxious weed lists for all 50 states. PMIS™ is available to all users online at <http://el.erc.usace.army.mil/pmishelp.htm> and is also available by sending an e-mail message from the online version or by contacting Dr. Michael J. Grodowitz, 601/634-2972, Michael.J.Grodowitz@usace.army.mil.



Problem

Noxious terrestrial and aquatic plants cause serious problems across the country. Problem plants include the terrestrial species purple loosestrife, knapweed, leafy spurge, various thistles, Bermuda grass, bulrush, etc., and the aquatic plants waterhyacinth, waterlettuce, hydrilla, Eurasian watermilfoil, water chestnut, among others. Problems arise mainly because of the growth characteristics of these plants, which enable them to reach very large population levels relatively rapidly, thereby displacing and subsequently eliminating native vegetation. This in turn causes significant impacts to native wildlife including the elimination of endangered species, disruption of delicate ecosystems by the replacement of native vegetation, decreases in land use and value, reduction of recreational uses, hindrance of navigation along waterways, increased water loss, as well as increases in human health hazards associated with expanding mosquito breeding habitats. Traditional control procedures mainly involve the use of chemical applications, but these offer at best only short-term solutions, and their use is becoming increasingly more environmentally sensitive.

Expected Cost to Implement

The user incurs costs only in discretionary time spent using the system. PMIS™ runs on computer setups that are readily available, i.e., IBM-compatible personal computer with Microsoft Windows 98/2000/NT/XP only with mouse support. PMIS™ is not compatible with Windows Vista.

Benefit/Savings

PMIS™ saves significant amounts of time, and therefore, dollars, since critical and important information is easily accessible in one location and can be accessed at the office, laboratory, and /or field locations. Content is interlinked and indexed so the user can reach specific information in many ways. The organized format of PMIS™ improves the quality of noxious and nuisance plant management activities and allows these activities to be accomplished more quickly and with greater ease by a wide variety of personnel with differing educational and training backgrounds.

Status PMIS™ will continue to provide new technology transfer items and is being funded to maintain its currency and to add content to the online version. The most recent CD is dated spring 2007, Version 6.0. The “New Items” link will contain information that is added to the CD coverage. That information will be inserted directly into the online version of PMIS™. The CD-ROM version of PMIS™ is a Windows®-based product and performs under Microsoft® Windows 98/2000/NT/XP only.

ERDC POC Dr. Michael J. Grodowitz, 601/634-2972, Michael.J.Grodowitz@usace.army.mil

Distribution Sources PMIS™ is available online to both Corps users and the public through URL: <http://www.wes.army.mil/el/pmis/pmishelp.htm>. PMIS™ is also available as an interactive CD-ROM, which can be obtained by sending an e-mail message from the online version or by contacting Sherry Whitaker (601-634-2990, Sherry.Whitaker@usace.army.mil).

Available Documentation Documentation on the content and operation of PMIS™ is found within PMIS™.

Available Training PMIS™ is relatively easy to use, especially if the user is familiar with basic Windows 98/2000/NT/XP techniques and procedures; therefore, no training is necessary or offered. Most of the system is self-explanatory, but more detailed information on its use is available in the section on use of the system.

Available Support PMIS™ is a user-friendly computer-based decision support and information system. Guidance that accompanies PMIS™ should make the system easy to use and navigate. However, users who experience problems with PMIS™ may contact either Dr. Michael J. Grodowitz, 601/634-2972, Michael.J.Grodowitz@usace.army.mil or Sherry Whitaker 601-634-2990, Sherry.Whitaker@usace.army.mil. For questions concerning the technical content of PMIS™, please contact Dr. Grodowitz.