

## Are These Herbicides “Foreign Language” to You?

PLM Lake & Land Management Corp.

*Sonar Genesis, Clipper, Komeen Crystal, SeClear, Renovate (OTF) & Sculpin....*

If they are, then you have not been reading our previous PLM Newsletters. Shame on you! Its time for a quick review!

Over the past few years our ability to manage your lakes has improved tremendously. We have used Sonar Genesis on several lakes and long-term control of milfoil has been improved from the traditional Sonar A.S. formulations. Clipper has been incorporated into several management programs offering control of a broad spectrum of aquatic plants as well as beneficial impacts on algae growth. Komeen Crystal is clearly the most effective product to control nuisance Eel Grass and the expansion of Starry stonewort throughout Michigan. Although no product is a silver bullet, SeClear's advanced technology not only controls algae growth, it also has the ability to reduce phosphorus within the water column, therefore reducing future algae growth. Also, we continue to modify our application protocols utilizing Renovate OTF and Sculpin to help combat the resistance issue associated with the hybridization of milfoil species. The hybridization of milfoil and/or any aquatic plant is reality. PLM will continue to increase application rates and rotate herbicide types in the future to help ensure that we do not influence a resistant or tolerant nuisance invasive aquatic plant.

REVIEW

## Trained PLM Applicator Identifies Highly Invasive Plant on Area Lake

This summer Lucas Slagel, a 10 year veteran of PLM, identified a highly invasive plant while conducting an algae treatment on a Kent County lake. Lucas quickly collected as much of the plant as he could find and brought it back to the office for confirmation. The aquatic plant found was Water Hyacinth, an exotic species that causes significant problems for states in the Southern U.S. Water Hyacinth is a free floating plant that forms dense thick mats, quickly spreading and covering entire waterbodies. Originating in South America, this plant will not typically survive a Michigan winter. However, plants and animals change and adapt over time, therefore Water Hyacinth has the potential to one day cause a serious issue for Michigan lakes and ponds. The plant was believed to have been introduced by a homeowner who had it in a water garden and did not realize the potential impacts of introducing it to the lake.



Top of plant floats above the water

Once the Water Hyacinth was identified, PLM immediately contacted the DEQ, which mobilized the Rapid Response Action Plan for new invasive species threats. The following day a group from the DNR, Wildlife Division met our crew at the lake for a complete survey and collection of all of the plants.

Due to PLM's quick action and well trained staff, the plant was quickly contained and did not spread to any other connecting waterbodies.



Florida lake infestation

## PLM Joins Forces with Terra Tracks for Improved Phragmites Control!

PLM has teamed up with the All-Terrain company, Terra Tracks to improve our Phragmites management options. The Range Runner, by TerraTrack a division of Mac's Trax, is an innovative, new All-Terrain Work Vehicle that blends superior traction with precise maneuverability. Built tough, this rugged track machine can handle almost any type of terrain.

Using the specialized spray attachments PLM can use this machine for treatments of large Phragmites stands. It also gives us the ability to efficiently cut or mow stands once the treated Phragmites has died. PLM utilized the Range Runner at a couple large State Parks this fall, as well as a few jobs for our lake customers.



The Range Runner in action at Millennium Park, Kent Co.

## Permit Fees Changing for 2015 Season

Recent changes to Rule 33 of the Aquatic Nuisance Control Program will mean changes for the permit application process, as well as changes to the permit fee structure for the 2015 and future seasons. The new changes include a fixed amount of permit fee monies the DEQ can collect during a given season. Based on projected permit application fees to be received, the DEQ will issue the new permit fee structure on November 1<sup>st</sup> of each year.

Once the permit fee structure is in place for the 2015 season, PLM will be mailing customers the permit application fee invoices. It is assumed there will be a decrease in the permit fees for 2015, although this decrease may not be permanent as fees are reassessed on an annual basis.

If you would like more information regarding the changes to the permit application process and fees, please contact your PLM representative.