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978-0-521-87791-6 - Biological Control of Tropical Weeds using Arthropods

Edited by Rangaswamy Muniappan, Gadi V. P. Reddy and Anantanarayanan Raman

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BIOLOGICAL CONTROL OF TROPICAL WEEDS USING ARTHROPODS

In the past few decades, globalization and increased trade and transportation have contributed to the rapid spread of plants, many of which have now become weeds in the introduced regions. Weeds are a major constraint to agricultural production, particularly in the developing world. Cost-efficient biological control is a self-sustaining way to reduce this problem, and produces fewer non-target effects than chemical methods, which can cause serious damage to the environment.

This book covers the origin, distribution, and ecology of 20 model invasive weed species, which occur in habitats from tropical to aquatic. Sustainable biological control of each weed using one or more arthropods is discussed. The aim is to provide ecological management models for use across the tropical world, and to assist in the assessment of potential risks to native and economic plants. This is a valuable resource for scientists and policy makers concerned with the biological control of invasive tropical plants.

RANGASWAMY MUNIAPPAN Program Director of the Integrated Pest Management Collaborative Research Program (IMP CRSP) at the Office of International Research, Education and Development at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, USA, has specialized in biological control and Integrated Pest Management research in the tropics for over 35 years. He served as the Chairman of the Global Working Group on *Chromolaena* of the International Organization for Biological Control from 1992 to 2006, and is currently responsible for managing the IPM CRSP and coordinating with USAID and project partner institutions in the United States and developing countries in Asia, Africa, Eastern Europe, the Caribbean and Latin America. He has published over 200 research papers and extension articles.

GADI V. P. REDDY is an entomologist at the Agricultural Experiment Station, University of Guam, USA. His research interests include developing sex pheromones, host volatiles and other attractants for use in Integrated Pest Management, behavioral and chemical ecology of multitrophic interactions, and biological control of invasive pests and weeds. He has over 65 publications and has contributed to numerous radio shows and newspaper articles on pest management.

ANATANARAYANAN RAMAN is a Senior Lecturer of Ecological Agriculture at the Charles Sturt University & the E. H. Graham Centre for Agricultural Innovation, Australia. His research interests include arthropod–plant interactions, weed biological control, ecology of soil organisms, soil health and agroforestry. He has published over 125 research papers and authored/edited 9 reference books.

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Edited by

RANGASWAMY MUNIAPPAN

Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, USA

GADI V. P. REDDY

University of Guam, USA

ANANTANARAYANAN RAMAN

*Charles Sturt University & E. H. Graham
Centre for Agricultural Innovation, Australia*



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Contributors

Fen Beed

International Institute of Tropical Agriculture, Plot 15 Naguru East Road, PO Box 7878, Kampala, Uganda

Basavaraj S. Bhumannavar

Project Directorate of Biological Control (ICAR), Post Bag No. 2491, H. A. Farm Post, Hebbal, Bellary Road, Bangalore 560 024, Karnataka, India

Willie Cabrera–Walsh

USDA–ARS South American Biological Control Laboratory, Bolivar 1559, Hurlingham, Buenos Aires, Argentina

Ted D. Center

USDA–ARS Invasive Plant Research Laboratory, 3205 College Ave, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33314, USA

Julie A. Coetzee

Department of Zoology and Entomology, Rhodes University, P.O. Box 94, Grahamstown 6140, South Africa

Hugo A. Cordo

USDA–ARS South American Biological Control Laboratory, Bolivar 1559, Hurlingham, Buenos Aires, Argentina

Patrick Conant

Hawaii Department of Agriculture, Hilo, HI 96720, USA

Michael D. Day

Alan Fletcher Research Station, Department of Primary Industries and Fisheries, PO Box 36, Sherwood, Queensland 4075, Australia

Kunjithapatham Dhileepan

Alan Fletcher Research Station, Biosecurity Queensland, Department of Primary Industries and Fisheries, Sherwood, Queensland 4075, Australia

Thomas Dubois

IITA, Plot 15 Naguru East Road, PO Box 7878, Kampala, Uganda

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List of contributors

Tim A. Heard

CSIRO Entomology, Long Pocket Laboratories, 120 Meiers Rd, Indooroopilly 4068, Australia

Martin P. Hill

Department of Zoology and Entomology, Rhodes University, P.O. Box 94, Grahamstown 6140, South Africa

John H. Hoffmann

Zoology Department, University of Cape Town, Rondebosch 7701, South Africa

Fiona Impson

Zoology Department, University of Cape Town, Rondebosch 7701, South Africa, and Plant Protection Research Institute, Private Bag X5017, Stellenbosch 7599, South Africa

Mic H. Julien

CSIRO Entomology European Laboratory, Campus International de Baillarguet, 34980 Montferrier sur Lez, France

Carien Kleinjan

Zoology Department, University of Cape Town, Rondebosch 7701, South Africa

Lastus S. Kuniata

Ramu Sugar Ltd, PO Box 2183, Lae, Papua New Guinea

Andrew J. McConnachie

Weed Research Division, Plant Protection Research Institute, Agricultural Research Council, Private Bag X6006, Hilton 3245, South Africa

Cliff Moran

Department of Zoology, University of Cape Town, Rondebosch 7701, South Africa

Dorette Müller-Stöver

University of Hohenheim, Institute for Plant Production and Agroecology in the Tropics and Subtropics, 70593 Stuttgart, Germany

George P. Markin

Rocky Mountain Research Station, USDA Forest Service, Bozeman, MT 59717–2780, USA

Rangaswamy Muniappan

IPM CRSP, OIRED, Virginia Tech, 526 Prices Fork Road, Blacksburg, VA 24061, USA

Peter Neuenschwander

International Institute of Tropical Agriculture, IITA–Benin, 08 BP 0932 Cotonou, Benin

Terry Olckers

School of Biological and Conservation Sciences, University of KwaZulu–Natal, Private Bag X01, Scottsville, 3209, South Africa

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List of contributors

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Warea Orapa

Plant Health Team, Land Resources Division, Secretariat of the Pacific Community,
Private Mail Bag, Suva, Fiji Islands

Quentin Paynter

Landcare Research, Private Bag 92170, Auckland, New Zealand

Jebomani Rabindra

Project Directorate of Biological Control (ICAR), Post Bag No. 2491, H. A. Farm Post,
Hebbal, Bellary Road, Bangalore 560 024, Karnataka, India

Anantanarayanan Raman

Charles Sturt University & E. H. Graham Centre for Agricultural innovation, PO Box 883,
Orange, NSW 2800, Australia

Gadi V. P. Reddy

Western Pacific Tropical Research Center, College of Natural and Applied Sciences,
University of Guam, Mangilao, Guam 96923, USA

Anthony P. Roberts

Zoology Department, University of Cape Town, Rondebosch, 7700, South Africa

Joachim Sauerborn

University of Hohenheim, Institute for Plant Production and Agroecology in the Tropics
and Subtropics, 70593 Stuttgart, Germany

Shon S. Schooler

CSIRO Entomology, Long Pocket Laboratories, 120 Meiers Rd., Indooroopilly, Queensland
4068, Australia

Lorraine W. Strathie

ARC–Plant Protection Research Institute, Private Bag X6006, Hilton 3245, South Africa

Philip W. Tipping

United States Department of Agriculture, Agriculture Research Service, 3205 College
Ave., Fort Lauderdale, FL 33314, USA

Rieks D. van Klinken

CSIRO Entomology, Long Pocket Laboratories, 120 Meiers Road, Indooroopilly,
Queensland 4068, Australia

Costas Zachariades

Plant Protection Research Institute, Agricultural Research Council, Private Bag X6006,
Hilton 3245, South Africa

Myron P. Zalucki

School of Integrative Biology, University of Queensland, St Lucia, Queensland 4072,
Australia

Helmuth G. Zimmermann

Weeds Division, Plant Protection Research Institute, Private Bag X134, Queenswood
0121, South Africa

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Fen Beed, International Institute of Tropical Agriculture, Plot 15 Naguru East Road, PO Box 7878, Kampala, Uganda

Marcus J. Byrne, Animal, Plant and Environmental Sciences, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg 2050, South Africa

Ted D. Center, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Research Service, Invasive Plant Research Laboratory, 3205 College Ave, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33314, USA

Eric M. Coombs, Oregon Department of Agriculture, 635 Capitol St. NE, Salem, OR 97301–2532, USA

James P. Cuda, Biological Weed Control, University of Florida/IFAS, Entomology and Nematology Dept. Bldg. 970, Natural Area Drive, PO Box 110620, Gainesville, FL 32611–0620, USA

Thomas W. Culliney, USDA–APHIS, PPQ, Center for Plant Health Science and Technology, Plant Epidemiology and Risk Analysis Laboratory, 1730 Varsity Drive, Suite 300, Raleigh, NC 27606 USA

F. Allen Dray, Jr., USDA-ARS I Invasive Plant Research Laboratory, 3205 College Avenue, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33314, USA

Judith Hough-Goldstein, Department of Entomology and Wildlife Ecology, University of Delaware, Newark, DE 19716–2160, USA

John H. Hoffmann, Zoology Department, University of Cape Town, Rondebosch 7700, South Africa

Loke T. Kok, Department of Entomology, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA 24061–0319, USA

Wilco Liebrechts, Eco-Consult Pacific Co Ltd., PO Box 5406, Raiwaqa PO, Suva, Fiji Islands

Tom McAvoy, Department of Entomology, Virginia Tech, 216A Price Hall, Blacksburg, VA 24061–0311, USA

Rachel McFadyen, CRC for Australian Weed Management, Block B, 80 Meiers Road, Indooroopilly, Queensland 4068, Australia

Wondi Mersie, Associate Dean and Director of Research, Virginia State University, PO Box 9061, Petersburg, VA 23806, USA

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Lytton John Musselman, Department of Biological Sciences, 110 Mills Godwin Building, Old Dominion University, 5115 Hampton Boulevard, Norfolk, VA 23529–0266, USA

James R. Nechols, Department of Entomology, Kansas State University, Waters Hall, Manhattan, KS 66506–4004, USA

Peter Neuenschwander, Plant Health Management Division, International Institute of Tropical Agriculture, B.P. 08 0932, Cotonou, Benin

Terence Olckers, University of KwaZulu–Natal (Pietermaritzburg), Faculty of Science and Agriculture, School of Biological and Conservation Sciences, Private Bag X01, Scottsville, 3209, South Africa

William A. Palmer, Alan Fletcher Research Station, 27 Magazine Street, Sherwood, Queensland 4075, Australia

Robert W. Pemberton, Invasive Plant Research Laboratory, USDA–Agricultural Research Service, 3225 College Ave, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33312, USA

Gary L. Piper, Department of Entomology, Washington State University, Pullman, WA 99164–6382, USA

Raghu Sathyamurthy, Queensland University of Technology, GPO Box 2434, Brisbane, Queensland 4001, Australia

Robert N. Wiedenmann, Department of Entomology, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR 72701, USA

Myron Zalucki, School of Integrative Biology, University of Queensland, St Lucia, Queensland 4072, Australia