

## **Ga-EPPC Board Meeting November 12, 2004**

### ***Wildland Weeds*/New Member Packets**

The board agreed that the extra copies of *Wildland Weeds* that the President receives each month will go to the Treasurer for mailing to new members. In addition, we will send new members the USDA/UGA CD on invasive plants of the eastern United States.

### **Prioritizing Research Needs**

Basic survey research is greatly needed to get a better handle on the extent of exotic invasions in the state. For example, more and more Oriental bittersweet is appearing, and there are acres of Cogon grass in Mitchell County near Albany in planted pine. Japanese climbing fern is now as far north as Ellijay.

There was consensus that two levels of response to invasives are required. The first level is control of long-termed, entrenched, and widespread invasives, such as Chinese privet in north Georgia and Chinese tallow in south Georgia. The second level is to eradicate newer, potentially threatening species before their populations explode. The USFS is funding a rapid response program for the new arrivals.

### **Workshops**

- The past workshop received very positive reviews.
- The Chuck and Chris will head up the planning and organization of a workshop in Tifton for the week of April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2005.
- Connie will head up the planning and organization of a workshop near Atlanta soon. She anticipates needing only a few people.

### **Chapter Plans**

Future plans include the next Atlanta workshop; the Tifton workshop; updating the Top Ten list; determining the list of research needs (the top ten and research needs committee consists of Malcolm Hodges, Connie Gray and Rich Reaves, which will meet in January); development of a 15-20 minute powerpoint presentation on exotic invasives to be used for group presentations; formation of a policy committee; and any other action items listed in the meeting minutes of the August 2004 General Membership Meeting.

### **Board Composition**

- Jim Allison announced his resignation as president due to extensive travel and the possibility that he will move the state. He will mail his formal resignation to the Secretary. The Board accepted his resignation.
- As Vice President, Connie Gray will automatically move to the President's position.
- Malcolm Hodges was voted in as Vice President.

The next Ga-EPPC meeting will be held on January 22<sup>nd</sup> 2005. It will be both a general meeting and a board meeting.

