

2007 University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff Combined Research and Extension Plan of Work

Aquatic Plant Management in Arkansas Ponds

V(B). Program Knowledge Area(s)

1. Program Knowledge Areas and Percentage

- 307 100% Animal Management Systems

V(C). Planned Program (Situation and Scope)

1. Situation and priorities

A major problem for many commercial aquaculturists and small pond owners is management of aquatic macrophytes. Thousands of acres of fishponds, livestock ponds, and ditches also have problems with aquatic vegetation. This results in many calls and information requests to CES county extension and AGFC offices. Commercial producers usually want to eliminate aquatic macrophytes from ponds. Small pond owners often want to eliminate certain aquatic plants and not others, based on both practical and aesthetic motives. Misinformation and confusion leads to wasted money and effort, and poor results in aquatic plant management (apm). To provide research-based information, assist in comparison and selection of methods and materials for timely application. Herbicide - resistant varieties pose special problems.

V(D). Planned Program (Assumptions and Goals)

1. Assumptions made for the Program

The regulatory environment will remain fairly stable – grass carp marketing will continue, chemicals currently legal will remain so. Chemicals identified for cheaper, more effective control of Naiad and Pithophora species will be approved for use.

2. Ultimate goal(s) of this Program

Commercial growers and government agents will use good judgment regarding applications. Less time and money will be necessary to manage aquatic plants in Arkansas.

V(F). Planned Program (Activity)

1. Activity for the Program

Disseminate existing information through mass media, fact sheets, direct electronic communications, group presentations, and individual contacts with clientele.