

April 2014
PCD



GREY COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SERVICES CENTRE

Box 463, 206 Toronto St S, Unit 3, Markdale, ON N0C 1H0
519-986-3756 Fax 519-986-2643
Email: info@greyagservices.ca Website: www.greyagservices.ca

March 5th, 2014

Corporation of the County of Grey
Randy Scherzer, MCIP, RPP
Director of Planning & Development
595 9th Avenue East
Owen Sound, ON N4K 3E3

Dear Randy:

I would like to thank you most sincerely on behalf of myself, the staff here at Grey County Agricultural Services Centre, and the farmers and rural organizations of Grey County, for the continued support that the County of Grey provides to our office. We truly appreciate this facility and the annual grant that is bestowed to our organization. The agricultural industry continues to experience major changes, and it is essential that the farmers have a local place of contact, where producers can receive information, and assistance in coping with these changes.

The Ag Services Centre is a tremendous resource to the agricultural community of Grey County and your annual grant allows us to maintain these services. Farmers often comment what an excellent service we provide, and how thankful they are to have us here. We have found that increasingly, we also field calls from other places in the province who have heard of us and felt we could be of help to them. The Grey County Agricultural Services Centre provides a strong central focus for agriculture in Grey County and the province. As you are well aware, we co-ordinate and organize local events and workshops as well as assist with communication throughout the agriculture community by providing a network where farmers, farm organizations and agribusiness can work together. As agriculture is the largest industry in the economy of Grey County, this has proven to be a very successful approach and a much needed service. The Grey County Agricultural Services Centre offers a way to provide support to all commodities in this industry, through an organized structure. It has also been a pleasure for us to assist the County of Grey on various initiatives and we look forward to continuing to do so.

Thank you for providing the opportunities to support leadership within agriculture in Grey County through your annual grant. It is most sincerely appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

Ray Robertson, P.Ag.
Executive Director, President Grey County Agricultural Services

MAR 12 2014



Regulation Proposal Notice:

Title:
Updating the Schedule of Noxious Weeds in R.R.O. 1990, Regulation 1096 - General, made under the Weed Control Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. W.5 (removal of milkweed and addition of dog-strangling vine)

EBR Registry Number: 012-1204

Ministry:
Ministry of Agriculture and Food
Date Proposal loaded to the

Registry:
February 28, 2014

Keyword(s): Agriculture

Comment Period: 45 days: submissions may be made between February 28, 2014 and April 14, 2014.

Description of Regulation:

The Ministry of Agriculture and Food (OMAF) is proposing an amendment to R.R.O. 1990, Regulation 1096 - General (the Regulation) in order to make two minor changes to the Schedule of Noxious Weeds. The proposal is to remove milkweed spp. (scientific name *Asclepias* spp.) from the Schedule of Noxious Weeds in the Regulation and to add dog-strangling vine.

Purpose of Regulation:

The purpose of the proposal is to amend the Schedule of Noxious Weeds in the Regulation in order to remove milkweed spp. and to add dog-strangling vine as prescribed noxious weeds.

Under the Weed Control Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. W.5 (the Act), every person in possession of land is obligated to destroy all noxious weeds on it. However, this duty does not apply to noxious weeds or weed seeds that are far enough away from any land used for agricultural or horticultural purposes that the weeds or weed seeds do not interfere with that use. As a result, any person in possession of land where prescribed noxious weeds are present, and which could negatively affect lands used for agricultural or horticultural purposes, is responsible for controlling any prescribed noxious weeds present on it. Under the Act, the person in possession of the land may also be held responsible for the costs associated with removal. Depending on the lands and the conditions of use, this responsibility could rest with landowners (including farmers), municipalities and conservation authorities, among others.

The Schedule of Noxious Weeds lists milkweed spp. as the common name of the weed and *Asclepias* spp. as the scientific name of the weed. This description is very broad. As written, the term could extend to all species in the *Asclepias* genus, which includes many individual species, including four-leaved milkweed (a species at risk in Ontario) and other species in the *Asclepias* genus that are not considered a threat to agriculture or horticulture in Ontario.

The species common milkweed (*Asclepias syriaca*) has traditionally been viewed as a noxious weed in Ontario. It is considered to be common to widespread in many parts of southern and northern Ontario and it forms an important part of the native and naturalized vegetation in the province. Common milkweed also provides an important habitat and a larval food source for the Monarch butterfly. Milkweed species also play a key role in biodiversity in Ontario. The presence of common milkweed on lands that are not being actively farmed would be considered a low to negligible risk to activities on nearby agricultural or horticultural lands. Farmers can take proper management steps on their own lands to reduce the threat that common milkweed can pose to grazing livestock. Since milkweed spp. was added to the Schedule of Noxious Weeds initially, there has been an expansion in the number of management options available to farmers to address common milkweed on lands that are actively farmed.

Contact:

All comments on this proposal must be directed to:

Mike Cowbrough
Weed Management Field Crops
Program Lead
Ministry of Agriculture and Food
Economic Development Division
Agriculture Development Branch
University of Guelph Office
50 Stone Road East
Crop Science Building, University of
Guelph
Crop Science Building, Université de
Guelph
Guelph Ontario
N1G2W1
Phone: (519) 824-4120 Ext. 52580

To submit a comment online, click the submit button below:

Additional Information:

The documents linked below are provided for the purposes of enhancing public consultation.
All links will open in a new window

1. [Milkweed Species in Ontario](#)

Dog-strangling vine occurs in several places in southern Ontario, growing in ravines, hillsides, waste areas, fence lines and hedges. It forms dense patches and can overwhelm other vegetation, including agricultural crops. It is an invasive plant that can be difficult to control once established. Although the Monarch butterfly is attracted to the plant, any eggs laid will not survive. It is, therefore, considered a hazard to Monarch butterfly populations.

2. [R.R.O. Regulation 1096 \(General\)](#)
3. [Weed Control Act](#)
4. [Dog-Strangling Vine](#)

The proposed changes would support important government initiatives related to biodiversity and the environment, such as the commitments made in Biodiversity: It's in Our Nature, Ontario Government Plan to Conserve Biodiversity, 2012–2020, the government's response to the Biodiversity Strategy. At the same time, the proposed regulation would remove the legal burden on persons in possession of land to remove common milkweed where its presence could negatively affect lands used for agricultural or horticultural purposes. The addition of dog-strangling vine will provide more tools to local weed inspectors to address this invasive plant species.

Public Consultation:

This proposal has been posted for a 45 day public review and comment period starting February 28, 2014. If you have any questions, or would like to submit your comments, please do so by April 14, 2014 to the individual listed under "Contact". Additionally, you may submit your comments on-line.

All comments received prior to April 14, 2014 will be considered as part of the decision-making process by the Ministry of Agriculture and Food if they are submitted in writing or electronically using the form provided in this notice and reference EBR Registry number 012-1204.

Please Note: All comments and submissions received will become part of the public record. You will not receive a formal response to your comment, however, relevant comments received as part of the public participation process for this proposal will be considered by the decision maker for this proposal.

The materials on this web site are protected by Crown copyright. You may copy and re-distribute any of the Environmental Bill of Rights information on this web site provided that the contents remain unchanged and the source of the contents is clearly referenced. You are not permitted to alter or add to the contents.

[ONTARIO HOME](#) | [CONTACTS](#) | [HELP](#) | [SITEMAP](#) | [FRANÇAIS](#)



This site is maintained by the Government of Ontario, Canada.

[PRIVACY](#) | [IMPORTANT NOTICES](#)

Copyright information: [© Queen's Printer for Ontario, 1994-2014](#)

From: Taylor.Scott
To: Warder.Tara
Cc: Scherzer.Randy
Subject: Draft LRP RFQ Materials Posted for Review and Comment, TAT Tables, and Webinar Information
Date: Wednesday, April 09, 2014 9:44:36 AM

From: Ontario Power Authority [<mailto:lrp@powerauthority.on.ca>]
Sent: April-08-14 5:11 PM
To: Taylor,Scott
Subject: Draft LRP RFQ Materials Posted for Review and Comment, TAT Tables, and Webinar Information

In preparation for the Large Renewable Procurement (LRP) program, the draft Request for Qualifications (LRP I RFQ) has been posted for review and comment on the [LRP web page](#).

The draft LRP I RFQ reflects the policy direction outlined in the March 31, 2014 Minister's Direction, the LRP Final Recommendations Report submitted by the OPA to the Minister of Energy on February 28, 2014, as well as the feedback received during the OPA's extensive stakeholder engagement activities conducted to date on the LRP. Comments and feedback on the draft LRP I RFQ can be provided via email to LRP@powerauthority.on.ca using the feedback form posted on the LRP web site, on or before **May 2, 2014**.

The OPA has also posted an updated procurement schedule, as well as LRP-specific transmission availability tables (TAT tables) that identify specific circuits and transmission stations in the province where capacity for potential large renewable projects may be available.

Upcoming Webinar Notification

To discuss the draft LRP I RFQ and TAT tables, the OPA will host a two-part webinar on **April 15, 2014**. The first segment will focus on the draft LRP I RFQ and answer questions on the draft requirements, and the second segment will discuss the preliminary available LRP capacity/TAT tables and answer capacity and connection-related questions. Participants will be able to ask questions and provide feedback either by phone or on the web.

Date: Tuesday, **April 15, 2014**
Time: 9:30 AM-12:30 PM Eastern Time (US & Canada)
Local Phone: 416-764-8640
Toll-free Phone: 1-888-239-2037
URL: www.meetview.com/opa20140415

Note: The GMT offset above does not reflect daylight saving time adjustments.

More information is available at www.powerauthority.on.ca/lrp.

Thank you,
Ontario Power Authority

If you want to change your preferences, please use [this link](#)

If you want to unsubscribe, please use [this link](#)