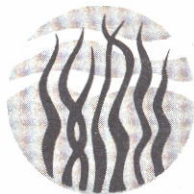


# A Q U A P H Y T E

CENTER FOR AQUATIC PLANTS  
Institute Of Food And Agricultural Sciences  
University Of Florida



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## D.N.R.D.R.M.B.A.P.M.

This article is the second of a two-part series about the agencies which help fund the operation of the IFAS Center for Aquatic Plants' Aquatic Plant Information Retrieval System (APIRS).

APIRS is a technology-transfer system with a database of more than 25,000 books and reports about aquatic plant biology, ecology, control and utilization. APIRS provides information services, computer-generated "retrospective" and "current awareness" bibliographies of the literature, and reprints, to more than 500 aquatic plant researchers and managers, and provides AQUAPHYTE to more than 4,000. These services are provided free of charge.

The Florida Department of Natural Resources and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Aquatic Plant Control Research Program fund APIRS for users in the U.S. and Canada. (Provision of these services to other countries remains suspended until funding to pay the production and mailing costs for overseas clients is obtained.)

The article which examined the Corps' Aquatic Plant Control Research Program appeared in the last issue of AQUAPHYTE.

**W**here have all the bureaucrats gone?" I asked the secretary. I had visited the Bureau to see what they do. I found their offices empty. No wonder aquatic weeds are taking over, I thought; those in charge are always on coffee break.

"They're all on Lake Okeechobee," she answered. (They drove 300 miles to take a coffee break?) "They're surveying and mapping the vegetation of the lake." No wonder aquatic weed management in Florida is so successful, I thought; even the paper-pushers are enlisted to do real work; even the paper-pushers know aquatic weed problems first hand.

**T**he Bureau of Aquatic Plant Management of the Division of Resource Management of the Florida Department of Natural Resources is a small office with a big job. It regulates aquatic plant management in Florida.



Applying dye to canals.

The Bureau promulgates rules and initiates legislation, issues permits, monitors work, methods and results, disburses millions of tax dollars to water management districts, counties, cities and local taxing districts, conducts in-house research and contracts research work with others, and answers questions and gives advice to thousands of homeowners, companies, associations and agricultural, recreational and environmental interests every year.

The Bureau has three sections: Aquatic Plant Regulation, Research and Technical Services; Survey and Control Permitting; and Contracts and Grants. The Bureau's main office is in Tallahassee, but it maintains six regional biologist field offices throughout Florida.

### The Chief

Ms. Shirley Fox is Bureau Chief. Experienced in management and environmental planning, she was appointed to the post only two years ago. "At first, I didn't realize the impact of aquatic plants on Florida's economy and the quality of life of its residents. I [See BUREAU on page 4]

## TIDES AND HERBICIDES

**H**erbicidal control of *Hydrilla* in freshwater tidal areas, and in other flowing waters, may be far more efficient in the near future thanks to experiments now taking place.

Drs. Alison Fox and William Haller hope to determine the optimal tidal time for herbicide application in order to maximize contact with the target plant, thus making herbicidal management of submersed weeds in tidal areas more predictable and efficient and less expensive. Results of these studies will be applicable up and down the United States eastern seaboard where hydrilla is becoming a problem in tidal areas. These studies also will be consequential to the management of hydrilla in other flowing water situations.

Very little is known about herbicidal control in tidal situations. Currently, hydrilla management in tidal areas is often ineffective because the flushing rates of such systems dilute and disperse aquatic herbicides before the necessary contact time for control has been achieved. These experiments will [See TIDES on page 11]