

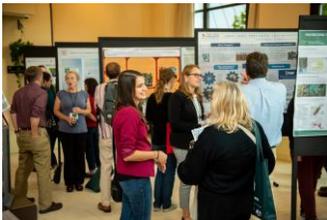


# FALL HIGHLIGHTS

FROM THE NEW YORK INVASIVE SPECIES RESEARCH INSTITUTE

## NAISMA – NYISRI 2019 JOINT CONFERENCE

During peak foliage in Saratoga Springs, New York, nearly 400 natural resource professionals came together for the 2019 NAISMA-NYISRI Joint Conference. The international group of researchers, managers, educators, and policy makers exchanged knowledge of invasive species management under a common goal: connect science to action. Moreover, the conference was locally represented; almost half of the participants were from New York.



Presentations covered a wide range of themes including management, detection, prevention, and policy of invasive species. On each of the four days, several workshops allowed participants to spend time diving into specific topics, such as pest identification, distribution modeling, or the health effects of glyphosate. Field trips to local natural areas, both aquatic and terrestrial, offered attendees a glimpse into natural resource management in New York. For those that couldn't attend, a link to presentation pdf's will be posted on the NYISRI website.

NYISRI staff facilitated conference meetings to discuss species-specific research and management, including swallow-wort biocontrol. These meetings spurred productive discussions about methodologies for rearing, releasing, and monitoring biocontrol agents. The shared information will inform protocols in the lab and field, while promoting standardized practices among agencies.

## NAISMA-NYISRI CONFERENCE BY THE NUMBERS

This year's conference brought together natural resource managers, researchers, educators, and policy makers from across North America and Europe.

- 391 Registered Attendees
- 146 Presenters
- 53 Sessions and Workshops
- 49 States and Provinces
- 7 Countries



## 2019 NE RISCC MANAGEMENT NETWORK SYMPOSIUM

In lieu of the annual symposium, the Northeast Regional Invasive Species & Climate Change Management Network hosted two special sessions and a workshop at the 2019 NAISMA conference. Eight presentations gave new perspectives for researchers and managers as they face invasive species in a changing climate. Topics included novel tools, emerging threats, and bridging the research-management gap.

Workshop participants focused their discussion on proactive management and network building to better answer the question of "How can we manage for upcoming biological invasions in the light of climate change?"

## SWALLOW-WORT BIOCONTROL

### Outreach

NYISRI worked with Cornell Cooperative Extension to develop outreach materials regarding invasive swallow-worts and the availability of a new biological control agent, *Hypena opulenta*. These materials guided discussions with public and private landowners at the annual Empire Farm Days this summer.

During this event, NYISRI and CCE conducted a survey of 80 attendees to better understand public perceptions of biocontrol. Their responses provided insight into potential misconceptions – helping to direct future outreach and educational material. NYISRI plans to partner with research groups to conduct broader public perception surveys of biocontrol within the region.

### Research

NYISRI continues its work with SUNY Cortland, SUNY ESF, USDA, University of Rhode Island, Wells College, USDA and the New York DEC to advance swallow-wort biocontrol in the state. Researchers have faced a recent set-back due to higher mortality of biocontrol insects in the lab. Therefore, NYISRI is facilitating collaboration between agencies to develop standardized rearing protocols and practices.



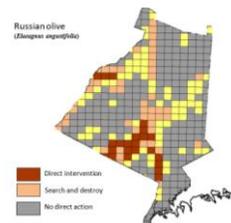
## NYISRI IN THE NEWS

Carrie Brown-Lima was a recent guest on NPR's nationally aired show, *1A*, which featured the topic of invasive species. Listen to the show here: [Snakes On A Plain: Invasive Species And How We Handle Them](#).

## NEW TOOL FOR OPTIMIZING INVASIVE MANAGEMENT

NYISRI postdoctoral researcher, Jennifer Price Tack, developed a decision-making tool for invasive species management in New York. The tool will assist regional managers in allocating their budget across multiple species at a resolution of 5x5 km blocks.

Jen is currently working with PRISM leaders to adjust model parameters. Using their input, she will partner with NatureServe to integrate the tool within IMapInvasives. The project was recently highlighted at The Wildlife Society and NAISMA conferences, where natural resource practitioners provided useful feedback.



## FALL PRISM CALL WEBINARS

NYISRI hosts the monthly state-wide PRISM Call for the New York invasive species network. Each call features an invited presentation on an invasive species topic. Upcoming presentations include:

### October 30<sup>th</sup> - The Spread of Invasive Ticks and Mosquitoes in New York State

*Dr. James Burtis* – NEVBD Postdoctoral Associate, Cornell University

*Talya Shragai* – PhD Candidate, Cornell University

### November 27<sup>th</sup> - Moving beyond prioritization: a tool for informing invasive management in New York

*Dr. Jennifer Price Tack* – Post-doctoral Associate, Cornell University