

SPEAKER BIO & PRESENTATION SUMMARY

PVMA Spring Conference Feb.28-Mar.2, 2023

Name	Thomas Whitney PhD, Scientific Technical Advisor, Davey Tree Expert Company
Biography	Dr. Thomas Whitney is a scientific technical advisor for Davey Tree Expert Company, supporting offices in the Pacific Northwest US and Western Canada. He has an MS in Entomology and PhD in Forest Resources. His past research has involved varied topics like canker disease of pine, twig boring beetles on Christmas trees, and biological control of aphids. Based in Portland, Oregon, he enjoys fishing, camping, and basketball.
Presentation Title	<i>Signs and symptoms of insect damage to trees</i>
Presentation Description	A major challenge in plant healthcare is diagnosing insect pest damage to trees without the insects readily visible. This presentation will cover how to identify signs (physical evidence left behind), symptoms (responses of the tree), and severity of the three main groups of insect pests: defoliators, sap-feeders, and woodborers.
Name	Thomas Whitney – Second Presentation
Presentation Title	<i>Effect of Drought on Plants</i>
Presentation Description	Drought stress poses a formidable threat to landscape plant health. This presentation will review the physiological processes that govern water movement in plants, the short-term and long-term consequences of drought to plants, and the ways we may mitigate drought stress to plants.

Name	Kaylie Krys, University of Saskatchewan MSc. Candidate
Biography	Kaylie Krys is a plant sciences M.Sc. candidate in the Agronomic Crop Imaging Lab at the University of Saskatchewan under the supervision of Dr. Steve Shirliffe. Her area of focus is in creating a methodology for the application of UAV imagery to assist in the surveying of canola crops at emergence and to study the impacts of emergence heterogeneity. Kaylie completed her BSA in Soil Science from the University of Saskatchewan and an Environmental Sciences Dip. from Lakeland College. Kaylie worked in vegetation management through her undergrad as a weed and pest inspector at the County of Vermilion River where she grew her passion for weed ID and management. Kaylie was a 2018 PVMA Scholarship recipient and attended the PVMA 2019 Spring Conference, where she took in all there was to learn about the industry. Kaylie grew up on a mixed commercial cattle and grain farm near Vermilion, AB, Canada and is passionate about opportunities to learn and apply precision agriculture practices on their family farming operation. She is honored to be asked back to the PVMA conference this year.
Presentation Title	<i>From a New Point of View: Remote Sensing Applications for Vegetation Visualization</i>
Presentation Description	Manual measurements and mapping of vegetation can be a time consuming and laborious process. The application of remote sensing tools such as satellite or UAV imagery can create high throughput, detailed, and consistent results. There are a number of remote sensing tools, options, resolutions, imagery types, and processing techniques that can be utilized to analyze the data of interest. There are also rules and regulations for some of these applications, such as when UAVs are involved. This presentation will introduce aspects of how having 'an eye in the sky' can assist with your vegetation monitoring programs.

Name	Linden Lundback, Pesticide Specialist, Retired from Lakeland College Pesticide Program
Biography	Linden has studied weather for several years starting back in 1976 when he received his private pilot's license, then to a more detailed level as he flew commercially and taught for a few years. He also covered weather issues when he taught 2 wind energy online courses at Lakeland College. Understanding the application of weather outlook to pesticide application comes from 4 years of university training, time spent farming himself, undertaking agriculture research projects for several years, acting as an agronomist, and coordinating the Pesticide Certification Program for Alberta Environment.
Presentation Title	<i>Weather Effects and Tools</i>
Presentation Description	The presentation primarily covers some online tools to use to predict local weather in the short term as well as a bit longer term. These tools will help make spraying decisions at an application site.

Name	Kelly Cooley, Environmental Consultant, CoolPro Solutions
Biography	Kelly has operated as CoolPro Solutions since 2010. He is currently the ALUS Coordinator for Pincher Creek, the terrestrial invasive species verifier for EDDMapS in Alberta, and has been training Authorized Assistant and Farmer Pesticide Applicators since 2001. He also supports the South West Invasive Mangers, Crown of the Continent Managers Partnership, and the North American Invasive Species Management Association. Kelly and his family reside south of Pincher Creek area near the Rocky Mountains they treasure, and love to adventure together in.
Presentation Title	<i>Changing Invasive Species Paradigms: Reconsidering Strategies Of Success</i>
Presentation Description	This presentation will explore changing paradigms in the world of invasive species policy and perception, including taxonomic naming controversies (for perceived racist names), reconsidering militaristic approaches to invasive species management, invasive species denialism, prioritizing species, and adapting our approaches as invasive species managers to realize new measurements & metrics of success.

Name	Vivianne Servant, Pesticide Specialist, retired from Alberta Environment & Protected Areas
Biography	Vivianne holds a Bachelor of Science Degree and a Teaching Certificate in Adult and Continuing Education (both from the University of Alberta). She also holds both an Alberta Pesticide Applicator Certificate and an Alberta Pesticide Applicator Trainer Certificate. She worked for Alberta Environment and Protected Areas (EPA) for many years and retired in 2019. While working with EPA, she worked as an inspector and then an investigator for 12 years and then was the Alberta Pesticide Certification Specialist for 18 years. She developed and approved all classes of pesticide applicator training manuals and certification exams in Alberta, the Authorized Assistant and Applicator Train the Trainer Programs and the Farmer Pesticide Certificate program in Alberta. She was also a member and later Co-chair of the Canadian Federal, Provincial, Territories Standing Subcommittee that establishes pesticide education, training, and certification standards in Canada for 30 years. Since retirement, Vivianne has continued to research published reports of pesticide effects on the human health and the environment and has conducted many online and in-person presentations to report these findings to pesticide applicators and industry associations. She is currently contracted to update the Alberta applicator training manuals and examinations offered through Lakeland College.
Presentation Title	<i>Environmental Monitoring in Alberta</i>
Presentation Description	Alberta Environment and Protected Areas has monitored pesticide levels in surface water and drinking water for many years throughout Alberta. This presentation discusses the results of this monitoring and the implications this has on water quality in Alberta and pesticide applications near water.

	Tom Wolf, Owner, Agrimetrix Research & Training
Biography	Tom Wolf is a spray application specialist, based in Saskatoon. He grew up on a farm in Manitoba and studied agriculture at the University of Manitoba (BSA, M.Sc.) and the Ohio State University (Ph.D.). Tom has over 30 years research experience in spray technology, including work on spray drift, coverage, efficacy, sprayer cleanout, waste disposal and risk assessment. With Jason Deveau, Tom hosts and writes for the world's number one sprayer website, Sprayers101.com . He is a past president and Fellow of the Canadian Weed Science Society and has been named Distinguished Agrologist with the Saskatchewan Institute of Agrology.
Presentation Title	<i>Calibrating Non-Conventional Sprayers</i>
Presentation Description	In any spray application, the proper calibration of equipment is required to ensure that the correct rate is applied. This is necessary to ensure good pest control and to avoid contamination of sensitive environments. In industrial pest management, pesticide sprays are often applied with specialty sprayers for which calibration techniques are not well documented. This session will identify the ways in which to determine the size of the treated area, the time necessary to treat it, and the resulting application rate. This technique can be used for hand-held equipment, for airblast sprays, and for drone sprayers, for which the application of two microbial larvicides has recently been approved by PMRA.

Name	Dr. Frank Wong, US Industry Affairs Lead, Bayer Crop Science Michael Owen, Global Industrial Turf & Ornamental Commercial Lead, Bayer CropScience LP
Biography	Dr. Frank Wong, Ph.D. , is a U.S. Industry Affairs Lead for Bayer Crop Science based in Raleigh, NC. Frank obtained his Ph D. in Plant Pathology from Cornell University and was a statewide extension specialist at the University of California, Riverside from 2001-2011, prior to joining Bayer. Frank has over 25 years of experience in practical plant disease and pest management, and with works with a broad range of stakeholders to find solutions for regulatory and policy issues for the ag production, turf and ornamental, pest management, public health and vegetation management industries. Frank is a past chair of the RISE (Responsible Industry for a Sound Environment) Legislative Affairs Committee and serves on a number of industry workgroups and committees in support of Bayer, RISE and CLA (Crop Life America) activities. Michael M. Owen , Bayer CropScience LP, Global Industrial Turf & Ornamental Commercial Lead. Managed global active ingredients: glyphosate. Bachelor of Science in Agriculture, Agricultural Economics, University of Georgia, Athens, GA (USA) 1993. Michael has 29 years of commercial and technical sales experience in the non-crop chemical industry and 18 years of dedicated marketing and technical sales experience in the turf and ornamental space. 10 years- Syngenta Professional Products, 4 years- Bayer Environmental Science, 4 years- Arysta LifeScience. He also spent 8 years as a National Key Account Manager in the Us Railroad Vegetation Management market. 4 year- Dupont Land Management and 4 years- Bayer Crop Science. 2.5 Years as the Us non-crop glyphosate and post patent business manager and 1 year as the Global Industrial Turf & Ornamental Commercial Lead.
Presentation Title	<i>Update on Bayer Roundup Products</i>
Presentation Description	This session will focus on the current status of Roundup product registrations and litigation with an emphasis on U.S. activities. U.S. EPA Registration Review and selected global registrations of glyphosate and Roundup products will be addressed, as well as the current status of U.S. litigation. Bayer resources for additional questions will be discussed as well. Attendees will be given a review of the availability of Roundup products, Bayer resources and the importance of science-driven regulation of pesticide products.

Name	Lisa Rybchuk, Woodchuk Enterprises Ltd.
Biography	Lisa Rybchuk is the owner of Woodchuk Enterprises Ltd, a vegetation management and safety training company operating near Carstairs, Alberta. With 20 years of experience in the pesticide industry, Lisa specializes in providing tutorials to help potential applicators prepare for their provincial exams. Classes include Landscape, Industrial, Forestry, Agriculture, Biting Fly, Seed Protectant, Commercial Dispenser, Authorized Assistant and Farmer Pesticide Certificate (with Endorsements). In addition to pesticide-related training, Lisa also teaches safety courses and provides weed control services.
Presentation Title	<i>A Closer Look at Environmental Impact of the Pesticide Bans 2023</i>
Presentation Description	Pesticides are an integral part of modern day living; whether managing noxious weeds in landscapes or controlling pests and diseases in crops, pesticides play an important role. This presentation examines the fate of pesticides in the environment and the potential negative impact to the soil, air, and water. Strategies to identify and mitigate the environmental risks will be discussed.

Name	Philip Ruiz, Wright Tree Service
Biography	Philip has been in the tree care industry for 25 years. He is an Internals Society of Arboriculture (ISA) Arborist, Tree care industry certified tree care professional (CTSP) and was the arborist at Disneyland, Anaheim, CA. Philip also enjoys organizing and competing in tree climbing competitions.
Presentation Title	<i>Mechanical Advantage</i>
Presentation Description	The building of a rope and pulley Mechanical Advantage system for tree felling, the forces generated and the pulling forces, and the practical uses of a Mechanical Advantage system

Name	Dr. William Hamman, Consultant, Hamman AG research Inc.
Biography	Dr. Hamman trains pest applicator certification in Alberta for the past 25 years for Industrial, Agriculture, Landscape, Seed treatment and Greenhouse Certification as well as Authorized assistant and Core CEUs. He is an experienced professional in Agriculture and Industrial Research Co. in Lethbridge. He was former Monsanto R&D rep Forestry research (Vision) in B.C. 1980s.
Presentation Title	<i>100 Days of Victory in the War on Weeds</i>
Presentation Description	This presentation will provide strategies to consider for control of invasive and noxious weeds in farming non-crop and park areas and industrial sites. It will highlight technical features and benefits of the new and older product available from various herbicide manufacturing companies the ongoing war on weeds. Other innovations and ideas to include in your 2023 weed control program will be highlighted. The presentation will include innovative and success stories from the City of Lethbridge war on weeds. New products and ideas for the control of resistant weeds problems like herbicide resistant Kochia will also be discussed.

Banquet Speaker

Name	Tyler Smith, Humboldt Broncos' Bus Crash Survivor & Mental Health Advocate
Biography	<p>Tyler Smith has no memory of the worst day of his life, something the 24-year-old considers “a blessing in disguise.” On April 6, 2018, Tyler and his junior hockey team, the Humboldt Broncos, were on their way to a play-off game when a semi-truck struck their bus. He lost 16 of his teammates, staff members, and coaches, while he and 12 others survived.</p> <p>Along with public speaking, Tyler has found two other passions in his life, which are both in the world of mental health. Tyler co-hosts a podcast with NHL veteran Riley Sheahan of the Buffalo Sabres called ‘Speak Your Mind.’ With Speak Your Mind, Riley and Tyler hope to normalize conversations around mental health with a wide variety of guests starting with the sports world, entertainment space and many more. He also founded his mental health awareness clothing line called ‘Not Alone Co.’ Not Alone is all about helping facilitate meaningful conversations around mental health with the messaging that is presented on Not Alone’s variety of apparel. Not Alone donates portions of the proceeds to different charities and foundations across Canada including Jack.org. Tyler hopes to build a lasting community with Not Alone that focuses on vulnerability and conversation.</p>
Presentation Title	<i>Perspectives after Trauma/Tragedy</i>
Presentation Description	<p>Tyler will talk about his experiences navigating mental health and grief in the face of tragedy. He’ll share details about his life over the last five years, the experiences he’s gone through, and the lessons he’s learned along the way. He has seen the value of sharing his story and of hearing personal stories from others, which is why he is so passionate about sharing his story and being a mental health advocate. Tyler will dive deeper into his personal relationship with strength and struggle and the many misconceptions he had before embracing his own mental health journey.</p>