



# FROM FARMERS TO CONSERVATIONISTS, NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGERS TO CITIZEN SCIENTISTS:

working with all stakeholders on the  
invasive species problem in Oklahoma



Priscilla Crawford, conservation specialist



# The Beginning

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**Board Member, Chad Cox**

# The Problem

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## Welcome to the Oklahoma Vascular Plants Database

Quick Search **Advanced Search**

Search by family, genus, species name, common name:

Sorghum halepense

Drag a column header here to group by that column

	County	Family	Genus	Species	SubSpecies	Variety
	ALFALFA	Poaceae	Sorghum	halepense		
▶	ALFALFA	Poaceae	Sorghum	halepense		
	ALFALFA	Poaceae	Sorghum	halepense		
	ALFALFA	Poaceae	Sorghum	halepense		
	ALFALFA	Poaceae	Sorghum	halepense		
	ATOKA	Poaceae	Sorghum	halepense		
	ATOKA	Poaceae	Sorghum	halepense		
	ATOKA	Poaceae	Sorghum	halepense		
	BEAVER	Poaceae	Sorghum	halepense		
	BECKHAM	Poaceae	Sorghum	halepense		

1 of 27

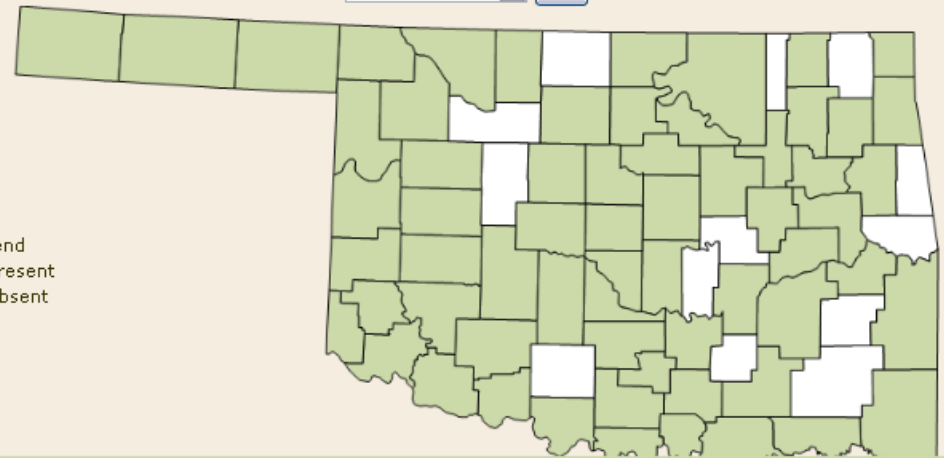
Prev [Next](#)

Map

Click the map or select a county to view County Species List

ADAIR

Legend  
 Present  
 Absent



# The Vision



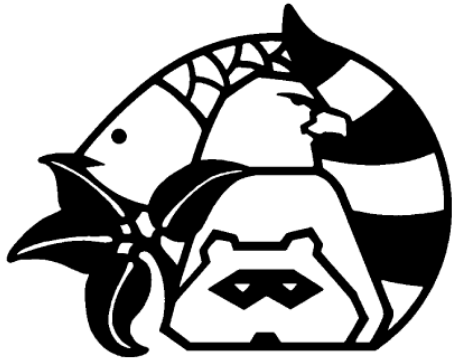
Board Member, Chad Cox



# The Inspiration



**Invaders** of Texas  
a Citizen Science Program to Detect and Report Invasive Species



**Oklahoma  
Biological  
Survey**

The Nature  
Conservancy



Protecting nature. Preserving life.™



Oklahoma Nursery and



**Landscape Association**  
*Your Green Industry Professionals*





# The Board

- 
- Academia
    - Oklahoma State University
    - University of Oklahoma
  - Agriculture and Horticulture
    - Oklahoma Farm Bureau
    - Oklahoma Assoc. of Conservation Districts
    - Wheat Growers Association
    - Oklahoma Nursery and Landscape Association
    - Private Nursery
  - Tribes
    - Osage Nation
  - Non-profit Conservation
    - The Nature Conservancy
    - Oklahoma Natural Areas Registry
    - Oklahoma Native Plant Society
  - State and Federal Agencies
    - Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation
    - Oklahoma Biological Survey and Natural Heritage Inventory
    - US Army Corps of Engineers

# The Ground Work

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- By-laws
- Mission and Strategies
- Committees
- Audience, stakeholders, membership
- Membership brochure
- Website
- Invasive species list



# The Controversy

- Economically Important?
- Native “invaders”?
- Agricultural “weeds”?
- Criteria for listing
  - ▣ Subjective or Objective
  - ▣ Who has authority?

# The Progress

- Weed Free Hay Certification
- Legislative task force on Invasive Species
  - ▣ Also not without controversy
- Annual Meetings
  - ▣ 70+ attending 2010
  - ▣ Industry sponsors
  - ▣ Members of state Agriculture committees

# The Future

- Current noxious weed law inadequate
- Impact of invasive species on state's economy
- Clearinghouse of information
  - ▣ Including searchable online database
  - ▣ Production of white papers
  - ▣ Eradication and restoration
- Continue education at all levels with all citizens
  - ▣ Engage industry



What happened to the  
citizen science dream?

# Beginning this Weekend!



# Thanks to:

