



July 29, 2021

1:00 – 2:30 pm Eastern Time

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FICMNEW – Public Meeting Agenda

1. **Roll call (if time allows – will focus on entities represented)**
2. **Public meetings**
 - Will be held quarterly – July, October, January, April
 - 30 - 45 min webinar, followed by round robin
3. **Today's Presentation:** USDA Plants Database: New and Improved, Christine Taliga-Burton, Plant Ecologist, National Plant Data Team, USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service
Bio: Christine serves as the Plant Ecologist on the National Plant Data Team. Christine brings extensive national and field experience to her position including serving as national ecologist with the Ecological Sciences Division with NRCS headquarters and NRCS liaison to the National Park Service providing ecological restoration assistance to national parks across the country. Her extensive field experience stems mainly from Iowa and Colorado, where Christine served as Plant Materials Specialist and held various field office positions. Her experience includes a hiatus from federal government during which time she worked as restoration ecologist. She has also held appointments at the University of Iowa as research botanist, teaching assistant, and greenhouse manager. Christine, her husband John and daughter Anna, own and operate a small certified organic farm in Iowa, where they have been actively restoring tallgrass prairie and exploring perennial crop production alternatives over the past twenty years. Her education includes a B.S. in Environmental Science with a minor in Botany and German from the University of Iowa and a Masters in Natural Resource Stewardship with an emphasis in Ecological Restoration from Colorado State University.

4. **Presentation Overview:** The much-anticipated release of the USDA PLANTS Database update to version 3 occurred the end of April 2021. Christine Taliga is a plant ecologist on the National Plant Data Team (NPDT) and will provide an overview of the new website including future areas of design and integration. The mission of PLANTS is to assist with the integration of Natural Resource based information throughout NRCS and across government agencies, disciplines, and applications. The PLANTS Database, managed by the National Plant Data Team (NPDT), provides standardized information about the vascular plants, mosses, liverworts, hornworts, and lichens of North America north of Mexico and all U.S. territories and protectorates. Vascular plant distributions are mapped at the state and province level, and by U.S. county. The database includes accepted scientific names, plant symbols, checklists, distributional data, nativity, invasive and noxious status sources, species abstracts, characteristics, images, crop information, interactive identification keys, automated tools, references and web links. This information primarily promotes land conservation in the United States and its territories, but academic, educational, and general use is encouraged.
5. ***Volutaria tubuliflora* in the west and efforts to contain it** - Steve Schoenig, Cal-IPC Board
6. **Invasive species organizations updates/round-robin** (as time permits)
7. **Next Quarterly Meeting Dates**
October 28, 2021 – presentation, USGS Great Lakes Science Center, *Phragmites* management in the Great Lakes Region
January 27, 2022 – presentation, USGS Fort Collins Science Center, USGS Tools for Invasive Species Management