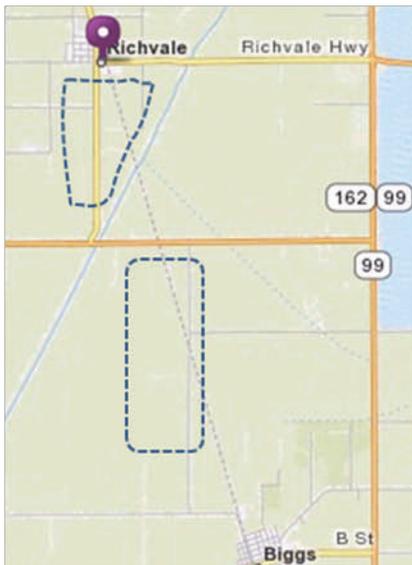


## New Weed Discovered in California Rice Fields

Winged primrose willow (WPW), *Ludwigia decurrens*, was recently discovered in a rice field near Richvale. This is the first documented occurrence of WPW west of Texas. Native to South America, this weed is highly competitive and considered to be an invasive weed species. WPW is an annual, but can behave like a perennial in moderate climates. It produces vast quantities of seeds and survives under a range of hydrological and climatic conditions. Plants must be destroyed before the seed pods mature. To prevent WPW from becoming established in the rice fields requires a strong, concerted effort by the community. Inspect and clean up your fields.

A field survey is currently underway to determine the extent of the infestation. At present, WPW has been found south of Richvale on both sides of the Midway and extending south on Riceton Road almost to Afton Road, principally along field edges, levies, and ditch banks. The Agriculture Commissioner is coordinating an eradication effort. If you suspect that you have WPW in your fields or need more information, call Cass Mutters, UCCE (530.521.6670), Navid

Khan, Ag Commissioner's Office (530.370.8723), or Mike Stewart, Ag Commissioner's Office (530.521.8545). Thanks.



Current known distribution of WPW in Butte County



WPW can reach 6 to 7 feet in height.



WPW can be found out in a field, as well as along field edges, levies, and ditch banks.

Newsletter produced by:

Luis Espino

Rice Farm Advisor

University of California Cooperative Extension

Colusa, Glenn and Yolo Counties

530.458.0578

laespino@ucdavis.edu

<http://cecolusa.ucdavis.edu/rice>

<http://ucanr.org/blogs/riceblog>



WPW is currently flowering. The yellow flowers open by mid-morning.



WPW flower has 4 petals.



The seed capsule is four-sided about 3/4 inch long. Many are approaching maturity.



Each seed capsule produces 100's of seeds.

More information: <http://plants.usda.gov/java/profile?symbol=LUDE4>

More pictures and information at the UC Rice Blog: <http://ucanr.org/blogs/riceblog/index.cfm>

Photos courtesy of CCIA, RES, UCCE, and USDA. Written by Cass Mutters, UCCE, Butte County

Meeting announcements and newsletters are also available at our website: <http://cecolusa.ucdavis.edu>

*The University of California in accordance with applicable Federal and State law and University policy, does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, disability, age, medical condition (cancer-related), ancestry, marital status, citizenship, sexual orientation, or status as a Vietnam-era veteran or special disabled veteran. Inquiries regarding the University's nondiscrimination policies may be directed to the Affirmative Action Director, University of California, Agriculture and Natural Resources, 1111 Franklin, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, Oakland, CA 94607-5200 (510) 987-0096.*

**COOPERATIVE EXTENSION**

**University of California**

**P.O. Box 180**

**Non-Profit Org.**

**U.S. POSTAGE**

**PAID**

**Rice Briefs**