

H.B.5122

The bill should include all running bamboo :genus: Phyllostachys

January 21, 2012

Subject: Phyllostachys Research today and ** book attached here Important **

In an effort to save my land here in Seymour, CT , I am actually having to do this research to show what Phyllostachys spp. is. I feel that I must share what I have found with you today.

I simply googled, "Hiroshima bomb and Phyllostachys, to try to find the actual research paper where this is stated. Well I did, and what is attached below is a 75 page book which you can read here: I have read it all, and my opinion is below also.

Subject: Title : World Bamboo Resources Global Forest Resources Assessment 2005

http://books.google.com/books?id=LaH8YWxXyWUC&pg=PA1&lpg=PA1&dq=hiroshima+bomb+and+phyllostachys+bamboo&source=bl&ots=2xJl-dy7Ga&sig=0-tB4wYgFEQ-YwazM73mgll_wPI&hl=en&sa=X&ei=TrQaT5qtCark0QGC16zpCw&ved=0CCwQ6AEwAg#v=onepage&q=hiroshima%20bomb%20and%20phyllostachys%20bamboo&f=false

My opinions after reading the above :(some facts are taken from the above Research book)

1) Research is lacking on Phyllostachys here in the USA, and this book also confirms that a common methodological approach is missing between countries. From what I can see 22 countries were in this book , while we are not. We have no statistics. The book states bamboo statistics are poor. I will add Phyllostachys is everywhere in Connecticut, as well as the other states. In driving on I-95 from Florida back up to Connecticut , I easily spotted at least 40 infestations.

2) 2 types of bamboo ** monopodial- Phyllostachys spread at a surprising rate./Invasive worldwide

**sympodial-Bambusa: clumping non-invasive

I learned this week that in China , Phyllostachys is ONLY used on plantations, as they are fully aware of its invasiveness. They do not use it as an ornamental where it is native ! They use other non-invasive bamboo for this purpose. This speaks volumes. Phyllostachys will be more aggressive here in Connecticut per my document from James Miller. (Our climate with the rain, is more similar to its native China.) This is temperate frost resistant Giant Timber bamboo, not tropical.

3) The book states that bamboo taxonomy is not like other plants. It also states the dynamics are not yet clearly understood. Here I believe we are just finding out. There are many towns passing ordinances, and people in every state are desperate for help. http://www.northjersey.com/news/95390999_Town_worries_bamboo_will_spread_to_its_parks.html

Phyllostachys is not understood, and the sellers do not understand this plant. This is a highly unsuitable plant for any garden, or urban setting as it will spread to neighboring property. Containment in the long term is almost impossible. (as we are seeing as reports are coming in)

4) The amount of Phyllostachys that is seen already growing in Connecticut indicates that exponentially the USA will have hectares of bamboo. More and more people are sharing rhizomes, as well as 5 sellers on Conn.Craigslist. Multitudes of sellers on ebay. No mention of barriers .It will seed, we just do not know *when. It does spread by water, and disturbance. Connecticut Spreadsheet above.

5) What I am seeing is all yellow groove. *Phyllostachys aureosulcata*. It is easy to distinguish from the *Phyllostachys aurea*. All the research done here in the USA, has lumped them all as *aurea*. So we need to** know this , and be able to use those research reports. To prove this is true , please scroll to the 5th page of this link. (labeled page 203) it states most of the *Phyllostachys* in Illinois was mistakenly noted as *aurea*, when in** fact it was proven to be *aureosulcata*. States how to easily ID the yellow groove. (*aureosulcata*)
http://www.il-acad-sci.org/transactions_pdf_files/9422.pdf

6) I did have the *aureosulcata* added to EDDPMAP with the help of John Peter Thompson. We felt I could not begin to log the 100 locations with yellow groove (*aureosulcata*) in Connecticut until this **defect was corrected. So far I have logged one which is the invasion on the Merritt Parkway at Exit 47 Southbound. There is some on the Northbound as well. I was able to load a photo successfully onto EDDPMAP.
<http://www.eddmaps.org/report/images/Phyllostachys%20merritt%20parkway2.jpg>

7) Our research below states that research is lacking, and we have lumped all the *Phyllostachys* under *aurea*. Here is our research below. There are many errors in it. Yellow Groove came into the USA much later around * 1907, and was used for erosion,** not an ornamental. It did not come in through Alabama in 1892, but came in later through Savannah ,Georgia. There was a Bamboo Quarantine : of 1918. It was only used for erosion. Even the years between seeding is incorrect.
<http://www.fs.fed.us/database/feis/plants/graminoid/phyaur/all.html>

8) In reading this book above, regarding pests and pathogens: I would guess we could be in for trouble ? I already have documents from James Miller regarding histosplasmosis when the workers in the southern states cleared the *Phyllostachys* infestations. This was deadly, and is documented. This is due to the black crow roost. I can say here in Seymour,CT , I have this roost, and they also did in Smithtown,NY. We are loaded with black crows, that we never had before this infestation on my property. This is serious in my opinion. Please just ask for the documents which James Miller had previously sent me, anticipating you would need them **eventually.
Another fact that I don't think is known is that *Phyllostachys* spp. releases allelopathic compounds which is a natural herbicide. This explains why **nothing grows in the under story of bamboo. (**not even a single weed) I know of a person whose property is invaded in New Haven, CT , who has sent me 21 pictures of the invasion,and in these pictures you can see that she has had an allergic reaction from this possibly as she tries to eradicate the invasion each year.

In my opinion to think that the general public will be able to install and maintain barriers on their own with a sticker or instruction is not going to work. Most of this bamboo is so easy to propogate, why buy it. People are sharing rhizomes, and online start up businesses are everywhere. Here is one link below in particular where people are stating that they cannot find local nurseries selling it , and Steve (below) is selling it online. Extensive operation he has, take a look.
<http://stevesbamboogarden.blogspot.com/2011/07/results-of-some-of-my-bamboo-divisions.html>
All the reputable local nurseries in my area have told me they would never sell *Phyllostachys*. They in fact wonder why it is not on the invasive list. I did run into one exception, a nursery In Shelton, CT: that when I showed interest in the nine yellow grooves that he was selling (tucked way in the back) he told me most people

just want them to spread, and that he had not sold barriers to anyone all summer. He told me all I needed to do was water them. He told me he would have to buy barriers online if I decided I wanted them. When I asked what he had done all year, he told me all the yellow groove he sold all season in 2011 were without barriers. He told me all I needed to do was water them, and that he would charge me \$50.00 each to plant them.

(his retail price per yellow groove was \$90.00) I was told they grew to this very tall height just from when he got them in the spring . These were quite tall.

These were very well tagged, along with other varieties of bamboo in his large nursery in Shelton, CT.

He did tell me his wholesaler on all his bamboo was *Summer Hill, in Madison.

Also on Ebay for \$40.00 they will ship to your home a **rhizome pack.

They say "block your neighbors out, just mow where you don't want it".

They do list it as Phyllostachys. They cannot ship Phyllostachys to Hawaii.

Regards,

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