



Ministry of Economic Affairs,
Agriculture and Innovation

Ragweed in the Netherlands a 2010 update

Braunschweig
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The species involved

- *Ambrosia artemisiifolia* casual/locally persisting ??years
- *Ambrosia psilostachya* naturalized
- *Ambrosia trifida* casual



Code of conduct bird feed proposal

- Maximum tolerance of contamination
- Sampling 1 kg
- Sub sample 100g
- 1st sample 0 seeds → clean
- 1st sample >1 seed → rejected
- 1st sample 1 seed → 2nd sample
- 2nd sample 0 seed → clean
- 2nd sample 1 seed → rejected





Overruled by anticipated EU animal feed guidelines

- Proposal

Undesirable substance	Products intended for animal feed	Maximum content in mg/kg (ppm) relative to a feed of a moisture content of 12%
11. Seeds from <i>Ambrosia spp.</i>	Feed containing unground grains and seeds	50



Interactive seed identification

- <http://www.q-bank.eu/Plants/>
- Interactive multiple entry key
- Link to database info on species
- [Off-line link](#)



Communication campaign

- Radio interview to get media attention
- Simultaneous press release sent to target media
- Ambrosia website: www.ambrosiavrij.nu
- Identification sheet
 - Information sheets management
 - Private gardens
 - Public greens
 - Land managers
 - Farmers
 - <http://www.vwa.nl/onderwerpen/gevaren/dossier/ambrosia1>



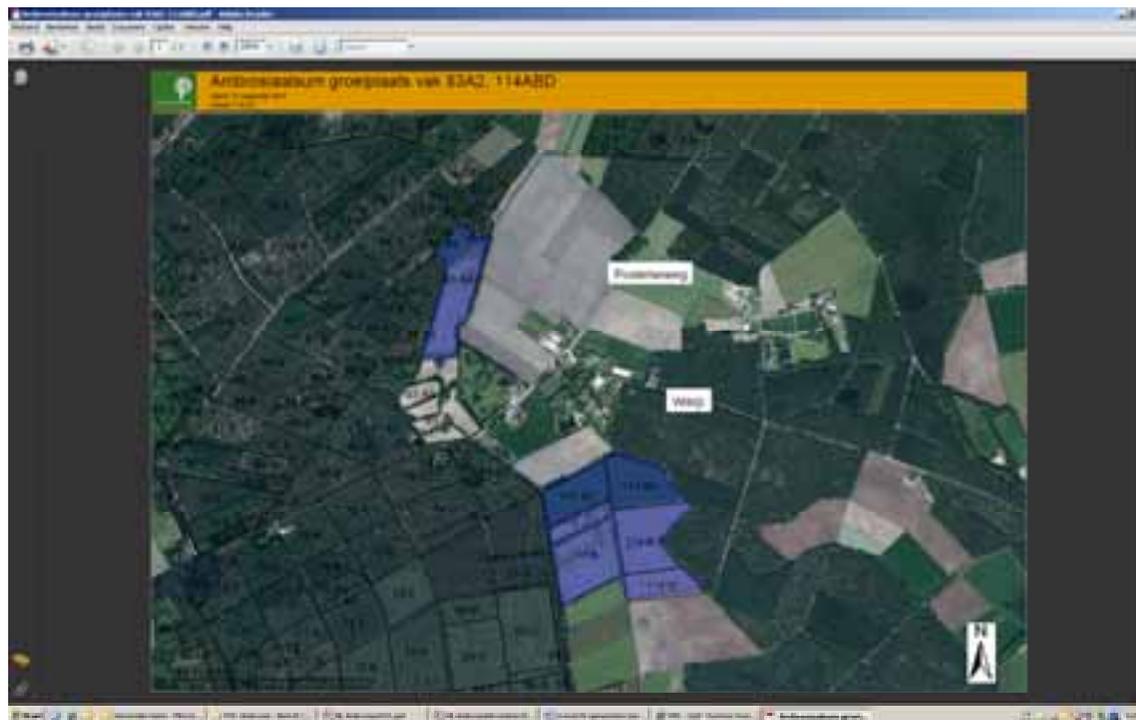
Results of campaign

- Interviews on national and regional television and radio (incl. 8 o'clock news)
- Several national daily newspapers and dozens of regional and local newspapers published on the subject
- Information on management options posted on websites of dozens of municipalities and health authorities
- More than 60% of media approached published on the subject
- Hundreds of new sightings reported
- Action taken by municipalities and private persons to remove large infestations as well as 'garden infestations'



Ambrosia artemisiifolia in agricultural field

- Ambrosia persisting for several years
- Arrived in an 'ecological' mixture for ecological buffer zones
- Exact origin can no longer be traced





Ambrosia artemisiifolia in agricultural field





Ecological buffer zone





Ecological buffer zone





Extended buffer zone





Extended buffer zone September 27





Effect mowing extended buffer zone after 4 weeks





Effect mowing extended buffer zone after 4 weeks





Effect mowing extended buffer zone after 4 weeks





Effect mowing extended buffer zone after 4 weeks





Field regrowth after harvest & extra tillage





Field regrowth after harvest & extra tillage





Actions proposed

- Strive for exhaustion of seed bank
- Winter wheat as a crop
- Frequent tillage July – October
- Actual ecological buffer zone to be converted to grass or crop
- Establishment of a new ecological zone in the Ambrosia free part of the field
- Improve sanitary measures machinery

- Create awareness farmers real risks in NL situation do exist



Solution?



Source:

<http://kassa.vara.nl/actueel/kartoons/>