



Ministry of Economic Affairs,
Agriculture and Innovation

Ambrosia
in the Netherlands
a 2011 update

Braunschweig
November 2011

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The species involved

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



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



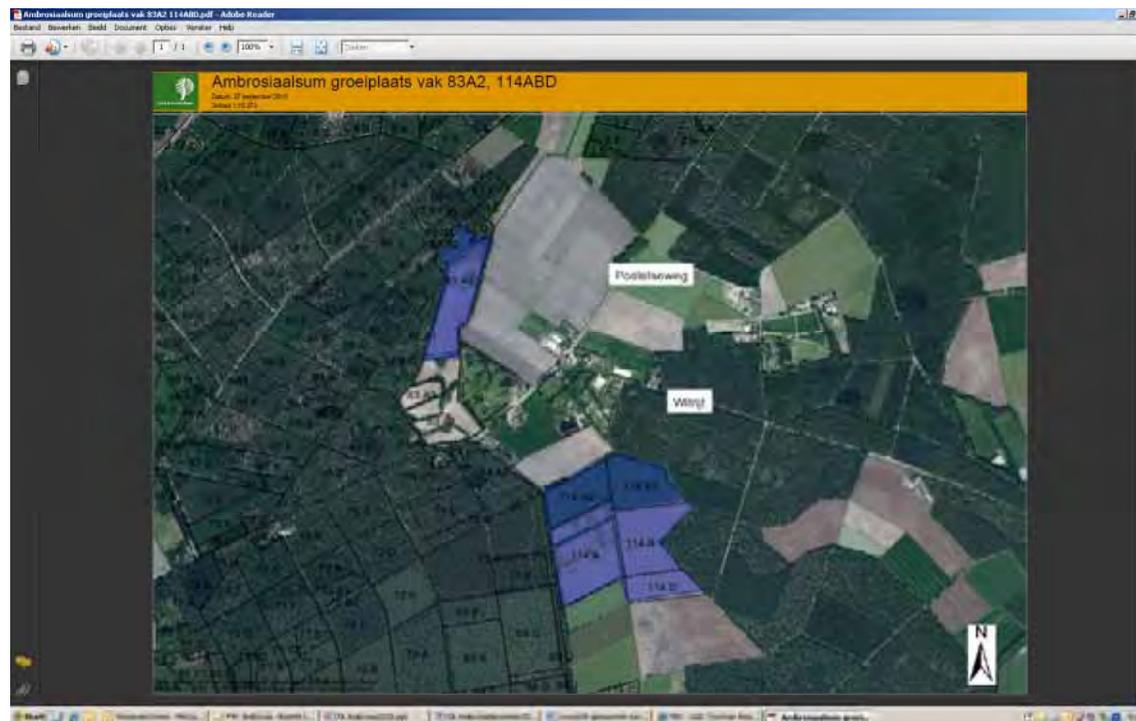
Results of campaign

- Interviews on national and regional television and radio
- Several national daily newspapers and dozens of regional and local newspapers published on the subject as well as farmer magazines
- Information on management options posted on websites of dozens of municipalities and health authorities
- Action taken by municipalities and private persons to remove large infestations as well as 'garden infestations'
- Ambrosia website: www.ambrosiavrij.nu
 - 100.000 visits
 - Reports of sightings increased from c.50 (August 3) to 535 (October 31)



Ambrosia artemisiifolia in agricultural field 2010

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





Ecological buffer zone 2010





Extended buffer zone September 27 2010





Effect mowing extended buffer zone after 4 weeks





Effect mowing extended buffer zone after 4 weeks





Field regrowth after harvest & extra tillage 2010





Actions proposed for 2011

- 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



Situation agricultural field June 2011

- Ecological buffer zone converted
- Winter wheat planted
- Try to access seed bank of *A. artemisiifolia* as a function of distance from the former ecological bufferzone





Situation agricultural field september 2011





Situation agricultural field november 2011





Situation recultivated field september 2011





Actions proposed for 2012

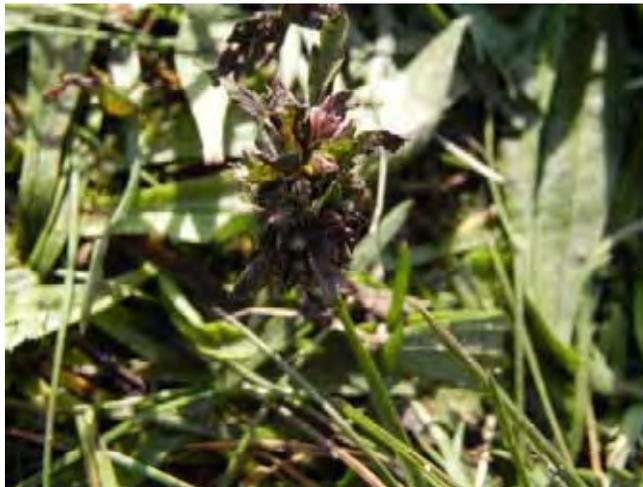
- Strive for exhaustion of seed bank
- Spring crop to change weed competition balance
- Frequent tillage July – October
- Organic farming field converted and integrated as 'non pesticide field'
- Improve sanitary measures machinery
- Create awareness farmers real risks in NL situation do exist



Miscellaneous reports of infestations

Sibculo

- Bordering cycling path > 500 m
- Resulting from maintenance activities
- Mowing 2 times & removal
- Salt and disturbance tolerance like *Plantago coronopus*





Miscellaneous reports of infestations

Winterswijk

- Project development area & Ecological restoration project
- Since 2010 under management
- Regular mowing & removal of cuttings
- Crop of sunflower





Ambrosia psilostachya at IJmuiden August 2011





Ambrosia psilostachya at IJmuiden August 2011





Management proposed *A. psilostachya*

Mowing

- 2 times a year
- Monitoring species coverage

Herbicide application

- Roundup Evolution glyfosate 2% application in autumn
- Monitoring species coverage





Interactive seed identification

- <http://www.q-bank.eu/Plants/>
- Interactive multiple entry key
- Link to database info on species