



The Idaho Association of WEED CONTROL SUPERINTENDENTS

Chair:
Bryce Fowler
Fremont County
151 W 1st North
St. Anthony ID 83445
(208)-624-7442

Vice- Chair:
Terry Lee
Camas County
P.O. Box 130
Fairfield ID, 83327
(208)-764-3512

Secretary – Treasurer:
Bonnie Davis
Washington County
PO Box 865
Weiser ID 83672
(208)-414-1950

July 21, 2016

Mr. Brian J. Oakey, Deputy Director
Idaho State Department of Agriculture
PO Box 790
Boise ID 83701

RECEIVED

AUG 01 2016

**DIRECTOR'S OFFICE
ID DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE**

Mr. Oakey,

Oh Behalf of the Idaho Association of Weed Control Superintendents (IAWCS), I am writing to express our strong support for the proposal to add all Cytisus, Spartium, Chamaecytisus and Genista genus, including all hybrid Brooms of these genus, to the ISDA Noxious Weed List.

IAWCS is a non-profit organization that includes a network of professional people consisting of Idaho's County Weed Superintendents. IAWCS has worked to promote cooperation, exchange information, and provide education and resources to further success in noxious and invasive weed management in Idaho.

All species of Brooms, including hybrids of the Cytisus, Genista, Spartium, and Chamaecytisus genus can be invasive and are likely to grow anywhere in the state. None of these genus are native to Idaho. Researchers indicate seeds from these four genus can remain viable in the soil from 60 to 80 years. University of Idaho and other university plant specialists tell us all broom genus are likely invasive and threaten our environment by producing decades of viable seeds, fire hazards and a dominant monoculture.

As always, prevention is the best and most economical solution of a possible long term problem. By adding these Broom species to the Idaho Noxious Weed List we will prevent infestations to Idaho lands and save millions of dollars decades from now.

Thank you,

Bryce Fowler
IAWCS Chairman