



5,11,17

To: Lloyd Knight

Plant Division Administrator

Idaho State Dept. of Ag

From: John Cenarrusa

Noxious Weed Supt.

Blaine County

Sir

As to the listing of Japanese, Chinese, and English Yew on the Idaho Noxious Weed list, I am in favor of listing these plants. The Blaine County Commissioners are also in favor of the listing.

I know as I am the minority as far as the opinion of most Weed Superintendents on this subject, but the difference being my county has already been dealing with this problem.

We had wildlife poisonings and the public in our county wanted something done. Matt Voile told me that Yew would probably not be listed, so My Commissioners stepped up and put the Yew plants on a County Weed list.

During this process we held many public meetings with agency involvement as well.

I had many of the same concerns (and so did my Commissioners) as the Superintendents Association has now.

Blaine County Weed Dept. has a very aggressive public awareness campaign on the Yew plants and the public has been very co-operative about removing Yew plants on their property so far. We still have the option of enforcement but surprisingly we haven't had to use it. If an enforcement is needed, having the Yew on the Idaho list would make control of these plants easier.

We feel it has been very successful so far. I'm not saying that we still can't have Yew poisonings, but if nothing else Blaine County is being pro-active and the public realizes we are trying to help.

Adding Yew to the Idaho list would make the public aware of the dangers and problems associated with Yew.

Sincerely,

John Cenarrusa, Supt. BCWC