ORIGINS AND SPREAD OF AGRICULTURAL AND INVASIVE WEEDS IN CALIFORNIA

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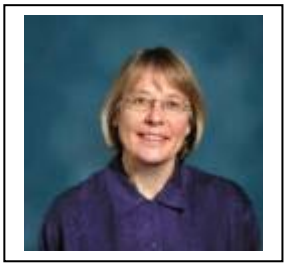

Lundi 19 Novembre 2012 – 11h Salle de conférence INRA

Résumé:

The Jasieniuk lab studies the population genetics, molecular ecology, and evolution of agricultural and invasive weeds in California, USA. Our research focuses on elucidating the demographic and evolutionary processes underlying the introduction, establishment, and spread of weeds and invasive plants and their adaptation to changing environments, including management practices. To date, we have focused on two systems for our studies: invasive plants with horticultural origins and weeds evolving resistance to herbicides. The two systems are not only ideal for basic research on processes underlying weed evolution and spread, but also include some of the worst weed problems in California. This morning, I will overview my lab's research on the origins and invasive spread of several weed species. The species include the horticultural invasives pampas grass (*Cortaderia selloana*), jubata grass (*Cortaderia jubata*), invasive blackberries (*Rubus* spp.), and French and sweet broom (*Cytisus-Genista* complex), and the agricultural weeds Italian and rigid ryegrass (*Lolium multiflorum* and *L. rigidum*), horseweed (*Conyza canadensis*), and hairy fleabane (*Conyza bonariensis*). Implications of the research results for understanding the processes underlying successful weed invasions and for improving weed management and prevention programs will also be discussed.