


Biological Control of the Invasive Weed *Parthenium hysterophorus* in East Africa

Project name/Title	Biological Control of the Invasive Weed <i>Parthenium hysterophorus</i> in East Africa	
Donor/funding organization		
Name(s) of partner institution(s) [Name and logo of partner organization/ University and country]	<p>Virginia Tech, USA; Haramaya University; Ambo University; ARARI; EIAR; Oromia Agricultural Bureau; CABI, Nairobi, Kenya; Kenya Agricultural and Livestock Research Organization; Ministry of Agriculture, Food Security and Cooperatives in Tanzania; National Agricultural Research Organization, Uganda; Agricultural Research Institute- Plant Protection Research Institute (Weed Division), South Africa</p> 	
Lead institution	Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University	
Duration (Start year - end year)	01/09/2015-	16/11/2019
Total budget (in USD, Use current exchange rate if other currencies)	47,895 (for HU)	
Annual Budget (in USD)	9,579 (for HU)	
Contribution of HU, if applicable		
Name and address (telephone and email) of project coordinator/PI from HU	Dr. Lisanework Nigatu, Tel. No. 0919105100; lisaneworkn@yahoo.com	
Name and address (telephone and email) of other project members (if any)	Dr. Tamado Tana; Tel. No. 0909421573; tamado63@yahoo.com	

Number of project staff	6
College and school/department hosting the project (if any)	College of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences, School of Natural Resources Management and Environmental Sciences.
Project overall goal and specific objectives:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To scale-up the rearing and release of the two approved bio-control agents, the leaf-feeding beetle <i>Zygogramma bicolorata</i> and the stem-boring weevil <i>Listronotus setosipennis</i> in parthenium-infested areas of Ethiopia; 2. To evaluate the establishment and impact of these released agents on parthenium, crops, and biodiversity; 3. To evaluate new parthenium bio-control agents for their safety to non-target plant species under quarantine and, if specific to the weed, to seek a permit for their release
Target beneficiaries of the project:	Small scale, rural subsistence farmers
Any additional information (Remark)	Haramaya University is under taking collaborative research.