Your submission on the Proposal for the Canterbury Regional Pest Management Plan

Pests need an environment in which to thrive. We face undoubted global warming that will bring different pests and diseases. We must not court those outbreaks by retaining or creating environments in which they will, or might, thrive. There has been activist demand for wetlands in the city. Whatever reasons are used to justify or promote them I think that they will, in the near future, be regarded as disease infested swamps and council employees will be sent to cover the water surface with diesel oil. (the preferred method of killing the pupae of flying insects such as mosquitoes). The city is not the place for wetlands. Furthermore, to promote the establishment of wetlands the level of the water table has been raised in some parts of the city. An aspect of global warming is more violent weather and we need better, not worse, drainage. There must be an active programme of widening drainage streams and ditches so that the city is prepared for inundation and note inflicted by it.