

Galleracella Beetles continue to Eat Invasive

Loosestrife on Mill Pond!

The advancing invasion of Purple loosestrife into wetlands along the shores of Mill Pond on the Chubb River in Lake Placid was first noted in 2005. Efforts to combat this invasive by hand pulling and herbicide proved to be time consuming and ineffective. By 2007 purple loosestrife had exploded into 6 acres of Mill Pond wetland. The invasive species combat team decided to increase its efforts by using Biocontrol methods. "If you can't beat 'em, let the beetles eat 'em!" became their mantra. A grant to obtain the beetles was awarded to AsRA from the Lake Cham-

plain Basin Program in 2009. One thousand *Galleracella* beetles arrived in June 2009 and were released into four of the densest infestations along the shoreline. The beetles survived the harsh Adirondack winter and reemerged this summer (2010) to continue consuming Purple loosestrife.

Photo monitoring of the wetland sites shows progressive devastation of the purple loosestrife population and the return of native plants.

Below are before (2007) and after (2010) pictures showing the beetles' success.

