



WSSA

WEED SCIENCE SOCIETY OF AMERICA

Newsletter



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings from Virginia Beach! As I write this in early March, we seem to be alternating here daily, with 70 degrees one day and 45 the next. Wait — that probably sounds good to all of you who live much farther north than me. Anyways, I am looking forward to spring — the daffodils are already in full bloom here, as are certain tree species.

We had an excellent meeting in Chicago. I would like to thank the section and symposium chairs for all their help with the program. The tour to the Botanic Garden and Hausermanns Orchids was a success thanks to Aaron Hager and the local arrangements committee. Meeting planning and registration went well thanks to the efforts of Joyce Lancaster and Kate Counter. I would also like to thank Dwight Lingenfelter for taking pictures at the meeting, and Bob Kremer for his service as abstracts editor. Thanks also to all of you for the excellent posters and oral presentations at the meeting. We had a total of 309 presentations (107 posters, 157 oral talks, and 45 symposium presentations) with approximately 450 attendees. Congratulations to all our award winners. Their pictures appear later in this newsletter. I would like to thank the sustaining members for their support of our society, and the corporate sponsors for our awards.

I hope you enjoyed the keynote address by Mr. Orion Samuelson from WGN. Not only did he give an entertaining speech, he has worked with our Public Awareness committee since the Chicago meeting, and I have been told he mentioned our society on his radio show. We look forward to further cooperation with Mr. Samuelson.

I would like to thank Jill Schroeder for her excellent leadership as President this past year. We successfully worked through a number of issues due to her guidance. Jill also helped me prepare for my role on the board by keeping me informed on her activities.

I would like to acknowledge the board members who rotated off at the Chicago meeting: Dale Shaner, Past-President; Mike Foley, Director of Publications; John Jachetta, Member at Large; David Jordan, SWSS representative; Tom Mueller, Secretary; and Wade Givens, Graduate Student representative. A big "thank you" to all of you for your service to the society. Also, expect your email volume to drop about 50%!!! I would like to announce our new board members for 2008/2009: John Jachetta, Vice President; Mike Owen, Member at

CONTINUED on pg 2

New Member Benefit Access to JSTOR

The WSSA journal legacy project with JSTOR was completed in October 2007. All back issues of *Weeds/Weed Science* and *Weed Technology* from their initial publication in 1951 and 1987, respectively, up until the most recent three years will be available to subscriber libraries through JSTOR. The Board of Directors approved a recommendation by the Publication Board to provide access to back issues of our journals via JSTOR as a member benefit.

We will use a "scripted access usage model" where WSSA would have 142 free downloads, based on the current membership numbers and pay \$2.10 per hit thereafter. If each member accesses the files once, we anticipate the cost to WSSA would be \$2,700 for one year. According to Karen Ridgeway, our Allen Press Publishing Manager, the JSTOR royalty derived from the service should offset the cost of access. Karen Ridgeway and Joyce Lancaster are working out the details for implementation of member access and will notify us when the service is up and running.

James Anderson
WSSA Director of Publications

IN THIS ISSUE

Call for Board Nominations	3	People in the News	10	CAST Release	20
2008 Award Winners	5	USDA Awards Grants	10	Position Announcements	24
Program Update/Proposal Call	7	NEWSS News	11	Important Addresses	25
EPA Liaison Report	9	Washington Report	12	Calendar of Events	26

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE CONTINUED from pg 1

Large; Jason Norsworthy, SWSS representative, Rich Zollinger, Secretary; Jim Anderson, Director of Publications; and Vince Davis, Graduate Student representative. I look forward to working with all of our board members this year. See our smiling faces later in this newsletter. I am sure we will still be smiling a year from now! As I have mentioned to many people, it is a great time to be on the board. We have been very active, with the new journal being one of our biggest accomplishments.

A highlight of the meeting was the launch of our new journal *Invasive Plant Science and Management*. This journal came together very quickly due to the committee that made this happen: Vanelle Peterson, Lars Anderson, Joe DiTomaso, Janet Clark, Kevin Gibson, John Jachetta, Greg MacDonald, Mike Foley, and Karen Ridgeway. I also would like to acknowledge the support from both the 2006 and 2007 WSSA boards for this effort. Please support our editor, Joe DiTomaso, by submitting manuscripts for the new journal, reviewing manuscripts when requested, and asking your library to purchase a subscription. Please mention the new journal at meetings that you attend. A large print run of the first edition was done so you may be able to obtain copies to give away. Contact Karen Ridgeway at Allen Press for availability.

I attended National Invasive Weed Awareness Week (NIWAW) February 23–27 in Washington, DC on behalf of WSSA, as did David Shaw (our President-elect) and Lee Van Wyche (our Director of Science Policy). Other participants included Nelroy Jackson, Jerry Doll, Linda Nelson, John Madsen, George Beck, Janet Clark, Jennifer Vollmer, Rita Beard, Al Tasker, and Kurt Getsinger. Nelroy was the chair for NIWAW 9 — he did an excellent job organizing the ninth installment of NIWAW and deserves our thanks. Lee also spent a lot of time making preparations for NIWAW 9 and deserves thanks as well.

As you probably are aware, Del Delfosse is leaving the position of National Program Leader for Weed Science at ARS to become chair of the entomology department at Michigan State. Del — thank you for your support of weed science research the past eight years and best wishes with your new position. David, Lee, and I met with Ed Knipling, administrator for USDA/ARS, concerning the filling of the National Program Leader for Weed Science position. We were concerned that Del Delfosse's position may not be filled due to budget constraints. We came away from the meeting with Dr. Knipling feeling very optimistic that the position would be filled. David, Lee and I also met with Gale Buchanan, Under Secretary for CSREES at USDA, and Merle Pierson, Deputy Under Secretary, concerning the filling of Del's position. As a side note, I sent letters to Drs. Knipling and Buchanan, as well as letters to Ed Schafer, Secretary of Agriculture, four Senators, and four Representatives stating our support for the filling of this position. I would like to thank the officers of the regional and affiliated societies that also sent in letters to support the hiring of a National Program Leader for Weed Science at ARS. We told Dr. Knipling that we could assist in the search for a new program leader. If any of you are interested in this position, irregardless of whether or not you currently are with ARS, please let me know.

As Part of NIWAW, there was a briefing from EPA. Kurt Getsinger gave a report of his accomplishments as a liaison to EPA on aquatic weed issues. Our liaison with EPA, Steve Dewey, gave a presentation on his activities at the agency. Steve has been able to respond to questions on how weeds are actually managed in the field. Steve needs your help — a sign-up sheet was distributed in Chicago so that volunteers could offer their expertise in areas where Steve has not conducted research. If you missed that sign-up list, please notify Steve that you are willing to be contacted about weed science issues in your specialty.

Nelroy, Lee, and I met with Richard Mack and David Lodge from the Ecological Society of America. One item we discussed was another IPINAMS conference to duplicate the success of the previous joint meeting between WSSA and ESA. We also discussed support for implementation of Quarantine 37 with-

CONTINUED on pg 3

WSSA FUTURE MEETING SITES AND DATES

2009

Hilton/Walt Disney World
Orlando, FL

February 9–12, 2009

David Shaw & Dan Reynolds,
co-chairs

The 2009 WSSA meeting will be a joint meeting between the Weed Science Society of America and the Southern Weed Science Society from February 9–12, 2009 in Orlando, FL. The joint meeting will be held at the Hilton in the Walt Disney World Resort.

The website for the hotel is:

http://www1.hilton.com/en_US/hi/hotel/ORLDWHH-Hilton-located-in-the-WALT-DISNEY-WORLD-Resort-Florida/index.do

For more information:

www.wssa.net

or

www.weedscience.msstate.edu/swss

WSSA HOME PAGE
ACCESSED AT:

www.wssa.net

WSSA NEWSLETTER

VOL. 36, NO. 2

APRIL, 2008

Published quarterly by the Weed Science Society of America. Subscription included in the annual dues paid by members of the Society. Address correspondence and information to:

Dr. Clifford Koger (Trey), Editor
WSSA NEWSLETTER
Delta Research and Extension Center
Mississippi State University
P. O. Box 197
Stoneville, MS 38776
tkoger@drec.msstate.edu
(662) 686-9311 Office
(662) 686-7336 Fax

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE CONTINUED from pg 2

in APHIS. These regulations address the evaluation of invasiveness for any new plants species being considered for introduction into the US. Lee and I met with Bruce Knight (USDA Under Secretary for Marketing and Regulatory Programs), Alan Green (Director – APHIS PPQ) and A. Kevin Shea (APHIS Assoc. Admin.), Eric Lane, Colorado Dept. of Agriculture, and Cat Hazelwood of the Nature Conservancy offering our assistance with implementation of these regulations. We discussed having a meeting in DC to show how the scientific community can assist with the development of these regulations.

Lee, Nelroy and I met with Mike Ielmini, Forest Service, John Kennedy, Wyoming Game and Fish, and Tim Richardson, Wildlife forever, concerning a possible liaison/IPA position. More discussion is needed since we were unable to arrive at any specific course of action.

While we were in DC, Lee, Jerry and I met with staffers for Senators Feingold, Kohl, Domenici, Warner, and Webb to discuss the issue of invasive plants. We presented the four issue papers that were selected for this year's NIWAW. Lee — thanks for all your hard work setting up these visits for us. We also were able to catch part of Dave Gealy's CAST presentation on the hill.

David Shaw will be our program chair for our 2009 conference, which will be a joint meeting with SWSS. Please assist David and co-chair Dan Reynolds as they prepare for this meeting. We will be meeting jointly with the Society for Range Management in Denver for our 2010 conference. John Jachetta, Rod Lym, Rita Beard and others will be working on the planning for this meeting.

We have a very active and successful Public Awareness campaign, thanks to Janis McFarland (chair) and her committee. Please lend your support to this effort if you are

asked to prepare a press release. Feel free to contact Janis with press releases that you would like to prepare.

Our editor for *Weed Science*, Robert Blackshaw, is stepping down when he completes his current term. Please see the WSSA website for the job announcement for this position.

We have decided not to have a website editor this year, instead placing those funds with the website committee chaired by Ed Luschei. If you or a committee you serve on needs funds to hire part-time help to complete a project for the WSSA website, please contact Ed. If you would like to propose a new project for our website, the website committee can assist you in that effort. The education and extension committee is currently working on getting all the images from the XID project onto our website. As you may be aware, we have terminated our contract for phase 2 of the XID project and are no longer marketing this CD. David Krueger continues doing an excellent job as our webmaster. He is working on a redesign for the homepage, as well as securing our abstracts from the last two annual meetings.

The ARS Weed Science Workshop, initially scheduled to occur after our meeting in Chicago, was rescheduled for May 20–23, 2008 in Miami. If you are invited, please try to participate. This is our opportunity to provide input on the next five-year plan for weed science research within ARS. I will attend, as well as certain other members of the board.

It is truly an honor to serve as your president this year. Please contact me if you have any thoughts or suggestions for improving our efforts in WSSA.

Jeffrey Derr, President
jderr@vt.edu

Call for Nominations For Candidates to the WSSA Board of Directors

The 2009 WSSA Nominating Committee is soliciting nominations of candidates to stand for election to positions on the Board of Directors. The nominating committee is charged with identifying a talented, diverse pool of candidates for WSSA offices. Please help us identify candidates for office who can help realize the great potential of this organization and discipline. We are soliciting nominations of candidates to the following offices:

- ▶ **Vice President** (four-year term of office) – The candidate elected Vice President serves four one-year terms as Vice President, President-elect, President, and Past President.
- ▶ **Treasurer** (three-year term of office) – The Treasurer chairs the

Finance Committee and oversees the financial affairs of the society.

- ▶ **Member-at-Large** (four-year term of office) – The Member-at-Large represents the membership on the Board.

The members elected to these offices will begin their duties at the close of the Annual Business meeting at the Orlando meeting in February 2009.

We ask you to provide us with the following information about the candidates you recommend for office:

- Candidate's name, contact information, and the board position you are nominating them to
- Statement of candidate's willingness to stand for election (please

make sure that the individual is willing to allow you to nominate them)

- Brief statement of support for the candidate

Please respond to this request by June 1, 2008 by sending your nominations to:

Jill Schroeder
jschroe@nmsu.edu
575/646-2328

Thank you for your help with this very important activity of our society!

WSSA Nominations Committee:

Ron Crockett	David Monks
Len Juras	Adrian Moses
Renee Keese	James Petta
Jill Schroeder, Chair	

SNAPSHOTS FROM CHICAGO



Scenic View of Chicago from outside the Hilton



Jill Schroeder speaking at Awards Ceremony



Gavel Pass from Jill Schroeder, current President, to Jeffrey Derr, incoming President



Past President Jill Schroeder receiving award recognizing her outstanding service as WSSA President

Thanks to Photographer:
Dwight Lingenfelter
Penn State University

Award Winners

2008 WSSA ANNUAL MEETING

Fellows and Honorary Member

Jim Barrentine (Chair)

Fellows:

- Martin A. Locke** • USDA-ARS, Oxford, MS
- Carol Mallory-Smith** • Oregon State University
- Robert Wilson** • Panhandle Research and Extension Center, University of Nebraska

Honorary Member:

- Ricardo Labrada Romero** • FAO, Plant Protection Service

Outstanding Extension Award

Richard Zollinger (Chair)

- Joe M. DiTomaso**
University of California



Outstanding Research Award

Joe DiTomaso (Chair)

- Krishna N. Reddy**
USDA-ARS, Stoneville, MS



Outstanding Teacher Award

Rene Van Acker (Chair)

- Antonio DiTommaso**
Cornell University



Outstanding Paper in Weed Science

Jim Moyer (Chair)

- Kirk W. Davies**
USDA-ARS, Burns, OR
co-authored by Roger L. Sheley

A conceptual framework for preventing the spatial dispersal of invasive plants. *Weed Science* 55: 178-184.



Outstanding Reviewer Awards

Mike Foley (Chair)

Weed Technology:

- Vijay K. Nandula** • Delta Research and Extension Center, Mississippi State University

Weed Science:

- William Vencill** • University of Georgia

Outstanding Graduate Student Award

Rene Van Acker (Chair)

- Jacob Barney**
University of California



Early Career Outstanding Scientist Award

Tom Mueller (Chair)

- Nilda Roma Burgos**
University of Arkansas



Outstanding Industry Award

Case Medlin (Chair)

- Vanelle Peterson**
Dow AgroSciences



Outstanding Paper in Weed Technology

Dave Stoltenberg (Chair)

- Mitch Blair**
University of Kentucky
co-authored by Shepard M. Zedaker, John R. Seiler, Perry. Lloyd Hipkins, and Patrick L. Burch
Evaluation of rapid screening techniques for woody plant herbicide development. *Weed Technol.* 20: 971-979.



CONTINUED on pg 6

2008 Undergraduate Research Awards

Author	Proposal Title	Academic Sponsor
Tyler Brummer Montana State University	Assessing patch growth patterns and potential source populations of <i>Linaria dalmatica</i> (Dalmatian toadflax) using root aging techniques	Lisa J. Rew Dept. of Land Resources and Environmental Sciences
Gregory John Miles Montana State University	Investigating the Potential Role of ACCase Mutations as a Mechanism of Resistance to Pinoxaden in <i>Avena fatua</i>	William E. Dyer Professor Plant Molecular Biology
Robert "Mitchell" Thomas University of California, Davis	Potential for further establishment of Medusahead (<i>Taeniatherum caputmedusae</i>) in California savannas and grasslands	Emilio Laca Associate Professor Dept. of Plant Sciences
Alex J. Paik Virginia Tech	Approaches to Transformation of the Parasitic Weed Dodder (<i>Cuscuta</i>)	James H. Westwood Associate Professor of Weed Science
Carol Lange New Mexico State University	The Effect of Nitrogen on the Production of the Alkaloid Swainsonine in a Toxic Rangeland Weed	Tracy M. Sterling Professor Weed Physiology
Virginia A. Johnson North Carolina State University	Investigations of monoecious hydrilla (<i>Hydrilla verticillata</i>) subterranean turion ecology	Robert J. Richardson Assistant Professor and Extension Specialist
Leticia Daconti Cornell University	Determination of Genetic Similarity Between Embryos in Polyembryonic Pale Swallow-wort Seeds	Antonio DiTommaso Associate Professor Weed Science
Amanda S. Zwainz Washington State University	Mechanism of differential tolerance of winter wheat varieties to mesosulfuron as affected by temperature	Ian C. Burke Assistant Professor

Trio Recognized for Contributions to Weed Science

Dr. Al Hamill, Dr. Jerry Ivany, and Dr. Susan Weaver are well-known figures in both academic and farmers' fields. Quite often in the summer they are scarcely at the office, spending most of their time in research plots or farmer's fields. During the past thirty-plus years, this trio has made tremendous progress to help farmers control weeds and improve crop yields, and were recently honored for their efforts.

The three scientists from Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada recently received the Canadian Weed Science

Society's (CWSS) first Fellowship of the Society. All three have been long-time members of the CWSS and have held executive positions within the society: Dr. Ivany (Charlottetown) was the Society's first president, Dr. Hamill (Harrow) was president of the Weed Science Society of America in 2003, while Dr. Weaver held an executive position from 2002 to 2005. Dr. Weaver (Harrow) also served as an associate editor for five journals throughout her career.

All three scientists have been active participants and leaders in various

professional organizations and honored by many local and national associations. They have all done a lot of behind the scenes work to help organizations that often go unnoticed, but whose work is absolutely essential to the operation of many groups. It is very fitting that these three scientists, who have devoted their lives to helping farmers effectively control weeds and improve production, receive this first award from the CWSS.

Joint Conference Program Update and Call for Symposium Proposals for 2009 Meeting

The 2009 joint meeting between SWSS and WSSA will feature a completely integrated program. The overall program will be designed to facilitate the inclusion of various symposia along with associated tours and workshops. The program will also be designed to accommodate some family activities. With these as well as other factors in mind, the program committee is designing the program to encompass five days. Poster participation will be highly encouraged; however, traditional oral presentations will also be accepted. The poster sessions will be organized thematically. Each thematic group will have times scheduled for brief oral summaries and discussions in breakout meeting rooms apart from the remaining posters. We believe this format will accommodate the increased number of presentations while also facilitating increased discussion and interaction between authors and interested persons.

Many of you have already offered various suggestions for symposia, tours, workshops, and recreational activities. Program chairs David Shaw and Dan Reynolds greatly appreciate your input and suggestions. Some of the activities under consideration include a golf tournament, Everglades airboat tour, a behind the scenes tour of EPCOT's horticultural program that supplies all the plants for the theme parks, a biological control tour, a citrus tour, and a horticultural crops tour.

In order that we may carefully consider all of your requests we ask that you formalize your ideas by submitting a symposium proposal. All SWSS and WSSA members are invited to submit proposals for symposia at the 2009 meeting in Orlando on February 9–13, 2009.

As you prepare your proposal, realize that the two boards will have the difficult task of deciding which proposals to accept for the program. The proposed program format can handle five to six symposia. The boards will evaluate the proposals based on how well they are justified, the target audience, and the completeness of the proposed agenda and budget.

The maximum funding is \$5,000 per symposium. See the guidelines listed below for symposia funding.

The webmasters for SWSS and WSSA have established an online form on each respective website to submit symposium proposals for the 2009 meeting—look under the headlines heading on the WSSA homepage. Please complete the form online. Clicking the submit button will automatically email the symposium proposal to us. Symposium proposals are due by June 1, 2008. If you have any questions, feel free to email or call Dan Reynolds dreynolds@pss.msstate.edu (662-325-0519) or David Shaw dshaw@gri.msstate.edu (662-325-9573).

Outline of Symposium Proposal Form

Symposium Proposal

2009 WSSA Meeting, Orlando, FL

Title:

Organizers:

Contact person:

Phone:

Email:

Justification and Objectives (approximately 300 words):

Target audience:

Associated Section(s):

Length of Proposed Program:

Proposed Titles and Speakers:

Budget requested:

Guidelines for Disposition of Weed Science Society Funds for Symposia Expenses

A total of \$5,000 is available for each symposium approved by the Executive Boards for the upcoming meeting. These funds can be used by the symposium organizers, working in conjunction with the Program Chair, for expenses incurred in securing speakers. The following guidelines are intended to help the symposia organizers and the Program Chair in allotting available funds.

Although \$5,000 has been budgeted for each symposium, the goal is to spend the least amount necessary to obtain excellent symposia speakers. The funds will be allocated as necessary to partially cover travel expenses of speakers. Members of SWSS or WSSA who agree to present symposium papers will not be offered travel funds except in dire emergencies as determined by the Program Chairs. An example of such an emergency would be a member who is a renowned expert in the field of the symposium topic but has no source of funds to attend the annual meeting in question.

No honoraria will be offered to any speaker. No more

CONTINUED on pg 8

JOINT CONFERENCE PROGRAM UPDATE CONTINUED from pg 7

than three nights' lodging will be offered to nonmember symposium speakers. Hilton room rates in Orlando will be about \$199 single/\$219 double plus taxes per night. Please estimate travel and lodging costs for invited speakers as you develop your proposals. All symposium speakers who are nonmembers of SWSS or WSSA will be offered free registration at the annual meeting and a free ticket to society events during that week. Reimbursement of some or all travel expenses (travel, meals, and lodging) will be offered to nonmember symposia speakers on the basis of need, availability of funds, and the value of the speakers on the program. Funds can only be used for speaker travel; if less than \$5,000 is needed for speaker travel for a given symposium, the difference cannot be used for other purposes.

Program organizers need to consider travel costs when considering invitations to speakers located far from the meeting site. Whereas foreign speakers who are experts in the field of the symposium topic might receive a higher priority for expenses than domestic speakers, the cost of travel and needs of the individuals should be more important considerations. For example, a Canadian speaker traveling from Ontario to Orlando may incur lower costs and have a lesser need for funding than a California speaker also traveling to Orlando. Because of the limited budget for symposia expenses and the high cost of travel for many distant foreigners, symposium organizers should strongly consider the value of bringing

in speakers from distant foreign countries unless other arrangements for funding of travel can be made.

Symposia chairs should contact their intended speakers and determine their financial needs for participation no later than May 1. This information should be incorporated into the budget for the proposed symposium. Symposium proposals must be submitted to the Program Chairs by June 1. The SWSS and WSSA Boards will evaluate the submitted proposals and decide which symposia will be funded. The Program Chairs will inform symposium organizers which ones will receive funding for the upcoming annual meeting. Symposium organizers that received funding can then proceed with offers of funding to nonmember speakers. In no event should symposium organizers make commitments for more funding than is approved by the Executive Boards. Symposium organizers can search for alternate funding opportunities if \$5,000 will not cover all travel expenses for nonmember speakers.

Symposia organizers should consider publication of symposium papers in *Weed Science* or *Weed Technology*. When necessary, the symposia chairs may request that the Editor of *Weed Science* or *Weed Technology* waive page charges for publication of symposia papers by contributors who are not WSSA members.

SWSS Program Chair, Dan Reynolds
WSSA Program Chair, David Shaw

SEND NEWSLETTER MATERIAL TO:

Dr. Clifford Koger (Trey)
Editor, WSSA Newsletter
Delta Research
and Extension Center
Mississippi State University
P. O. Box 197
Stoneville, MS 38776
tkoger@drec.msstate.edu
(662) 686-9311 Office
(662) 686-7336 Fax

THINK NEWSLETTER
Deadline for July issue
June 1, 2008

WSSA Contacts at Allen Press, Inc.

For All Contacts:

Phone: (800) 627-1326, (785) 843-1234 • Fax: (785) 843-1274

Joyce Lancaster, Executive Secretary

Ext. 250; E-mail: jlancaster@allenpress.com

Regarding: Society reimbursements, committee activities, membership reports, list rental requests

Jason Gilbert, Association Manager

E-mail: jgilbert@allenpress.com

Regarding: Membership payments, orders, address changes, claims, author billing

Kate Counter, Meeting Manager

Ext. 225; E-mail: kcounter@allenpress.com

Regarding: WSSA annual meeting

Tracy Candelaria, Managing Editor

E-mail: tcandelaria@allenpress.com

Regarding: Reviewer questions

EPA Liaison Report

A liaison position between WSSA and EPA Registration Division was created by the WSSA Board of Directors in May, 2007. The vision for this position was to develop a liaison between the academic Weed Science community and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in order to assist the Agency in addressing crop and non-crop weed management issues that directly impact the weed management practitioner. The expectation was that a WSSA/EPA Subject Matter Expert (SME) would learn the registration and reregistration processes at the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), become familiar with the EPA scientific committees and how they operate, and develop a basic understanding of how EPA OPP risk assessments are conducted. With this background, the WSSA/EPA SME would represent the WSSA membership to EPA and provide critical input on topics such as the utility of label mitigations for herbicide use, spray drift management, invasive species management near endangered species, and the role of weed control in land management. It was expected that the WSSA SME would also meet with other appropriate federal and state personnel who are responsible for the control of invasive weeds on public lands in order to bring their expertise to bear on labeling and use applications.

This position was announced to the membership on March 5, 2007; resumes were reviewed and an applicant, Dr. Steven Dewey, Utah State University, was selected on May 5, 2007 and started this assignment on June 12, 2007.

Steve has recently completed his seventh week-long visit to EPA's Office of Pesticide Programs in Washington, DC, and feels that significant progress is being made toward the goals set for this position by the WSSA Board.

Steve provides the following report:

Through the WSSA/EPA SME position, I have become well acquainted with individuals in the Agency's Pesticide Registration Division,

and have learned much about the organizational structure and function of the various other divisions and branches within EPA's Office of Pesticide Programs. I've participated in numerous EPA committee meetings, being given an inside look at their workings and purposes. I've been invited on numerous occasions to provide input on specific topics and issues currently under consideration by EPA and the Agency has often viewed these issues from an entirely new perspective as a direct result of the information I have shared. One of the more gratifying aspects of the WSSA/EPA SME role is the immediate impact my advice has had on a number of issues that would have been resolved in less useful ways without my input. In many cases, my own experience and background have been sufficient to meet their requests. On other occasions I've relied on members of WSSA and the regional societies for answers.

I appreciate the warm welcome I've received from all whom I've met at EPA. I'm convinced that the SME position has been and will continue to be highly beneficial to both WSSA and EPA. Last month at National Invasive Weed Awareness Week in Washington, D.C., I presented an overview of the SME position during

EPA's portion of the program. There I pointed out that the flow of information between EPA and WSSA is much like the source-to-sink relationship in plants that we all know well. Sometimes WSSA is the source and EPA is the sink. Other times the flow is reversed and EPA becomes the source with WSSA the beneficiary. The net result is that both groups are nourished with knowledge, and both grow stronger. That's what I see our SME position helping to accomplish and both organizations grow through this interaction, our impact also expands.

That brings me to the topic of my greatest need — a longer list of weed scientists and weed management practitioners willing to share their expertise with EPA through the SME liaison. At our annual meeting in Chicago, there was a sign-up sheet placed at the registration desk for anyone wishing to volunteer their help as an information resource person. I appreciate all who accepted the invitation, but there is still a need for many more. If you'd like to help, please send me a note via E-mail at Steved@ext.usu.edu and I'd be glad to sign you up! This position will have its greatest impact through your participation.

Steve Dewey

New Changes to Publication Policy

At the 2008 WSSA Annual Meeting in Chicago, the Board of Directors approved the Publication Committee recommendation to have all manuscripts accepted for publication in *Weed Science*, *Weed Technology*, and *Invasive Plant Science & Management* available as Ahead of Print articles. The Board of Directors also agreed to cover the cost of providing Ahead of Print services beginning March 1 through the remainder of 2008. In 2009, it is proposed that the cost will be included in the author publication charges. All WSSA members will have access to the Ahead of Print pdf articles via the WSSA website and their individual login. Beginning in 2009, BioOne should have established new protocols which will also provide for accessing Ahead of Print articles. These moves have been implemented as a continuing effort by WSSA and Allen Press to increase the turn-around time from submission to online accessibility and to increase the journal's impact factor rating.

James Anderson
WSSA Director of Publications

David Shaw of MSU Joins National Science Association Elite

STARKVILLE, Miss.—The head of a major Mississippi State University research unit is a newly selected Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

GeoResources Institute director David R. Shaw is receiving the highest professional honor the association gives in recognition of efforts to advance science and its applications.

Founded in 1848, the Washington, D.C.-based organization represents more than 120,000 members and publishes the highly regarded journal *Science*, among many activities.

Shaw has developed a national reputation for his research leadership in the areas of agriculture, food and renewable resources. The institute he leads focuses on understanding natural and managed systems using geo-spatial technologies.

"This is an outstanding national recognition of Dr. Shaw's professional accomplishments in advancing science," said Kirk Schulz, MSU vice president for research and economic development. "It also validates that his contributions have been recognized by a very distinguished group of peers." Schulz also is an AAAS Fellow.

Shaw, an Oklahoma State University doctoral graduate, began his career at Mississippi State in 1985 as an assistant professor of weed science. His research focused particularly on optimizing weed management practices to maintain farm productivity while protecting the environment.

Having adopted the use of spatial technologies in his early MSU research, Shaw was named in 1998 as the first director of the new Remote Sensing Technologies Center. As head of the multi-disciplinary GeoResources Institute, which succeeded the RSTC, he has focused on developing applications of spatial technologies in site-specific agriculture and in assessing natural resources.

The institute has received funding from a multitude of federal agencies, including NASA, U.S. Department of Transportation, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Department of Defense, and National Science Foundation.

In 2007, Shaw also was appointed director of the Northern Gulf Institute, a NOAA collaborative that also includes the University of Southern Mississippi, Louisiana State and Florida State universities, and the Dauphin Island Sea Laboratory near Mobile, Alabama.

The Northern Gulf Institute's work focuses on upland-watershed systems, as well as coastal waters, habitats, resources, and hazards.

Shaw, also a Fellow of the Weed Science Society of America, holds the rank of William L. Giles Distinguished Professor, MSU's highest faculty honor.



USDA Awards More Than \$4 Million in Weedy and Invasive Species Grants

WASHINGTON, March 3, 2008 — Agriculture Secretary Ed Schafer announced today that USDA is awarding \$4.6 million to 13 universities and research labs to develop ecologically and economically rational strategies for management, control and elimination of weedy and invasive species, which cause more than \$100 billion in losses each year.

The awards are administered by USDA's Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service (CSREES) through the National Research Initiative (NRI) Biology of Weedy and Invasive Species in Agroecosystems competitive grants program. This grant program has awarded more than \$20 million in grants over the past five years.

This year, projects support integrated and basic research projects, equipment purchases, conference symposia and network development. Funded projects include research at Pennsylvania State University to establish and demonstrate effective biological control of the Canada thistle. Research at Oregon State University will develop and implement ecologically-based cropping systems that suppress summer annual weed populations in vegetable row crops. University of Wisconsin researchers will work to predict invasion of exotic species and their impact on tree regeneration and native plant diversity in Wisconsin lowland forests. To view the complete list of recipients, please visit:

http://www.csrees.usda.gov/newsroom/news/2008/news/03031_invasive_species.html

CSREES' NRI program is the largest peer-reviewed, competitive grants program at USDA. NRI supports research, extension and education grants that address key problems of national, regional and multi-state importance in sustaining all components of agriculture.

Through federal funding and leadership for research, education and extension programs, CSREES focuses on investing in science and solving critical issues impacting people's daily lives and the nation's future. For more information, visit www.csrees.usda.gov

THINK NEWSLETTER

Deadline for July issue

June 1, 2008

NEWS News

The Northeastern Weed Science Society held its 62nd Annual Meeting at the Sheraton Society Hill Hotel in Philadelphia on January 7–10, 2008 with over 200 people in attendance. The theme of the meeting was “Effect of Climate Change on Weeds.”

The session opened with a welcome from Kathy Orr, Chief Meteorologist at WKYW TV in Philadelphia. Speakers for the special climate topic included: Dr. Cameron Wake, University of New Hampshire; Dr. Lewis Ziska, USDA-ARS; Dr. Andrew McDonald, Cornell University; Dr. David Mortensen, Penn State University; and Dr. Brent Helliker, University of Pennsylvania. (To view these presentations, visit www.newss.org.)

In addition to the typical seven sections (agronomy; conservation, forestry and industrial; ornamentals; turfgrass and plant growth regulators; vegetable and fruit; weed biology and ecology; and poster), the conference also included a symposium entitled: “The Latest in Plant Growth Regulators for Turfgrass Use.”

The meeting format was altered this year in order to have all of the graduate student presentations in one session. This new format was well received by most of the members.

Five deserving scientists were recognized at the conference: Dr. Jeff Derr, with Virginia Tech, was awarded the Distinguished Member Award; Dr. Domingo Riego, recently retired from Monsanto, was given the Award of Merit; Dr. Mike Fidanza, with Penn State, received the Outstanding Educator Award; Dr. Shawn Askew, with Virginia Tech, was awarded the Outstanding Researcher

Award; and Dr. Jacob Barney, currently a post-doc at California-Davis, received the inaugural “Robert D. Sweet Outstanding Graduate Student” award.

The Graduate Student Presentation awards went to: First Place: Glenn Evans, Cornell; Second Place: Alex Putnam, University of Connecticut; Third Place: Angela Post, North Carolina State; and Honorable Mention: Ruth Mick, Penn State. The Graduate Poster awards were presented to: First Place (tie): Matt Ryan, Penn State, and Franklin Egan, Penn State.

Graduate students were given the opportunity to socialize at a mixer and discuss in more detail the effects of climate change on plants with Dr. Ziska. During the conference, outgoing President Renee Keese passed the gavel to Jerry Baron.

The NEWSS still believes the weed contest forum is a valuable teaching tool for weed science students. In 2007, the NEWSS boasted a very successful and diverse collegiate weed science contest hosted by Virginia Tech in Blacksburg with 45 students attending. University of Delaware will be the site of the 2008 contest on July 30.

NEWSS will host an Invasive Vegetation Management short course near Harrisburg, PA during mid-September 2008; more details will be posted on www.newss.org as plans are finalized. President Jerry Baron has arranged to hold the 63rd Annual Meeting of the NEWSS at the Renaissance Harborplace Hotel in Baltimore, MD on January 5-8, 2009.

Dwight Lingenfelter
NEWSS Public Relations



Effect of Climate Change on Weeds symposium speakers include: (1 to r) Andrew McDonald, Lewis Ziska, Cameron Wake, David Mortensen, and Jerry Baron (NEWSS President). Brent Helliker was absent in photo.

WASHINGTON REPORT

by Lee Van Wychen, Director of Science Policy

FARM BILL AGREEMENT UNLIKELY: EXPECT AT LEAST ONE YEAR EXTENSION

On March 15, President Bush said he would ask Congress to pass a one-year extension of the farm bill if the House and Senate cannot negotiate a new Farm Bill by April 18. Congress passed another extension of the 2002 Farm Bill; this time a 30-day extension, on March 12. Lawmakers are hoping to finish up negotiations on a \$280 billion five-year policy overhaul before the president's deadline.

House-Senate negotiations have been stymied by a stalemate between the White House and Congress over how to pay for about \$10 billion in new spending beyond the bill's \$280 billion baseline. Lawmakers must offset that new spending with cuts to other programs or tax revenue.

The President insists he will not sign a bill that includes new taxes. He has also pushed for significant restructuring of agricultural subsidies, a hard sell among lawmakers who represent big farming districts.

A squabble brewing between the Senate Agriculture and Finance committees is complicating matters. The Finance panel is responsible for coming up with offsets to support the extra \$10 billion in spending, but Agriculture Committee Chairman Tom Harkin, D-Iowa, says those efforts are infringing on his jurisdiction.

Fed up with feuds in the Senate, House negotiators say they are poised to write a new farm bill that includes no new spending above the baseline.

ENERGY INDEPENDENCE AND SECURITY ACT BECOMES LAW ON DECEMBER 19, 2007

After much fanfare and political wrangling, the House and Senate passed the Energy Independence and Security Act (EISA) and President Bush signed it into law (Public Law 110-140) on December 19, 2007. EISA sets new renewable fuel goals and raises the average fuel economy stan-

dard for automobiles for the first time in 32 years to 35 miles per gallon by 2020. More importantly, EISA requires that by 2022, the United States of America work to produce 36 billion gallons of renewable fuels. The mandated sources of those 36 billion gallons are:

1. Cellulosic-based ethanol – 20 billion gallons
2. Corn ethanol – 15 billion gallons
3. Biodiesel – 1 billion gallons

The WSSA Science Policy Committee has worked diligently over the past year on multiple fronts to ensure that any federal programs on cellulosic energy production move forward in a proactive way when it comes to using weeds for cellulosic biomass. Everybody wants to work together to prevent introduction of invasive weeds similar to kudzu (*Pueraria montana*) and salt cedar (*Tamarix ramosissima*). EISA includes an important section (Section 204) in this regard, titled "Environmental and Resource Conservation Impacts."

Specifically:

"Not later than 3 years after the enactment of this section and every 3 years thereafter, the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, in consultation with the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of Energy, shall assess and report to Congress on the impacts to date and likely future impacts of the requirements on the following:

- (1) *Environmental issues, including air quality, effects on hypoxia, pesticides, sediment, nutrient and pathogen levels in waters, acreage and function of waters, and soil environmental quality.*
- (2) *Resource conservation issues, including soil conservation, water availability, and ecosystem health and biodiversity, including impacts on forests, grasslands, and wetlands.*
- (3) *The growth and use of cultivated invasive or noxious plants and their impacts on*

the environment and agriculture.

In advance of preparing the report required by this subsection, the Administrator may seek the views of the National Academy of Sciences or another appropriate independent research institute. The report shall include the annual volume of imported renewable fuels and feedstocks for renewable fuels, and the environmental impacts outside the United States of producing such fuels and feedstocks. The report required by this subsection shall include recommendations for actions to address any adverse impacts found."

The first step in the new law will be to boost renewable fuel production to 9 billion gallons in 2008, an increase of at least 2 billion gallons over last year. To help in that endeavor, EISA provides funding for research on production of so-called advanced biofuels, such as "cellulosic" ethanol from switchgrass, corn stover or other organic materials. **If you are a WSSA member, you should be establishing partnerships with your colleagues and positioning yourself for the \$600 million included in the following four sections of EISA (Sections 207, 223, 230 and 234):**

Sec. 207: Grants for Production of Advanced Biofuels.

- (a) *In General.*--The Secretary of Energy shall establish a grant program to encourage the production of advanced biofuels.
- (b) *Requirements and Priority.*--In making grants under this section, the Secretary--
 - (1) shall make awards to the proposals for advanced biofuels with the greatest reduction in lifecycle greenhouse gas emissions compared to the comparable motor vehicle fuel lifecycle emissions during calendar year 2005; and
 - (2) shall not make an award to a project that does not achieve at least an 80 percent reduction in such

CONTINUED on pg 13

lifecycle greenhouse gas emissions.

- (c) **Authorization of Appropriations.**
--There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section **\$500,000,000 for the period of fiscal years 2008 through 2015.**

Sec. 223. Grants for Biofuel Production Research and Development in Certain States.

- (a) *In General.*--The Secretary shall provide grants to eligible entities for research, development, demonstration, and commercial application of biofuel production technologies in States with low rates of ethanol production, including low rates of production of cellulosic biomass ethanol, as determined by the Secretary.
- (b) *Eligibility.*--To be eligible to receive a grant under this section, an entity shall--
1. (1)(A) be an institution of higher education (as defined in section 2 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 15801)), including tribally controlled colleges or universities, located in a State described in subsection (a); or
 2. (B) be a consortium including at least 1 such institution of higher education and industry, State agencies, Indian tribal agencies, National Laboratories, or local government agencies located in the State; and
 3. (2) have proven experience and capabilities with relevant technologies.

- (c) **Authorization of Appropriations.**
--There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary to carry out this section **\$25,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2010.**

Sec. 230. Cellulosic Ethanol and Biofuels Research.

- (a) *Definition of Eligible Entity.*--In this section, the term "eligible entity" means--
- (1) an 1890 Institution (as defined in section 2 of the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998 (7 U.S.C. 7061));
 - (2) a part B institution (as defined in section 322 of the Higher Edu-

cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1061)) (commonly referred to as "Historically Black Colleges and Universities");

- (3) a tribal college or university (as defined in section 316(b) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1059c(b)); or
 - (4) a Hispanic-serving institution (as defined in section 502(a) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1101a(a)).
- (b) **Grants.**--The Secretary shall make **cellulosic ethanol and biofuels research and development grants to 10 eligible entities selected by the Secretary to receive a grant under this section through a peer-reviewed competitive process.**
- (c) *Collaboration.*--An eligible entity that is selected to receive a grant under subsection (b) shall collaborate with 1 of the Bioenergy Research Centers of the Office of Science of the Department.
- (d) **Authorization of Appropriations.**
--There is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary to make grants described in subsection (b) **\$50,000,000 for fiscal year 2008, to remain available until expended.**

Sec. 234. University Based Research and Development Grant Program.

- (a) *Establishment.*--The Secretary shall establish a competitive grant program, in a geographically diverse manner, for projects submitted for consideration by institutions of higher education to conduct research and development of renewable energy technologies. **Each grant made shall not exceed \$2,000,000.**
- (b) *Eligibility.*--Priority shall be given to institutions of higher education with--
- (1) established programs of research in renewable energy;
 - (2) locations that are low income or outside of an urbanized area;
 - (3) a joint venture with an Indian tribe; and
 - (4) proximity to trees dying of disease or insect infestation as a source of woody biomass.
- (c) **Authorization of Appropriations.**
--There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary **\$25,000,000 for carrying out this section.**

(d) *Definitions.*--In this section:

- (1) *Indian tribe.*--The term "Indian tribe" has the meaning as defined in section 126(c) of the Energy Policy Act of 2005.
- (2) *Renewable energy.*--The term "renewable energy" has the meaning as defined in section 902 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005.
- (3) *Urbanized area.*--The term "urbanized area" has the meaning as defined by the U.S. Bureau of the Census.

To access the full 311 page EISA, please visit the Government Printing Office (GPO) website at:

http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=110_cong_public_laws&docid=f:pub1140.110.pdf

GEALY PRESENTS CAST GENE FLOW REPORT ON CAPITOL HILL

On February 25, Dr. David Gealy, WSSA Treasurer and USDA-ARS Weed Scientist from Stuttgart, AR, traveled to Washington, DC to present the results of the Council for Agricultural and Science Technology (CAST) Issue Paper titled: "Implications of Gene Flow in the Scale-up and Commercial Use of Biotechnology-derived Crops: Economic and Policy Considerations." This Issue Paper identifies the nature of gene flow and how it relates to adventitious presence, describes the biological traits being imparted into biotech crops, summarizes present risk assessment and regulatory mechanisms, and discusses potential economic effects and policy and research ramifications of gene flow of commercial biotech crops. The paper can be obtained at <http://www.cast-science.org>

Dr. Gealy also presented the results of this paper twice more on February 25, once at the USDA South Building and once at the Biotechnology Industry Organization (BIO).

This seminar was part of the National Coalition for Food and Agricultural Research (National C-FAR) 'Lunch-N-Learn' Seminar Series. National C-FAR is a nonprofit, non-



WSSA Treasurer Dr. David Gealy presents the finding of the CAST issue paper "Implications of Gene Flow in the Scale-up and Commercial Use of Biotechnology-derived Crops: Economic and Policy Considerations" to Congressional Staff at the House Rayburn Office Building in Washington, DC.



Two Down and One to Go. Dr. Barb Glenn, Director of Animal Biotechnology with the Biotechnology Industry Organization (BIO), Dr. David Gealy, WSSA Treasurer, and Dr. John Bonner, CAST Executive Vice President, pause for a quick photo before heading over to BIO for Dr. Gealy's third presentation of the day to public and private stakeholders in Washington, DC.

partisan, consensus-based and customer-led coalition that brings food, agriculture, nutrition, conservation and natural resource stakeholders together with the food and agriculture research community, serving as a forum and a unified voice in support of sustaining and increasing public investment at the national level in food and agricultural research, extension and education. The WSSA is a member of National C-FAR, and as Director of Science Policy, I serve as liaison between the National C-FAR and WSSA.

SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING INDICATORS 2008

On January 15, the National Science Board (NSB) released the Science and Engineering Indicators 2008 available at www.nsf.gov/statistics/indicators. The NSB, whose primary role is oversight of the National Science Foundation (NSF), is required by law to report to the President and the Congress on the state of science and engineering research and education every two years. This report highlights a trend in many parts of the world toward the development of more knowledge-intensive economies, in which research, its commercial exploitation, and other intellectual work play a growing role. Implicit in the discussion are the key roles **played by industry and government** in these changes.

This 18th report compiles data from a variety of national, international, and private sources and provides key analyses on the national science, engineering, and technology workforce and education, research and development trends, public support for science, and federal support for academic scientists and engineers. Additionally, it provides indicators and analyses for individual states and the District of Columbia.

Some findings include:

Research and development within the US:

- The U.S. is the largest, single research and development-performing nation, supplying a record high \$340 billion for research and development in 2006.
- Of this \$340 billion, basic research accounted for 18 percent (\$62 billion); applied research accounted for 22 percent (\$75 billion); and development accounted for the other 60 percent (\$203 billion).
- In real terms, federal obligations for all academic research (both basic and applied) declined between 2004 and 2005 and are expected to drop further in 2006 and 2007. This represents the first multi-year decline for academic research since 1982.

Public support for science:

- In a 2006 survey, 87 percent of Americans supported government funding for basic research, up from

80 percent in surveys dating back to 1979.

- In 2006, Americans expressed greater confidence in leaders of the scientific community than any other institution except the military.

Federal support for academic scientists and engineers:

- Academic science and engineering doctorate holders who received federal support has remained steady during the last 20 years: 48 percent in 2006 and the late 1980s.
- However, among life scientists, this percentage has dropped from 65 percent in 1989 to 58 percent in 2006.

In addition to the Indicators report, the NSB issued a companion piece, "Research and Development: Essential Foundation for U.S. Competitiveness in a Global Economy," with three policy recommendations:

1. The Federal Government should take action to enhance the level of funding for, and the transformation nature of, basic research.
2. Industry, government, the academic sector, and professional organizations should take action to encourage greater intellectual interchange between industry and academia, with industry researchers encouraged to also participate as authors and reviewers for articles in open, peer-reviewed publications.

CONTINUED on pg 15

3. New data are critically needed, and this need should be addressed expeditiously by relevant Federal agencies, to track the implications for the U.S. economy of the globalization of manufacturing and services in high technology industry.

THE NATIONAL COOPERATIVE WEED MANAGEMENT AREA (CWMA) CONFERENCE

“People-Powered Projects: The National Cooperative Weed Management Area (CWMA) Conference” will be held April 15–17, 2008, in Reno, NV. Representatives from all 50 states will gather to focus on CWMA funding and logistics, working with volunteers, EDRR, awareness and outreach, and state and national initiatives. The conference will conclude with an all-day field trip to sites in the Reno area.

Cooperative Weed Management Areas mobilize communities to prevent and manage invasive plants and to support healthy ecosystems. Join CWMA workers, land managers, and concerned citizens in a national conference to learn from each other, improve approaches to CWMA organization and management, and increase support for CWMA across the United States.

The event is organized by the Center for Invasive Plant Management and co-hosted by organizations from across the U.S. For more information, visit http://www.weedcenter.org/CWMAconf/cwma_conf.htm

BONANNO SELECTED TO FIRST-EVER EPA FARM, RANCH AND RURAL COMMUNITIES FEDERAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Continuing efforts to strengthen relations with the agriculture community, EPA has established the first-ever Farm, Ranch and Rural Communities (FRRC) Federal Advisory Committee. The committee was formed under the guidelines of the National Strategy for Agriculture, and it will advise the administrator on environmental policy issues impacting farms, ranches and rural communities and operate under the

rules of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA).

The first time members of the 30 person FRRC Federal Advisory Committee were announced on February 20 and the WSSA was quite fortunate to have one of its own members, Dr Rich Bonanno, selected to serve on this very important committee. As many of you know, Rich is quite active in the WSSA and long time chairman of the Science Policy Committee and Past President of the Northeastern Weed Science Society. Rich is the owner/operator of Pleasant Valley Gardens in Methuen, MA and Adjunct Professor and Extension Educator at the University of Massachusetts-Amherst. For more on Dr. Bonanno’s biography as well as the other 29 committee members, please visit: <http://www.epa.gov/agriculture/frcc/members.html>

The FRRC Advisory Committee will meet approximately twice yearly and is intended to consist of approximately 25 members representing: (1) large and small farmers, ranchers and rural communities; (2) rural suppliers, marketers and processors; (3) academics and researchers who study environmental issues impacting agriculture; (4) tribal agricultural groups; and (5) environmental and conservation groups.

EPA’s Agriculture Strategy: <http://www.epa.gov/agriculture/agstrategy.html>

Agriculture Regulatory Web site: <http://www.epa.gov/agriculture/llaw.html>

WILL YOU BE THE NEXT USDA-ARS NATIONAL PROGRAM LEADER FOR WEED SCIENCE?

As many of you have heard, the USDA Agricultural Research Service (ARS) will be looking for a new National Program Leader for Weed Science after May 1. Equally as important, USDA will be soliciting customer input for its National Program 304 (NP 304), Crop Protection and Quarantine. This is the WSSA Science Policy Committee’s NUMBER 1 priority. The WSSA Board of Directors sent the following

letter to Secretary of Agriculture Ed Schafer on February 15:

*The Honorable Edward Schafer
Secretary
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Ave., S.W.
Jamie L. Whitten Building, Rm. 200-A
Washington, DC 20250*

Dear Secretary Schafer:

We are contacting you to emphasize the importance of the National Program Leader for Weed Science at the Agricultural Research Service (ARS). We understand that Dr. Ernest Delfosse, the current National Program Leader for Weed Science, will be taking a position outside ARS this spring. The Weed Science Society of America (WSSA) is the professional organization representing nearly 2000 individuals in the public and private sectors, including university researchers, teachers, and extension personnel, along with land managers, consultants, agribusiness representatives, government agency employees, and others directly involved in the development and implementation of weed management programs. The WSSA strongly supports filling this position as soon as possible with a qualified weed scientist.

The economic impact of weeds and invasive plants on the Nation’s agriculture, water quality, wildlife and recreation in the U.S. is estimated at \$34.7 billion annually. Herbicides are the largest group of pesticides applied in the United States, with total use greater than that for insecticides and fungicides combined. With the critical need for increased implementation of Integrated Pest Management strategies and the desire for reductions in pesticide use, a National Program Leader for Weed Science is a necessity to achieve these goals. On any given acre of cropland, failure to control weeds results in 50 to 90 percent yield loss. In three national surveys, organic farmers ranked weed control as their number one priority among 30 different research areas. Invasive plants are threatening natural aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems at an unprecedented rate, and are particularly a threat to habitat for endangered species. While advances have been made to minimize the impact of weeds and invasive plants in agricultural

CONTINUED on pg 16

and natural systems using sound environmental strategies, this leadership position in ARS is vital for continued advances in the science of integrated weed management.

The USDA-ARS National Program for Crop Protection and Quarantine (NP 304) is the second largest program within ARS, with 236 full time scientists devoted to this effort. The fiscal year budget for NP 304 was \$102.8 million, representing almost 10 percent of ARS's total research budget. Based on the national need for research to mitigate the impact of weeds, and the size of the current ARS program to address this critical issue, a National Program Leader for Weed Science is an absolute necessity.

The mission of the ARS Crop Protection and Quarantine National Program is "to provide technology to manage pest populations below economic damage thresholds by the integration of environmentally compatible strategies that are based on increased understanding of the biology and ecology of insect, mite, and weed pests." Without a National Program Leader for Weed Science, it will be impossible to fulfill this mission.

The WSSA commends USDA for having the vision to create this important position originally, and urge you in the strongest terms to represent the interests of agriculture, public and private land managers, and the general public by maintaining this essential position with a qualified Weed Scientist. Failure to do so will greatly impair USDA's ability to serve the needs of a diverse set of stakeholders.

Sincerely,

Dr. Jeffrey Derr
2008 WSSA President

cc: Gale Buchanan, Under Secretary for CSREES, USDA
Edward Knipping, Administrator, ARS
House and Senate Agriculture & Appropriation committees

In addition to filling this critical USDA-ARS Weed Scientist position, USDA-ARS will be soliciting customer input for the Crop Protection and Quarantine National Program 304 Workshop to be held at the Hyatt

Regency Miami Hotel in Miami, Florida from 11:00 a.m., Tuesday, May 20, through 4:30 p.m., Friday, May 23, 2008. The purpose of the workshop is to initiate the next 5-year cycle of the Crop Protection and Quarantine National Program (NP 304).

The **expected outcomes and goals** from the USDA-ARS NP 304 Workshop for ARS customers, stakeholders, and partners include:

- A better understanding of crop protection and quarantine issues relating to insects, mites and weeds
- Identified and prioritized areas for increased research emphasis, emerging issues and critical "gaps" as well as those issues that may be de-emphasized
- Strengthened professional and interpersonal relationships with other meeting participants
- Identified highest priority NP 304 problem areas that ARS will address in the next 5 years
- Identified specific products associated with the highest priority problem areas
- Developed the framework for the new Action Plan
- Agreed upon assignments and deadlines for completion of this Action Plan

The initial NP 304 Customer Review Workshop invitations have already been sent out. However, if you would like to attend the Workshop in Miami, please email Lee.VanWychen@wssa.net stating your interest in being added to the invitation list. Dr. Ed Knipping, USDA-ARS Administrator, Dr. Earnest Delfosse, USDA-ARS NPL for Weed Science, and Dr. Gail Wisler, USDA-ARS NPL for Plant Diseases have assured us that WSSA could add interested customers to the invite list and we greatly appreciate their support in this regard.

Please note that while the NP 304 Workshop is scheduled from May 20-23, the Hyatt Regency Miami Hotel room block may only be available at \$119.00 per night until April 18. You should contact the hotel directly at 1-800-233-1234 or 305-358-1234 to make your reservations and mention that you are part of the USDA/ARS - NP 304 Workshop.

Again, if you did not receive an invitation for the USDA-ARS NP 304 Customer workshop and would like to attend, please email Lee.VanWychen@wssa.net so that I can work with USDA-ARS to get you a formal invitation.

NIWAW 9 WRAP UP

About 140 invasive plant management stakeholders from 31 states attended the 9th annual National Invasive Weed Awareness Week (NIWAW 9) held February 24-29 in Washington, DC. This special awareness week, hosted by the Invasive Weeds Awareness Coalition (IWAC), is dedicated to increasing both government and public education and awareness of the issues surrounding invasive weeds. The impact of invasive weeds on the nation's agriculture, water quality, wildlife and recreation already costs the U.S. an estimated \$34.7 billion annually, according to a recent Cornell University report. The WSSA fully supports the Coalition's efforts and takes an active role in NIWAW events.

During NIWAW 9, attendees participated in and heard from many of the partners in the Federal Interagency Committee for the Management of Noxious and Exotic Weeds (FICMNEW) including the EPA, the Army Corps of Engineers, USDA, and the Department of Interior as well as the National Invasive Species Council (NISC).

The theme for NIWAW 9 was "Weeds Won't Wait: Don't Hesitate," which subsequently provided education and awareness of the destructive impacts caused by the following five invasive plants:

1. Beach vitex (*Vitex rotundifolia*)
2. Cheatgrass (*Bromus tectorum*) a.k.a. Downy brome
3. Giant salvinia (*Salvinia molesta*)
4. Russian olive (*Elaeagnus angustifolia*)
5. Yellow star-thistle (*Centaurea solstitialis*)

Two special events were held at the U.S. Botanic Garden (<http://www.usbg.gov>) during NIWAW 9. On February 24, Children's Fun Day

CONTINUED on pg 17

kicked off NIWAW 9 with plenty of engaging, hands-on activities for children and families to help them learn more about invasive weeds. On February 26, a reception hosted by IWAC partners recognized the outstanding achievements and contributions of both individuals and IWAC partners engaged in educating the public about the environmental and economic impacts caused by invasive plants. Dr. David Shaw, WSSA President-Elect, served as master of ceremonies for the evening (photos below).

Finally, I would personally like to thank WSSA President Jeff Derr and WSSA President-Elect David Shaw for traveling to Washington, DC to participate in the week's events and orchestrating many successful meetings in conjunction with and outside of the auspices of NIWAW. In addition, NIWAW 9 would not have been possible without the many hours of volunteer time and effort put in by the Invasive Weed Awareness Coalition members. Thank you all very much!

FEDS, STATES SEEK TO TACKLE CHEATGRASS
By Colleen Luccioli

NOTE: The following article appeared in the Land Letter on March 13, 2008, and is "Reprinted with permission. Copyright 2008 E&E Publishing, LLC. www.eenews.net <<http://www.eenews.net/>>."

Cheatgrass has the attention of many Congressional members and their staff because of its role as a fire vector. Last year's firefighting costs were \$1.34 billion. Adjusted for inflation, the average annual firefighting cost between 1998 and 2006 was \$994 million nationwide. Congress and the President's Office of Management and Budget would certainly like to find alternatives to spending that much on firefighting. WSSA members can and will lead this battle against cheatgrass. However, due to lack of focused federal research and funding, this weed continues to menace the Western United States. Research on ecology and integrated weed management techniques is essential to address this challenge.

Lee Van Wychen

Projects at both the state and federal levels are looking at management measures to curb the spread of cheatgrass. However, no curing elixir appears to be on the horizon.

As the tenacious invasive species outcompetes native vegetation — creating problems for both ecosystems and wildlife — and presents an increased risk for higher-intensity wildfires, land managers say efforts to control the weed have become more urgent. Their efforts have demanded increased state and federal resources and have included many research endeavors, some of which have been done in conjunction with universities and interest groups.

Yet, despite years of efforts, "it's a dismal picture," said Paul Spittler, public lands director for the Center for Biological Diversity. "There is no long-term solution that has been shown to be effective."

"There is no magic bullet that would kill cheatgrass and nothing else," noted Joel Tuhy with the Nature Conservancy's Utah field office.

The infestation of cheatgrass has been almost intractable in the Great Basin area, which is considered "ground zero" for cheatgrass, according to Tuhy.

Mike Pellant, the coordinator for the Great Basin Restoration Initiative for the Bureau of Land Management, noted, "We've seen an expansion in

CONTINUED on pg 18



David Shaw looks on as WSSA member Carlton Layne accepts the IWAC Special Achievement Award for an Organization on behalf of the Aquatic Ecosystems Restoration Foundation (AERF). Carlton is the Executive Director of AERF, which has contributed over \$3 million to the research and education of aquatic invasive plants, supporting graduate students in programs such as invasive tamarisk impacts in the Southwest, improving control of hydrilla in Florida, and phragmites control in the Great Lakes.



WSSA member Rita Beard receives the FICMNEW Special Achievement Award. Rita has had a stellar career in invasive plant management, first with the U.S. Forest Service and then with the National Park Service. She has been instrumental in helping bridge the gap between the Society for Range Management (SRM) and the WSSA, which will lead to the 2010 SRM-WSSA Joint Meeting in Denver, CO.



Funny Invasive Weeds? WSSA member Dr. Jennifer Vollmer receives the Joint IWAC-FICMNEW Achievement Award. Dr. Vollmer is an Environmental Resource Specialist with BASF Corporation who has toiled in the area of management of invasive weeds. She currently serves on the Invasive Species Advisory Committee (ISAC) and has served on the Board of Directors of the Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration Foundation, Aquatic Plant Management Society, and Center for Invasive Plant Management.

the range of cheatgrass." He explained that cheatgrass is found in almost all states, though it is not necessarily a problem east of the Rocky Mountains. It is also found in different types of environments, including lower elevation areas, more arid areas, and forestlands, which triggers concerns about wildfires.

Combating cheatgrass

State and federal managers say they are loading up with an arsenal of techniques to combat the spread of cheatgrass.

"We're looking at multiple projects to control cheatgrass and re-establish native grasses," said David Pyke, a scientist with the U.S. Geological Survey and an associate professor with Oregon State University. "This invasive species impacts millions of acres of land — most of it is public land, some of it is private and some of it is cropland," he added.

Rory Reynolds, watershed program coordinator for the state of Utah, said efforts in his state, which has more than 20 million acres of cheatgrass, have focused on maintaining a "healthy and diverse" rangeland. The objective to these efforts is to ensure native plants are maintained so that cheatgrass does not have an opportunity to be introduced.

The cycle and tenacity of cheatgrass growth present challenges to maintaining native vegetation. Cheatgrass starts from seed in the fall, and by the time native plants start their springtime growth on Western rangelands, this highly competitive weed has already tied up water and nutrients critical to native plants, explains USGS.

Once a cheatgrass infestation has occurred, "We look at ways to restore the land to prevent cheatgrass from gaining dominance," Reynolds said.

Efforts looking at which plant species could compete with cheatgrass and reduce its tendency to spread have included analyses on the effectiveness of introducing fungi to the soil around cheatgrass.

Pyke discussed recent experiments in using livestock to control cheat-

grass. The effort sought to address at what season the grazing would have to occur and how aggressive the grazing would have to be. "The problem is that it would be difficult to get cattle to graze at the level identified as effective in our experiment," Pyke conceded.

In addition, Pyke described an experiment looking at using a combination of prescribed burns and herbicide application. The experiment was performed at two locations in Idaho, and the results are still being analyzed.

But herbicide application raises concerns among conservationists who worry that other problems to the ecosystem will result.

"We worry about the impact herbicide use will have on ecosystems and species," Spittler said. "We're wary about adopting a response that might have other negative implications down the road," he added. "We don't want a solution that is worse than the problem."

'A primary vector for fires'

"Cheatgrass is the major fuel for forest fires in arid areas in the Intermountain West," Pyke said. In addition, many sources agree that cheatgrass leads to higher intensity and bigger fires.

The invasive species, which is native to Europe and Asia and was first introduced to the United States in the late 1800s, has become one of the most widespread weeds in the arid American West. In particular, it now plagues California, Idaho, Nevada, Oregon, Utah and Washington — states that are all severely bruised by wildfires.

With the increased incidence of landscape-level fires in the West, the importance of controlling cheatgrass has become urgent. "Last summer, 2.7 million acres burned in the Great Basin alone," Pellant pointed out.

"Cheatgrass changes the fire dynamics and makes the fire season become longer. And, cheatgrass forms a continuous fuel bed," Pellant said.

"It is considered a primary vector for fires," Reynolds added.

Not only is cheatgrass problematic because it can help spread wildfires, but once a fire occurs, the area becomes vulnerable to being overtaken by cheatgrass. "If an area is affected by a fire, managers are concerned that that creates a welcoming environment for cheatgrass," said Jaelith Hall-Rivera, wildfire policy analyst with the Wilderness Society.

Impact to species

Cheatgrass and other related invasive weeds also carry significant implications to wildlife, particularly threatened or endangered species.

Rob Mrowka, conservation advocate for the Center for Biological Diversity, discussed two species heavily affected by the spread of cheatgrass, both of which are also considered keystone species.

The desert tortoise, a species classified as threatened under the Endangered Species Act, is impacted by the spread of both cheatgrass and red brome, a related invasive weed, because the two invasives displace native plants that the animal eats. "Cheatgrass has a very negative impact on the population of the desert tortoise," Mrowka said.

And the sage grouse, which is currently being reviewed for listing under ESA, is also affected by the spread of cheatgrass. According to Mrowka, the animal is deprived of its typical habitat — sage brush canopy — when cheatgrass outcompetes sage brush.

Lee Van Wychen, Ph.D.
Director of Science Policy
The National and Regional Weed
Science Societies
900 2nd St. NE, Suite 205
Washington, DC 20002
Lee.VanWychen@wssa.net
Phone: 202-746-4686
Fax: 202-408-5385
www.wssa.net

6th International IPM Symposium

During the past 25 years, IPM conferences have been organized every 3 or 4 years to encourage dialogue among various disciplines involved in IPM. The next conference is planned for 2009 in Portland, Oregon.

The program committee is now organizing the conference, and is asking for proposals related to possible workshops or brainstorming sessions. The conference is expanding its scope to the international level and encourage sessions that would include scientists from other countries.

The announcement and call for proposals are listed below.

The **6th International IPM Symposium** will be held **March 24–26, 2009** at the Oregon Convention Center, Portland, Oregon. The theme of the symposium is “Transcending Boundaries,” and will address IPM across disciplines internationally.

Plenary speakers include:

- Aziz Lagnaoui, World Bank IPM specialist, who will address transcending international boundaries
- Janjo deHaan, Wageningen Research Center, The Netherlands, expert on IPM in multifunctional cropping systems
- Pierce Jones, director of Program for Resource Efficient Communities, University of Florida, who is incorporating IPM practices into planning and establishing new communities
- Sara J. Scherr, director of Ecoagriculture Partners, an international partnership to promote increased productivity jointly with enhanced natural biodiversity and ecosystem services in agricultural landscapes

The symposium will also include mini-symposia, workshops, poster sessions, and brainstorming sessions. The goal of these sessions is to stimulate unique approaches/solutions to IMP because of diverse perspectives from international participants.

We encourage WSSA scientists to consider organizing workshops or brainstorming sessions related to weed science, and to invite international scientists. Funding may be available for travel costs of international scientists. These sessions are planned to be two hours in duration.

If interested, please submit a proposal to the planning committee. A proposal consists of a list of possible speakers/participants and a short summary of the purpose of the session.

Proposals can be submitted on-line at <http://www.ipmcenters.org/ipmsymposium09/>. The deadline for proposals is **April 18, 2008**. A call for poster submissions will be announced at a later date.

If you have questions regarding the format or development of the program, please contact:

- Margaret Appleby (margaret.appleby@ontario.ca or 613-475-5850);
- Robert Hedlund (rhedlund@usaid.gov or 202-712-4188); or
- Greta Schuster (gschuster@mail.wtamu.edu or 361-595-4116).

CAST RELEASE

New CAST Paper Addresses the Implications of Gene Flow Related to Commercial Use of Biotech Crops

December 12, 2007...Ames, Iowa. The Council for Agricultural Science and Technology (CAST) is releasing a new Issue Paper, *Implications of Gene Flow in the Scale-up and Commercial Use of Biotechnology-derived Crops: Economic and Policy Considerations*.

Gene flow is a natural occurrence in the biological world and always has been. The introduction of biotechnology-derived crops, however, has caused an increased interest in understanding and managing gene flow. According to Task Force Chair David Gealy, USDA-ARS, "Humans have selected, adapted, and improved crops from diverse species for numerous purposes. Many useful traits are being imparted into biotech and non-biotech crops, most of which are likely to impact the dynamics of gene flow very little, especially outside of agricultural fields. Precommercialization procedures that take into account the specific trait being introduced will help to insure that impacts of gene flow remain low." The Issue Paper:

- Describes biological traits being imparted into biotech crops and their gene flow ramifications
- Explains the phenomenon of adventitious presence and how it relates to gene flow
- Discusses containment approaches for the mitigation of gene flow
- Summarizes existing regulatory and risk assessment mechanisms for biotech crops
- Discusses potential economic implications of biotech crops in the marketplace
- Explores future policy and research issues.

"Science and technology have played a significant role in how the U. S. and other world markets produce crops," notes CAST Executive Vice President John Bonner. "This new paper offers insight regarding the gene flow potential and economic

implications of such crops, and CAST is pleased to help facilitate this important discussion."

The full text of the paper *Implications of Gene Flow in the Scale-up and Commercial Use of Biotechnology-derived Crops: Economic and Policy Considerations* (Issue Paper No. 37) may be accessed on the CAST website at www.cast-science.org, along with many of CAST's other scientific publications, and is available in hardcopy for \$5.00 (includes shipping) by contacting the CAST office at 515-292-2125. CAST is an international consortium of 39 scientific and professional societies. It assembles, interprets, and communicates credible science-based information regionally, nationally, and internationally to legislators, regulators, policymakers, the media, the private sector, and the public.

Contacts:

Dr. David Gealy, Phone 870-672-9300, ext. 226; Email: david.gealy@ars.usda.gov
Dr. John Bonner, Phone 515-292-2125, ext. 25; Email: jbonner@cast-science.org

Jerry Doll's Weed Identification and Management DVD Available

Jerry Doll's course on weed identification and management is available on DVD through University of Wisconsin-Extension Publications at

<http://learningstore.uwex.edu/Weed-Identification-and-ManagementDVD-P1211C252.aspx>.

Dr. Doll taught his course 30 times to students in the UW College of Agricultural and Life Sciences Farm and Industry Short Course Program. The DVD addresses weed identification and management in Midwest corn, soybean, small grains, forages, and pasture systems, but the principles are applicable to habitats and regions globally. The presentations include 30 years of Dr. Doll's personal observations and experiences and are rich in plant and field images. The DVD includes nearly all topics pertinent to identifying and managing weeds. In addition to the 28 lecture-style presentations in Flash Player format, the DVD includes videos with demonstrations of weed identification, sprayer calibration and nozzle characteristics, rotary hoeing and cultivation, and safe handling of pesticides.

DVD price is \$30.

PESTICIDES AND THE ENVIRONMENT



Gerald R. Stephenson
and
Keith R. Solomon

This is a unique book on the potential benefits and risks for most classes of legacy and current pesticides. It covers the underlying science involved, is both a textbook for university students, and a comprehensive reference text for professionals.

Pesticides are an increasingly important tool in providing food for all people on earth. They also protect people and their domestic animals from many diseases. Pesticides have played an important role in the history of humans but remain a controversial topic that generates considerable conflict in the public arena. This book gives important information that addresses the basic science of pesticides, their use, as well as alternatives.

xii + 425 p. Includes Table of Contents, Bibliographical References, Index and Glossary.
ISBN 978-0-9808847-0-8



Who should use this book?

This is a text-book that helps students and professionals in this field understand the scientific information on all aspects of pesticide development, use, environmental fate, as well as health and environmental effects. It also covers public controversies that have evolved as a result of pesticide accidents, misuse, or misunderstanding of the risks involved. By using the information in the chapters, study questions, and appropriate testing, this book has proven to be excellent for educators and students at the diploma, undergraduate, graduate, and professional levels. The book is a required text for a course at the University of Guelph, ON, Canada.

This book has comprehensive illustrations and diagrams, an index, thorough referencing (more than 450 citations to the primary literature and government reports) as well as the IUPAC glossary of pesticide-related terms (more than 500). It is an excellent reference text for pesticide scientists at all levels of government as well as in the pest management industry.

This is a must-have book for:
Government regulators
Chemical and Agrochemical scientists in industry
Government extension personnel
University faculty
University students
University libraries
Government libraries

Book Chapters

The chapters in the book cover the following topics:

- The pesticide dilemma – the debate over pesticide risks and benefits.
- Pesticide discovery – the history and the future.
- Uses of pesticides.
- Pesticide selection, formulation and application.
- Pesticide uptake and movement in target organisms.
- Important classes of pesticides.
- Metabolism of pesticides.
- Pesticide residue analysis.
- Pesticide residues in food.
- Fate and movement of pesticides in the environment.
- The toxicology of pesticide active ingredients and formulated pesticide products.
- Ecological risk assessment of pesticides.
- Human health risk assessment of pesticides.
- Resistance to pesticides.
- Biotechnology and pest management.
- Minimizing pesticide use.
- Legislation of pesticides.

This book may be ordered from:
Canadian Network of Toxicology Centres
Bovey Building, University of Guelph,
Guelph ON N1G 2W1 Canada
www.uoguelph.ca/cntc/publicat/publicat.shtml
Phone: 519-824-4120 x 58918
Fax: 519-837-3861

Price is \$56.00 CDN (+ 5% GST for orders to a Canadian address). Shipping will be added to the order. The ground rate in the US and Canada is about \$12.00 CDN for one book. Please contact the CNTC at the address above for information on bulk orders and shipping rates to other destinations.

About the Authors

Gerry Stephenson is a Professor Emeritus in the Department of Environmental Biology at the University of Guelph. During the early 1970s, he co-originated a University course "Pesticides and the Environment." He is an author of several books and chapters in books related to topics such as pesticide biochemistry, pesticides and human health, and pest management in agricultural, forestry and landscape environments. He is a member and current Vice Chair of the Ontario Pesticides Advisory Committee, a Fellow of the Weed Science Society of America, and Canada's representative on the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry Advisory Committee on Crop Protection Chemistry. He was a 1994 recipient of the Canadian Award of Excellence for Research in Weed Science and the 2003 recipient of the Weed Science Society of American Outstanding Teacher Award.



Keith Solomon is a Professor in the Department of Environmental Biology and Director of the Centre for Toxicology at the University of Guelph where he teaches courses in toxicology and pesticides. He conducts research into the fate and effects of pesticides and other substances in the environment, exposure of humans to pesticides and industrial chemicals, and risk assessment. He is a Fellow of the Academy of Toxicological Sciences and received the 2002 American Chemical Society International Award for Research in Agrochemicals. In 2006, he was awarded the SETAC Europe Environmental Education Award and the Society for Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry Founders Award.



In our Search for Knowledge...

►10th World Congress on Parasitic Plants will be organized in Kusadasi, Turkey on 8–12 June 2009. Local host and organizing committees have already been established. Further information can be found at the conference website: www.ippsturkey.com <<http://www.ippsturkey.com>>. For scientific queries contact Ahmet Uludag at secretary@ippsturkey.com and queries on accommodations can be directed to Deniz Yanar Servi at info@ippsturkey.com. This is a congress of International Parasitic Plant Society and will be organized with support of Ege University and Ministry of Agriculture of Turkey.

►The Plant Protection Institute of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences and the European Weed Research Society are hosting two international conferences on ragweed: one in Budapest, Hungary, the other in Osijek, Croatia, in September 2008. The Osijek conference includes a broad array of invasive plant topics and is coordinated with the ragweed conference in Budapest. <http://www.nki.hu/ragweed-joint.html>

►The International Allelopathy Society will hold its triennial congress on September 21–25, 2008 in Saratoga Springs, NY. This meeting will bring together an international community that works on all aspects of allelopathy. There will be sessions on all aspects of allelopathy, including: Allelopathic interactions with microbes, fate of allelochemicals in soil, allelochemical identification, allelopathy in forest ecosystems, allelopathy in agricultural settings, physiology and biochemistry of allelopathy, invasion ecology and allelopathy, allelopathy methodologies, and allelopathy in aquatic ecosystems. For further information, go to www.iascongress5.org. Please note that abstracts are due on April 1, 2008. If you have any questions, please contact Steve Duke (sduke@olemiss.edu) or Prasanta Bhowmik (pbhowmik@pssci.umass.edu).



ONLINE COURSE PSPP 546-01: Herbicide Physiology

September 4–December 78, 2008

3 graduate credits

Tuition: \$729.15

<http://btc.montana.edu/courses/asp/descrip3.aspx?TheID=104>

COURSE DESCRIPTION

- Instructors: Profs. William Dyer, Plant Sciences & Plant Pathology, Montana State University; Tracy Sterling, Entomology, Plant Pathology, and Weed Science, New Mexico State University; Scott Nissen, Bioagricultural Sciences and Pest Management, Colorado State University
- Cost: Tuition is \$729.15. This should be paid to the Burns Technology Center at Montana State University at the time of registration.
- Credit: 3 graduate semester credits
- Prerequisites: BCHM 340 General Biochemistry (or equivalent) and PS 450 Plant Physiology (or equivalent) or instructor consent.
- Time Commitment: 10 to 15 hours per week over 10 weeks. If you are unfamiliar with this field of study and/or with telecommunications, this course may require more of your time.
- Target Audience: Graduate and advanced undergraduate students in Weed Science, Plant Physiology, Plant Biology, Land Reclamation, Ecology, Range Science, Agronomy, Integrated Pest Management, Conservation Biology, and related fields. Also, land managers, agriculture industry employees, and state and federal employees desiring in-depth knowledge of herbicides and herbicide physiology may be interested.
- Course Materials: This course has no textbook as all readings and activities take place online.
- For More Information: Contact Dr. William Dyer at wdyer@montana.edu

Note: This course will be delivered using WebCT. WebCT is an online course delivery tool. You will receive more information about how to login closer to the course start date.



4th Pan Pacific Conference On Pesticide Science

June 1–5, 2008

Waikiki Beach Marriott Resort & Spa
Honolulu, Hawaii

Co-Sponsors

American Chemical Society, AGRO Division • Pesticide Science Society of Japan

The focus of this conference is identification and resolution of issues related to discovery, selection, evaluation, and use of pesticides intended for crop, public health, and environmental protection. Fostering interactions between pesticide research scientists in the Pan Pacific Region is a primary objective.



Meeting Details

Housing will open on January 14, 2008. A block of rooms (ranging from \$179.00–\$239.00) is reserved at the Waikiki Beach Marriott Resort & Spa in Honolulu, Hawaii.

Registration will be open January 14 through May 11, 2008. Flat fees have been set:

Member or nonmember	
Advance	\$450
Onsite	\$500
Student	\$150

Two Workshops will be offered after the meeting. Pre-registration is required.

Organizers

Organizing Committee Chairs

Aldos C. Barefoot, DuPont Crop Protection
Koichi Yoneyama, Utsunomiya University

Program Committee Chairs

Joel Coats, Iowa State University
Hiroshi Matsumoto, University of Tsukuba

Organizing Committee

Allan Felsot, Washington State University
Cathleen Hapeman, USDA-ARS
Scott Jackson, BASF
John Johnston, USDA-APHIS
Qing Li, University of Hawaii
Laura McConnell, USDA-ARS
Pam Rice, USDA-ARS

Ecological Risk Assessment Workshop

June 5, 2008

- Presentations on the state of the science in agrochemical risk assessment
- Use of exposure and toxicological data in the risk assessment process
- Formulating risk hypotheses; use of ranking, hazard quotients, and probabilistic techniques in risk assessment

Featuring: Frank Gobas, Don Mackay, and Keith Solomon

The \$200 additional participation fee for the workshop will cover material costs and will defray instructor expenses. The number of participants will be limited. Participants are expected to bring their own laptops.

An event not to be missed!

Stewardship of Neonicotinoid Insecticides Workshop

June 5–6, 2008

The workshop, which will be held in conjunction with the Pan Pacific Conference, will review strategies for conserving susceptibility to the neonicotinoid insecticides against key pests in world agriculture. Workshop participation is by invitation and will be limited to no more than 70

persons. The sharp focus and limited number of participants will foster information exchange and emphasize problem solving.

Organizers:
Robert L. Nichols, Cotton Incorporated World Headquarters;
Timothy Dennehy, University of Arizona; Ian Denholm,

For Additional Information

Ms. Vernar Beatty, Conference Manager
American Chemical Society
Office of Conference Management & Vendor Relations
1155 16th Street, NW • Washington, DC 20036-4800
Phone: 1-800-227-5558 x4398 • Direct: (202) 872-4398
Fax: (202) 776-8044 • email: V_Beatty@acs.org

www.panpacificconference.org

POSITION ANNOUNCEMENTS

WSSA RECRUITING FOR EDITOR OF WEED SCIENCE

The Weed Science Society of America is seeking a weed scientist to assume the duties and responsibilities of the editor of the journal *Weed Science* effective on or about February 2009. The individual who takes this position must be able to make at least a three-year commitment to the journal.

Weed Science publishes peer-reviewed original research, symposia, and review articles focusing on fundamental research in weed science, including invasive plant species. The editor must possess a broad knowledge of weed science and some sense of the directions in which the fundamental aspects of weed science and science of invasive plant species is moving; provide a vision for the future direction of the journal; set journal editorial policy; select associate editors; select reviewers in conjunction with associate editors; serve as arbiter when publication decisions are in dispute; and work productively with the managing editor and the production staff of Allen Press.

Individuals interested in applying for the position or nominating a qualified individual are invited to do so in written form to the chair of the Publications Board by June 15, 2008. Applicants should ascertain that their institutions will permit them to assume the duties and responsibilities, and receive a stipend for this position. Letters of nomination must indicate that the nominee is aware of and has approved his or her nomination.

Applications should include a curriculum vitae or resume and a statement of goals and vision for *Weed Science*. Applications and nominations will be evaluated by members of the Publications Board and the committee will recommend a candidate to the Executive Committee.

Submit applications or nominations for editor of *Weed Science* to James V. Anderson by e-mail (james.anderson@ars.usda.gov) or by regular mail (USDA-ARS, Biosciences

Research Laboratory, Fargo, ND 58105-5674).



PROFESSOR AND DEPT HEAD DEPT OF PLANT SCIENCES UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE

The University of Tennessee is seeking applications/nominations for **Professor and Department Head in the Department of Plant Sciences**. Academic, extension and research programs in the Department serve the areas of horticulture and agronomic crops with investigations covering molecular, genetic, physiological and field studies.

Responsibilities include leadership of all departmental programs, planning, fiscal management, human resources and facilities. The head guides the Department's mission to deliver nationally and internationally recognized programs in teaching, research and extension.

The candidate must qualify for the rank of Professor in the Department of Plant Sciences with an earned doctorate in plant sciences or a related field. In addition, the candidate must have demonstrated effective communication, consensus building, interpersonal and leadership skills, a commitment to and knowledge of EEO and affirmative action, and

excellence in at least two of the following: research or scholarly activity; teaching, instruction; extension, service, or outreach; academic or administrative leadership.

Application materials must include: curriculum vitae; letter of interest detailing leadership philosophy and commitment to research, teaching, and extension; names, addresses, telephone numbers and e-mail addresses of four professional references that the Search Committee may contact; and official transcripts or diploma showing degrees conferred. For further information contact: Dr. P. Michael Davidson, Search Committee Chair, Dept. Food Science and Technology, 2605 River Drive, Knoxville, TN 37996-4591, PH: 865-974-7331; E-mail: pmdavidson@utk.edu OR see http://plantsciences.utk.edu/pdf/position_department_head.pdf.

The University of Tennessee is an EEO/AA/Title VI/Title IX/Section 504/ADA/ADEA institution in the provision of its education and employment programs and services. All qualified applicants will receive equal consideration for employment without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, pregnancy, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, physical or mental disability, or covered veteran status.

SEND NEWSLETTER MATERIAL TO:

Dr. Clifford (Trey) Koger
Editor, WSSA Newsletter
Delta Research and Extension Center
Mississippi State University
P. O. Box 197
Stoneville, MS 38776
tkoger@drec.msstate.edu
(662) 686-9311 Office
(662) 686-7336 Fax

IMPORTANT ADDRESSES

PRESIDENT

Jeff Derr
Virginia Tech.
Hamptons Rd. R&E Center
1444 Diamond Springs Rd.
Virginia Beach, VA 23455-3363
Telephone: (757) 363-3912
Fax: (757) 363-3950
e-mail: jderr@vt.edu

PRESIDENT-ELECT

David R. Shaw
GeoResources Institute
Mississippi State University
Box 9652
Mississippi State, MS 39762
Telephone: (662) 325-9575
Fax: (662) 325-9578
e-mail: dshaw@gri.msstate.edu

VICE-PRESIDENT

John J. Jachetta
DowAgro Sciences Bldg 308 2E/05
9330 Zionsville Road
Indianapolis, IN 46268
Telephone: (317) 337-4686
Fax: (317) 337-4649
e-mail: jjjachetta@dow.com

PAST-PRESIDENT

Jill Schroeder
New Mexico State University
Entomology, Plant Pathology,
and Weed Science
Box 30003, Dept. 3BE
Las Cruces, NM 88003-0000
Telephone: (505) 646-2328
Fax: (505) 646-8087
e-mail: jjschroe@nmsu.edu

SECRETARY

Richard Zollinger
North Dakota State University
Department of Plant Sciences
Box 5051 Loftsgard Hall
Fargo, ND 58105-5051
Telephone: (701) 231-8157
Fax: (701) 231-8474
e-mail: r.zollinger@ndsu.edu

TREASURER

Dave Gealy
USDA/ARS
Dale Bumpus National Rice
Research Center
P. O. Box 1090
Stuttgart, AR 72160
Telephone: (870) 672-9300 ext. 226
Fax: (870) 673-7581
e-mail: dgealy@sapa.ars.usda.gov

DIRECTOR OF PUBLICATIONS

James V. Anderson
USDA-ARS, PSR
1605 Albrecht Blvd.
Fargo, ND 58105-5674
Telephone: (701) 239-1263
Fax: (701) 239-1252
e-mail: james.anderson@ars.usda.gov

DIRECTOR OF SCIENCE POLICY

Lee Van Wychen
900 Second St. NE, Suite 205
Washington, DC 20002
Telephone: (202) 408-5388
Fax: (202) 408-5385
e-mail: Lee.VanWychen@wssa.net

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Joyce Lancaster
P. O. Box 1897
Lawrence, KS 66044
Telephone: (785) 843-1235, ext. 250
Fax (785) 843-1274
e-mail: jlancaster@allenpress.com

IWSS

Albert J. Fischer
Vegetable Crops Dept
University of California
One Shields Ave.
Davis, CA 95616
Telephone: (530) 752-7386
Fax: (530) 752-4604
e-mail: ajfischer@ucdavis.edu

CAST

John Bonner
505 Capitol Court, NE, Suite 200
Washington, DC 20002-4397
Telephone: (202) 675-8333, Ext 11
Fax: (202) 675-8334

AIBS (Our Representative)

Lee Van Wychen
900 Second St. NE, Suite 205
Washington, DC 20002
Telephone: (202) 408-5388
Fax: (202) 408-5385
e-mail: Lee.VanWychen@wssa.net

NEWSLETTER EDITORS:

WSSA

Clifford (Trey) Koger
Delta Research and Extension Center
Mississippi State University
P. O. Box 197
Stoneville, MS 38776
Telephone: (662) 686-9311
Fax: (662) 686-7336
e-mail: tkoger@drec.msstate.edu

Aquatic Plant Mgmt. Society (APMS)

Chetta Owens
Telephone: (972) 436-2215
e-mail: chetta@laerf.org

NEWS

Dwight D. Lingenfelter, M.S.
Extension Agronomist
Dept. of Crop and Soil Sciences
Penn State University
116 ASI Building
University Park, PA 16802
Telephone: (814) 865-2242
Fax: (814) 863-7043
e-mail: DXL18@psu.edu

NCWSS

Harlene Hatterman-Valenti
North Dakota State University
Department of Plant Sciences
166 Loftsgard Hall
Fargo, ND 58105
e-mail: h.hatterman.valenti@ndsu.edu

SWSS

Al Rankins
Mississippi State University
Plant & Soil Sciences Department
Box 9555
Mississippi State, MS 39762
Telephone: (662) 325-3341
Fax: (662) 325-8742
e-mail: arankins@pss.msstate.edu

WSWS

Cheryl Fiore
Department of Entomology, Plant Pathology
and Weed Science
New Mexico State University
Box 30003 MSC 3BE, Las Cruces, NM 88003
Telephone: (575) 646-1627
Fax: (575) 646-8087
e-mail: cfiore@nmsu.edu

CWSS

Daniel Cloutier
P. O. Box 222, Sainte-Anne-De-Bellevue
Quebec, Canada H9X 3R9
Telephone: (514) 630-4658
Fax: (514) 695-2365
e-mail: assistant@cwss-scm.ca

IWSS

Jerry Doll
Dept. of Agronomy
1575 Linden Drive, Madison, WI 53706
Telephone: (608) 836-8809
Fax: (608) 262-5217
e-mail: jddoll@wisc.edu

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	CONTACT
May 27-30, 2008	2008 Weeds Across Borders Conference	Banff, Alberta, Canada	Karen Sundquist, Program Coordinator Alberta Invasive Plants Council P. O. Box 79066, 926 Ash Street Sherwood Park, AB T8A 2G1 Tel: 780-417-1382 www.invasiveplants.ab.ca aipc.coordinator@gmail.com
June 1-5, 2008	4th Pan Pacific Conference On Pesticide Science	Waikiki Beach Marriott Resort & Spa Honolulu, Hawaii	www.panpacificconference.org
June 23-27, 2008	5th International Weed Science Congress	Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada	Albert J. Fischer, IWSS Secretary-Treasurer Dept. of Plant Sciences Mail Stop 4 University of California One Shields Avenue Davis, CA 95616-8780 Tel: 530-752-7386 Fax: 530-752-4606 Email: ajfischer@ucdavis.edu http://iws.ucdavis.edu/
July 13-16, 2008	Aquatic Plant Management Society, Inc. 48th Annual Meeting	The Mills House Hotel Charleston, South Carolina	Mark Heilman, APMS Secretary Email: markh@sepro.com
August 6, 2008	SWSS Weed Contest	Citra, Florida	http://plantscienceunit.ifas.ufl.edu/index.shtml
September, 2008	Joint International Conferences on Ragweed	Budapest, Hungary and Osijek, Croatia	http://www.nki.hu/ragweed-joint.html
September 21-25, 2008	International Allelopathy Society Triennial World Congress on Allelopathy (the 5th)	Saratoga Springs, New York	www.iascongress5.org
December 8-11, 2008	NCWSS Annual Meeting	Indianapolis, Indiana	http://www.ncwss.org/
January 5-8, 2009	63rd Annual Meeting of the NEWSS	Renaissance Harborplace Hotel Baltimore, Maryland	www.news.org
February 9-12, 2009	Joint WSSA-SWSS Meeting	Hilton in Walt Disney World Resort Orlando, Florida	WSSA: www.wssa.net SWSS: www.weedscience.msstate.edu/swss
March 24-26, 2009	6th International IPM Symposium	Oregon Convention Center Portland, Oregon	Margaret Appleby margaret.appleby@ontario.ca or 613-475-5850 Robert Hedlund rhedlund@usaid.gov or 202-712-4188 Greta Schuster gschuster@mail.wtamu.edu or 361-595-4116
June 8-11, 2009	Fourth International Symposium on Plant Dormancy	Fargo, North Dakota, USA	Marcia Meyer or Mike Foley Email: info@plantdormancy.com www.plantdormancy.com
June 8-12, 2009	10th World Congress on Parasitic Plants	Kusadasi, Turkey	www.ippsturkey.com http://www.ippsturkey.com/