

WSSA Liaison to EPA-OPP (Office of Pesticide Programs)

Draft Interim Report to the WSSA Board of Directors

Quarter 2, 2017

April 18-20

I visited the offices of EPA-OPP in Arlington, VA on April 18 and visited with personnel from the Registration Division (RD) and the Biological and Economic Assessment Division (BEAD). This trip was in conjunction with a meeting of the Listening Session Writing Team of April 19 and 20. The major topics covered during this visit were plans for the WSSA BOD to meet with OPP in July and on-going issues for the new liaison to potentially work on. These include label directions for roadside applications, a list of common resistance terms between weeds, insects and plant diseases, an inventory of the types of spraying equipment (and other agricultural equipment) being used and how much of each by farmers, resistance management plans, perhaps in coordination with IRASC, FRAC and HRAC, Herbicide 101 topics, and a WSSA form for registrants to indicate the MOA for new chemistry.

There was an interesting discussion about how to predict the overall impact, not just reduced crop yields, from uncontrolled weed populations. I connected them with Harold Coble to investigate the use of WeedSoft but also reached out to several others to get ideas about the overall impact. Besides reduced yield, seedbank buildup, resistance promotion (if sublethal dosages were being applied), reduced crop quality, and harvest difficulties were mentioned.

May 1-3

I visited the offices of EPA-OPP in Arlington, VA on May 1-3 and visited with personnel from the Registration Division (RD) and the Biological and Economic Assessment Division (BEAD). Two activities during this visit were attendance at a meeting of the Insecticide Resistance Action Committee (IRAC) and presentation of a seminar by Dan Reynolds of Mississippi State University on the on-line auxin herbicide training material he had developed. The liaisons from APS and ESA and Dan also attended the IRAC meeting. IRAC is hoping to have a Scientific Advisory Panel convene in early 2018 to address resistance issues with lepidopteran pests of corn and cotton. IRAC also does monthly conference calls with BPPD, academics and consultants to address resistance issues.

Other Activities

I attended herbicide resistance listening sessions in Pennsylvania (January 18), California (February 15), Colorado (February 17), Texas (March 4), and Georgia (March 30).

August WSSA Tour for EPA

I want to thank Phil Stahlman and Dallas Peterson, especially, plus the rest of the weed science team at Kansas State University for putting this together. The object of the tour is to show EPA some of the special weed management challenges that farmers face in dry land farming areas such as Western

Kansas. There are 13 EPA persons going on the tour at this point (see list below). There was a high level of interest in the EPA staff to go on this tour. I am told this is the largest number of EPA staff on a single tour this summer. Our total budget for the tour at this point is \$26,000, \$10,000 of which WSSA is providing. Phil hopes for some more donations too.

This is the draft agenda but it is being modified. A drought in parts of Kansas has led to the field day being cancelled. This is may be a plus for the tour as it may mean less driving and more focus on Western Kansas.

2017 WSSA Crop Tour – Tentative Schedule/Agenda

Dryland Grain Farming Weed Management Challenges

August 14 – Arrive Garden City, KS

August 15 – Stops at 2-3 farms in Western KS emphasizing dryland production systems in semi-arid environments. This is glyphosate resistant-kochia country but resistant-Palmer amaranth is rapidly invading it. Arguably, farming is more challenging in this part of the state than further east. Overnight in Hays.

August 16 – Attendance at a field day featuring the new 2,4-D and dicamba tolerant crop technologies at Clay Center. This will be a good chance for the EPA folks to mingle with producers and to view differences in cropping and production practices between western and north central KS. We'll probably overnight in Salina or McPherson.

August 17 - Head back southwest towards Great Bend and Hutchinson into the heart of grain sorghum country. This is also the heart of glyphosate resistant-Palmer amaranth in KS. Overnight in Wichita.

August 18 – Depart from Wichita.

EPA Participants

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|------------------------|------|---------------|
| 1. Dan Kenny | RD | (Senior Lead) |
| 2. Reuben Baris | RD | |
| 3. Rachel Holloman | RD | |
| 4. Kelly Tindale | BEAD | |
| 5. Bill Chism | BEAD | |
| 6. Jonathan Becker | BEAD | |
| 7. Andrew Reighart | BEAD | |
| 8. Faruque Khan | EFED | |
| 9. Kurt Pluntke | EFED | |
| 10. Bilin Basu | PRD | |
| 11. Julie Javier | PRD | |
| 12. Shannon Borges | BPPD | |
| 13. Lata Venkateshwara | HED | |