



WSSA

WEED SCIENCE SOCIETY OF AMERICA

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July, 2006

Newsletter



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The year is rapidly advancing and, as you read this message, 2006 will be half over. It is also time to start planning for our next annual meeting which will be held in San Antonio, Texas on February 5-8, 2007. Jill Schroeder and the program committee are working diligently to develop a fact-filled program with exciting

symposia and the possibility of field trips. There will also be a workshop led by Dr. Jens Streibig on "Statistical Assessment of Dose-response Curves with Free Software." Please read the instructions to contributors that you'll find in the middle of this newsletter and note the critical dates on when you need to submit your abstracts. I don't think you want to miss this meeting or miss being in southern Texas in the middle of February.

As you are thinking about next year's meeting and reminiscing on the last meeting, I want you to also think about the future of our society. The Board and various committees have been busy since February. Jeff Derr is chairing the committee that is in the process of revamping our website to make it more user-friendly and more useful for our members as well as for all visitors to the site. We aim to make the WSSA website the premier place that people go for weed information on the internet. We need and encourage your input as to what you'd like to see on our website and how we can make the site more useful to you.

In the April newsletter I'd told you that I had appointed a special ad hoc committee, co-chaired by Vanelle Carrithers and Lars Anderson, to conduct a survey on the need and viability of a new journal on invasive weed management. That committee has been very active and you should have received an e-mail about the survey, which was also sent to a broad range of other groups who are interested in invasive weed management. We are looking for input from you. Please feel free to contact me with any comments or concerns that you have about a potential new journal.

Last year, Carol Mallory-Smith had challenged the members to answer three questions.

- *What changes can be made to make the annual meeting more relevant?*
- *How can we better provide useful information to the membership?*
- *What information/products would you like the society to provide?*

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A Report on the Annual Meeting Survey

Attendees at the last WSSA meeting were given the opportunity to fill out a survey asking questions concerning the current meeting format and potential future locations. The survey is part of the WSSA Board's reexamination of the Strategic Plan and the survey particularly relates to service to the membership (Goal 6 of the plan). Before discussing some of the survey results, let me mention a couple of caveats. First, the historic snowstorm in New York City before the meeting may have influenced the number of attendees filling out the survey. There were a total of 64 surveys returned during the meeting and a few more where mailed in after the meeting. Second, while the BOD is very interested in learning why members do not attend the annual meeting, this survey was primarily (about 60%) filled out by persons who attend every year. The remainder of the respondents attends every other year. This indicates these persons likely have a high level of satisfaction with the meeting and make a point of attending.

Of the persons filling out the survey, 50% identified themselves as working in academia, 20% were federal scientists or worked for a federal agency, only 6% were graduate stu-

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In seeking answers to these questions, our membership committee conducted a survey at the last annual meeting on improving the meeting and Mike Barrett has compiled the results from the survey. Please see his article in this newsletter. The Board is using that information plus other input from the members to hold a facilitated workshop at our summer board meeting on developing a tactical plan for the future of the society. If you have any thoughts or comments, please let any of the board members know before July 15, so we can incorporate your thinking into our planning.

I don't know if you've heard, but Dr. Gale Buchanan, a weed scientist and a former president of the SWSS, has been appointed as the new USDA Under-Secretary for the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service. Congratulations to Gale and we hope to interact with him on issues that are important to WSSA members. If you have any issues or concerns you would like us to communicate with Dr. Buchanan, please contact Lee Van Wychen, our Director of Science Policy in Washington, D. C.

I look forward to hearing from you and seeing you in San Antonio in February.

Dale Shaner
President

WSSA FUTURE MEETING SITES AND DATES

2007

San Antonio, TX

February 5-8

Hyatt Regency on the
Riverwalk

Local Arrangements:

Paul Baumann

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MEETING SURVEY REPORT CONTINUED from pg 1

dents (a surprisingly low response), 9% were from industry, 7% were consultants, and the remainder (4 persons) were retired, post-docs or work for a state agency.

The results of the surveys are reported as means with the standard error.

Those participants who do not attend the annual meeting every year ranked, on a scale of 1-5, with 5 being most important, the desire/need to attend other meetings (3.7 ± 1.4) and cost of attendance (3.5 ± 1.3) as the most important factors in their decision. Meeting location (3.3 ± 1.4), scheduling conflicts (2.8 ± 1.3) and the meeting not fitting their professional needs (1.8 ± 1.0) were less important for not attending.

Those attending the meeting every year placed renewing peer relationships (4.0 ± 0.8) and access to the latest information in weed science (3.4 ± 1.2) as the most important factors with participation on committees (3.4 ± 1.2) also important but less so.

Attendees expressed overall satisfaction with the poster session (4.0 ± 0.8) and the time to view the posters (4.0 ± 1.0) but slightly less satisfaction with the amount of interaction with the poster authors (3.7 ± 1.0).

Regarding the oral presentations, attendees were again largely satisfied (3.9 ± 1.0) but were concerned that there was not enough opportunity for discussion during the oral paper sessions (3.0 ± 1.0). They also liked the

idea of discussion sessions that deal with a single topic that compliments the oral presentations (4.2 ± 0.9).

Symposia topics received a 3.6 ± 0.9 level of satisfaction rating and the satisfaction with the symposia format a 3.8 ± 0.8 . There may be some concern that there is not enough time for discussion during the symposia as this received a 3.4 ± 1 rating.

Attendees expressed some desire for workshops to be held in conjunction with the meeting (3.4 ± 1.0) with the preference for the workshops to be held either before the meeting (50%) or during the meeting (40%) will little support for workshops after the meeting.

The respondents were interested in other activities during the meeting such as tours of weed management issues (3.8 ± 1.1) and receptions and other social activities (4.1 ± 1.1). The 15 minute breaks in the morning and afternoons of the meetings were not felt (2.9 ± 1.2) to be sufficient for networking with other members.

The written comments to the questions "What would you most like to see WSSA continue or start doing at the next meeting?", "What would you most like to see changed about the WSSA meeting?", and "How could the WSSA better meet your particular needs?" are, of course, difficult to summarize but the BOD will be reviewing and considering the suggestions and ideas.

Fifty-eight respondents addressed

the last two questions on the survey, "Is there a location for the WSSA Meeting that you would really like to meet?" and "Would you consider a Caribbean or Mexican location?" A number of sites were suggested for the meeting. Some locations we have been to previously like Chicago, Hawaii (surprise!), Boston, San Diego and some new like New Orleans, DC-downtown and Pittsburgh. Probably because the snow was deep and the wind cold, 35 respondents supported a meeting in the Caribbean and only a few less supported going to Mexico for a meeting. So, these may be in the future for WSSA!

Thanks to all to completed a survey and you can expect further efforts to assess membership satisfaction with WSSA activities in the future.

Michael Barrett

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2006 CALL FOR AWARD NOMINATIONS AND AWARDS SUMMARY

The **September 10, 2006** deadline for award nominations is coming soon, but now is the time to begin preparing nominations. If you know of someone whose outstanding work in weed science qualifies them for an award, please visit the **WSSA website (www.wssa.net/society/wsinfo.html)** for award nomination forms and information.

Many outstanding WSSA members should be recognized, but recognition can only come after nomination. WSSA presents awards for outstanding service each year. These include the Outstanding Teacher, Research, Extension, Industry, Early Career Weed Scientist, Graduate Student and Undergraduate Research Awards. Award recipients will be announced at the annual meeting next February in San Antonio, TX. Nominations are also open for Fellows for 2007 and Honorary Member for 2008. Current members of Award subcommittees are ineligible for rewards from their respective subcommittee. Also, any WSSA member who has won an outstanding service award is not eligible to receive a second one in the same category.

FELLOW AWARD

WSSA members are invited to nominate a member of WSSA who they believe deserves a special recognition because of his/her contribution to WSSA and the field of Weed Science. Up to 0.3 percent of the active membership of WSSA may be elected as Fellows in any one year. Nominees must be members of the WSSA who have been active for at least 10 years. They must have made substantial contributions in more than one of the following areas: (1) professional publications, (2) educational contributions other than publications, (3) development or improvement of weed science programs, practices and products, (4) other professional contributions, (5) service to WSSA or regional conferences, and (6) service to the profession outside the Society. **Jim Barren-**

tine (jb.us@cheminova.com), chair of the Fellows and Honorary Member Awards Subcommittee, may be contacted for questions on the electronic submission of nomination packages.

HONORARY MEMBER AWARD

WSSA members are invited to nominate individuals for election as an Honorary Member of WSSA. The Honorary Membership Award is given to an individual who has performed meritorious service to the field of Weed Science, but who is not an active, participating member of WSSA. Only one honorary member is selected per year. Nominees may be from the United States, Canada, or other countries. **Jim Barrentine (jb.us@cheminova.com)**, chair of the Fellows and Honorary Member Awards Subcommittee, may be contacted for questions on the electronic submission of nomination packages.

OUTSTANDING EXTENSION AWARD

A nominee for this award must have been active in extension work 4 out of the past 5 years with a minimum of 75 percent of his/her extension work involved in weed science. The nominee must also be a member of WSSA. **Mark VanGessel (mjv@udel.edu)**, chair of the Outstanding Extension Award Subcommittee, may be contacted for questions on the electronic submission of nomination packages.

OUTSTANDING RESEARCH AWARD

This award is for research workers who are members of WSSA and who have demonstrated originality and creativity and whose work has had an impact in the field of weed science. The award is established to recognize outstanding contributions to both applied and basic weed science research. **Lori J. Wiles (lori.wiles@ars.usda.gov)**, chair of the Outstanding Research Award Subcommittee, may be con-

tacted for questions on the electronic submission of nomination packages.

OUTSTANDING TEACHER AWARD

To be eligible for this award, the nominee must be a member of WSSA and currently active in teaching weed science. The recipient must have taught a weed science course(s) at least five times or have served as major professor for at least five students who have received advanced degrees and whose research was in weed science. **Rene Van Acker (vanacker@uoguelph.ca)**, chair of the Outstanding Teacher Award Subcommittee, may be contacted for questions on the electronic submission of nomination packages.

OUTSTANDING INDUSTRY AWARD

WSSA members are invited to nominate a member of WSSA who they believe deserves special recognition because of his/her contribution to the field of weed science. The nominee must be a member of the WSSA and actively employed in private industry at the time of nomination. The nominee must be actively engaged in weed science activities and weed science should have been a major component of the nominee's job description during his/her career. **Eric Prostko (eprosto@uga.edu)**, chair of the Outstanding Industry Award Subcommittee, may be contacted for questions on the electronic submission of nomination packages.

EARLY CAREER OUTSTANDING SCIENTIST AWARD

The recipient of this award must be an active member of WSSA, must have completed a minimum of 5 years of work in weed science in addition to their terminal degree, and not be 41 years of age by January 1, 2003; or have demonstrated no more than 10 years of work after their terminal degree. This award is for young

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CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

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scientists who have demonstrated originality and creativity, have made a notable contribution to weed science and have potential for continued excellence. **Tom Mueller (tmueller@utk.edu)**, chair of the Early Career Outstanding Scientist Award Subcommittee, may be contacted for questions on the electronic submission of nomination packages. Note: the title of this Award was formerly the Outstanding Young Weed Scientist Award.

OUTSTANDING GRADUATE STUDENT AWARD

The student must be a candidate for the M.S. or Ph.D. degree or have received the degree within the past 12 months at the time the award is presented. The student should have made notable contributions to weed science and should have a good academic record and sound training in weed science. Above all, the recipient must be recognizable as a truly outstanding individual with excellent potential for continued development. The nomination should be initiated by the student's major advisor. **Rene Van Acker (vanacker@uoguelph.ca)**, chair of the Outstanding Graduate Student Award Subcommittee, may be contacted for questions on the electronic submission of nomination packages.

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH AWARD

The Education Committee of WSSA developed an Undergraduate Student Research Award designed to support undergraduate involvement in agricultural research. Interested faculty members are encouraged to identify potential award candidates and discuss the possibility of sponsoring a research project. Awards may be a stipend for research budget expenses (travel, supplies, etc.), to defer fees, to defray living expenses for summer research, or any combination of these items. **For this Award nominations are due November 1, 2006.** **John J. Jachetta (jjjachetta@dow.com)**, chair of the Undergraduate Research Award Subcommittee,

may be contacted for questions on the electronic submission of nomination packages.

CHARLES A. BLACK AWARD

The Charles A. Black Award is to be awarded annually to a Food or Agricultural Scientist, actively engaged in research, who has made significant scientific contributions to his/her scientific field, and who is selected on the basis of significant abilities to communicate the importance of his/her work and of agricultural science to layman policy makers and media. These nominees may have demonstrated their ability to communicate either by written material, spoken material, use of television, radio, or other media. They should be recognized by their peers as scientists who have made significant contributions in their professional fields.

Nominations for the Award can be made to the Council for Agricultural Science and Technology, 4420 Lincoln Way, Ames, Iowa 50010. Nominations must be made by **September 1, 2006**,

and should be accompanied by five letters of support, a vita of the individual and a two-page summary prepared by the nominator describing the activities of the nominee and reasons for consideration for the Award. Announcement of the award will be published in NewsCAST and circulated to the members and to scientific and agricultural news media.

The Award consists of a commemorative plaque and a \$500 travel allowance for the recipient to receive the Award at the February 2007 CAST Board Meeting.

CAST is solely responsible for the selection of the individual to receive the Award. Evaluation of the nominations will be made by a committee from the CAST Board, appointed by the CAST President. In order for the individual to receive the Award, they must be present to make a short verbal acceptance statement and provide a written copy which may be used by CAST in publicizing the annual winner.

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Regarding: Reviewer questions

CALL FOR PAPERS – 2007 WSSA MEETING

INVITATION

You are invited to submit titles and abstracts for papers to be presented at the WSSA Meeting in San Antonio, Texas on February 5–8, 2007, Monday to Thursday. Volunteer papers may be presented orally in one of the section meetings or as a poster. An individual may personally present only one volunteer, non-poster paper. This rule will be strictly followed. In addition to the volunteer paper, an individual may present a poster paper, may be co-author of papers presented by other authors, and may present an invited symposium paper.

DEADLINE

Abstracts must be submitted electronically and copies postmarked by **October 2, 2006**, to be considered. Those not electronically submitted and postmarked by the deadline will not be accepted. This deadline applies to symposium papers, as well as to volunteer papers and posters. The program will be posted on the WSSA worldwide web homepage (<http://www.wssa.net>) and members will be informed when available by "ListServe" from Joyce Lancaster. Printed programs will be mailed to those who pre-register before **January 12, 2007**, and will be provided to all attendees at the registration desk at the meeting.

MEETING SCHEDULES

Volunteer papers will be presented within a 15-minute schedule. Concurrent sessions dictate that the time schedule be strictly followed. To allow for introduction, transition of speakers, and other slippage, you should plan to present your paper in 12 or 13 minutes. Papers presented should report the results of completed research or other substantive information. Information should not have been presented at a previous WSSA national meeting. Ideally, information reported at the WSSA meeting should be published in *Weed Science*, *Weed Technology*, or a similar outlet in the near future.

SYMPOSIUM PAPERS

Speakers participate in the symposia by invitation. Refer to the details below and on page 6. Deadlines and procedures for preparing and submitting abstracts are the same as for volunteer papers, except that the author must send a copy of the abstract to the symposium organizer, in addition to mailing hard copies to the Abstract Editor and Program Chair (see Submission of Abstract section).

PROJECTION EQUIPMENT

The WSSA has adopted LCD projection for PowerPoint presentations as the standard and will be used exclusively for the 2007 meeting in San Antonio, Texas. **NO** 35mm projectors will be available. LCD projectors and computers will be supplied by WSSA members and coordinated by section chairs. Screens, microphones, carts, and extension cords will continue to be supplied by

AV services and paid for by the Society. In order to make this process go as smoothly as possible, please follow the guidelines below.

Format

All presentations **MUST** be in PowerPoint (any version) for MS Windows (PC compatible). PowerPoint 2000 will be the software used. Macintosh/Apple formats will **NOT** be supported. Your presentation must be saved as a PowerPoint show file. **The section chairs have requested that ALL presentations be prepared and sent to them in advance so that preloading of the computer before leaving for the meeting can be accomplished** (see Submission of Presentations). You must send your presentation to the section chair on a 3.5" floppy disk or CD-R (**NOT a CD-RW**). **Zip disks will not be accepted.** Presentation also can be sent to the section chair as an email PowerPoint attachment. Please limit the size of presentations to less than 25 MB. No audio clips or sounds will be allowed. Video clips are discouraged unless absolutely necessary. PowerPoint animation is discouraged. Please contact the section chair one week **PRIOR** to sending your presentation if you need to use a video clip. Limit fonts used in the presentation to basic fonts, as not all machines may have the same choice of fonts. Examples of standard fonts are Times, Arial, Courier, Tahoma, or similar equivalents. Section chairs and computer operators are not responsible for changes in fonts, bullets, and other formatting at the time of presentation. Use up-to-date virus protection software to avoid infecting the computers provided by the section chairs.

Submission of Presentations

Presentations must be submitted to the section chair prior to the meeting. Section chairs have indicated that they must receive the presentation at least one week in advance of the meeting (**no later than January 26, 2007**). You will be able to preview your presentation at the meeting to ensure that the formats/fonts are all as you intended them to be. Please check the meeting program for the time and place. Due to the limited time and equipment, last minute editing is highly discouraged. All presentations will be transferred to a CD-R for each session. At the conclusion of the session, the CD-R and other copies of the presentation(s) will be destroyed. Submission of files at the time of the presentation or at any other time during the session will **NOT** be allowed.

Equipment

A Windows PC laptop computer and projector will be provided for each session. Presenters will **NOT** be allowed to use their own computers in the sessions. If possible, computers will be located on the podium in each session. If this is not possible, an infrared remote provid-

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ing forward and backward control of the PowerPoint presentation will be provided in each session.

Be alert to changes, modifications, and refinements in these guidelines during the next few months (and years). This information will be published in the October and January issues of the WSSA Newsletter.

SUBMISSION OF ABSTRACT

Volunteer papers, posters, and symposium papers all require abstracts to be electronically submitted. To submit abstracts electronically, go to the Weed Science Society of America homepage (<http://www.wssa.net>).

After **September 1, 2006**, you will be able to access the Title/Abstract Submission Page form from the WSSA homepage. Additional instructions will be provided on the Title/Abstract Submission Page.

The Program and Abstract Book will be printed exactly as submitted, other than format and font changes to make all abstracts the same; therefore, proofread very carefully. If you cannot submit the title and abstract electronically, please request a submission package from the Abstract Editor, Robert Kremer (see page 8).

Authors will receive an email indicating that their abstract was received and confirming the section where the paper will be presented. **Presentations must be sent to the section chair where the paper is assigned.**

PREPARATION OF ABSTRACT

Following are the guidelines for the preparation and submission of an abstract. Be alert to additional instructions that may appear on the site itself.

- 1. Contents** – The abstract should include a brief overview of essential aspects of experimental procedures and should highlight significant results and their interpretation. Write the abstract so it consists entirely of information. Do not include statements such as “The results of the experiments will be presented” or “The significance of these results will be discussed.”
- 2. Typing** – Typing instructions will be provided on the Title/Abstract Submission Page of the WSSA website for those using electronic submission. Members who request a submission package from the Abstract Editor will receive typing instructions in the package.
- 3. Titles, author(s), and location** – In the abstract, authors will be identified by occupational affiliation and location, not by mailing address. Therefore, please type the title, author(s), the affiliation (institution, agency or company), and location (city and state or country, but not the zip code). When authors are from different locations or affiliations, group authors and affiliations/locations.

Capitalize only the first word and proper names in the title and end the title with a period. Include both the common and scientific names of weeds and uncommon crop plants in the title, but only the common names of herbicides and well-known crop plants. You

do not need to type the title in boldface; the system will do that automatically. First names followed by initial (period after initial) should be typed before last names of all authors. The site will provide a method for indicating the presenter, be sure to specify the presenting author. Do not include departments, divisions or zip codes. Do abbreviate the word “University” to “Univ.”

Example 1. The occurrence and densities of weeds in Illinois, Iowa, and Indiana as noted from crop scouting records. David R. Pike*, Univ. of Illinois, Urbana; and David Harms, Crop Pro-Tech, Bloornington, IL.

Example 2. Performance of sulfentrazone for control of yellow nutsedge (*Cyperus esculentus*) in southern peas (*Vigna unguiculata*). Jerry J. Wells* and Ronald E. Talbert, Univ. of Arkansas, Fayetteville.

- 4. E-mail Address** – For better communication among researchers, place e-mail address of senior author following last sentence of abstract.
- 5. Herbicide nomenclature** – Use common names of herbicides as given in *Weed Science* (2003) 51:1022-1028. When the common name refers to the parent acid, the salt or ester forms used in the experiments should be identified at the first mention of the common name (e.g., methyl ester of diclofop). At the first mention of a herbicide application rate, list whether the weight is acid equivalent (ae) or active ingredient (ai) (e.g., kg ai ha⁻¹). If no common name is available, use its designation (trade name or code) followed by the full chemical name. If the chemistry is confidential, identify source (company) in parentheses after designation.
- 6. Adjuvant nomenclature** – Where possible, use WSSA *Herbicide Handbook*, 8th edition (2002), p. 454-456; *Weed Science* (1985) 33 (Suppl. 1): 22-23; or WSSA *Monograph* (1982) *Adjuvants for Herbicides*. Otherwise, use the most complete available chemical description of the adjuvant.
- 7. Weed nomenclature** – Identify weeds by common names. At first mention of a weed, whether in the title or text, follow the common name with the scientific name (underlined and in parentheses). Do not repeat the scientific name in the text if given in the title. Use common and scientific names of weeds as given in the *Composite List of Weeds*, published by WSSA in 1989. If there is no WSSA-designated common name, use common scientific names from another source such as *Hortus Third*.
- 8. Crop nomenclature** – Scientific names for crop plants are optional. They are not needed for well known crops, but should be included for less common crops and whenever needed for clarity. Place scientific names, underlined and in parentheses, following first mention of the common name, whether in the title or text.

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CALL FOR PAPERS CONTINUED from pg 6

9. **Soil nomenclature** – Include the soil series with textural classification and the subgroup name using the terminology of the U.S. Dept. Agric. Natr. Res. Conserv. Serv. publication, *Soil Taxonomy*, U.S. Gov. Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 1975. For soils outside the U.S.A., use the local official terminology.
10. **Measurements** – Report all measurements in International System of units (SI). Abbreviate units of measure if preceded by a number. See *Weed Science* (2003) 51:1029-1033 for additional suggestions and WSSA *Herbicide Handbook*, 8th edition (2002), p. 463-466 for metric conversions.
11. **Abbreviations** – Use abbreviations as shown in *Weed Science* (2004) 52:1063, WSSA *Herbicide Handbook*, 8th edition (2002), p. 453-454 or CBE Style Manual.
12. **Numbers** – Use Arabic numerals for all numbers with two or more digits and for all measurements such as time, weight, length, area, quantity, or degree except when the number is the first word in the sentence. Spell out numbers when they are the first word in a sentence or when they are less than 10 and not measurements.
13. **Tables, figures, or literature citations** – Do not include these in Abstracts.

SUBJECT INDEX

A subject index consisting of weed/crop names, herbicides, and other key words will be included at the end of the abstract book, in addition to the author index. Providing key words to be used in indexing will be the responsibility of the authors. Words in the title are not automatically indexed. Only key words provided by the authors will be used.

1. A **maximum** of five key words per abstract will be indexed. Most abstracts should only require two or three words.
2. Prioritize key words based on the importance of a given subject, especially for abstracts containing more than five weeds and herbicides. Use a priority ranking of (a) weeds and/or crops, (b) herbicides, other chemicals (including adjuvants) and other types of weed control (e.g., cultural, biological), (c) additional topic words or phrases.
3. Use scientific name of weeds, without authority. Genus plus species is considered one key word.
4. Genera names may be used when more than one species in that genus is mentioned in the abstract.
5. Use common names of crops (for less common crops, use scientific names without authority).
6. Use common names of herbicides and other chemicals (including adjuvants) or code numbers for experimental compounds.
7. Chemical class names, e.g., sulfonyleureas, should be used when more than one herbicide in that class is mentioned in the abstract.

POSTERS

The information presented as a poster is very similar to that presented as an oral paper, but it is presented on poster board rather than orally in a meeting. Directions for preparing a poster can be found under POSTER SESSION (see below).

The difference between a poster and a commercial exhibit must be clearly understood. The commercial exhibits are presented by Sustaining Members of WSSA and consist of educational information of a promotional nature about products or services. Posters may be presented by personnel of the same sustaining member companies and may concern commercial products, but they must present results of completed research with these products rather than promotional material about them.

POSTER SESSION

There may be split sessions for presentation of posters. In addition to specifying Section 15 (Poster Session), authors should indicate category from Section 1 through 14 (page 8). Poster presentations will be grouped by these categories.

1. Authors are expected to be at their poster during the period reserved for viewing the poster to answer questions and to discuss their research with interested parties.
2. Participants in Section 15, the Poster Session, will meet at a location designated in the program before the Poster Session begins to elect a chair-elect of the section for 2008 (Section Chair in 2009) and discuss recommendations for improvement of the Poster Session.
3. **Poster Boards. One board 48 x 48 inches and an easel will be provided for each poster paper. There will be no exceptions to the rule of one board per paper.**
4. Content of Paper. Text, graphs, and tables must be easily read from a distance of 6 feet. Titles and headings should be larger and readable from a greater distance.
5. Because of cost and logistics, it will not be possible to provide electrical connections, telephone lines for computer connections, video equipment (VCR and video monitor), or other special equipment for posters.
6. Groups of authors may present more than one poster, but at least one author must be present at each poster during the time designated exclusively for viewing the poster.

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WSSA UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH AWARD – 2007

The Weed Science Society of America has developed an Undergraduate Student Research Grant designed to encourage and involve exceptional undergraduates in agricultural research. Interested faculty members are encouraged to identify potential award candidates and discuss the possibility of sponsoring a research project. Awards may be used as a stipend, for research budget expenses (travel, supplies, etc.), to defer fees, to defray living expenses for summer research, or any combination of these items.

AWARD: Up to \$1000 for support of undergraduate research to be conducted over a minimum of one quarter/semester during 2007. This award may be used to defray the cost of research supplies or as a stipend. Support of a faculty sponsor is required. Awards will be made to the student to be administered by the faculty sponsor's department.

APPLICANT: The applicant is an undergraduate student with a strong interest in Weed Science. Students majoring in all related disciplines may apply.

TO APPLY: Applicants should prepare a 2–3 page research proposal including name, address, phone number, title, objective, experimental approach, discussion, budget and references. The discussion section of the proposal should describe the expected results and their possible significance to Weed Science. The student should provide a cover letter in which general academic and career goals are discussed. A copy of the student's academic transcripts must also be provided.

FACULTY SPONSOR: Any faculty member who is actively engaged in Weed Science research is qualified to be a sponsor. The faculty sponsor should review the research proposal with special attention to the budget; the distribution of funds should be approved by both the student and sponsor. In addition, the sponsor should provide a letter of reference including a statement of his/her willingness to supervise the proposed research and to provide needed space, equipment and supplies above those requested in the proposal. The sponsor is encouraged to assist the student in presenting his/her results at a regional Weed Science Meeting.

HOW TO APPLY: The completed proposal, academic transcripts, cover letter and faculty letter of support should be forwarded to: Dr. John Jachetta, Dow AgroSciences, 9330 Zionsville Road, Indianapolis, IN 46268-1054; Phone: (317) 337-4686, Fax (317) 337-4649, E-mail: jjjachetta@dow.com. Proposals should be received no later than November 10, 2006. Funding decisions will be made by January 26, 2007, and presented at the 2007 WSSA National Meeting General Session.

WASHINGTON REPORT

by Lee Van Wychen, Director of Science Policy

WEED SCIENCE RESEARCH FUNDING – HOUSE AGRICULTURE APPROPRIATIONS

The House of Representatives (House) passed their FY2007 Agriculture Appropriations Bill on May 24. The House budget for USDA has a lot of good news and a little bad news for weed science compared to the Administration's budget proposal. Given the extremely tight budgetary conditions here in DC, weed science has a lot to be thankful about. It's now up to the Senate to pass their version of the Agriculture Appropriations bill which should happen a week or two after the Memorial Day recess.

THE GOOD NEWS: In the House Agriculture Appropriations Bill, the FY2007 USDA Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service (CSREES) budget for the **National Research Initiative (NRI)** competitive grants program is \$190 million, an **increase of \$8,830,000** above the amount available for FY2006. The Administration's budget proposed to move the USDA CSREES Section 406 Programs into the NRI, but the House Ag Appropriators wanted to keep the Section 406 Programs where they are. Section 406 Programs include the Regional Pest Management Centers, Crops at Risk from the Food Quality Protection Act (FQPA) Implementation; FQPA Risk Mitigation Program for Major Food Crop Systems; and the Methyl Bromide Transition Program.

MORE GOOD NEWS: For payments under the **Hatch Act**, the House of Representatives provided an appropriation of \$183,275,000, an **increase of \$6,306,000** above the amount available for FY2006 and an increase of \$6,355,000 above the President's budget request. This funding level represents a 3 percent increase above the FY2006 funding level and the first time since FY1999 that funding has increased for the Hatch Act.

For cooperative forestry research (**McIntire-Stennis**), the House provides an appropriation of \$22,668,000, an **increase of \$660,000** above the amount available for FY2006 and an increase of \$685,000 above the budget request. This funding level represents a 3 percent increase above the FY2006 funding level and is also the first increase in this program since FY1999.

The House Appropriations Committee provided increases or level funding for 4 USDA CSREES special grant programs for agricultural research on improved pest control. Among these programs, **IR-4 increased \$108,000** over FY2006 to \$10.79 million, the **IPM program increased \$174,000** over FY2006 to \$2.57 million, and the Pest Management Alternatives Program (PMAP) remained level to FY2006 funding levels at \$1.42 million.

The House also increased appropriations for the **Smith Lever Act** Sections 3(b) and 3(c) by \$7.5 million for a total budget outlay of **\$281.4 million in FY2007**. On average, Smith-Lever formula funds account for about 30% of a state's total funding for extension programs.

Under the USDA Agriculture Research Service (ARS), the House provided an increase of \$100,000 for a total of \$525,745 in FY2007 for expanded research on invasive aquatic weeds carried out at Ft. Lauderdale, Florida.

The House Appropriations Committee provided \$425,000 for the New England Center for Invasive Plants in Connecticut, Vermont, and Maine. This is a new award in FY2007. The goal is to develop a multi-state, interdisciplinary research program to address the problems caused by invasive species that are important to New England and the nation. There are five main goals: (A) development of non-invasive, sterile landscape plants; (B) assessment of the ecological impact of invasive plants and ecological evaluation of new "super-ster-

ile" cultivars; (C) assessment of the economic impact of invasive species in New England; (D) development of alternative native crops; and (E) public education and outreach efforts to limit and control invasive species. More than 12 faculty members at the University of Connecticut, University of Vermont, and University of Maine will be involved in this project. The total estimated amount contributed by the three universities in the form of faculty salary and associated fringe benefits based on the faculty time commitment to this project is \$40,000 per year. In addition, no indirect costs will be charged to the project. The indirect cost of this project is about \$66,300. Thus, the total amount contributed to this project from non-federal sources is more than \$100,000.

THE BAD NEWS: President Bush's budget proposed a new USDA program for invasive species that included \$9.9 million for competitive grants to private groups for eradication and control of invasive species through the use of new and innovative methodologies. Unfortunately, the House Agriculture Appropriators did not include any money in the USDA budget for this initiative nor did they include the \$15 million appropriation authorized in the 2004 Noxious Weed Control and Eradication Act. The House Agriculture Appropriations bill also directs the USDA ARS to terminate the Poisonous Plant Research Laboratory in Logan, UT, for a savings of \$1,400,757. However, I'm sure Senator Bennett (R-UT), Agriculture Appropriations Chair, will have something to say about this.

WEED SCIENCE RESEARCH FUNDING – HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES

The House Appropriation bill for the
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Department of the Interior (except the Bureau of Reclamation), the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and for other related agencies, including the Forest Service was passed by the House on May 18, 2006. Under the Land Resources section in the **Bureau of Land Management (BLM)**, the House Appropriations Committee recommends \$187 million for land resources, \$350,000 above the president's budget request, but \$382,000 below the FY2006 enacted level. The BLM is responsible for the multiple use management, protection, and development of minerals, timber, rangeland, fish and wildlife habitat, and wilderness on about 261 million acres of the Nation's public lands as well as management of 700 million additional acres of Federally-owned subsurface mineral rights. The BLM is the second largest supplier of public outdoor recreation in the Western United States. Changes from the President's budget request include increases of \$500,000 in range management for invasive species work; \$400,000 in forestry as a general increase; and \$250,000 in riparian management to work on the Santa Ana River wash project, CA.

The **Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)** received \$1.3 billion in the House bill, a decrease of \$55 million from the FY2006 enacted amount and \$2 million below the president's request. The largest decreases would be in construction (zero funds would be provided, down from \$30 million last year), and state and tribal grants, which would be funded at \$50 million, down \$17.5 million from FY2006. Other FWS subtotals include \$80.5 million for the Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Act, down slightly from fiscal 2006, and \$36.6 million for the North American Wetlands Conservation Fund.

As the Nation's largest water, earth, and biological science and civilian mapping agency, the **U.S. Geological Survey (USGS)** collects, monitors, analyzes, and provides scientific understanding about natural resource conditions, issues, and prob-

lems. The House appropriated \$986 million for the USGS, up \$16 million from FY2006.

The House appropriated **\$7.566 billion to EPA**, which is a decrease of \$58.5 million below the FY2006 level. However, in the **EPA's Office of Science and Technology**, pesticide licensing of new pesticides increases \$303,000 to \$2.7 million over FY2006 and pesticide review / re-registration increases \$340,000 to \$2.8 million. The Science and Technology account funds all EPA research carried out through grants, contracts, and cooperative agreements with other Federal agencies, States, universities, and private business, as well as in-house research. The **EPA Environmental Programs and Management** account encompasses a broad range of abatement, prevention, and compliance activities. The House Appropriations committee passed a \$2.5 decrease for pesticide licensing activities in the Environmental Programs and Management section compared to FY2006 allocation, but is an increase of \$4.5 million over Administration's budget request of \$118.3 million for FY2007.

The House Appropriation's committee recommended that the EPA's Pesticide Safety Education Program should continue to be funded at \$1.2 million in FY2007 using the services of the USDA CSREES. Furthermore, the House commends the **Agriculture Container Recycling Council** for its development of a voluntary program for recycling agricultural and professional specialty pesticides containers. This program has facilitated the proper disposal of millions of plastic pesticide containers at no cost to farmers. The EPA has been developing regulations on this recycling and, to ensure the program remains a viable, free service that is available to agricultural producers, the House Appropriations Committee expects EPA to issue a final rulemaking on the recycling of high density polyethylene pesticide containers within 60 days of enactment of this Act.

The **U.S. Forest Service (USFS)** manages 192 million acres of public lands for multiple use Nationwide, including lands in 44 States and Puerto Rico, and cooperates with States, other Federal agencies, Tribes

and others to sustain the Nation's forests and grasslands. The National Forest System (NFS) includes 155 National forests, 20 National grasslands, 20 National recreation areas, a National tallgrass prairie, 6 National monuments, and 6 land utilization projects. While USFS policy is authorized by the House and Senate Agriculture Committees, funds are appropriated through the House and Senate Appropriations Subcommittee for the Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies.

The House Appropriations Committee recommends **\$280 million for forest and rangeland research**, an increase of \$12.5 million above the President's budget request and \$2.6 million above the FY2006 enacted level. Within the National Forest System (NFS) account, the House recommends \$180 million for vegetation and watershed management, an increase of \$148,000 above the FY2006 funding level.

SALT CEDAR AND RUSSIAN OLIVE CONTROL DEMONSTRATION ACT

On May 2, 2006, the House of Representatives passed H.R. 2720, the Salt Cedar and Russian Olive Control Demonstration Act. The Senate version of this bill, S. 177, now waits approval in that chamber. H.R. 2720 would authorize the appropriation of \$20 million in FY2006 and \$15 million for each of fiscal years 2007 through 2010. Of this, not more than 15 percent shall be used to pay for administrative costs to carrying out the program. H.R. 2720 directs the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Commissioner of Reclamation and the Director of the U.S. Geological Survey, to carry out a salt cedar (*Tamarix spp*) and Russian olive (*Elaeagnus angustifolia*) assessment and demonstration program to: (1) assess the extent of the infestation by salt cedar and Russian olive trees in the western United States; (2) demonstrate strategic solutions for the long-term management of such trees and the reestablishment of native vegetation; and (3) assess economic means to dispose of biomass created as a result of removal of those trees. H.R.

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2720 also directs the Secretary of Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture to enter into a memorandum of understanding for the administration of such program.

H.R. 2720 would limit the costs of the assessment phase to \$4 million, would limit the identification and documentation of strategies for long-term management at \$2 million, would limit demonstration projects to \$7 million, and would limit the analysis of the biomass disposition phase to \$3 million. Work done on federal land would receive 100 percent funding while work done on private land would require a minimum of 25 percent cost share of the federal grant dollars.

SEN. TALENT INTRODUCES LEGISLATION TO BOOST AGRICULTURE RESEARCH

Sen. Jim Talent (R-MO) introduced the National Food and Agriculture Act (NIFA) of 2006 which would keep America's farmers the most productive in the world by boosting investment in food and agriculture research. Sen. Talent's legislation, cosponsored by Sen. Bond (R-Mo.), would implement recommendations from the USDA Research, Education and Economics task force established in the 2002 farm bill.

"America has the safest, most abundant and least expensive food supply in the world," said Sen. Talent, Chairman of the Senate Agriculture Subcommittee on Marketing, Inspection and Product Promotion. "The heart of food production in the United States and the world is the American family farmer and rancher. Our plan will expand the development of research programs to improve human health, increase agricultural production and provide our producers with a competitive edge in the global marketplace."

"The leading competitiveness of our U.S. producers is only as solid as our willingness to invest in forward-looking investments and build upon our historic successes. This legislation seeks to lay the foundation for tre-

mendous advances in the future," said Senator Bond. "This is a tremendous opportunity to improve agriculture and its benefits to all our populations."

"Knowledge is power," said Dr. William H. Danforth, Chancellor Emeritus of Washington University and Chairman of the Research, Education and Economics Task Force, USDA. "This legislation recognizes a knowledge gap in agriculture and seeks to close that gap so that the American farmer remains productive and competitive in the global marketplace. We do not yet fully know how to grow highly productive plants that require less water or less fertilizer, how to make plants maximally efficient in producing ethanol and biodiesel fuels or how to immunize farm animals against dangerous diseases. With a national institute for agriculture, we will achieve that base of knowledge."

The USDA Research, Education and Economics task force found that America's inadequate funding of agriculture research puts the nation's farmers at a disadvantage from foreign competitors. One key recommendation from the task force suggested establishing a National Institute for Food and Agriculture (NIFA) at the USDA which would supplement ongoing research conducted at the Department. The legislation implements this recommendation by directing USDA to create a NIFA that provides agriculture researchers additional funds through a competitively awarded grant program.

The amount of funding going into researching to improve profitability on farms, economic growth and jobs in rural America, consumer well-being, and conservation of natural resources has remained flat for roughly two decades. USDA's task force noted that the amount of funding designated for competitively awarded, peer-reviewed agriculture grants is outpaced 100 to 1 by the National Institutes of Health. NIFA would increase funds available for food and agriculture research in addition to the current available resources at USDA-ARS and CSREES.

MAXWELL AND GOPINATH SPEAK ON CAPITOL HILL AND AT USDA ABOUT ECONOMIC IMPACT OF INVASIVE WEEDS

On May 5, the WSSA along with the Council on Food, Agricultural and Resource Economics (C-FARE) co-hosted 2 one hour briefings on Capitol Hill and USDA to highlight federally funded research for invasive weeds. The title of the seminar was "Researching Invasive Weeds: Tools for Policy Makers." Dr. Bruce Maxwell (WSSA) and Dr. Munisamy Gopinath (C-FARE) presented preliminary work from research funded by the USDA Economic Research Service (ERS) Program of Research on the Economics of Invasive Species Management (PREISM) program, and other federally funded competitive grants.

Dr. Maxwell, Montana State University, discussed his work on developing and integrating tools for assessing the impacts of invasive plants for prioritization on federal lands. Dr. Maxwell's project developed a GIS-based decision support system for management planners based on economic tradeoff analysis.

Dr. Munisamy Gopinath, Oregon State University, analyzed the role of stakeholders' interest and input in explaining cross-state differences in noxious weed regulations. In particular, his work identified the trade-offs which consumers, environmentalists, and seed and commodity producers face in their decision to support or oppose noxious weed regulations.

DERR VISITS DC FOR CoFARM/BESC CONGRESSIONAL VISITS DAY

On March 14 and 15, 2006, WSSA Vice President Jeff Derr represented the WSSA at the Coalition on Funding Agricultural Research Missions (CoFARM) - Biological and Ecological Sciences Coalition (BESC) program in Washington, D.C organized to generate congressional support for the agricultural and biological sciences. Over 50 scientists from other scientific societies including the American Institute of Biological Sciences (AIBS), the Tri-Societies (ASA-CSSA-SSSA), and the Ecological Society of

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America (ESA) participated in this two day event.

Unfortunately, I could not join Dr. Derr for this event as it conflicted with the WSSW meeting in Reno, NV. However, Jeff was generous enough to write the following report of his activities on March 14 and 15:

On the first day, we were briefed on the 2007 federal budget for agricultural and biological research funding. Several prominent people provided their perspectives on the science budget which included: Kei Koizumi, Budget Analyst, American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS); Jim Collins, Assistant Director for Biology, National Science Foundation (NSF) Biology Directorate; Anna Palmisano, Deputy Administrator, Competitive Programs, USDA CSREES; Dan Byers, Deputy Chief of Staff, Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP); and David Goldston, Chief of Staff, House Science Committee. There also was a congressional visits training workshop conducted by Adrienne Sponberg. In the evening, a reception was held to honor the contributions for Reps. Vern Ehlers (R-MI) and Rush Holt (D-NJ), two congressmen who have supported science research funding.

The next day, we attended a CoFARM-sponsored breakfast with Dr. Pearson, former USDA Deputy Undersecretary for Research, Education, and Economics, Dr. Ed Knipping, USDA-ARS Administrator, Colien Hefferan, USDA-CSREES Administrator, Rob Hedberg, former WSSA DSP now with USDA CSREES, and other USDA officials. They spoke on the National Research Initiative (NRI), Hatch Act funding, and funding for ARS and ERS, among other issues. I then went on three congressional visits with Paul Bradley, a student representing the Virginia Institute of Marine Science (VIMS), and Mike Neff, representing the American Society for Horticultural Science (ASHS). We were grouped by state, our group focusing on Virginia, for our Capitol Hill visits. Surprisingly, we were able to meet with Rep. Jo Anne Davis (R-VA), who represents the Williamsburg area of Virginia.

When we make these congressional visits, we need to highlight issues that are of interest to that individual representative. For Rep. Davis, who has cancer, funding for organic production and health benefits of fruits and vegetables were of interest to her. We also met with Brent Robinson, her legislative assistant. We then met with Carrie Breig, legislative assistant for Rep. Jim Moran (D-VA), who represents the Fairfax area in northern Virginia. Finally, we met with Tack Richardson, legislative assistant for Senator John Warner (R-VA). Tack was interested in the impact of invasive weeds on military installations because Sen. Warner chairs the Senate Armed Services Committee. Tack asked me for figures on the economic impact of weeds on military bases. What surprised me, though, about our discussions with Tack was his mention of National Invasive Weed Awareness Week (NIWAW) and that he had met some NIWAW 7 participants. It appears that making these Hill visits does have an impact.

I feel it was good to be there representing WSSA, since there were representatives from the entomology, plant pathology, crop/soil science, and horticulture societies, among others. Although I enjoyed meeting with representatives from organizations comprising BESC, it did make it more difficult getting across points with congressional staffers. While Mike Neff (ASHS) and I were talking about crop production and invasive plants issues that would be funded by USDA, Paul Bradley spoke about things like funding for NOAA, oyster research, and other issues, and mentioned that VIMS receives their funding primarily from NSF. In my mind, it would be preferable if agricultural representatives had separate visits from the BESC representatives, since it would allow for a more focused visit. This is important since we only had about 15 minutes to spend with the staffers and it is hard to talk about potential funding for weeds, crops, fish, oysters, weather, etc... in that time frame. I feel WSSA should continue sending representatives to CoFARM sponsored events.

EPA TO PROVIDE FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS AND/OR MEETINGS

I listed this news article in the last WSSA News and I am going to list it again. The EPA announced that it will provide financial support for Conferences, Workshops and/or Meetings on EPA mission related issues which include: 1) protecting human health and safeguarding the natural environment; 2) advancing the scientific and technical research that promotes environmental protection; 3) exploring current and emerging issues of importance to environmental protection; and/or 4) encouraging collaboration among the nation's best scientists and engineers in academia, business and nonprofit research institutes.

The EPA expects \$750,000 will be available in grant funds through 25 awards. Applications for grant funding will be due and approved on a quarterly basis through January 18, 2007. Eligible Applicants include city, county and state governments, public and private institutions of higher education and certain nonprofit organizations. Details are posted at http://www.epa.gov/ord/grants_funding/pdfs/BAA_conferences_011806.pdf EPA Contact: Michael Bender at 202 564 6829; e-mail: Bender.Michael@EPA.gov

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THINK NEWSLETTER

**Deadline for October issue
September 1, 2006**

Setting Priorities and Objectives for The USDA NRI Grant Program

At WSSA's 50-year anniversary meeting in New York, some Board members asked if I'd be interested in periodically addressing the membership via the newsletter. I thought this was a great opportunity for me to explain programmatic issues and I accepted. So this is the first of what I expect to be a series of columns about happenings within the Cooperative State Research, Education and Extension Service (CSREES) and, in particular, the Biology of Weedy and Invasive Species in Agroecosystems Program within the National Research Initiative (NRI).

The topic that I will discuss in this column is how Federal grant programs set priorities and objectives. It is a complex process that involves both the flow of information up from the user (=stakeholder) community modulated by the editing of that information via top-down processes designed to meet national needs and priorities.

Both the tradition of Land Grant Institutions and the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998 make the gathering of stakeholder input through advisory systems a requirement. When appropriately gathered, advice from stakeholders can help focus programs on important issues, evaluate the impact of programs, and provide future direction for ongoing and new programs. In short, stakeholder input helps to keep programs current and relevant. This is the bottom-up part of the equation.

For my particular program, input is activity solicited (and, as it turns out, is freely given) through a variety of methods and from a host of advisory groups. To be most effective and relevant, advisory system input must represent all constituents who can potentially benefit from the program. Regardless of the method used, the opportunity to provide input is expected to be fair, open, and broadly accessible. The first tier of stakeholder input comes from professional societies, commodity groups, and non-profits. For my program this includes the WSSA, the Ecological Society of America, the Tri-Societies, the Nature Conservancy, NatureServe, and a few others. This input might be directed and specific to a program provided via correspondence or one-on-one discussions, or it might take the form of a position or white paper that identifies research priorities or themes. My attending the WSSA annual meeting in February was to both explain my vision for the NRI program and to solicit feedback from the WSSA. The second tier of input comes from panels, organized meetings, and even causal discussions with individuals. I make certain that every panelist serving on my panel has a chance—either in group discussions or individually—to provide feedback on the program and its priorities. One outcome of our last panel meeting in May was a number of excellent suggestions from panelists that will most likely end up in the FY2007 Request for Applications (RFA). Last fall I helped sponsor an inter-

agency meeting for both NRI and National Science Foundation (NSF) Principal Investigators (PIs) working on weedy and invasive plants. The ultimate goal of that meeting was to gather stakeholder input relative to: 1) identifying the critical questions in basic and applied ecological research that must be answered before management of invasive species can be successful; and 2) identifying the respective roles of the NRI and NSF Programs in achieving this goal.

So how are program priorities set considering the wide diversity of stakeholder input that must necessarily mirror the diverse and varied interests of the advisory groups? The answer to this is that you take the best ideas and the best input and then you subject them to top-down evaluation by the various mechanisms within the federal government.

For the Biology of Weedy and Invasive Species in Agroecosystems Program there are two levels of federal review. The first level of review involves the CSREES and USDA Invasive Species Working Groups whose role it is to keep the various programs focused on the Agency's and Department's Strategic Goals. The US Government has been practicing performance based budgeting for a while now—meaning that programs are evaluated and rewarded (or not) relative to how successful they have been in achieving the stated goals. So the ability to tie a program's goals with that of the parent agency or department is critical. And within the NRI each program must identify short, mid- and long-term goals, all that must have relevance to CSREES and USDA goals.

The second level of review involves inter-departmental and inter-agency working groups like the Federal Interagency Committee on Invasive Terrestrial Animals and Pathogens (ITAP), the Federal Interagency Committee for the Management of Noxious and Exotic Weeds (FICMNEW), the National Invasive Species Council (NISC), and the Federal Interagency Committee for Extramural Programs for Research on Invasive Species (EPRIS) that are charged with coordinating federal efforts across agencies, with a strong mandate to avoid redundancy.

In the end, program priorities reflect a balance between the bubbling up of diverse stakeholder input, filtered for Agency and Department relevance, and then screened for federal redundancy.

Michael A. Bowers

National Program Leader-Ecology

Cooperative State Research,

Education & Extension Service (CSREES)

USDA

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WSSA Officer Attends NIWAW

During the week of February 27 to March 3, 2006, I attended the National Invasive Weed Awareness Week (NIWAW) 7 in Washington, D.C. I was the first WSSA Board officer to attend this week-long meeting in its seven year history. Dr. Nelroy Jackson [Invasive Weed Awareness Coalition (IWAC) and WSSA] was the co-developer of NIWAW 1 through 7 and was the chair of IWAC which organized NIWAW 7. Lee Van Wychen, Director of Science Policy for WSSA, assisted Dr. Jackson with the arrangements.

The number and diversity of participants was impressive; 175 people registered for the week and represented practitioners, representatives of garden clubs, land managers, state and federal agencies, universities, industry, and professional societies (Exotic Pest Plant Councils (EPPC's), the North American Weed Management Association (NAWMA), state Weed Science Societies, The Nature Conservancy (TNC), Union of Concerned Scientists UCS, etc....) from nearly 40 states. Many of the attendees were involved with detection and management of invasive weed species in parks, urban areas, wildlands, forests, and riparian and aquatic areas. Many were involved in programs where volunteer activities are a major part of their management efforts. I was impressed with their enthusiasm and dedication to the issues surrounding invasive weed prevention and management. I was also impressed with how open they were to new participants. Many thanks go to Nelroy for introducing me to so many people.

Each half day of the week included opportunities to attend briefings held by USDA (ERS, ARS, CSREES, USFS, NRCS, APHIS), U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Department of the Interior (BLM, F&WS, NPS, USGS, BOR), and numerous other Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs). The briefings were conducted by the top administrators in these departments; an indication of the impact that NIWAW participants are having in Washington. There was an opportunity at each briefing for questions. The land managers were very pointed in expressing what is working and what is not working for them in the field. In addition to the formal briefings, several groups held individual meetings with agency officials to address issues at the local or state level. Many of the participants also visited their congressional offices to introduce themselves and present them with two position papers (issues agreed on by all NIWAW participants).

A highlight of the week occurred on Wednesday with the awards reception at the U.S. Botanical Garden (they had an orchid exhibit in the main hall where the awards were presented!). Nelroy asked me to chair the awards ceremony as the representative of WSSA. I had the pleasure of presenting awards on behalf of IWAC, NAWMA and the Federal Interagency Committee for the Management of Noxious and Exotic Weeds (FICMNEW). A particular highlight of the evening was presenting the NAWMA Appreciation Award to Rob Hedberg (past WSSA DSP) for his role in developing NIWAW and the

IWAC-FICMNEW Lifetime Achievement Award to Nelroy Jackson.

I want to highlight a few impressions of the week:

First, I made contact with a number of individuals who represent groups with whom WSSA should consider strengthening relationships. In particular, I spoke at length with Carl Bell, President of the California Weed Science Society, about the possibility of their affiliating with WSSA. They are going to put together a letter outlining how they would like to interact with WSSA (perhaps differently than the regional societies – but they are potential contributors to the Director of Science Policy position!). If we can come to an agreement, we may have a template with which to approach other state organizations. I also had several conversations about how WSSA might interact with the Exotic and Invasive Pest Plant Councils.

Second, the people at the meeting had a great need for information about invasive management strategies. I sensed a gap between the WSSA and these individuals; they did not seem to appreciate research, but at the same time, were in need of the information that is generated by weed science research and outreach programs. This may present an opportunity for WSSA and/or the regional societies. I also spoke with several people about the Journal of Invasive Weeds that we are currently discussing.

Third, my presence at the meeting (and the chance to be in front of all the participants as chair of the awards reception) was welcomed. This was a wonderful opportunity to show WSSA's interest in invasive plants and to strengthen relationships with agency leaders and with other organizations. I had the opportunity to continue discussions (with Lee and Nelroy) about the Federal job series for Weed Science with ARS, CSREES, and USFS representatives – some who I met because of Nelroy's skills at connecting people who need to interact on behalf of weed science.

Of note is the fact that Ecological Society of America used NIWAW as the venue to roll out a position paper entitled: "Biological Invasions: Recommendations for U.S. Policy and Management." WSSA may be missing some opportunities if we do not actively participate in this arena.

My recommendation to the WSSA Board and the WSSA membership is that we should continue to actively and financially support NIWAW as an important outreach effort in Weed Science. We should also make the effort to maintain and increase our visibility by sending the president and president-elect to the conference each year.

Respectfully submitted by
Jill Schroeder
WSSA President-Elect

NEWSS News

The Northeastern Weed Science Society held its 60th Annual Meeting (jointly with the Northeast Aquatic Plant Management Society) at the Westin Hotel in Providence, RI with nearly 200 people in attendance. The theme of the meeting was "Bridging Technology with Partnerships in Aquatic and Terrestrial Weed Control." In addition to the typical seven sections (agronomy; conservation, forestry & industrial; ornamentals; turfgrass & plant growth regulators; vegetable & fruit; weed biology & ecology; and poster), the conference was highlighted by three symposia: "Education and Outreach", "Recent Advances in Nursery Weed Management", and "Aquatic & Terrestrial Weed Control" (the latter brought together both societies and contained an aquatic plant and algae ID workshop). Five deserving scientists were recognized at the conference: Drs. Richard Bonanno and Thomas Vrabel were awarded the Distinguished Member Award; Mr. Stephan Dennis, with Syngenta, received the Award of Merit; Dr. Russell Hahn, with Cornell University, received the Outstanding Educator Award; and Dr. Grant Jordan, with ACDS Research, was awarded the Outstanding Researcher Award. The Graduate Student Presentation awards went to: 1st place (tie): Robert Shortell, Rutgers Univ. and Steven Mirsky, Penn State Univ.; 2nd place: Bryan Dillehay, Penn State Univ. The Graduate Poster awards were presented to: 1st place: Dan Ricker, Virginia Tech; and 2nd place: John Willis, Virginia Tech. Graduate students were given the opportunity to socialize and learn at a mixer entitled 'Ethics in Weed Research.' During the conference, the membership of the NEWSS approved a Herbicide Resistance Stewardship Resolution and outgoing President Tim Dutt passed the gavel to Bill Curran.

In 2005, the NEWSS boasted a revamped and highly successful collegiate weed science contest at Penn State. The 2006 contest will be hosted by DuPont and held at their Stein-Haskell Research Center in Newark, DE on August 1. The NEWSS continues to progress in its efforts to support electronic communication with its membership. The website (www.newss.org) allows electronic publishing of its newsletters, on-line membership database and eventually full capabilities to handle title/abstract submissions and surveys. President Bill Curran has arranged to hold the 61st Annual Meeting of the NEWSS (jointly with the Mid-Atlantic Exotic Pest Plant Council) at the Renaissance Harborplace Hotel in Baltimore, MD on January 2-5, 2007.

Dwight Lingenfelter
NEWSS Public Relations

PEOPLE & PLACES I N T H E N E W S

Su-Jung Kim received her PhD in Soil, Environmental & Atmospheric Sciences under Bob Kremer from the University of Missouri in May 2006. Her dissertation was entitled 'Rhizobacteria Associated with Glyphosate-Resistant Soybean.' She is currently a microbiologist at the National Institute of Agricultural Sciences in Seoul, South Korea.

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SETTING PRIORITIES & OBJECTIVES FOR GRANT PROGRAM CONTINUED from pg 14

**Regular Mail (allow a minimum of 2 weeks
for delivery):**

Mail Stop 2210

1400 Independence Ave., SW

Washington, DC 20250-2210

**Express Mail (for time sensitive information,
use overnight delivery service):**

Waterfront Centre, Room 3211

800 9th St., SW

Washington, DC 20024

Telephone: 202-401-4510

Fax: 202-401-1706

Email: mbowers@csrees.usda.gov



NECROLOGY

MARVIN M. SCHREIBER

Marvin M. Schreiber passed away at 11:15 am Friday, April 14, 2006 due to complications following heart surgery at the age of 80. He was a Navy Veteran and served our country from 1944 to 1946.

Dr. Schreiber received his bachelor's degree from the University of Massachusetts, a master's degree from the University of Arizona, and his Ph.D. in botany and plant pathology from Cornell University.

Dr. Schreiber spent his entire career of over 40 years with the USDA-ARS, and 35 of those years as an Adjunct professor of weed science at Purdue University. During his career, he advised 20 graduate students and served on numerous graduate student committees. Although Dr. Schreiber had no teaching appointment, he guest lectured for courses covering topics in weed science, forage crops, crop physiology, and soils.

Dr. Schreiber was the lead scientist and project coordinator of a long term multidisciplinary research program designed to assess the interaction of crop rotation and tillage management on diseases, nematodes, viruses, insects and weeds on overall crop production. This program involved 17 scientists from the USDA-ARS and Purdue Agricultural Experiment Station. Other research activities included the efficacy and environmental fate of starch encapsulated herbicides and general weed biology and ecology including taxonomic work with *Setaria* species. He was a leader in the establishment of programs at the Water Quality Field Station at the Purdue Agronomy Research and Education Center. His research resulted in over 100 research articles, book chapters, fact sheets, and abstracts.

Over his career, Dr. Schreiber was a member of several professional organizations:

- Weed Science Society of America
- International Weed Science Society
- North Central Weed Science Society
- American Society of Agronomy
- Crop Science Society of America
- American Association for the Advancement of Science
- Indiana Academy of Science
- Sigma XI
- Council for Agricultural Science and Technology
- European Weed Science Society
- The New York Academy of Sciences

In addition to membership in these societies, Dr. Schreiber was named a fellow of the Weed Science Society of America, American Society of Agronomy, and the American Association for the Advancement of Science. He received the Best Paper Award from the American Society of Agricultural Engineers. He was recognized with a certificate of merit from the United States Department of Agriculture for sustained performance as research leader of the Insect and Weed Control Research Unit in West Lafayette, Indiana. In addition to these accomplishments, Dr. Schreiber was the President of the International Weed Science Society from 1979-1981.



POSITION ANNOUNCEMENTS

Position Title: Assistant/Associate Research Professor

Area of Specialization: Weed Science/Agronomy

Department: Delta Research and Extension Center

Departmental Contact: Dr. Dan Poston

Position Open Date: June 14, 2006

Position Close Date: Open until filled

Position Category: Faculty

Position Type: Regular

12-month/9-month: 12 month

Salary: Determined by market and commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Tenure track status: Non Tenure-track

Work location: Off-campus

Restricted Clause: Position is contingent on availability of funding

Requisition Number: 2389

Posted on line at: <https://www.jobs.msstate.edu>

Position Function:

The Mississippi Agricultural and Forestry Experiment Station of Mississippi State University is seeking a weed scientist/agronomist for the Delta Research and Extension Center in Stoneville, MS to develop a Delta-wide weed control and agronomic research program in cotton. Research efforts will be focused on the development of profitable cotton production systems for major Delta soil types. Areas of emphasis will include weed control, harvest aids, and plant growth regulators. Evaluation of programs that further enhance and support the cotton industry from an agronomic and weed control viewpoint will be considered an important aspect of the position.

Essential Duties and Responsibilities:

- Conduct in-depth research to develop economically viable weed management and harvest aid systems for the Mississippi Delta.
- Evaluate the performance and profitability of commercially available transgenic cotton cultivars (i.e. Round-up Ready Flex varieties) and investigate the long term sustainability of glyphosate only weed control systems.
- Monitor, confirm, and develop control strategies for glyphosate resistant weed biotypes.
- In cooperation with other discipline-specific scientists, conduct agronomic and plant growth regulator research for the development of optimum cotton production systems.
- Work closely with Extension specialists and agents to establish cotton production, weed control, and harvest aid systems for the Mississippi Delta.
- Transfer research information and technology to clientele via appropriate methods that may include electronic publications, experiment station and/or Extension bulletins.
- Develop and publish peer-reviewed publications based on cotton production research.

Minimum Qualifications:

- Earned doctorate in Weed Science/Agronomy or closely related Plant Science discipline.
- Experience in crop production, experimental design, statistical analysis, and modern agricultural production practices.
- Ability to develop crop production recommendations from research data.
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills to interact effectively with producers, consultants, faculty, Extension staff, and the general public.
- Ability to secure extramural funding to support research program.

Preferred Qualifications:

- Previous job experience in cotton production and working knowledge of computer applications in research.

Instructions for Applying:

Submit application, cover letter, and resume on line. Official transcripts and three letters of recommendation must be mailed to:

Dr. Joe Street, Head
Delta Research and Extension Center
P.O. Box 197
Stoneville, MS 38776

Candidates should complete the Personal Data Information Form on-line.



POST-DOC POSITION IN WEED SCIENCE IN RICE AT THE INTERNATIONAL RICE RESEARCH INSTITUTE

Major responsibilities of the position will be to: 1) identify promising approaches and developing improved weed management strategies for rice in the rainfed environments; 2) collaborate with agronomists, plant breeders and social scientists to develop weed management options that may comprise crop establishment, fallow management and the selection of well-adapted germplasm.

Candidate should preferably be from Asia and have a PhD in Weed Science/Weed Ecology. The position will be for twelve months with possible options to renew.

Interested candidates should send their CVs to:

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E-mail: d.johnson@cgiar.org

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CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	CONTACT
July 9-15, 2006	18th World Congress of Soil Science	Pennsylvania Convention Center Philadelphia, Pennsylvania	Larry Wilding, wilding@tamu.edu or Lee Sommers, lee.sommers@colostate.edu Symposia: www.colostate.edu/programs/IUSS/18wcss/symposia.html Registration: www.18wcss.org
July 16-19, 2006	Aquatic Plant Management Society (APMS) Annual Meeting	Portland, Oregon	http://www.apms.org/
August 8-10, 2006	New Zealand Plant Protection Conference	Marlborough Centre / Montana Brancott Winery Blenheim, New Zealand	The Secretary sonja.reid@pipfruitnz.co.nz
September 8-19, 2006	NATO Advanced Study Institute	Gualdo Tadino, Perugia, Italy	http://www.ispa.cnr.it/NATO-ASI
September 18-21, 2006	14th Annual North American Weed Management Association	Calgary, Alberta Canada	
October 15-21, 2006	International Conference: Novel and Sustainable Weed Management in Arid and Semi-Arid Agro-Ecosystems and The Inauguration of the EWRS New Working Groups: "Weed Management in Arid and Semi-Arid Agro-Ecosystems" and "Parasitic Weeds"	The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Faculty of Agricultural, Food and Environmental Quality Sciences, Rehovot, Israel	wgarid@agri.huji.ac.il http://www.agri.huji.ac.il/aridconference
November 22-24, 2006	XXVII Congress of the Mexican National Association of Weed Science (ASOMECEMA)	Hotel Corona Ensenada, Baja California	http://www.geocities.com/lain_kro/index.html
November 27-29, 2006	Canadian Weed Science Society Annual Meeting	Victoria, British Columbia, Canada	Victoria R. Brookes Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada Agassiz, B.C., Canada Tel: 604-796-2221, ext. 228 brookesv@agr.gc.ca http://www.cwss-scm.ca/index.html
November 29, 2006	Canadian Weed Science Society Forestry and Industrial Vegetation Management Working Group: "Today's Silviculture, Tomorrow's Forest"	Victoria, British Columbia, Canada	http://forestry.cwss-scm.ca/index.html
December 11-14, 2006	NCWSS Annual Meeting	Milwaukee, Wisconsin	http://www.ncwss.org/
January 20-25, 2007	Southern Weed Science Society Annual Conference	Opryland Hotel Nashville, Tennessee	Robert Schmidt raschwssa@aol.com
February 5-10, 2007	WSSA Annual Meeting	Marriott Riverwalk San Antonio, Texas	Paul Baumann Tel: 979-845-4880 p-baumann@tamu.edu
April 16-18, 2007	Resistance 2007 Conference	Rothamsted Research Harpenden, Hertfordshire AL5 2JQ, UK	Resistance 2007 Conference Secretariat Office Rothamsted Research, Harpenden, Hertfordshire, AL5 2JQ, UK Tel: (+44) (0) 1582 763133 Fax: (+44) (0) 1582 760981 rres.resistance@bbsrc.ac.uk www.rothamsted.ac.uk/Research/Resistance2007.html
September 17-21, 2007	9th International Conference on the Ecology and Management of Alien Plant Invasions Weed Science Society of Western Australia	Perth, Australia	
December 10-13, 2007	NCWSS Annual Meeting	St. Louis, Missouri	http://www.ncwss.org/
December 8-11, 2008	NCWSS Annual Meeting	Indianapolis, Indiana	http://www.ncwss.org/