



# Newsletter



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

WSSA is working harder than ever before to inject sound, science-based information into the decision-making process on issues that relate to weed management. I'd like to touch on a few examples in my article this issue.

Jill Schroeder is continuing to do an outstanding job as Subject Matter Expert for weed science on assignment to the Environmental Protection Agency. She is spending approximately one week per month at EPA headquarters, and is on call essentially 24/7 for them. Several of you have been contacted by Jill when specific questions have been posed, and EPA continues to see WSSA as a go-to source for reliable information on topics related to weed management and herbicides. As a result of the excellent meeting WSSA's leadership had with EPA officials in February, I have the opportunity to give a seminar at EPA headquarters in October on glyphosate resistance management. In that presentation I am going to give a broad overview of research and educational programs that are being conducted, what WSSA as an organization is doing to enhance educational activities, and how we can work with the agency to further promote implementation of best management practices to deal with this vitally important issue. EPA is very encouraged by the work that our Herbicide Resistance Committee is doing in developing a comprehensive publication that assesses the state of knowledge on this topic. The committee will be conducting a symposium at our Denver meeting, and EPA has indicated they will be sending several of their staff with specific interest in this symposium.

Mike Barrett and I recently participated in a meeting of the leading agricultural professional societies which was focused on the topic of promoting careers in agricultural disciplines. Other participating societies included the American Society of Agronomy, Crop Science Society of America, Soil Science Society of America, Entomological Society of America, American Phytopathology Society, and The American Agricultural Economics Association. The two-day session was focused on how together we can inspire young people at the K-12, under-

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## A New Look and Publication Schedule for *Weed Science*

At the 2009 Summer BOD Meeting in Denver, CO, the Director of Publications made the following motion "beginning with the first issue of *Weed Science* in 2010, the number of issues published per year be reduced from 6 to 4 and each issue will include a four color cover." The motion was unanimously approved in favor. Based on the number of articles and size of past issues of *Weed Science*, and as a cost savings measure, these new changes were considered appropriate by both Allen Press and the Society. Since all articles published in *Weed Science* are posted online as Ahead-of-Print, this new publication schedule will not slow the rate at which articles are available for referencing or the number of pages that are published per year. The inclusion of a 4 color cover will provide a new look to each issue similar to that already in place for *Weed Technology* and *Invasive Plant Science and Management*. Since *Weed Science*, *Weed Technology*, and *Invasive Plant Science and Management* will all be published 4 times per year, it will now be possible for Allen Press to rotate the publishing schedule for each journal so that members will have the added benefit of receiving one journal issue every month!

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graduate, and graduate levels to choose careers in agriculture. As all of us know, this is a daunting task — we are facing a critical shortage of students at every level, and projections are for this to be exacerbated in the future. A number of individual efforts are going on within the various societies, and it was great to share and compare notes on the various efforts. WSSA was particularly noted for our undergraduate research fellowships, and several of the societies asked for more information. At the same time, Mike and I walked away with several good ideas that we can use. More importantly, we had excellent discussions on how the societies can work together to promote agriculture career choices. We will have additional information coming out in the future. In the meantime, if you have ideas, please send them to me or Mike.

To no one's surprise, the 2010 program is coming together extremely well under John Jachetta's leadership. He has spent an incredible amount of time on preparing for the meeting, given the challenges of a joint meeting with another organization with a very different conference culture. I am excited about the program as it now stands, and know that each of you will find this the most enjoyable WSSA conference ever. The venue in Denver is outstanding, and the diversity of the program is unparalleled in our history. It will be a must-attend conference for every member.

Our Public Relations Committee continues to do an incredible job in developing PR information that is enhancing weed science and WSSA's image in the public. Recent press releases include salt cedar, hurricane impacts on invasive weed spread, and the tour of the Everglades for EPA, hosted by WSSA. If you haven't signed up for our RSS feed, go to the website and do so now, so that you can be notified of releases as soon as they come out. It's also a great way to keep up with what's going on in the society.

WSSA has been exploring how we can better provide weed identification images to our members and the public at-large. After a great deal of consideration, and based on the recommendations from our Website Committee, WSSA has reached an agreement with the Bugwood Network ([www.bugwood.org](http://www.bugwood.org)) to provide images through that medium, and to integrally link it to our website. This will capitalize on the exceptional capability and web presence that Bugwood has, and at the same time give WSSA the flexibility needed to promote WSSA as the first place to go for all information regarding weeds and invasive plants.

As you can see, there is a tremendous amount of activity going on within our organization. I've only given you a small glimpse at a few things. I encourage each of you to look for ways to serve the society, and promote our discipline.

David Shaw, President  
662/325-9575  
[dshaw@gri.msstate.edu](mailto:dshaw@gri.msstate.edu)

## WSSA FUTURE MEETING SITES AND DATES

**2010**

**Sheraton Denver Hotel  
Denver, CO  
February 7–11, 2010**

**Joint Meeting between WSSA and  
Society for Range Management  
Theme: Working Landscapes**

**Joint Chairs:**

**WSSA: John Jachetta, Rod Lym,  
and Rita Beard**

**SRM: Dennis Child, John Mitchell**

**For more information:**

[www.wssa.net](http://www.wssa.net)

[www.rangelands.org/denver2010/](http://www.rangelands.org/denver2010/)

**WSSA HOME PAGE  
ACCESSED AT:**

**[www.wssa.net](http://www.wssa.net)**

**THINK NEWSLETTER**

**Deadline for January issue  
December 1, 2009**

## WSSA NEWSLETTER

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# Registration is open for the 2010 Joint Annual Meeting of the Weed Science Society of America and the Society for Range Management!

John Jachetta, Roy Roath, Dale Shaner and Lana Pearson  
SRM / WSSA 2010 General Meeting Co-Chairs

The Joint Annual Meeting for the Weed Science Society of America and the Society for Range Management is moving along remarkably well and with nearly 800 submitted papers, posters and symposium presentations submitted, is turning out to be a very rich meeting in every single session. We have nine WSSA and 18 SRM symposia scheduled plus a full-day joint WSSA-SRM symposium along with a robust Trade Show with space for over 70 exhibits. A link to register for this meeting can be found at our website: [WSSA.net](http://WSSA.net).

Many folks from both organizations have volunteered substantial time to make this meeting a rewarding experience for all. Both Societies have long been involved in creating the scientific basis for the protection, conservation and management of the Nation's productive lands. With

this joint meeting, the stage has been set to promote discussions that move us all beyond our traditional disciplinary boundaries as we present and listen to new ideas. From the Plenary Session through the broad mix of technical programs, symposia, and social activities, we have strived to create an atmosphere of working together while retaining the character and interests of each society.

Please take advantage of the many opportunities to advance your knowledge in technical areas, become acquainted with a broad spectrum of professionals, renew old friendships and enjoy the Mile High city of Denver, Colorado. We also hope that you will use this occasion to form new friendships, expand your network and provide the basis for new and productive partnerships. We even have a dance on Tuesday night!

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## WSSA Symposia

1. WSSA Workshop: Technology and Communication Skills for the 21st Century Marketplace (limited registration)
2. Impact of Herbicide-Resistant Weeds on the Agroecosystem
3. Advances in Regulations and Methods for Measuring Herbicide Soil Residues
4. Where Did All the Weeds Go? A Global Perspective on Site-Specific Weed Management
5. Drift Minimization Technology
6. Advances in Automation and Machine Guided Technologies for Precision Weed Control
7. Biology of Weedy and Invasive Species in Agroecosystems Competitive Grant Program: Case Studies
8. Weed Management in Organic Agriculture: Current Needs and Future Prospects
9. Dicamba Resistant Soybean: How Will It Fit?

## Joint SRM/WSSA Invasive Plant Species Symposium

### Plant Invasions: Global Progress in the 21st Century

This Tuesday, February 9th Symposium will be followed by an open reception before the dance.

## SRM Symposia

1. Conservation Management on Private Rangelands
2. Pastoralists and Property Rights
3. Targeted Grazing – Applying the Research to the Land
4. Applying State and Transition Models Across Diverse Ecosystems
5. Wind Energy and Wildlife
6. Community-based Conservation on Rangeland
7. Rangeland Restoration in Presence of Persistent Invasive Plants
8. Management of Lekking Bird Habitat
9. Sustainable Rangelands through Low-Input Grassfed Production
10. Biodiversity and Plant Material Development
11. Sustainable Rangelands: Planning, Monitoring, and Management for Economic, Ecological and Social Benefits
12. Energy Production – Infrastructure and Development
13. Larkspur – 100 Years of Research, Perspectives and Future Directions
14. Producers Landscape Management
15. Maintaining and Managing Working Landscapes of the West – A Range of Perspectives
16. Politics, Science and Management of Carbon Sequestration on Rangelands
17. Reclaiming formerly Irrigated Farmland
18. Climate Change and Potential Natural Vegetation

# Condensed Joint Meeting Schedule

## 50th Annual WSSA Meeting

## 63rd Annual SRM Meeting

### February 7–11, 2010

#### Friday, February 5

Breckenridge Ski Package

#### Saturday, February 6

WSSA Board of Directors  
Breckenridge Ski Package

#### Sunday, February 7

WSSA Board of Directors  
WSSA Committee Meetings  
Professional WSSA Graduate Students Workshop  
Lasater Ranch Tour

#### Monday, February 8

Committee Meetings  
Plenary Session  
Trade Show  
Joint SRM/WSSA Poster Session  
Paper Sessions  
*WSSA Workshop*: Technology and Communication Skills for the 21st Century Marketplace  
*WSSA Symposium*: Impact of Herbicide-Resistant Weeds on the Agroecosystem  
*SRM Symposia*: Conservation Management on Private Rangelands  
*SRM Symposia*: Pastoralists and Property Rights  
*SRM Symposia*: Energy Production – Infrastructure and Development  
WSSA Awards Presentation  
Brown Palace Hotel Tour and Tea  
Joint SRM/WSSA Trade Show Mixer

#### Tuesday, February 9

Committee Meetings  
Trade Show  
Paper Sessions  
WSSA Graduate Students Luncheon and Business Meeting  
*WSSA Symposium*: Advances in Regulations and Methods for Measuring Herbicide Soil Residues  
*WSSA Symposium*: Where Did All the Weeds Go? A Global Perspective on Site-Specific Weed Management  
*Joint SRM/WSSA Symposium*: Plant Invasions: Global Progress in the 21st Century

*SRM Symposia*: Applying State and Transition Models Across Diverse Ecosystems

*SRM Symposia*: Wind Energy and Wildlife

*SRM Symposia*: Targeted Grazing – Applying the Research to the Land

*SRM Symposia*: Community-based Conservation on Rangeland

Molly Brown House Museum Tour

United States Mint at Denver Tour

Joint SRM/WSSA Invasive Plant and Weed Mixer

Joint SRM/WSSA Evening Poster Session

Dance

#### Wednesday, February 10

WSSA President's Breakfast with Regional Presidents  
Trade Show

Committee Meetings

Joint SRM/WSSA Poster Session

Paper Sessions

*WSSA Symposium*: Drift Minimization Technology

*WSSA Symposium*: Advances in Automation and Machine Guided Technologies for Precision Weed Control

*WSSA Symposium*: Biology of Weedy and Invasive Species in Agroecosystems Competitive Grant Program: Case Studies

*SRM Symposia*: Climate Change and Potential Natural Vegetation

*SRM Symposia*: Management of Lekking Bird Habitat

*SRM Symposia*: Biodiversity and Plant Material Development

WSSA Business Meeting and Reception

Colorado State Capitol Tour

Denver Art Museum Tour

Rocky Flats/Boulder Tour

#### Thursday, February 11

WSSA President's Breakfast with Committee Chairs  
Paper Sessions

*WSSA Symposium*: Weed Management in Organic Agriculture: Current Needs and Future Prospects

*WSSA Symposium*: Dicamba Resistant Soybean: How Will It Fit?

*SRM Symposia*: Sustainable Rangelands through Low-Input Grassfed Production

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## CONDENSED JOINT MEETING SCHEDULE CONTINUED from pg 4

*SRM Symposia*: Larkspur – 100 Years of Research,  
Perspectives and Future Directions  
*SRM Symposia*: Open Spaces

### Friday, February 12

Joint WSSA/SRM Board of Directors Recap  
and Breakfast  
WSSA Board of Directors  
SRM Carbon Sequestration Workshop  
Rocky Mountain National Park Tour

### Saturday, February 13

Breckenridge Ski Package

### Sunday, February 14

Breckenridge Ski Package

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## SPECIAL EVENTS

### WSSA Wednesday Night Reception

#### Location: Sheraton Hotel

This is the traditional WSSA reception. Heavy hors d'oeuvres with carving stations and mini desserts will be served; cash bar. There are no fees for this reception. We do ask that individuals indicate on the registration form if they plan to attend so we can make appropriate arrangement on food.

### DANCE: Tuesday Evening from 8:00 p.m. to Midnight in the Sheraton Hotel Majestic Ballroom; Woodie Procell and the Snowy River Band performing

The Snowy River Band is lead by former professional rodeo clown, Woodie Procell. This very talented bunch of guys has a varied music list that includes not only some high energy country but Cajun, bluegrass and rock and roll with even a few rodeo favorites added along the way. The band has opened for several national acts including: Roy Clark, Asleep At The Wheel, The Nitty Gritty Dirt Band, Trick Pony, Aaron Tippin, Lonestar, Chris LeDoux, Blackhawk, and Joe Nichols.

### Lasater Ranch Tour – Sunday, February 7

#### Depart – 9:00 a.m., Return – 5:00 p.m.; Lunch Provided (Grassfed Beef). Fee: \$50.00

Travel to the ranch through scenic country from the low mountains and foothills to the plains. This is a large ranch where cattle are raised as nature intended – free range, grassfed, with no confinement, no grain, no growth hormones, no antibiotics, no pesticides and no commercial fertilizers. The only supplement that may be provided when winter snows are severe is a little organically grown hay. This is the largest individual “Grassfed” producer in the state and probably the nation. The ranch developed their own sustainable breed of cattle using practical selection criteria. The ranch lives in harmony with nature and views “nature as a partner rather than a force to be overcome.” The ranch uses a holistic approach and implements intensive rotational grazing. Ranch owner Dale Lasater and ranch manager Andy Duffy will be discussing the benefits

of sustainable rangelands through grassfed beef production. After lunch there will be a field tour (weather permitting), so dress warmly. (Minimum of 30 participants, deadline January 5)

### Rocky Flats/Boulder Tour – Wednesday, February 10

#### Depart – 8:00 a.m., Return – 12:00 noon. Fee: \$25.00

This tour will take place along the foothills northwest of the Denver metro area. Tour participants will view/discuss geology and plant community ecology with local ecologist David Buckner. Mr. Buckner will speak about the unique plant communities found in the area, and how local ecological processes have shaped these communities. Other topics of interest may include the Rocky Flats National Wildlife Refuge, local open space organizations and the National Renewable Energy Lab in Golden. (Minimum of 30 participants, deadline January 5)

### Rocky Mountain National Park Tour – Friday, February 12

#### Depart – 9:00 a.m., Return – 5:00 p.m.; Lunch Provided. Fee: \$50.00

Travel to one of the most visited national parks in the nation. See wildlife and learn about wildlife over use and damage to the vegetation especially in the riparian areas. Learn about efforts to improve the situation and learn about reclamation including collection and increase of local native plants in the park. Park Ecologist Jeff Connor will lead the discussion. Dress warmly. (Minimum of 30 participants, deadline January 5)

### City of Denver Tours

The mile-high city of Denver provides us with a unique opportunity to host several companion and member tours within walking distance of the hotel. There will be a companion/member tour table located in the main lobby of the hotel. All tours will depart from the main lobby 30 minutes prior to the tour with the exception of the State Capitol tour which will depart 45 minutes prior to the tour for security clearance purposes.

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## SPECIAL EVENTS CONTINUED from pg 5

### **Brown Palace Hotel Tour and Tea**

**Monday, February 8, 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.**

Enjoy an afternoon with a tour and high tea at the historic Brown Palace Hotel. The afternoon will begin with a tour of the 117 year old hotel. In the late 1800s when people from all over the country were still flocking to the West seeking their fortunes in gold and silver, everyone stopped in Denver, either on their way to or from the mountains. Some settled; some moved on, but all needed a place to stay. Henry Cordes Brown, a carpenter-turned-real-estate entrepreneur, began construction on The Brown Palace Hotel in 1888. After an expenditure of \$1.6 million – a remarkable sum for the time and another \$400,000 for furniture, The Brown Palace Hotel opened on August 12, 1892. It had 400 guest rooms (compared to 241 today) that rented for between \$3 and \$5 a night. Every U.S. president has visited The Brown Palace since Teddy Roosevelt (1905), with the exception of Calvin Coolidge. Following the tour, enjoy a high tea with scones, tea pastries and tea sandwiches that are artfully prepared by the hotel's culinary staff each day and Devonshire cream shipped directly from England. [www.brownpalace.com](http://www.brownpalace.com)

### **United States Mint at Denver**

**Tuesday, February 9, 8:30 a.m. and 9:30 a.m.**

Denver is home to one of two United States Mints in the U.S. The United States Mint in Denver is the nation's second largest storehouse of gold bullion. Touring the United States Mint is a fascinating experience for those of all ages and one that will be remembered for a lifetime. Tours cover both the present state of coin manufacturing as well as the history of the Mint. Learn about the craftsmanship required at all stages of the minting process, from the original designs and sculptures to the actual striking of the coins. Located directly adjacent to the visitor's entrance, the gift shop has United States Mint coin sets, commemorative coins, numismatic collectables, books, games, and United States Mint souvenirs. You are welcome to visit the gift shop after your tour. [www.usmint.gov/mint\\_tours/](http://www.usmint.gov/mint_tours/)

### **Molly Brown House Museum**

**Tuesday, February 9, 1:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m.**

The Molly Brown House Museum is a house located at 1340 Pennsylvania Street in Denver that was the home of American philanthropist, socialite, and activist Margaret Brown. Brown was known as "The Unsinkable Molly Brown" because she survived the sinking of the Titanic. The museum now located in her former home presents exhibits interpreting the life of high society in Victorian Denver as well as architectural preservation. The tour through this unique home will take approximately 45 minutes. The house was built in the 1880s by architect William A. Lang, incorporating several popular styles of the period. In 1902, it was the governor's mansion for the Governor of Colorado and his family (Maggie invited the governor and his family to use her home while the governor's mansion was undergoing remodeling). In the 1970s a group of concerned citizens formed Historic Denver, Inc., raising the funds for the

house to be restored to its former glory. In restoration, the group used architectural research, paintchip analysis, and original photographs taken in 1910 as guides to reconstructing it. A shuttle will be provided from the hotel to the Molly Brown House. [www.mollybrown.org/](http://www.mollybrown.org/)

### **Colorado State Capitol Tour**

**Wednesday, February 10, 8:30 a.m. and 9:15 a.m.**

The 13th step on the west side of the State Capitol is exactly 5,280 feet above sea level – one mile high. Modeled after the U. S. Capitol, the building is known for its brilliant dome, which is covered with 200 ounces of 24K gold. The historic tour will begin with a tour of the capitol building which includes the following: early Colorado history, Capitol construction, the lawmaking process, several stained glass windows, Women's Gold Tapestry, presidential portraits and a stop outside the Senate and House of Representatives' chambers. The final stop on the tour is a climb up 99 steps to the gold dome. The distinctive gold dome consists of real gold plate, first added in 1908, commemorating the Colorado Gold Rush. From the top of the dome, you will be able to see a great view of downtown Denver. The entire tour will take approximately 1 1/2 hours to see the capitol building and the dome.

[www.state.co.us/gov\\_dir/leg\\_dir/lcsstaff/Scrollpages/TourScroll.htm](http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/leg_dir/lcsstaff/Scrollpages/TourScroll.htm)

### **Denver Art Museum**

**Wednesday, February 10, 1:30 p.m.**

Visit Denver's newest landmark. The Denver Art Museum's Hamilton Building is an architectural work of art. Designed by Daniel Libeskind, it will change the way you experience art and architecture. Explore the Museum's galleries showcasing a world-famous American Indian art collection, as well as art from around the world. The tour will comprise of a tour of the museum's collection with emphasis on the Western American Art collection. Following the 45 minute guided tour, you will have time to explore the museum and view the more than 60,000 works of art.

[www.denverartmuseum.org](http://www.denverartmuseum.org)

### **OPTIONAL SKI PACKAGES TO BRECKENRIDGE**

The word quaint might have been invented in Breckenridge. Its main street could be a painting of what a mountain resort town ought to look like. The oldest and largest town in Colorado's famous Summit County started out, like many, as a mining town, and locals aren't about to forget it – there are 250-plus buildings on the National Historic Register. Four mountain peaks flank the town, providing 2,358 acres of the best skiing anywhere and enough variety to suit even the most seasoned skier. Nordic centers cater to cross-country skiers and snowshoers, as well. When you finish enjoying the sports of winter, be sure to walk down the quaint main street, do some window shopping and admire the well-preserved architecture. Definitely be sure to bring your camera.

For our pre- and post-conventioners that want to spend

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# Monsanto to Sponsor Professional Development Workshop for WSSA Students at Denver

Monsanto will conduct a Professional Development workshop on Sunday, February 7 from 2:00–6:00 p.m. for students during the WSSA annual meeting in Denver. The workshop will focus on self understanding, core issues that affect teams, and the effect of personal preferences in a team environment.

Participants will take the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator (MBTI) online prior to the workshop. The MBTI is a self report questionnaire designed to inform individuals about their motivations, strengths, and areas for personal growth. The workshop will help participants understand the different personality types and develop a better appreciation of people who differ from them.

Teamwork and other organizational skills are critical to the success of most organizations and companies

today. The workshop will cover the important issues of communications, team culture, leadership, change, problem solving/conflict resolution, and stress and will explore the relationship between critical team issues and personal preferences.

The workshop, conducted by Monsanto experts in talent development, will be highly interactive, and some team building exercises will be conducted with the help of the MBTI in order to allow reflection on the subjects of team building and team success.

## Enrollment

Attendance to the workshop will be limited to 40 students. The workshop is open to WSSA students at no cost. The workshop will take four hours, including introduction, breaks, and some practical exercises.

The results of the MBTI test will be provided to participants during the workshop, with an explanation of the test results by the experts.

All personal information will be kept confidential and participants will receive the only copy of the results available. This is a training instrument, and Monsanto and WSSA are not interested in the results.

## How to Apply

Send your name, school name, mailing address, email address, telephone, and academic status (i.e., M.S. candidate, Ph.D. candidate) to:

Jason Weirich

JWeirich@GRI.MsState.Edu

The deadline for application is December 1.

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## SPECIAL EVENTS CONTINUED from pg 6

an overnight stay in this beautiful little town, we are offering a stay at The Great Divide Lodge. The Great Divide Lodge offers the amenities required of even the most seasoned traveler in a convenient central location. This property is a scenic two-block walk to Main Street Breckenridge, while a mere 50 yards to the chairlifts of the Breckenridge Ski Resort's Peak 9 Base Area. With a stop on the town's free shuttle route and complimentary hotel shuttle service, all of Breckenridge is within easy access. Please see the link below for more information on Great Divide Lodge.  
<http://breckresorts.com/greatdividelodge/info/rooms.asp>

### Pre-Convention Package

Package includes one night stay with tax, and a one day lift ticket. (Ground transportation from Denver will be on your own.) (Must be booked by January 5, subject to availability.) \$215.00 per person based on two per room if staying February 5 or 6

### Post-Convention Package

Package includes one night stay with tax, and a one day lift ticket. (Ground transportation from Denver will be on your own.) (Must be booked by January 12, subject to availability.) \$227.00 per person based on two per room if staying February 13 or 14

### One Day Package

Depart Denver Sheridan Hotel at 7:00 a.m., depart Breckenridge Ski Area at 4:00 p.m. Your ski host will be Colorado SRM member, Vikie Branch, who is also a former Breckenridge PSIA ski instructor. \$144 per person February 6 or 7. Includes ground transportation from Denver to Breckenridge and lift ticket (minimum of 30 participants per day, deadline January 5). Rental fees and advance rentals can be reserved through [www.rentskis.com](http://www.rentskis.com).

# WASHINGTON REPORT

by Lee Van Wychen, Director of Science Policy

## SIGN UP TO ATTEND NISAW BY DECEMBER 10, 2009!

Yes, you are reading that correctly...NIWAW has expanded to NISAW. The first ever National Invasive Species Awareness Week (NISAW) will replace and expand upon the successes of 10 years of National Invasive Weeds Awareness Week. NISAW will be held earlier, too. PLEASE mark your calendars for **January 10-14, 2010** in Washington, DC. The all-taxa event will be organized around three themes: Climate Change, Energy, and the 'Green' Economy.

NISAW is being organized by a national, bi-partisan coalition of groups representing private citizens, local and state natural resource and agricultural agencies, academia, professional scientific societies, environmental organizations, and businesses such as nurseries and the pet industry that are affected by invasive species.

The headquarters hotel for NISAW is the Four Points by Sheraton Hotel, 1201 K Street NW, Washington, DC. **Room reservations** for \$159 per night are available until **December 10, 2009**. Please make your room reservations for the NISAW room block via the web at: <http://www.starwoodmeeting.com/StarGroupsWeb/>

[booking/reservation?id=0907293577&key=E9630](http://www.nisaw.org/booking/reservation?id=0907293577&key=E9630)

Early registration for NISAW is \$150. The cut-off date for **early registration** is **December 10, 2009**. Registration after that date will be \$200. Please register via the **NISAW website** at: [www.nisaw.org](http://www.nisaw.org)

**NISAW Facebook page (become a fan!):** <http://www.facebook.com/search/?q=NISAW&init=quick#/pages/National-Invasive-Species-Awareness-Week/144139698606>

## STATUS OF NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (NPDES) PERMITS

Since the passage of the Clean Water Act (CWA) in 1972, EPA has not required a NPDES permit to apply pesticides in, over, or near water as long as these applications comply with the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA). In the past decade however, that boundary has been challenged by environmentalists in the 9th Circuit Court in San Francisco. In 2006, EPA issued a final rule to codify its interpretation of the CWA as not requiring NPDES permits for application of pesticides to, over, or near waters of the United States, if the applications are consis-

tent with FIFRA requirements. However, in January of this year the 6th Circuit Court vacated (i.e. rescinded, revoked, threw out) EPA's 2006 rule. Going forward, **pesticide applicators** will need to obtain an **NPDES permit** for any application in, over, or NEAR water starting in 2011.

After **April 9, 2011**, ALL **biological pesticide applications** and **chemical pesticide applications** that leave a residue in water when such applications are made **in, over, or near** waters of the US will require a **NPDES permit**. April 2011 seems like a long way away, but the time to act is NOW.

During the next several months, we will have a number of opportunities to provide input to EPA and State permit writers. EPA estimates up to **5.6 million applications** performed annually by **365,000 applicators** using 500 different active ingredients will be potentially affected by this ruling and could require an NPDES permit.

EPA expects to propose its general permit by April 2010 and issue a final permit by December 2010. The remaining four months until the Court's mandate takes effect will be used to provide outreach and education to the regulated community. (See chart at left.)

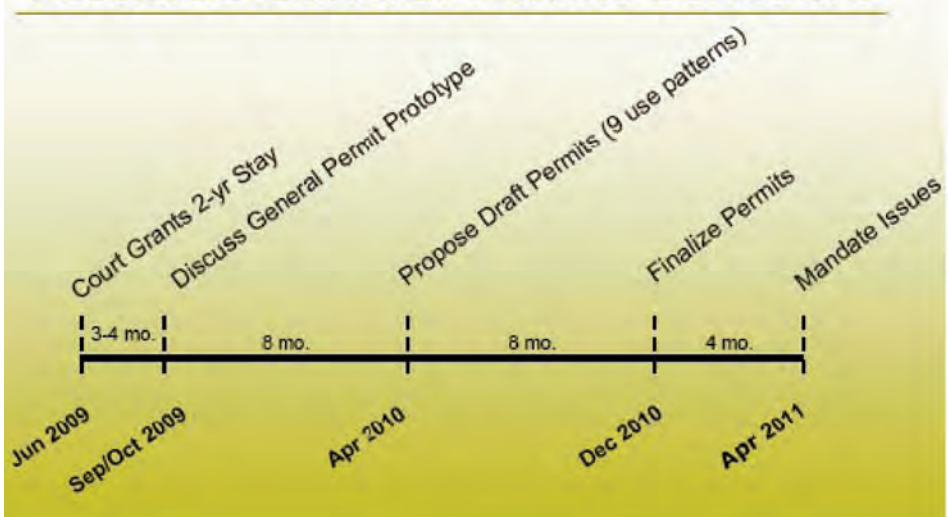
## YOUR INPUT IS NEEDED ON NPDES GENERAL PERMITS

Below are a few of the issues that you, as a WSSA member, should give consideration to as EPA works with States to develop **general NPDES permits** for pesticide applications in, over, or near waters of the U.S. Our science and expertise is needed more than ever and the WSSA Science Policy Committee would appreciate your comments and feedback on the following topics ASAP:

1. **Making a "showing that an application is needed"** — Some existing

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## Pesticide General Permit Schedule





mosquitocide NPDES permits require a permittee to demonstrate the presence of above a threshold number of insects before spraying. State's may opt to be more restrictive, e.g., California has a 6-step pollution prevention approach in which the first step is to determine whether an application is necessary, but EPA doesn't have the authority to require such a showing. The WSSA has consistently supported the use of economic threshold and IPM principles for weed management. **Should herbicide applicators be denied a NPDES permit if they cannot demonstrate their weed population is above a certain threshold?** What factors do you consider on whether or not a herbicide application is needed?

2. **Pollution Prevention planning** — It is common for general NPDES permits to include a requirement for permittees to develop a pollution prevention plan that demonstrates to regulators that the applicator knows what he/she is doing, reveals to the regulator the locations, products and methods he/she plans to use, and could become a criteria for enforcing a NPDES permit. What have been your experiences with such plans?
3. **"What's in an NOI"** — the role of the Notice of Intent (NOI) to be covered by the general NPDES permit is critically important. Issues include: (a) are applicators below a threshold size automatically covered like in the aquatic vessel permit? (b) how long a period would the NOI cover? (c) How big is the area to be treated? (d) What products are to be used? (e) What "waters of the U.S." might be affected?

I think it's critical that we avoid requiring herbicide applicators to obtain an NOI for every single herbicide application in, over, or near waters of the U.S. If you file an NOI to obtain an NPDES permit to spray your weeds, how long should that NOI be good for? A single herbicide application? Any herbicide application to that site for a

year? Three years? Five years? Do you need to file an NOI for a spot application? A field? A farm? What factors should be considered, beyond the label requirements already enforced under FIFRA, to obtain an NOI?

4. **How much "public notice" or "public approval"?** — If your herbicide application is consistent with the FIFRA-approved label and established general NPDES permit, what type of public approval should be further required? What are your experiences with public notification for pesticide applications and what suggestions do you have regarding this issue?
5. **Post application monitoring and reporting** — Some FIFRA labels currently require ambient water quality monitoring shortly after pesticide application to make sure that no unexpected adverse effects occurred. Ambient pesticide monitoring also is required in some circumstances in certain State-issued NPDES permits; for example, some aquatic invasive weed control permits require either chemical or biological monitoring. The costs and problems associated with ambient water quality monitoring and reporting could overwhelm small applicator businesses, and could generate data that hamstrings later applications by both small and large applicators. We should evaluate the extent to which post-application ambient monitoring currently exists under pesticide permits, and document any burden this has added. Who should pay for post application monitoring? Requirements for reporting detections or adverse effects could pose other, legal and policy problems. Experiences from California, Washington and other states with aquatic pesticide permits would be helpful — what observations and cautions can you provide?
6. **"Who is the permittee"** — this dramatically affects the economics of the rule. For aquatic weed con-

trol, almost every private pesticide application company is very small, less than 15 people and the two largest application companies in the country have about 125 employees. Thus, costs of the rule-making will be a critical consideration. Permittees could be individual applicators, the companies they work for or own, the farmer or landowner, states or state agencies (health agency, roadside and rights of way maintenance, water boards responsible for aquatic invasive weed control), or federal agencies (USDA Forest Service for treatment of national forests for insects). The challenge will be in demonstrating how our preferred class(es) of permittees satisfies the federal requirement that all "operators" (i.e., those in control) hold permits. Given that EPA intends to issue general permit(s) for many different types of applications, what input can you provide on this issue?

Please think through these points and consider possible approaches and ideas. If you have or can get specific anecdotes or economic impact data on any of these, that would be very helpful. Please call me at 202-746-4686 or send me an email at [Lee.VanWychen@wssa.net](mailto:Lee.VanWychen@wssa.net)

### USDA-ARS SELECTS JOHN LYDON AS WEED SCIENCE NPL

In September, the USDA-Agricultural Research Service (ARS) selected Dr. John Lydon as the new National Program Leader (NPL) for Weed Science. John's main work will occur in USDA-ARS Crop Protection and Quarantine (NP 304), which represents about 10% of ARS's total net research budget of about \$1.1 billion. The goal of NP 304 is to conduct fundamental and applied research that will result in improved strategies for the cost-effective management and control of native and invasive insect, mite, and weed pests, while minimizing impacts on the environment and human health.

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Dr. Lydon has degrees from the University of Massachusetts, University of Hawaii and the University of Maryland. He joined ARS in 1986 as Research Associate at the Southern Weed Science Laboratory in Stoneville, Mississippi. He continued his career at ARS as a plant pathologist in the Crop Science Research Laboratory in Mississippi State, Mississippi, and the Tropical Plants Research Laboratory and the Weed Science Laboratory in Beltsville, Maryland.

John can be reached at 301-504-6470 or john.lydon@ars.usda.gov. The WSSA is pleased to hear of John's selection and looks forward to working with him.

### GREEK SHIPPING COMPANY FINED \$2.7 MILLION FOR INVASIVE SPECIES VIOLATION

On October 1, Polembros Shipping LTD., a ship management company headquartered in Greece, pleaded guilty to one count of violating the Nonindigenous Aquatic Nuisance Prevention and Control Act of 1990 (NANPCA) in a New Orleans federal court. This is the first prosecution ever under NANPCA. The company's fleet of 20 ships has been barred from trading in US waters for three years and has paid a \$2.7 million fine. The company will pay another \$100,000 to fund invasive species research at the Smithsonian Research Centre.

The Nonindigenous Aquatic Nuisance Prevention and Control Act of 1990 (P.L. 101-646) established a Federal program to prevent introduction of and to control the spread of introduced aquatic nuisance species and the brown tree snake. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the U.S. Coast Guard, the EPA, the Army Corps of Engineers, and NOAA all were assigned responsibilities, including membership on an Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force established to develop a program of prevention, monitoring, control, and study.

### APPLY FOR A AAAS FELLOWSHIP AT USDA, EPA

For 35 years, the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) **Science & Technology Policy Fellowships** have provided scientists and engineers with a unique opportunity to apply their knowledge and skills to national and international issues in the federal policy realm, while learning first-hand about establishing and implementing policy.

There will be 30–40 Fellows selected for the Energy, Environment, Agriculture and Natural Resources area and they will work at USDA, EPA, Dept. of Energy, NOAA or NSF. Fellows will engage in projects, policies, risk assessment, evaluation, and outreach initiatives to:

- Protect animal, plant and environmental health
- Address ecosystem degradation, pollution, and biological threats
- Tackle challenges and opportunities in agriculture, fisheries, climate change, and energy
- Safeguard air, water, land, wildlife, and natural resources

This is a year-long opportunity, beginning September 1 and ending August 31. Fellows have ranged in age from late 20s to early 70s. They represent a spectrum of career stages, from recent PhD graduates to faculty on sabbatical to retired scientists and engineers. Fellows also come from a range of sectors, including academia, industry, non-profit organizations, and government labs. AAAS also serves as the "umbrella" organization for other scientific societies that sponsor a Fellow, such as the American Society of Agronomy.

Fellows receive a stipend up to \$92,000 for the year. Relocation expenses of up to \$4,000 are also provided. The deadline for applications for the 2010–2011 Fellowship class is December 15, 2009. Full details at <http://fellowships.aaas.org>

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# NORTHEASTERN WEED SCIENCE SOCIETY

### NEWSS News

#### Annual Meeting

The program for the 2010 Annual Meeting, our 64th meeting, is being finalized and will offer a variety of educational programs. The meeting will be held at the Cambridge Marriott in Cambridge, MA on January 4-7, 2010, and we will be meeting with the Northeastern Branch of the American Society of Horticultural Sciences. Committee meetings and graduate student mixer will be held on Monday afternoon and Monday evening. The poster session will be Tuesday morning followed by the General Session. The theme for the Keynote Address and Symposium is "Challenges of Food Production in Developing Nations." Speakers will address the current challenges of food production and governmental stability in some of the poorest regions of the world. Actions taken by governments, non-governmental organizations, aid agencies and multi-national companies will be presented. The Awards Luncheon will be held Tuesday at noon as we have done in the recent past. Graduate student presentations will begin Tuesday afternoon and continue on Wednesday.

Two workshops are being planned for the meeting. One workshop will feature recent research on weed seed banks and the implications of management practices on seed banks and resulting weed populations. The second workshop will explore interactive extension programming and incorporating new technology into outreach programs. Concurrent sessions will be Wednesday afternoon and Thursday morning. The Annual Business Meeting will be held Wednesday afternoon and followed immediately with the joint social mixer with the NE-ASHS.

#### Weed Contest

The 2009 Collegiate Weed Science Contest was held at ABG Ag Services near Indianapolis, IN with teams from the NEWSS & NCWSS in attendance. All total, 14 grad teams and 9 undergrad teams participated from 11 universities. The NEWSS universities represented at the contest were Virginia Tech, Penn State, Cornell, and Guelph. The NCWSS universities represented at the contest were U. of Illinois, U. of Missouri, Michigan State, Ohio State, U. of Tennessee, U. of Nebraska, and Kansas State. Students participated in four contest segments including weed identification, unknown herbicide identification, sprayer calibration and farmer problems. Each region was awarded separately. However, the top grad and undergrad team over all universities was awarded the "Golden Hoe" award. Congratulations to the two teams from the Northeast, Penn State—grad and Guelph—undergrad, for placing 1st! The results for the NEWSS participants were as follows:

#### GRADUATE DIVISION:

- 1<sup>st</sup> place team: Penn State (Franklin Egan, Benjamin Crocket, Ryan Bates, Nelson Debarros)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place team: Guelph (Scott Cressman, Chase Phillips, Joel Hemingway, Ben Rosser)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> place team: Guelph (Meghan Moran, Melody DeJony, Marijke VanAndel)
- 1<sup>st</sup> place individual: Angela Post—Cornell
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place individual: Nelson Debarros—Penn State
- 3<sup>rd</sup> place individual: Ryan Bates—Penn State

#### UNDERGRADUATE DIVISION:

- 1<sup>st</sup> place team: Guelph #1 (Andrew Reid, Blair Freeman, Scott Timmings)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place team: Guelph #2 (Ryan Stafford, Craig Arnett, Amanda Green)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> place team: Guelph #3 (Wesley Emmott, Thomas Judd, Ryan Benjamins, Eric Schroeders)
- 1<sup>st</sup> place individual: Andrew Reid—Guelph
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place individual: Blair Freeman—Guelph
- 3<sup>rd</sup> place individual: Amanda Green—Guelph

For more information on the Northeastern Weed Science Society please visit our website at [www.newss.org](http://www.newss.org)

Barbara Scott  
NEWSS Public Relations

**Certificate of Appreciation  
Alberta Invasive Plants Council**



Dr. Raj Prasad, Editor and contributor for the *2008 Weeds Across Borders: The View from the North* conference proceedings, a 306-page document, has been awarded a Certificate of Appreciation from the Alberta Invasive Plants Council, Alberta, Canada.



**THINK NEWSLETTER**

Deadline for January issue  
December 1, 2009

**WEED SCIENCE VOLUNTEERS  
NEEDED**

The CropLife Foundation, in conjunction with CNFA's Farmer-to-Farmer Program, is soliciting applications for three U.S. weed scientists to travel to Tanzania, Kenya, and Malawi in 2009–2010 as part of the CNFA and CropLife Foundation's African Weed Control Demonstration Project. The participants will provide technical oversight and assistance in the setting up and supervision of weed control demonstration plots on farmer fields. Approximately 25 demo plots will be established in each country. The crops will be maize, groundnuts and beans. Volunteers can spend up to three weeks overseas during the course of the project. CNFA arranges, and pays, for all travel, accommodation, visas, and other logistical issues for volunteers.

This project specifically looks to improve the lives of women and children in these countries by using improved weed control methods so they may eliminate the debilitating, backbreaking labor of handweeding and to increase crop production through more effective weed control.

For information on the Farmer-to-Farmer Program, please visit: <http://www.cnfa.org/farmertofarmer>

For information on the first year of the African weed control demonstrations, please visit:

[http://www.croplifefoundation.org/cpri\\_articles.htm#africa](http://www.croplifefoundation.org/cpri_articles.htm#africa)

If interested in becoming a volunteer for the project, please contact Leonard Gianessi at:

[lgianessi@croplifefoundation.org](mailto:lgianessi@croplifefoundation.org)

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# POSITION ANNOUNCEMENTS

## ASSISTANT/ASSOCIATE/ PROFESSOR (PRODUCTION AGRONOMY)

**Work Location:** Dean Lee Research and Extension Center, Louisiana State University Agricultural Center, Alexandria, Louisiana. The Dean Lee Research Station is located in Central Louisiana and is situated on the Red River alluvial soils which are an important area of row crop production in Louisiana. The facilities include 700+ acres of row crop research area, significant beef cattle research facilities, and a fully staffed farm crew, and ample equipment. Dean Lee is located adjacent to LSU-Alexandria (LSUA). LSUA offers four year degree programs, associate degree programs, and many cultural, sporting, and social activities. The area is served by a regional airport and is accessible by Interstate 49.

**Position Description:** Full-time 12 month, tenure-track position with a 100% research appointment. The selected applicant will be responsible for developing a research program with the aim to improve the profitability of producing corn, cotton, grain sorghum, soybean, wheat and other crops in Louisiana. Research will focus primarily on, but not be limited to agronomic systems and management in these crops. The successful candidate will have the option of continuing ongoing aflatoxin resistance research and initiating research on crops with potential for bioenergy production. He/she will be required to collaborate with researchers and extension specialists within the LSU AgCenter system to identify critical research projects, as well as partner with industry and other universities in cooperative studies. Applicant will also be required to document and publish results from research in refereed journals and other scientific outlets appropriate to the research appointment. The applicant will be expected to submit grants for extramural support from various federal and state agencies, including commodity research boards. He/she will be expected to maintain qualifica-

tions for membership on the graduate faculty and establish an effective professional relationship with the School of Plant, Environmental and Soil Sciences for the purpose of working with graduate student programs. The position has in place one full-time research associate position to support the project efforts, in addition to research laboratory facilities, equipment, and supplies. The successful candidate will be expected to manage personnel and equipment. Farm crew activities are directed by the Research Station Coordinator and the successful candidate will be expected to coordinate activities with this individual. Responsibilities also will include participation in professional and technical meetings and other outreach as is necessary to inform producers, industry personnel, and other research scientists of project activities and findings.

**Qualification Requirements:** Ph.D. in agronomy, plant/soil science, plant breeding, or other agricultural-related field of study is required. Experience and training in field crops research and production practices are highly desirable. Applicants should have demonstrated effective oral and written communication skills necessary for presentations to a variety of audiences and clientele.

**Salary and Benefits:** Salary will be commensurate with qualifications and experience. The LSU AgCenter has an attractive benefits package with a wide variety of benefit options. Benefits offered include retirement, multiple medical insurance options, supplemental insurance (dental, life, long-term disability, accident, vision, long-term care, etc.), Tax Saver Flexible Benefits Plan (saves tax dollars on some child care and medical expenses), university holidays (14 per year, typically includes a week off at Christmas), generous annual (vacation) and sick leave benefits, Employee Assistance Program, and possible educational leave and tuition exemption for coursework at campuses of the LSU System. Specific benefits depend on job category, per-

cent effort and length of employment.

**Applicable Deadline:** October 30, 2009 or until a suitable candidate is identified.

**Application Procedure:** Apply online at <https://lsusystemcareers.lsu.edu/> by attaching cover letter with resume including a statement of professional interest and goals, original university transcripts, and three letters of reference. In lieu of attaching the letters of reference, they may be sent directly to the hiring manager listed below. For more information contact:

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Web site: [www.lsuagcenter.com](http://www.lsuagcenter.com)

*The LSU Agricultural Center is a statewide campus of the LSU System and provides equal opportunities in programs and employment. An Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer.*

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## ASSISTANT/ASSOCIATE/ PROFESSOR (AGRONOMY)

**Work Location:** Red River Research Station, LSU AgCenter, Bossier City, Louisiana. The station is located in the Shreveport/Bossier City metropolitan area, which has a population of over 375,000. There are several colleges in the area, including the Centenary College, LSU-Shreveport, and the LSU Medical School. The area is served by a regional airport and is accessible by Interstate 20 and 49 and lies along the route of proposed Interstate 69. There are numerous cultural and sporting venues in the area.

**Position Description:** This is a 12-month, tenure-track, 100% research appointment. Position will plan and conduct an agronomic research program with cotton, soybean, and corn in the Red River alluvial soils of

CONTINUED on pg 14 >>>

## POSITION ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED from pg 13

Northwest Louisiana. Initiate and continue ongoing research on fertilization, irrigation, cropping systems, and tillage. The successful candidate is encouraged to initiate research on crops with potential for bioenergy production. Work with farm organizations, farmers, and agribusinesses to promote Louisiana row crop industry and provide solutions to production problems that limit yields and/or profitability. Participate in cooperative research projects with other agronomists, entomologists, plant pathologists, and weed scientists in the LSU AgCenter, other land grant institutions, private companies, and other state and federal agencies. Collaborate with extension agents and extension specialists to plan and conduct off-station research and demonstrations. Communicate research findings and results to other scientists, extension faculty, consultants, agribusiness representatives, and producers. Prepare appropriate publications to disseminate information to the academic community and clientele in a timely manner. Attract extramural funding from state commodity boards and regional or national competitive grant programs. Participate in state, regional, national, and international professional soci-

eties. Perform other duties assigned by the LSU AgCenter as appropriate.

**Qualification Requirements:** Ph.D. in crop or soil science or closely related discipline with emphasis on row-crop management required. Strong oral and written communication skills required. Good interpersonal skills and ability to work effectively in a team environment is essential. Proficiency in the use of computer software and electronic technologies for data collection, statistical analysis and preparation of reports and presentation required. Training or field experiences in plant pathology, weed science, and entomology is desirable.

**Salary and Benefits:** Salary will be commensurate with qualifications and experience. The LSU AgCenter has an attractive benefits package with a wide variety of benefit options. Benefits offered include retirement, multiple medical insurance options, supplemental insurance (dental, life, long-term disability, accident, vision, long-term care, etc.), Tax Saver Flexible Benefits Plan (saves tax dollars on some child care and medical expenses), university holidays (14 per year, typically includes a week off at Christmas), generous annual (vacation) and sick leave benefits, Employee Assistance Program, and pos-

sible educational leave and tuition exemption for coursework at campuses of the LSU System. Specific benefits depend on job category, percent effort and length of employment.

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**Application Procedure:** Apply online at <https://lsusystemcareers.lsu.edu/> by attaching cover letter with resume, a statement of professional interest and goals, university transcripts, and three letters of recommendation. In lieu of attaching the letters of recommendation, they may be sent directly to the hiring manager listed below. For more information contact:

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**THINK NEWSLETTER**  
Deadline for January issue  
December 1, 2009

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# CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	CONTACT
October 20–22, 2009	30th Symposium on Pesticide Formulations and Delivery Systems: Regulations and Innovation	Atlanta, Georgia	A. David Lindsay, Symposium Chair Tel: 804-452-5648 david.lindsay@evonik.com or Rich Zollinger Tel: 701-231-8157 r.zollinger@ndsu.edu
November 24–26, 2009	Canadian Weed Science Society/ Soci�t� canadienne de malherbiologie Annual Meeting	Delta Prince Edward Hotel Charlottetown, PEI, Canada	Jerry Ivany Email: <mailto:Jerry.Ivany@AGR.GC.CA> Jerry.Ivany@AGR.GC.CA
December 7–10, 2009	64th Annual Meeting of the North Central Weed Science Society (NCWSS)	Hyatt Regency Crown Center Kansas City, Missouri	Chris Boerboom, Program Chair Tel: 608-262-1392 boerboom@wisc.edu
January 4–7, 2010	64th NEWSS Annual Meeting	Cambridge Marriott Cambridge, Massachusetts	www.newss.org
January 25–28, 2010	SWSS Annual Meeting	Peabody Hotel Little Rock, Arkansas	http://www.weedscience.msstate.edu/swss/ Tom Hold BASF Tel: 919-547-2178 thomas.holt@basf.com
February 7–11, 2010	Joint Meeting of WSSA and Society for Range Management	Sheraton Denver Hotel Denver, Colorado	www.wssa.net www.rangelands.org/denver2010/
July 4–8, 2010	12th IUPAC International Congress of Pesticide Chemistry and Royal Australian Chemical Institute's National Convention, RACI 2010	Melbourne Convention Center Melbourne, Australia	http://www.iupacipc2010.org
July 11–14, 2010	50th Annual Meeting Aquatic Plant Management Society	Hyatt Regency Coconut Point Bonita Springs, Florida	Linda Nelson, Program Chair Linda.S.Nelson@usace.army.mil APMS website: www.apms.org
July 19–23, 2010	XXVII Brazilian Weed Science Society Congress	Ribeir�o Preto, S�o Paulo State Brazil	R. A. Pitelli, Congress Chairman rapitelli@ecosafe.agr.br