



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I hope everyone had a calm and joyful holiday and I look forward to seeing you during the 58th Annual WSSA meeting being held in Arlington, Virginia January 29th through February 1st, 2018. Scott Senseman, President-Elect; along with the local arrangement committee, Phil Banks and Lee Van Wychen; and Executive Secretary, Eric Gustafson have organized a great meeting with a science-packed [program](#) including approxi-

mately 400 oral and poster presentations, symposia and workshops. We are especially excited that there are 86 MS and PhD entries participating in the student contests.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I want to thank all the members of the WSSA for embracing the WSSA's "Year of Change" that included a new Executive Secretary for the first time in almost 20 years, a new meeting management partner, and a new publisher for our journals; all taking place within the past year. Eric Gustafson of Interactive Management Incorporated (IMI) has had an excellent first year as our Executive Secretary. We appreciate his expertise and energy jumping into uncharted territories and commitment on behalf of the WSSA. Our first year with Cambridge University Press (CUP) as publishers of our three journals has been completed. The collaboration with CUP has been excellent. Special thanks to Sarah Ward, Director of Publications, and the journal editors, associate editors, and reviewers for all their volunteer service to ensure that the first year was a great success. The WSSA is in sound fiscal shape and is well positioned for continued success to accomplish its mission and meet the goals set out in the 5-year strategic plan. In the coming year we will be soliciting additional input on metrics to help measure progress on our strategic planning goals.

By the time I see you at the annual meeting, I will have had the opportunity to meet with the executive boards of each of the four regional Weed Science societies during their annual meetings. The energy and commitment in our regional and affiliated societies (Canadian Weed Science Society and Aquatic Plant Management Society), as well as with all our volunteers in the WSSA, is inspiring and to-

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SEE YOU IN
ARLINGTON, VA
JANUARY 29-FEBRUARY 1!

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gether strengthens all aspects of our discipline. The WSSA's work is largely fueled by volunteer work and I would like to thank all the members who volunteer their time and contribute so much to the society. In particular the WSSA Board of Directors, committee chairs and members, EPA Liaison, USDA-NIFA Fellow, and sustaining members.

Thanks again to Mike Barrett who completed an outstanding four year term as the WSSA EPA Liaison and to Greg Kruger our new EPA Liaison. Mike and Greg have already met with EPA twice as well as with USDA and several grower groups since Greg started transitioning into the role in late October. Donn Shilling will be completing three years of dedicated service as the WSSA's first NIFA Fellow later this year. Donn has done a great job pioneering this key role, serving as a weed science resource and subject matter expert within USDA-NIFA and as a liaison between WSSA members and USDA-NIFA. The WSSA will be soliciting applications for the next NIFA Fellow following our annual meeting and we hope all interested weed scientists will apply. (WSSA NIFA Fellow webpage: <http://wssa.net/society/wssa-nifa-fellow/>)

We greatly appreciate Jim Kells' three years of service as the WSSA's CAST Representative. Jim will be completing his term in February and we are happy to report that Dallas Peterson has graciously agreed to serve as the next CAST Representative.

The WSSA is grateful for the service of many of our members on government advisory panels and for participating in activities with science, research, education, extension, conservation, ecology, and agricultural committees, boards, and associations. Congratulations to Amy Asmus with Asmus Farm Supply in Rake, Iowa, who has been selected to serve on the EPA's Pesticide Program Dialogue Committee in November. There is also currently a [Federal Register Notice](#) for the Invasive Species Advisory Committee (ISAC), which is seeking four new members. If you are interested in serving on the ISAC please let me and Lee know. The deadline for applications is February 26th.

As we enter the New Year, I would like to give another shout out to Lee Van Wychen, Director of Science Policy, for his tireless and terrific work on behalf of the national and regional weed science societies. Finally, I would like to thank the following WSSA Board Members for their outstanding and dedicated service to the society as they complete their terms of service at our annual meeting: Kevin Bradley, Past President; Rick Boydston, Treasurer; Hilary Sandler, Secretary; Andrew Kniss, Member-at-Large; and Reid Smeda, NCWSS Rep.

We also welcome our newly elected members who will be joining the WSSA Board after the business meeting during our annual meeting. Congratulations to Bill Curran who has been elected Vice President, Phil Banks as Treasurer, and Dawn Refsell as the new Member-at-Large. We also welcome Greg Elmore who will be joining the WSSA Board as the new NCWSS Representative. We have one additional election currently ongoing for Secretary and the election results will be announced after they close on January 25, 2018. Please use this link to vote: [Secretary Ballot](#). We appreciate all of the new board members' willingness to serve.

Thank you for the honor of serving as the President of the WSSA. I will be passing the gavel to our President-Elect, Scott Senseman from the University of Tennessee and I know he will continue to be a great leader for the WSSA. I look forward to seeing you at our annual meeting in Arlington and I wish you a healthy and successful new year!

Janis McFarland
President, WSSA



WSSA FUTURE MEETING SITES AND DATES

Jan. 29–Feb. 1, 2018
58th Annual Meeting
Crystal Gateway Marriott
Arlington, Virginia
Scott Senseman, Chair
Email: ssensema@utk.edu
Phone: 865-974-8033

WSSA HOME PAGE
ACCESSED AT:
www.wssa.net

THINK NEWSLETTER
Deadline for April issue
March 1, 2018

**SEND NEWSLETTER
MATERIAL TO:**
Carl Libbey
225 S. 10th Street
Mount Vernon, WA 98274
newsletter@wssa.net
Phone: (360) 708-5543

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Carl Libbey
225 S. 10th St.
Mount Vernon, WA 98274
newsletter@wssa.net

Canadian Weed Science Society Annual Meeting

The Canadian Weed Science Society held its 71st annual meeting in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan November 20–23, 2017 with a focus on Revolutionizing Weed Control with New Technology. Bryce Geisel and the local arrangement committee led a vibrant and extremely successful meeting with over 200 attendees including 24 graduate students and 50 certified crop advisors. Plenary speakers Dr. Jesper Rasmussen (University of Copenhagen), Kristina Polzheim (Nuffield Scholar and owner of Axiom Agronomy), Warren Bills (Bayer CropScience), and Tracy Rowlandson (BASF) gave their visions of how technology and big data will integrate with and impact future weed management strategies. There were also two breakout rooms on Herbicide Resistance and New Technologies in Weed Science. The entire plenary day seemed well received and we are looking forward for feedback from our members.

The venue for the 2018 Canadian Weed Science Society's 72nd annual meeting will be the Marriott on the Falls in Niagara Falls, Ontario, from November 19 to 22, 2018. This

venue is accessible equally from Toronto's Pearson International Airport (YYZ) and the Buffalo Niagara International Airport (BUF). Dr. Peter Sikkema and his local arrangement committee are looking to build on the successes of the Saskatoon event and compile an engaging program that will strive to link recent scientific advances from within and outside of our discipline with measurable improvements in weed management strategies at the farm gate level. As President of the Canadian Weed Science Society, I would like to take this opportunity to warmly invite all of our colleagues from the USA and abroad to join us in beautiful Niagara Falls next fall; we look forward to seeing you there!

Eric Page

President, Canadian Weed Science Society
Research Scientist, Science and Technology
Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada / Government of
Canada

Eric.Page@agr.gc.ca / Tel: 519-738-1229

WSSA Member Kudos

Stephen (Steve) Duke was bestowed with two prestigious awards in 2017. In August, he became a Fellow of the American Chemical Society, the largest scientific society in the world (ca. 160,000). He was recognized by this award for his research on the modes of action of herbicides and for his service to the Agrochemical Division of ACS. More details can be found at: https://www.acs.org/content/acs/en/funding-and-awards/fellows/list-of-2017-acsfellows.html#P179_13145. And in September, he was inducted into the USDA, Agricultural Research's Science Hall of Fame. This recognition was for outstanding research on natural and synthetic tools for pest management. More details can be found at: <https://www.ars.usda.gov/oc/hall-of-fame/browse-hall-of-fame/>. Dr. Duke is a past president of WSSA and fellow of WSSA.

Anil Shretha, Professor of Weed Science with the Department of Plant Science, California State University-Fresno, has been appointed to the Weed Science Society Liaison Committee by Dr. Steven Evett, president-elect of the American Society of Agronomy. This is a three year appointment beginning in January 2018.

WSSA Contacts

Interactive Management Incorporated (IMI)
Eric Gustafson, Executive Secretary
12011 Tejon St, Suite 700
Westminster, CO 80234
(720) 977-7940
info@wssa.net

Cambridge University Press
Anna Hofvander, Publishing Editor
(212) 337-5080
ahafvander@cambridge.org

2018 Annual Meeting
Scott Senseman, President-Elect
ssensema@utk.edu
(865) 974-8033

THINK NEWSLETTER

Deadline for April issue
March 1, 2018

WSSA PUBLICATIONS NEWS

We are coming to the end of the first full year of publishing WSSA journals with Cambridge University Press, and updates continue. The redesigned article templates for improved online viewing are now in production – you can see the new look in FirstView papers already published online. All WSSA journal issues will switch to the new templates for the 2018 volume year. Authors are encouraged to take advantage of this new format — there are no additional fees for including color figures in manuscripts. The *Instructions to Authors* have been revised to reflect the new article templates, and to bring WSSA journals in compliance with best practices recommended by the international Committee on Publication Ethics. There are also some formatting changes for Weed Science and IPISM papers as proposed by the journal editorial boards earlier this year. Please check the new *Instructions* before you submit your next manuscript to a WSSA journal.

All issues of *Weeds* (published 1951–1967 as the predecessor to *Weed Science*) are now available on Cambridge Core. This allows WSSA members and institutional subscribers to access all current and archived WSSA journal content as high-resolution files. The journal archives on Cambridge Core are also searchable by key word or author. This is the first time that the entire WSSA journal output has been archived at a single online location as a searchable database, and I would like to thank the Cambridge University Press archiving team for their efforts in completing this project ahead of schedule.

Sarah Ward
Director of Publications

Requested Response from The Members of the WSSA

As a result of questions I asked several students during the Western Society of Weed Science meeting in Albuquerque a few years ago I am interested in exploring what weed scientists regard as the goals and objectives of their science and what they think the goals and objectives ought to be over the next 20 years. Thus, I would appreciate my colleague's response to two questions:

1. What are the present goals and objectives of weed science?
2. What should the goals and objectives of weed science be over the next 20 years?

Another way of asking the same questions would be to say — Where is weed science going and is it where it ought to go?

These are not easy questions. I hope to receive thoughtful, carefully constructed responses. Respondents are encouraged to expand the range of my questions. There is no limit to the length of a response. Email or postal responses are equally acceptable. My email is r.zimdahl@colostate.edu. My postal address is 1010 East County Road 68, Fort Collins, CO 80524. I will summarize the responses received and hope there will be a sufficient number that it will accurately represent the weed science community.

I will know the identity of respondents, but no names will be revealed.

Robert L. Zimdahl, Professor Emeritus
Colorado State University

Send Newsletter material to:

Carl Libbey

225 S. 10th Street

Mount Vernon, WA 98274

newsletter@wssa.net

WASHINGTON REPORT

by Lee Van Wychen, Director of Science Policy

DICAMBA-TOLERANT CROP LABELS REVISED FOR 2018

On October 13, 2017, the Environmental Protection Agency announced label changes for XtendiMax, Engenia, and FeXapan herbicides. These label changes impose the following additional requirements for 2018:

- Classifying products as “restricted use,” permitting only certified applicators with special training, and those under their supervision, to apply them; dicamba-specific training for all certified applicators to reinforce proper use;
- Requiring farmers to maintain specific records regarding the use of these products to improve compliance with label restrictions;
- Limiting applications to when maximum wind speeds are below 10 mph (down from 15 mph) to reduce potential spray drift;
- Reducing the times during the day when applications can occur (sunrise to sunset);
- Including tank clean-out language to prevent cross contamination; and
- Enhancing susceptible crop language and record keeping with sensitive crop registries to increase awareness of risk to especially sensitive crops nearby.

The Restricted Use classification applies only to the labeled uses for XtendiMax, Engenia, and FeXapan. Pre-existing dicamba herbicides (e.g. Clarity, Banvel) are not subject to the Restricted Use classification. For more information: <https://www.epa.gov/ingredients-used-pesticide-products/registration-dicamba-use-genetically-engineered-crops>

The updated labels can be found at:

- Engenia Herbicide,
EPA Reg. No.: 7969-345

- XtendiMax with VaporGrip Technology, EPA Reg. No.: 524-617
 - FeXapan herbicide plus VaporGrip Technology, EPA Reg. No.: 352-913
- For up to date information on tank mixes and nozzles:

- www.engeniatankmix.com
- www.xtendimaxapplicationrequirements.com
- www.fexapanapplicationrequirements.dupont.com

EPA will continue to work with state lead agencies and university weed scientists to solicit information and research on physical drift, tank contamination, temperature inversions, volatility, and misuse with the overarching goal to minimize off-target movement and reduce incidents for the 2018 growing season. During the Pesticide Program Dialogue Committee (PPDC) meeting in November, EPA stated that it “will monitor the success of these changes to help inform our decision whether to allow the continued use of dicamba on tolerant soybean and cotton beyond the 2018 growing season.”

IARC REVIEW OF GLYPHOSATE: A CASE OF GROSS SCIENTIFIC NEGLIGENCE

Documents seen by Reuters show how a draft of a key section of the International Agency for Research on Cancer’s (IARC) assessment of glyphosate underwent significant changes and deletions before the report was finalized and made public. Reuters found 10 significant changes that were made between the draft chapter on animal studies and the published version of IARC’s glyphosate assessment. In each case, a negative conclusion about glyphosate leading to tumors was either deleted or replaced with a

neutral or positive one. The full story is at: <http://www.reuters.com/article/us-who-iarc-glyphosate-specialreport/in-glyphosate-review-who-cancer-agency-edited-out-non-carcinogenic-findings-idUSKBN1CO251>

WSSA feels that the IARC review process for glyphosate was flawed and represents a case of gross scientific negligence. There is no question that IARC arrived at their conclusion due to their inclusion of the positive findings from a selection of studies with known limitations, a lack of reproducible positive findings, and the omission of the negative findings from credible and reliable research.

<http://wssa.net/wp-content/uploads/WSSA-comments-to-FIFRA-SAP-on-glyphosate.pdf>

On November 9, 2017, updated results from the Agricultural Health Study regarding glyphosate use and cancer incidence were published in the Journal of the National Cancer Institute: <https://academic.oup.com/jnci/advance-article/doi/10.1093/jnci/djx233/4590280>. The Agricultural Health Study (<https://aghealth.nih.gov/>) has monitored the health outcomes of over 89,000 licensed pesticide applicators and their spouses from Iowa and North Carolina since 1993. In this large, prospective cohort study, no association was apparent between glyphosate and any solid tumors or lymphoid malignancies overall, including NHL and its subtypes. Specifically, among 54,251 applicators, 44,932 used glyphosate, including 5,779 incident cancer cases. In unlagged analyses, glyphosate was not statistically significantly associated with cancer at any site.

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EPA is preparing to issue for public comment the registration review draft risk assessments for glyphosate in early 2018. The components of the draft risk assessments will include:

- Human health draft risk assessment that incorporates the cancer re-evaluation, an updated incident report, review of the literature for non-cancer effects, and a summary of the EPA analyses of human milk.
- Ecological draft risk assessment.
- Along with the draft risk assessments, EPA will issue a revised cancer white paper and a response to the March 2017 FIFRA Scientific Advisory Panel report.

EPA FINALIZES HERBICIDE RESISTANCE MANAGEMENT GUIDANCE

In September, after many years of collaboration between EPA and weed scientists, EPA finalized its “Guidance for Herbicide Resistance Management Labeling, Education, Training, and Stewardship,” which is referred to as Pesticide Registration Notice (PRN) 2017-2. Please see:

<https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-registration/prn-2017-2-guidance-herbicide-resistance-management-labeling-education>.

This guidance applies to all herbicide uses, except for those applied in residential settings (i.e. lawns). One use category that we asked EPA to exclude from this guidance was herbicides applied for aquatic weed control due to the very different nature in how aquatic weeds are managed. For example, using the full-labeled rate for aquatic herbicides is often not feasible and actually in direct conflict with NPDES permit requirements that mandate the “lowest possible discharge” be conducted for aquatic herbicide applications. However, the resistance management guidance in PRN 2017-2 will still apply to aquatic herbicides.

PRN 2017-2 will apply to any new herbicide products as well as existing herbicides that go through registration review. Most of the resistance management “elements” will be addressed through the herbicide label, which will include the following:

- Placing the MOA on the label (using the WSSA MOA classification)
- Clearly expressing application parameters and full-labeled use rates
- Recommendations to scout the field both before and after application
- How to identify suspected resistance
- How to report lack of performance to the registrant and proactively take action before escaped weeds become widespread in their fields
- A list of herbicide resistance BMP’s (using WSSA and HRAC guidance)
- Information to help make growers aware of herbicide resistant weeds found in their local area

The registrants will also be responsible for reporting new cases of suspected and confirmed resistance to EPA and users, and in certain circumstances, may be required to follow additional guidance such as “apply only with another MOA.”

The last major part of PRN-2017-2 will be dependent upon the weed management stakeholder community (crop advisors, university extension, commodity groups, registrants, etc...) to provide educational and training materials for growers and users at the local level. EPA states “the most successful strategies for herbicide resistance management will be tailored for local conditions” and that the stakeholder community “work collaboratively” to design effective material. Guidance for developing resistance management plans and remedial action plans are provided in Appendix 1 at the end of PRN 2017-2.

USDA TO RE-ENGAGE STAKEHOLDERS ON REVISIONS TO BIOTECHNOLOGY REGULATIONS

On November 6, USDA-APHIS announced it was withdrawing a proposed rule to revise the Agency’s biotechnology regulations and will re-engage with stakeholders to determine the most effective, science-based approach for regulating the products of modern biotechnology while protecting plant health.

In June, the National and Regional Weed Science Societies submitted comments to APHIS regarding their proposed rule for the importation, interstate movement, and environmental release of certain genetically engineered (GE) organisms. While we complimented APHIS on the many positive aspects of the proposal, we encouraged APHIS to re-propose a rule that minimizes regulatory uncertainty related to their weed risk assessment model.

Our submitted comments are at: http://wssa.net/wp-content/uploads/Weed-Science-Societies-Comments-on-APHIS-biotech-proposal_FINAL.pdf

NATIONAL COVER CROP SURVEY RESULTS INDICATE WEED CONTROL BENEFITS

Results from the 5th annual cover crop survey conducted by the Conservation Technology Information Center (CTIC) with help from Purdue University and funding from the American Seed Trade Association (ASTA) and USDA’s Sustainable Agriculture Research & Education (SARE) are now available. The surveys and results are at: www.sare.org/covercropsurvey.

The 2016–2017 survey received results back from 2,102 farmers, of which 88% used cover crops while 12% of the respondents did not. About 80% of the farmers who participated were com-

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modity producers, while 20% are involved in some form of horticulture or produce production. The average volume of cover-crop acres has steadily risen from 217 acres in 2012 to 451 acres in 2017.

Cereal rye remained the top choice of farmers for cover cropping, followed by oats and radish. Sixty-five percent of the cover crop users reported planting mixes of cover crops in 2016. Questions got more detailed on topics such as “planting green;” meaning farmers drilled their cash crops into a standing cover crop. The survey showed 39% had done so. Of that group, 61% of those farmers who planted into a standing cover crop considered their weed control had improved. Just 8% stated that weed control was more challenging with that practice.

Another 25% said cover crops always help improve control of herbicide-resistant weeds for those farmers that use cereal rye as a cover. An additional 44% said they sometimes saw benefits controlling herbicide-resistant weeds. About 31% said they saw no benefit from that practice.

And, yet, among farmers who do not use cover crops, another 42% of respondents said one reason they don't use cover crops is their concern over the possible spread of resistant weeds.

NATIONAL INVASIVE SPECIES AWARENESS WEEK: FEBRUARY 26–MARCH 2, 2018

Planning for National Invasive Species Awareness Week (NISAW) is underway for 2018. In addition to the seminars and webinars in Washington, DC during the week, we'd like to highlight invasive species prevention and management activities occurring throughout the year. Activities will be posted on www.nisaw.org as they become available. If you are interested in getting involved with NISAW or

would like to sponsor events during the week, please contact me at Lee.VanWychen@wssa.net or Rick Otis with the Reduce Risks from Invasive Species Coalition (RRISC) at rick.otis@rrisc.org.

2017 CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE UNDERWAY

The USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) has begun mailing questionnaires to over 3 million U.S. producers for the Census of Agriculture, which is conducted once every 5 years. For more info: www.agcensus.usda.gov

The census response deadline is February 5, 2018. Responding to the Census of Agriculture is required by law and requires NASS to keep all information confidential and only publish in aggregate form to prevent disclosing the identity of any individual producer or farm operation. NASS will release the results of the census in February 2019.

2017 NATIONAL WEED SURVEY RESULTS IN GRASS CROPS AVAILABLE

Results from the 2017 survey of the most common and troublesome weeds in grass crops are available at: <http://wssa.net/wssa/weed/surveys/>. The crops surveyed included: 1) corn, 2) rice, 3) sorghum, 4) spring cereal grains, 5) winter cereal grains, 6) pastures, rangeland, other hay, and 7) turf. In addition to the survey data, we have provided a PowerPoint presentation with the results summary of the top ranked weeds in each crop. At right are summaries for corn and for pastures, rangeland and other hay.

For 2018, we will be in the third year of a three year rotation among broad-leaf crops, grass crops, and non-crop areas. The 2018 survey will focus on the most common and troublesome weeds in the following non-crop areas: 1) aquatic – irrigation & flood control, 2) aquatic – lakes, rivers, reservoirs, 3) aquatic – ponds, 4) forestry, 5) natural areas – parks, wildlife refuges, 6) ornamentals, and 7) right-of-ways – rail, road, utility.

Lee Van Wychen, Ph.D.
 Science Policy Director
 National and Regional Weed Science Societies
 5720 Glenmullin Pl
 Alexandria, VA 22303
Lee.VanWychen@wssa.net
 Phone: 202-746-4686

Top 6 Weeds in Corn
(50 survey respondents)

<u>MOST COMMON</u>	<u>MOST TROUBLESOME</u>
1 common lambsquarters (30)*	1 Palmer amaranth (21)*
2 foxtail spp. (27)	2 waterhemp (20)
3 waterhemp (19)	3 morningglory spp. (18)
4 morningglory spp. (17)	4 giant ragweed (17)
4 pigweed spp. (17)	5 common lambsquarters (16)
6 Palmer amaranth (16)	6 kochia (12)

*number of survey respondents who listed the weed species as one of their top 5 weeds in this crop.

- foxtail spp. included giant, green and yellow foxtail.
 - morningglory spp. included ivyleaf morningglory.
 - pigweed spp. included redroot and smooth pigweed and Powell amaranth.

Top 5 Weeds in Pasture, Rangeland, other Hay
(39 survey respondents)

<u>MOST COMMON</u>	<u>MOST TROUBLESOME</u>
1 Bromus spp. (11)*	1 Canada thistle (12)*
1 Canada thistle (11)	2 horsenettle (11)
1 horsenettle (11)	3 leafy spurge (8)
4 dandelion (8)	4 Bromus spp. (7)
4 spiny amaranth (8)	5 sandbur spp. (6)
	5 knapweed spp. (6)

*number of survey respondents who listed the weed species as one of their top 5 weeds in this crop.

- Bromus spp. included downy, smooth, and Japanese brome.
 - sandbur spp. included field sandbur.
 - knapweed spp. included spotted, Russian, and diffuse knapweed.

IMPORTANT CONTACTS

PRESIDENT

Janis McFarland
Syngenta Crop Protection
janis.mcfarland@syngenta.com

PRESIDENT-ELECT

Scott Senseman
University of Tennessee
Institute of Agriculture
Department of Plant Sciences
ssensema@utk.edu

VICE-PRESIDENT

Larry Steckel
University of Tennessee
lsteckel@utk.edu

PAST-PRESIDENT

Kevin Bradley
University of Missouri
bradleyke@missouri.edu

CONSTITUTION/MOPS

Mark Bernards
Western Illinois University
ML-Bernards@wiu.edu

SECRETARY

Hilary Sandler
University of Massachusetts Amherst
hsandler@umass.edu

TREASURER

Rick Boydston
USDA-ARS
rick.boydston@ars.usda.gov

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Eric Gustafson
12011 Tejon St Suite 700
Westminster, CO 80234
Telephone: (720) 977-7940
info@wssa.net

DIRECTOR OF PUBLICATIONS

Sarah Ward
Colorado State University
sarah.ward@colostate.edu

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Carl Libbey
225 S. 10th St
Mount Vernon, WA 98274
newsletter@wssa.net

DIRECTOR OF SCIENCE POLICY and AIBS REP

Lee Van Wychen
5720 Glenmullen Place
Alexandria, VA 22303
Lee.VanWychen@wssa.net

CAST REP

James Kells
Michigan State University
kells@msu.edu

GRAD STUDENT REP

Chase Samples
Mississippi State University
cs572@msstate.edu

NIFA FELLOW

Donn Shilling
University of Georgia
Dept of Crop and Soil Sciences
3111 Plant Sciences Bldg
Athens, GA 30602
dgs@uga.edu

EPA LIAISON

Greg Kruger
University of Nebraska-Lincoln
402 West State Farm Road
North Platte, NE 69101
Gkruger2@unl.edu

REGIONAL SOCIETY REPRESENTATIVES:

AQUATIC PLANT MANAGEMENT SOCIETY (APMS) REP

Rob Richardson
North Carolina State University
rob_richardson@ncsu.edu

NEWSS REP

Mike Fidanza
Pennsylvania State University
maf100@psu.edu

NCWSS REP

Reid Smeda
University of Missouri
smedar@missouri.edu

SWSS REP

John Byrd
Mississippi State University
jbyrd@pss.msstate.edu

WSWS REP

Marty Schraer
Syngenta Crop Protection
marty.schraer@syngenta.com

CWSS-SCM

Eric Page
Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
eric.page@agr.gc.ca

IWSS REP

Nilda Roma-Burgos
University of Arkansas
nburgos@uark.edu

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	CONTACT
January 9–11, 2018	Northeastern Weed Science Society Annual Meeting (NEWSS)	Hilton Philadelphia at Penn's Landing 201 South Columbus Boulevard Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19106	www.newss.org Dr. Carroll Moseley Syngenta Crop Protection Greensboro, NC 27409 carroll.moseley@syngenta.com (336) 632-7754
January 22–24, 2018	Southern Weed Science Society Annual Meeting (SWSS)	Hyatt Regency Hotel Atlanta, Georgia	www.swss.ws
January 29–February 1, 2018	Weed Science Society of America Annual Meeting (WSSA)	Crystal Gateway Marriott Arlington, Virginia	www.wssa.net
March 12–15, 2018	Western Society of Weed Science Annual Meeting (WSWS)	Hyatt Regency Orange County Garden Grove, California	www.wsweedscience.org
July 15–18, 2018	Aquatic Plant Management Society Annual Meeting (APMS)	Hyatt Regency Hotel Buffalo, New York	www.apms.org
November 19–22, 2018	Canadian Weed Science Society Annual Meeting (CWSS)	Marriott on the Falls Niagara Falls, Ontario	www.weedscience.ca
December 3–6, 2018	North Central Weed Science Society Annual Meeting (NCWSS)	Hyatt Regency Hotel Milwaukee, Wisconsin	www.ncwss.org

Additional Weed Science Meetings and Events can be found at <http://wssa.net/meeting/calendar-of-meetings/>