



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It has been a rapid but shorter distance run than I had expected when I became President last February in Kona. The year has gone by quickly and the finish line for my term is close in sight. I can say as President, life is never dull. There have been several projects completed since the last newsletter and I will highlight the most important.

I appointed three sub-committees from the WSSA Board of Directors to review contracts from Allen Press that were to expire in 2013. I am pleased to report that negotiations were completed for the Society Management (Joyce Lancaster's position) and Meeting Management (Kate Counter's position) contracts with Allen Press for the next three years. Both Joyce and Kate have done outstanding work for WSSA in the past and we look forward to continuing our association with them in the future. The behind the scenes work these two do for WSSA has really helped the Society to continue moving forward and to keep spending for hotels, meetings, breaks etc. down without sacrificing quality. The third contract with Allen Press is for the publication of our Society's three journals. This proposal is currently under review with Director of Publications James Anderson chairing this sub-committee.

Within the last few weeks, negotiations were completed with hotels for hosting the WSSA annual meeting in a variety of locations. WSSA will meet in Lexington, KY in 2015 at the Convention Center utilizing the Hilton hotel as host, at the Sheraton in San Juan, PR in 2016, and at the Tucson, AZ Hilton in 2017. Joyce and Kate visited these and other facilities this fall and were able to negotiate very reasonable room rates for the membership. These are all very nice facilities and offer opportunities nearby for things to see and do with your friends and family.

In November, I attended the Canadian Weed Science Society annual meeting in Winnipeg. This was the first time I had gone to the CWSS and thoroughly enjoyed the meeting. There was a strong program which included a record number of graduate student presentations. It was nice to see so many students at the meeting, which bodes well for the future of the CWSS. There are approximately

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**NEW EPA LIAISON
FOR 2013 NEEDED**
(see details inside on page 8)

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80 CWSS members who also belong to WSSA, which is over one-third of their membership.

During the August meeting the board decided to hire a web content manager to keep the WSSA web content updated and to help further develop the WSSA website as a public resource for information about weeds and weed science. Sarah Ward chaired the committee that chose Muthukumar Bagavathiannan (Muthu) to become our first content manager. Muthu is currently a Postdoctoral Research Associate in the Department of Crop, Soil and Environmental Sciences at the University of Arkansas. His background in building web pages, and ideas to enhance WSSA's presence on the web as well as with social media are impressive. He began working as our web content editor in December. His efforts along with the new design of the WSSA home page should enhance our "window to the world."

Just before writing this letter, I opened an e-mail from Jill Schroeder with the news that she is stepping down as the WSSA Weed Science Subject Matter Expert with the EPA. Jill has served us in this role for four years and she decided it is time to move on. Jill's work with the EPA has been outstanding and everyone she has worked with at the Agency have been impressed with her knowledge base in weed science and her help in solving issues. She will be missed in this role by both us and the EPA. Elsewhere in this newsletter you will find an announcement for filling the position and how to apply if you are interested in becoming the next EPA Weed Science Subject Matter Expert.

In closing I would like to thank all the members of the WSSA board, committee members, and reviewers for all the work they do for the society. Without volunteers, WSSA could not function. Much of the work of the society is done by members on their own time and often their own dime. Without such efforts, we could not publish three journals, have a science policy advisor in Washington, DC, an EPA liaison, or conduct nearly as high quality annual meeting as we now do. Please take time to thank them for their efforts when you see them. The next update in this space will be written by incoming President Jim Kells. Good luck to him and Happy Trails to All.

Rod Lym
President, WSSA

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Regarding: Reviewer questions

WSSA FUTURE MEETING SITES AND DATES

2013

Baltimore, Maryland

February, 2013

Hilton Baltimore

**Joint meeting of WSSA and
Northeastern Weed Science
Society**

Jim Kells, 2013 Program Chair

E-mail: kells@msu.edu

Tel: 517-355-0271

2014

Vancouver, Canada

February, 2014

**Joint meeting of WSSA and
Canadian Weed Science Society**

**WSSA HOME PAGE
ACCESSED AT:
www.wssa.net**

THINK NEWSLETTER
Deadline for April issue
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RESILIENT LANDSCAPES

Planning for Flood, Drought & Fire

68th International Annual Conference

Reno, NV July 21-24, 2013

www.swcs.org/13AC

**Soil and Water Conservation Society (SWCS)
“Invasive Plants: Managing Controversy, Creativity, and Conservation”
July 21, 2013**

A 1-day special session entitled, “Invasive Plants: Managing Controversy, Creativity, and Conservation”, will focus on the challenges and issues associated with invasive plant species. In all parts of the world, invasive plants are establishing in natural areas and wild lands and are changing many of the cycles (e.g., fire, hydrological) and affecting many of the processes (e.g., succession, nutrient turnover) that once supported biologically diverse communities. There are many unknowns on the long-term impacts of invasive plant species and this has spurred numerous debates related to management approaches and even the necessity of human intervention. Alternatively, the short-term effects of invasive plants can be seen at small and large scales and has resulted in much thought by researchers, land managers, and policymakers on how to develop and find innovative/alternative approaches to address what should be done and how best to do it. Ultimately, a price will be paid if dialogue does not continue and new ways are not developed to preserve our current landscapes and at the same time allow for dynamic change in these systems, which includes invasive plant species. It is with this focus that this 1-day special session is taking place at the 2013 SWCS annual meetings in Reno, NV. The intent is to create an environment with a diverse audience that through discussion and presentation will continue to advance what is best for the environment and its constituents in relation to invasive plants species both now and into the future. Make plans to attend this special session in July 2013. Symposia organizers are seeking contributed oral and poster presentation to complement three invited plenary speakers. For registration details, go to www.swcs.org/13AC.

UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA-LINCOLN
AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH DIVISION

BIG IDEA

seminars



BIG IDEAS ■ BIG COLLABORATIONS ■ BIG INNOVATION

The Agricultural Research Division's Big Idea Seminars hope to build big ideas and collaborations among faculty members at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. The seminar series in the Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources at UNL will cover a broad area of research topics and is meant to bring together collaborations among faculty members across all of UNL.

More than just a seminar, these team building events will provide opportunities for faculty to work together and come up with new research projects.



advances in PLANT RECOGNITION and IDENTIFICATION TECHNOLOGY

This seminar series will feature three internationally recognized leaders in the field of identification technology who will discuss plant identification systems and their advancement from manual keys to computer programs to the latest apps for real-time use in field situations.

With the world population predicted to exceed 9 billion by 2050, new technology will be needed in agriculture to meet future demands for food, feed and fiber. Similarly, the increasing threat of invasive plants species in natural areas and the lack of trained individuals to identify them are signaling a need for the development of smart technology with recognition and identification capabilities.

Organizers of the series include the departments of Agronomy and Horticulture, Biological Systems Engineering and Computer Sciences and Engineering.

SIMON BLACKMORE

NEW CONCEPTS IN AGRICULTURAL AUTOMATION

Thursday, January 17, 2013

2 p.m. Informal Discussion | 3 p.m. Reception | 3:30 p.m. Seminar
Nebraska East Union | UNL East Campus | Lincoln, NE



Blackmore, professor at Harper Adams University College in England, is a key figure in the development of precision farming and agricultural robotics with a worldwide reputation. His presentation will discuss how smarter machines will save time and money.

DAVID JACOBS

USING COMPUTER VISION FOR SPECIES IDENTIFICATION

Tuesday, January 22, 2013

2 p.m. Informal Discussion in 110 Avery Hall | 3 p.m. Reception in 348 Avery Hall
3:30 p.m. Seminar in 115 Avery Hall | UNL City Campus | Lincoln, NE



Jacobs is a professor in the Department of Computer Science at the University of Maryland with a joint appointment in the university's Institute for Advanced Computer Studies. He will describe the first mobile app for identifying plant species using automatic visual recognition. The system called LeafSnap identifies tree species from photographs of their leaves. In addition, he will discuss some recent work on animal species identification.

LIE TANG

PLANT RECOGNITION FOR ROBOTIC WEEDING: CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

Friday, February 1, 2013

2 p.m. Informal Discussion | 3 p.m. Reception | 3:30 p.m. Seminar
Nebraska East Union | UNL East Campus | Lincoln, NE



Tang is an associate professor in the Department of Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering at Iowa State University. He will present his research findings in crop and weed recognition, and share his vision about how the technological advancements in sensing and computation may enable us to invent new weeding tools that can maximize weed control efficacy while minimizing their environmental footprint.



It is the policy of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln not to discriminate based upon age, race, ethnicity, color, national origin, gender, sex, pregnancy, disability, sexual orientation, genetic information, veteran's status, marital status, religion or political affiliation.



WASHINGTON REPORT

by Lee Van Wychen, Director of Science Policy

MOST FARM BILL PROVISIONS EXTENDED NINE MONTHS

In the strangest New Year's Day since I've been working in Washington, DC, the House and the Senate were both in session. Congress managed to compromise on fiscal cliff legislation to avoid an economic meltdown. Buried deep within the "American Taxpayer Relief Act" were provisions extending most Farm Bill programs through Sep. 30, 2013.

Two research programs whose legislative authority expired in 2012 where the Specialty Crop Research Initiative and the Organic Agriculture Research and Extension Initiative. Both programs were 'revived' in the farm bill extension legislation that provided them \$100 million and \$25 million, respectively, for 2013. Most biomass research programs in the energy title were extended as well. In the conservation title, however, the Wetlands Reserve Program and the Grassland Reserve Program were not reauthorized.

The 113th Congress, sworn in on Jan. 3, 2013, will be responsible for reintroducing and passing legislation for a 2013 Farm Bill that would reauthorize programs for five years. However, don't expect to see any Farm Bill legislation in the next couple months as Congress will be focused on sequestration and the debt limit ceiling issues that were not resolved in the fiscal cliff compromise.

NEW AG APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

With the new Congress, comes new chairman of both the House and Senate Agriculture Appropriations Subcommittees. On the House side, Rep. Bob Aderholt from Alabama's 4th Congressional District will take over as chair from Jack Kingston of Georgia. Rep. Aderholt will be serving in his 9th term from northern Alabama

and served as chair of Homeland Security Approps in the 112th Congress. Prior to his election to Congress, Aderholt served as an aide to Governor Fob James and as a Municipal Judge in Haleyville, Alabama. Educated through Alabama's public school system, Aderholt went on to graduate from Birmingham Southern College and from the Cumberland School of Law at Samford University.

On the Senate side, Sen. Herb Kohl from Wisconsin has retired from Congress after 24 years in office. That leaves the Senate Ag Approps Subcommittee chair open. As of press time, the Senate Appropriations committee had not officially named its twelve appropriation subcommittee chairs, but a likely replacement for Kohl is Sen. Tim Johnson from South Dakota.

There will also be a few changes on the authorizing side of ag policy in the next Congress. Most notable is that Sen. Thad Cochran from Mississippi will take over as Ranking Member on the Senate Ag Committee for Pat Roberts of Kansas. Sen. Cochran previously served as Chair of the Senate Ag Committee from 2003-2005 before going on to serve as Chair and Ranking Member of the full Senate Appropriations committee.

On the House Ag Committee, while Chairman Lucas (OK) and Ranking Member Peterson (MN) will remain the same, there are a number of new subcommittee chairs and ranking members. Most notably is new subcommittee chair Austin Scott from Georgia, who will have jurisdiction over research, education and extension, biotechnology, horticulture, pesticides and organic agriculture. Rep. Scott is in his second term as a Congressman. He graduated from the University of Georgia with a B.B.A. in Risk Management and Insurance, and owned and operated an insurance

brokerage firm for nearly twenty years before his election to Congress in 2010.

ADMINISTRATOR JACKSON LEAVES EPA

EPA Administrator Lisa P. Jackson announced she is leaving EPA, about a month after it was revealed she was using an alias email account to conduct official business. Jackson used a private email under the alias "Richard Windsor" to correspond with EPA colleagues, a decision her staff defended by saying that her official email account received too many messages for her to use it efficiently. Jackson spearheaded efforts to begin regulating greenhouse gas emissions, including setting new standards to clean up mercury and other toxic emissions from coal power plants, and established new fuel economy standards for motor vehicles.

Quick Senate confirmation of any successor appears unlikely, given that Republicans have long complained that Jackson's aggressive approach to the job has hampered business and impeded job creation. Obama will be under pressure from his own party to name someone acceptable to environmentalists, but Republican senators and some Democrats from coal- and oil-producing states are likely to oppose confirming an activist to succeed Jackson.

In the mean time, EPA Deputy Administrator Robert Perciasepe will take over as acting administrator when Jackson steps down after the State of the Union address, assuming that a successor has not been named and confirmed by the Senate.

EPA CONSIDERING INVASIVE WEEDS AS BIOFUEL CROPS

EPA has been working on finalizing a rule which would allow fuel made

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from two known noxious weeds, *Arundo donax* (giant reed) and *Pennisetum purpureum* (napier grass or elephant grass), to count toward federally-mandated renewable fuels targets. The WSSA is opposed to the current proposed rule and has been working with other stakeholder groups to prevent the rule from becoming law. We need more research on *Arundo* and *Pennisetum* before incentivizing their production, otherwise the U.S. will make the same mistake it did in the 1930's when it used taxpayer dollars to fund kudzu plantings across the south.

In October, more than 200 scientists from across the country, including many weed scientists, sent a letter to the Obama administration urging them to rethink their approach to potentially invasive plants grown for bioenergy. The National and Regional Weed Science Societies were also signatories on a letter to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), which is reviewing the EPA proposed rule. Under Executive Order 13112 (regarding invasive species), EPA should not provide production incentives for high risk feedstocks such as *Arundo donax* without determining that the benefits "clearly outweigh" the costs.

If OMB moves forward with releasing the rule, we requested to see a complete assessment of the costs and benefits, as outlined in Executive Order 13112. Additionally, if EPA approves *Arundo donax* and similarly high risk feedstocks, we believe that the rule must include – at the very minimum – guidelines on stringent best management practices to reduce the risk of escape. These guidelines should be written with the guidance of the National Invasive Species Council and relevant federal agencies.

**PRESIDENT'S SCIENCE ADVISORS
RECOGNIZE THE IMPORTANCE
OF 21ST CENTURY PEST
MANAGEMENT CHALLENGES**

The President's Council of Advisors for Science and Technology (PCAST) recommended to the President that the

U.S. increase its investment in agricultural research by a total of \$700 million per year. This report has been in the making for a couple years and is really the first significant report on agriculture ever done by PCAST. The link to the report is at:

http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/microsites/ostp/pcast_agriculture_20121207.pdf

The \$700 million per year recommendation is broken down as follows:

- i. \$180 million for new graduate and post-doctoral fellowships;
- ii. \$235 million for new competitively funded research at USDA AFRI;
- iii. \$130 million for basic research at NSF; and
- iv. \$150 million for new public-private institutes.

The most positive aspect of the report is the challenges they listed for 21st century agriculture:

- i. **Managing new pests, pathogens, and invasive plants.**
- ii. Increasing the efficiency of water use.
- iii. Reducing the environmental footprint of agriculture.
- iv. Growing food in a changing climate.
- v. Managing the production of bioenergy.
- vi. Producing safe and nutritious food.
- vii. Assisting with global food security and maintaining abundant yields

As you can see, weed science pretty much fits into all those challenges, especially their #1 challenge. However, it's not all peaches and cream as the report "recommends that the focus of USDA research funding shift toward competitive grants, gradually rebalancing the research portfolio for intramural funding and funding for land grant institutions to incorporate incentives for innovation consistent with other research agencies across the Federal Government." In other words, they don't like capacity funds that support the Ag Experiment Stations and Cooperative Extension, or USDA-ARS

funding.

The National and Regional Weed Science Societies are opposed to any shifts in funding towards competitive grants that results in cuts or reductions in capacity funds. Our position has been to support funding for both intra- and inter-mural USDA research, extension, and education. There seems to be a bias in the report that competitively funded research in other federal agencies somehow produces more innovation and that USDA's research funds allocated through non-competitive means is somehow inferior. Yet few would argue that USDA's funding for research, education and extension has been an unparalleled success for food and ag production. If you are aware of any peer-reviewed, credible studies that have actually demonstrated otherwise, please let me know.

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THINK NEWSLETTER

**Deadline for April issue
March 1, 2013**

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MATERIAL TO:**

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Virginia Tech's Edward Scott Hagood honored with emeritus status



BLACKSBURG, Va., Nov. 7, 2012 Edward Scott Hagood, Jr., professor of weed science in the Department of Plant Pathology, Physiology, and Weed Science in College of Agriculture and Life Sciences <<http://www.cals.vt.edu/>> (<http://www.cals.vt.edu/>) and weed management specialist for Virginia Cooperative Extension <<http://www.ext.vt.edu/>> (<http://www.ext.vt.edu/>), has been conferred the "professor emeritus" title by the Virginia Tech Board of Visitors.

The title of emeritus may be conferred on retired professors and associate professors, administrative officers, librarians, and exceptional staff members who are specially recommended to the board of visitors by Virginia Tech President Charles W. Steger. Nominated individuals who are approved by the board of visitors receive an emeritus certificate from the university.

A member of the Virginia Tech community since 1981, Hagood provided statewide leadership in the development of weed control programs for Virginia's agronomic crops. During his tenure, he gave more than 1,100 Extension presentations throughout the commonwealth, the mid-Atlantic region, and the Southeastern United States.

Hagood directed the research of six master's and seven Ph.D. students, served on more than 40 graduate degree committees, and lectured in both graduate and undergraduate courses. In addition, Hagood has been principal or co-principal investigator on research grants for weed control strategies impacting the state and beyond, bringing visibility to the university through his work. He has authored and co-authored more than 70 refereed journal articles and abstracts and more than 60 Extension publications.

Hagood has been active in regional and national professional societies and state agricultural organizations and has received numerous awards and recognitions for his service, some of which include the Virginia Agribusiness Council Outstanding Extension Service Award, the Virginia Soybean Association Meritorious Service Award, the

Symposium on the Future of Herbicide Resistance

Tuesday afternoon during the conference you'll have the opportunity to weigh in on one of the most pressing issues facing weed scientists – prevention and mitigation of herbicide resistance. A symposium entitled "Herbicide Resistance Management – The Path Forward" will follow up from the National Herbicide Resistance Summit hosted by the National Academy of Science this past May (<http://nas-sites.org/hr-weeds-summit/>).

It is geared to be an interactive symposium that will serve as a gap analysis, focusing especially on how we can stimulate action to actually change behavior in implementing best management practices and how to best use our current and future weed management technologies. We will have panel discussions on the role and challenges of herbicide-resistant technologies, the socio-economic aspects driving change, and the relevant federal agency concerns and responses to herbicide resistance. We've built in plenty of time for audience interactions with the panelists, and envision this as the next step toward effecting real change toward sustainable weed management systems. However, to do that will require your participation!

David Shaw

Northeastern Weed Science Society Educator of the Year Award, and the Virginia Tech Alumni Award for Excellence in Extension. He received his bachelor's degree from State University of New York at Buffalo and his master's degree and Ph.D. from Purdue University.

Dedicated to its motto, UT Prosim (That I May Serve), Virginia Tech <<http://www.vt.edu/>> (<http://www.vt.edu/>) takes a hands-on, engaging approach to education, preparing scholars to be leaders in their fields and communities. As the commonwealth's most comprehensive university and its leading research institution, Virginia Tech offers 215 undergraduate and graduate degree programs to more than 30,000 students and manages a research portfolio of \$450 million. The university fulfills its land-grant mission of transforming knowledge to practice through technological leadership and by fueling economic growth and job creation locally, regionally, and across Virginia.

Related Links

Charles C. Stallings honored with emeritus status-<<http://www.vtnews.vt.edu/articles/2012/03/032912-cals-emeritusstallings.html>> (<http://www.vtnews.vt.edu/articles/2012/03/032912-cals-emeritusstallings.html>) This story can be found on the Virginia Tech News website: <http://www.vtnews.vt.edu/articles/2012/11/110712-cals-hagoodemeritus.html>

POSITION ANNOUNCEMENTS

WSSA Seeking Next Liaison with EPA for 2013

The Weed Science Society of America (WSSA) is seeking a qualified individual to interact with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and serve as a liaison between WSSA members and EPA employees. Dr. Jill Schroeder from New Mexico State University has served in this role over the past several years and we would like to fill this position to allow for some overlap of responsibilities. Ideally, the new individual will travel to Arlington, VA for one week per month for the first six months and then approximately a week every two months to work in EPA's Office of Pesticide Programs (OPP). This individual will interact with EPA employees and provide input on a wide range of topics such as current weed management practices, the utility of label mitigations for herbicide use, herbicide resistance management, spray drift management, invasive plant management near endangered species, and the role of weed control in land management.

This individual should be willing to learn the registration and reregistration processes for herbicides, become familiar with the EPA scientific committees and how they operate, and develop a basic understanding of how EPA OPP risk assessments are conducted.

This individual must be a member of the WSSA, and prepare a quarterly report for the WSSA Board of Directors and for posting on the WSSA website. The WSSA will reimburse this individual for travel and per diem expenses while working at EPA up to a predetermined limit. The applicant is expected to work with their employer to obtain approval to serve in this volunteer capacity as part of their responsibilities or under other arrangements such as a sabbatical.

The application period will end on January 31, 2013. Ideally, the individual selected would be able to make their first week-long visit to EPA in March or April of 2013, but start time is negotiable.

Please send a letter of intent and resume by email to: Lee Van Wychen at Lee.VanWychen@wssa.net. If you have questions, please contact Lee, WSSA President Rod Lym at Rod.Lym@ndsu.edu or Jill Schroeder at jischroe@nmsu.edu.

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NECROLOGY

RICHARD J. (Dick) ALDRICH **1925–2012**

Richard (Dick) Aldrich passed away Friday, November 2, 2012, in Bigfork, Minnesota at the age of 87, after a long battle with Parkinson's disease. He was born and grew up on a farm near Fairgrove, Michigan and was an all-sports letterman and valedictorian of his high school class. After graduating from high school, Dick volunteered for military service and, as a first lieutenant, served as navigator in the Army Air Force during World War II on 53 airborne missions in the China-Burma-India Theater. After the war, he undertook studies at Michigan State University through the GI Bill where he received a B.S. in agriculture in 1948. He earned his Ph.D. at Ohio State University in 1950, which was one of the first degrees awarded in weed science. His doctoral work involved pioneering field research on the then revolutionary plant hormone-mimic herbicide known as 2,4-D.

In 1950, Dick began his career with the U.S. Department of Agriculture stationed at Rutgers University where he continued herbicide research until 1957. He then moved on to serve as assistant director of the Michigan Agricultural Experiment Station from 1957 to 1964. In 1964 he was appointed as associate director of the Missouri Agricultural Experiment Station at the University of Missouri, Columbia and professor of field crops; he became associate dean for research in 1967. In 1976 he moved to Washington, D.C. to become administrator of the U.S.D.A. Cooperative State Research Service. Dick returned to Columbia, Missouri in 1978 as research agronomist in the USDA-ARS Crop Production Research Unit; later he became supervisory research agronomist of the Unit and continued in that position until his retirement in 1987. He was also an adjunct professor of agronomy at the University of Missouri where he developed and taught a new course, "Weed-Crop Ecology," an important topic that had received little attention in the weed science discipline at that time. Dick used his course as the basis to author, "Principles in Weed Management" (1st edition 1984; 2nd edition 1997), which was used as the textbook in numerous weed science courses at many universities for several years. In 1983 he took the lead in organizing a graduate-level weed science course instructed by the weed science staff. This was considered one of the first graduate-level weed science courses offered at a major University in the U.S. The course has evolved into the "Advanced Weed Science" course and continues to be taught at the University of Missouri.

Dick was highly respected in the agricultural community and is acknowledged for playing a major role in integrating ecology, biology, and total weed management concepts into today's modern weed science discipline. He was a member of the Weed Science Society of America and the North Central Weed Science Society, becoming actively involved during the formative years of those organizations. He served as Editor of *Weed Science* from 1989 through 1993. His valuable contributions to weed science were recognized by his election as Fellow of WSSA in 1992.

Dick married his high school sweetheart, June Ellison, in 1943, and she survives. He was the loving father of three children; seven grandchildren; and 12 great-grandchildren. Dick and June spent their retirement during winters at their home in Green Valley, Arizona and during summers at their home near Bigfork. Throughout his professional career and retired life, Dick's passionate hobby was golf; he took pride in his six holes-in-one, two-time championship at Country Club of Missouri, and initial club champion and course record-holder at Edge of Wilderness club in Bigfork. A memorial was held on November 7, 2012 at the Presbyterian Church in Bigfork, Minnesota; funeral services were held at the Presbyterian Church in Fairgrove, Michigan on November 10, 2012.





NECROLOGY

JOHN F. AHRENS

November 10, 2012



John F. Ahrens, Ph.D., 82, of Simsbury and formerly of Bloomfield, beloved husband of Phyllis (Carle) Ahrens, passed away shortly after a stroke on November 10, 2012, surrounded by his family. Born in Bellmore, NY, son of the late William and Martha (Schneider) Ahrens, he was raised on Long Island and graduated from Mepham High School. He was a graduate of the Long Island Agricultural and Technical Institute (Farmingdale) where he enlisted in the US Marine Corps inactive reserve. After graduation, he worked two years in the Soil Conservation Service in Millbrook, NY where he met and dated Phyllis Carle. He was called to active duty and served a one year tour in Korea during the war, where he earned the rank of Sergeant, USMC. After returning in May of '52, he married Phyllis and they moved to Athens, GA where he received a BSA from the University of Georgia. He then earned both an MS and PhD in Plant Physiology from Iowa State University, after which he began his long career in Weed Science at the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station, Valley Laboratory in Windsor. After retirement, he continued as a Weed Scientist, Emeritus, at the Experiment Station, as well as performing research and consulting throughout the Northeast and Canada until shortly before his death. He was a member and past president of both the National and Northeastern Weed Science Societies of America. In addition, he owned and operated the Ahrens Tree Farm of Bloomfield, CT and West Woodbury, VT. He was an active member of the National, CT, NH/VT, and NY Christmas Tree Growers Associations and worked vigorously to assist in the registration of new, effective protocols for weed control in Christmas trees and ornamentals. John was extremely active his whole life; he was a Cub Scout Master, a frequent blood donor, and served on the Bloomfield Inland Wetlands Commission and the Land Trust. He loved the outdoors, and enjoyed cutting and splitting wood, deer hunting and riding his various BMW motorcycles on many trips throughout North America. He was a member of Old St. Andrew's Episcopal Church for 49 years and served as a Sunday School Teacher and a Vestryman and took an active part in their many fairs. He leaves Phyllis, his beloved wife of 60 years; four sons, William (Bill) and wife Margaret (Peggy), currently of Shenyang, China; John Jr. (Jay) and wife Elena of Carson City, NV; Timothy (Tim) and wife Sunny of San Jose, CA; Karl and wife Susan of Bloomfield; nine grandchildren, Ben and his wife Kari, Mitch, Russ, Katy; Shane; Becky and her husband Zack, Jackie, Dan, David; a sister, Harriet Garistina of Levittown, NY; and eight nieces and nephews. Besides his parents, he was predeceased by his brother, William (Bill).

His family received friends on Sunday, November 18 from 3–5 p.m. followed by an informal time of sharing memories of John from 5–6 p.m. at the Carmon Windsor Funeral Home, 807 Bloomfield Ave., Windsor. A Memorial Service was held Monday, November 19, at 11 a.m. at Old St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 59 Tariffville Rd., Bloomfield. Burial was in Old St. Andrew's Cemetery with military honors. Contributions may be made to either Old St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 59 Tariffville Rd., Bloomfield, CT 06002 or the American Heart Association, 1 Union St., Suite 301, Robbinsville, NJ 08691. For condolences, visit www.carmonfuneral-home.com.



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CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	CONTACT
January 28–30, 2013	Southern Weed Science Society (SWSS) Annual Meeting	Houston, Texas	www.swss.ws
February 4–7, 2013	Joint NEWSS and WSSA Annual Meeting	Hilton Baltimore Baltimore, Maryland	Jim Kells Tel: 517-355-0271 Email: kells@msu.edu www.newss.org www.wssa.net
February 18–22, 2013	Global Herbicide Resistance Challenge Conference	Perth, Australia	www.herbicideresistanceconference.com.au
March 11–14, 2013	Western Society of Weed Science (WSWS) Annual Meeting	San Diego, California	www.wsweedscience.org
July 14_17, 2013	Aquatic Plant Management Society (APMS) Annual Meeting	San Antonio, Texas	www.apms.org
July 21–24, 2013	60th International Soil and Water Conservation Society Annual Conference	Reno, Nevada	www.swcs.org/13AC
December 9–12, 2013	North Central Weed Science Society (NCWSS) Annual Conference	Columbus, Ohio	www.ncwss.org
February, 2014	Joint WSSA and Canadian Weed Science Society Annual Meeting	Vancouver, Canada	

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