



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

### *Travelogue to Vancouver, BC Canada*

The WSSA Board of Directors met in a hybrid format (in-person and Zoom) for their fall quarterly meeting on October 13, 2021. This was an opportunity for some of the leadership to visit the city, tour the hotel and conference venue, and to discuss plans with the Canadian Weed Science Society Board and local arrangements committee to continue planning for the in-person Annual Conference on February 21 to 24, 2022.

My trip to and from Canada for the BOD meeting went smoothly, with the help of information on this travel to Canada website: <https://travel.gc.ca/travel-covid> and with this return to the USA website: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/testing-international-air-travelers.html>

Travel requirements are constantly changing, so please continue to follow updates on the websites shared above. It is a great idea to have documents printed to show at each stop, as you may or may not have good Wi-Fi or cell service.

### *In-person WSSA/CWSS annual conference*

We are planning to have an all in-person joint WSSA/CWSS annual conference from February 21 to 24, 2022 in Vancouver, BC Canada. The Sheraton Wall Centre will be an excellent location for our conference! The WSSA Program Chair and President-elect, Dr. Stanley Culpepper, has been working diligently with our CWSS counterparts and local arrangements committee together with Eric Gustafson, Executive Secretary of the WSSA, to develop an excellent program that includes a wide range of scientific and networking events.

Call for Papers has been sent out and we look forward to receiving many titles on diverse Weed Science topics to highlight at the annual conference. We invite you to submit oral and poster presentations, and will have various graduate student contests for the WSSA (3MT or poster) and for the CWSS (oral and poster) presentations. Look for opportunities to sign up and judge in these contests.

In a similar fashion to last year, we would like to have all the WSSA standing committees conduct their meeting during the week before the conference, that is February 14 to 18, 2022 (or earlier). The committee meeting format, whether it is via Zoom, Teams, or teleconference call, will be determined and hosted by the Chair of the committee. This would also allow the WSSA Board Liaisons to meet with their respective committees and to receive a complete report to be shared with the WSSA BOD prior to its meeting on Sunday, February 20, 2022.

CONTINUED on pg 2 >>>

**CALL FOR PAPERS  
2022 GUIDELINES**  
(details inside on pages 3-8)

## IN THIS ISSUE

|                             |   |                                 |    |                         |    |
|-----------------------------|---|---------------------------------|----|-------------------------|----|
| Call for Papers . . . . .   | 3 | Important Contacts . . . . .    | 14 | WSSA Contacts . . . . . | 15 |
| Washington Report . . . . . | 9 | Calendar of Upcoming Events . . | 15 |                         |    |

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE CONTINUED from pg 1

The annual meeting will start on Monday, February 21 with pre-conference tours being planned and our General Session in the afternoon where we will recognize our award winners. During the week, there will be four symposia to attend:

- North American Kochia Action Committee: Priorities for Coordinating Research, Communication, and Outreach, organized by Todd Gaines and Charles Geddes
- Biological Weed Management – Challenges and Opportunities, organized by Roger Gast, Dilpreet Riar, and Jared Bell
- Showcasing ARS Weed Science Research – From the Nearly Retired to the Newly Hired, organized by Steve Young
- The Current Regulatory and Legal Environment for Weed Control Products, organized by Pete Eure and Carroll Moseley

Other key elements will be a Graduate Student Organization business meeting and luncheon joint with the WSSA and CWSS students, a Women in Weed Science event, a joint WSSA / CWSS reception, and a WSSA Business Meeting Breakfast.

### *Travel information*

There are two main aspects to prepare for travel 1) having a valid passport for entry to Canada and return home, and 2) having documentation on your COVID-19 vaccinations or recovery (bring your vaccination card) and result of recent test (within 72 hours of arrival in Canada, must be an approved test type). As stated earlier, this could change prior to the conference.

- 1) If you do not have a valid USA passport, you need to apply now! According to the US State Department, applying for or renewing a passport can take up to 16 weeks (4 months) from the time of application to the time your passport is received. Expedited service (extra \$60) can shorten that time to 12 weeks.
- 2) Current COVID-19 entry/exit requirements (subject to change!)

### **Travel by air or land to Canada:**

- Be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 at least 14 days prior to entering Canada
- Provide proof of a negative COVID-19 molecular test (PCR or NAAT) within 72 hours of your flight entering Canada

### **Travel by air to the U.S.:**

- Provide proof of a negative COVID-19 antigen or molecular test within 3 days of travel to the U.S.

### **Travel by land to the U.S.:**

- No formal restrictions

**For more information on entering Canada or the U.S., visit these websites:**

Canada <https://travel.gc.ca/travel-covid>

United States <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/testing-international-air-travelers.html>

### *Other WSSA Activities*

Several of our liaisons for WSSA to other organizations continue to be actively engaged and sharing our science and networks with those connections. Mark VanGessel, liaison to EPA, has not had a chance to meet face-to-face but is getting a lot of Zoom-time key stakeholders. Jim Kells, liaison to USDA-NIFA, also has not had a chance to travel to Kansas City, but has regular meetings with staff members and making plans for future webinars and symposium to keep the WSSA membership up to day with funding opportunities. Jill Schroeder, CAST representative, is working with several other WSSA members and CAST representatives from other weed science societies to develop an issue paper proposal on invasive plant species. Lee Van Wychen, Executive Director of Science Policy, shares information on weed science issues with membership and other entities involved in science policy (see his detailed summary in the newsletter).

Please do not hesitate to contact me, Eric Gustafson, Lee Van Wychen, or any other member of the WSSA Board of Directors if you have issues or questions related to WSSA. I wish you a great fall season!

Anita Dille  
President, WSSA

## WSSA FUTURE MEETING SITES AND DATES

February 21–24, 2022  
WSSA-CWSS Joint Meeting  
Vancouver, British Columbia  
[www.wssa.net](http://www.wssa.net)  
and [www.weedscience.ca](http://www.weedscience.ca)

WSSA HOME PAGE  
ACCESSED AT:  
[www.wssa.net](http://www.wssa.net)

THINK NEWSLETTER  
Deadline for January issue  
December, 2021

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

## WSSA NEWSLETTER

VOL. 49, NO. 3

October, 2021

Published quarterly by the Weed Science Society of America. Subscription included in the annual dues paid by members of the Society. Address correspondence and information to:

Carl Libbey  
225 S. 10th St.  
Mount Vernon, WA 98274  
[newsletter@wssa.net](mailto:newsletter@wssa.net)



# CALL FOR PAPERS

## 2022 Joint WSSA/CWSS Meeting

Vancouver, BC, Canada • February 21-24, 2022

### INVITATION

You are invited to submit titles and abstracts for papers and posters to be presented at the WSSA/CWSS Joint Meeting in Vancouver, Canada. Our meeting will be held from Monday, February 21 through Thursday, February 24. Currently, the WSSA and CWSS are developing a program for an in-person event and will communicate with members/attendees as plans continue to develop. For those needing new or updated passports, be sure to address that need soon as the length of time required to obtain a passport is longer than usual. Additionally, there are many questions regarding vaccination requirements to enter Canada. More details will be provided as we get closer to our meeting but for current requirements visit <https://travel.gc.ca/travel-covid/travel-restrictions/covid-vaccinated-travellers-entering-canada>

*Volunteer papers may be presented orally in one of the sections listed below or as a poster. An individual may personally present only one volunteer oral paper presentation. In addition to the oral paper presentation, an individual registered and present at the meeting may present one poster. There are no limitations as a co-author for papers or posters, or presentations in symposia.*

The title/author, abstract, and presentation submission site will be open October 18th, 2021 and can be found at <https://www.weedscimeetingabstracts.com/>

### DEADLINES FOR TITLES and AUTHOR, ABSTRACT, and PRESENTATION SUBMISSIONS

**Abstract Titles and Author Information** must be submitted electronically by **November 15th, 2021** to be considered. Those not submitted by this deadline will not be accepted. This deadline applies to student oral contests, volunteer oral papers, all posters, and symposia.

**Abstract** texts must be submitted by **January 31st, 2022**. The program will be posted on the WSSA website (<http://www.wssa.net>) and members will be informed when it is available.

PowerPoint **presentations** must be uploaded to the submission site by **February 7, 2022**.

CONTINUED on pg 4 >>>

## STUDENT CONTEST OPTIONS AND DETAILS

### A. ELIGIBILITY

1. Any student who is a WSSA/CWSS member and has registered to attend the current annual meeting is eligible to participate.
2. The WSSA will offer the Three-Minute Thesis Research Communication Competition (3MT™) originally developed by the University of Queensland, Australia (<https://threeminutethesis.uq.edu.au/>) and a poster contest. **WSSA students can only compete in either the 3MT contest or the WSSA poster contest, not both!**
3. CWSS students may present in the 15-minute CWSS oral contest and the CWSS poster contest.
4. Important for Previous WSSA Winners: WSSA students can only win 1st place in the poster and in the 3MT presentation contests once per degree program. Once a student places 1st in a given contest (i.e. 3MT or poster), they are no longer eligible to compete in said contest during the course of their current degree program. A student may win 1st place while in a M.S. program and again for a Ph.D. program for oral and poster presentations.

### B. RULES AND PROCEDURES

1. Notice of the student contests will be included with the Call for Papers.
2. A contestant may enter the poster or oral presentation contest multiple years per degree program. Persons who have graduated from a degree program (M.S. or Ph.D.) and are actively pursuing an additional degree may only enter the contest for that degree program during the first annual meeting following graduation.
3. Contestants will indicate in the title submission that they wish to enter either the poster or oral presentation contest. Title and contest declaration must be turned in by the deadline that title submissions are due. If a contestant does not turn in a title and contest declaration by the time that title submissions are due, they will be ineligible for the contest unless the Student Program Chairperson declares the student eligible based on student's situation. As with all presentations, ABSTRACTS FOR CONTEST PRESENTATIONS must be submitted electronically by January 31st, 2022. This allows time for the committee to prepare copies or e-mail abstracts to the appropriate judges prior to the contest.
4. Evaluation forms and rules will be posted to the WSSA and CWSS websites.

## CALL FOR WSSA STUDENT CONTEST JUDGES – ORAL AND POSTER

The WSSA Graduate Student Contest is an integral part of our annual meeting. The contest continues to grow. This request for volunteer judges is being made earlier than in the past to assure that we have an adequate number of judges to support the contest. If the contest growth trends as it has since its beginning, we may have to limit the number of participants. Please consider serving the WSSA as an oral or poster competition judge and contributing to the development of young weed scientists.

**Please respond by December 1st with your ability to serve the WSSA to Marty Schraer: [marty.schraer@syngenta.com](mailto:marty.schraer@syngenta.com)**

## VOLUNTEER ORAL PAPERS (Not Student Contest)

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

Select your top three choices of sections (provided in table below) to foster ideal groupings when submitting title.

CONTINUED on pg 5 >>>

## POSTERS

The information presented as a poster is very similar to that presented as an oral paper, but it is presented on poster board rather than orally at the meeting. The commercial exhibits are presented by Sustaining Members of WSSA and consist of educational information that may be of a promotional nature about products and/or services. Posters may be presented by personnel of the same sustaining member companies and may include commercial products, but they must present results of completed research with these products rather than promotional material about them.

### *Guidelines:*

1. Clearly specify "Poster Session" when submitting title. Additionally, authors should indicate a category from Section 1 through 13 below to improve organization at the meeting.
2. Authors are expected to be at their poster during the period reserved for viewing the poster to answer questions and to discuss their research with interested parties.
3. **Poster Boards. One space 48 x 48 inches (122 x 122 cm) will be provided for each poster. There will be no exceptions to the rule of one space per paper. Posters should be no larger than this size.**
4. Text, graphs, and tables must be easily read from a distance of 6 feet. Titles and headings should be larger and readable from a greater distance.
5. Because of cost and logistics, it will not be possible to provide electrical connections, video equipment, or other special equipment for posters.
6. Abstracts will not be published for posters not displayed during the meeting.

## SYMPOSIUM PAPERS

Speakers participate in symposia by invitation. Deadlines and procedures for preparing and submitting abstracts of symposium papers are the same as for volunteer papers, except that the author must send a copy of the abstract to the symposium organizer.

## SUBMISSION OF ABSTRACTS

All student contest papers and posters, volunteer papers and posters, and symposium papers require abstracts to be submitted electronically. To submit abstract titles/authors and abstract texts electronically, go to the Weed Science Society of America website:

<https://www.weedscimeetingabstracts.com/>

- After October 18th, 2021, you will be able to access the Title/Abstract/Presentation Submission Page from the abstract submission website. Additional instructions will be provided on the Title/Abstract Submission Page.

The Program will be printed exactly as submitted, other than format and font changes for uniformity; therefore, proof-read your submission very carefully. Primary contact authors will receive an email indicating their abstract was received and a later email confirming the section/day/time when and where the paper will be presented.

CONTINUED on pg 6 ➤➤

**If you are planning on traveling to the annual meeting in Vancouver, British Columbia, be sure to check the Canadian Government's website for restrictions and requirements for entry into Canada.**

**COVID-19 testing for travellers - Travel restrictions  
in Canada - [Travel.gc.ca](https://travel.gc.ca)**

## GUIDELINES FOR THE PREPARATION OF TITLE AND ABSTRACT

Be alert to additional instructions that may appear on the submission website itself.

1. **Content** – The abstract should include a brief overview of essential aspects of experimental procedures and should highlight significant results and their interpretation. Write the abstract so it consists entirely of information. Do not include statements such as “The results of the experiments will be presented” or “The significance of these results will be discussed.”
2. **Formatting** – Typing and format instructions will be provided on the Title/Abstract Submission Page of the WSSA website.

**Capitalize the first letter of all major words in the title and end the title with a period. Include both the common and scientific names of weeds and uncommon crop plants in the title** (authorship of plants is not necessary), but only the common names of herbicides and well-known crop plants. **You do not need to type the title in bold-face**; the system will do that automatically. The site will provide a method for indicating the presenter, be sure to specify the presenting author.

*Title Example.* Role of Adjuvants on Sulfonylurea Herbicide Efficacy.

3. **Herbicide nomenclature** – A list of common and chemical names of herbicides approved by the WSSA is available at <http://wssa.net/Weeds/Tools/Herbicides>. When the common name refers to the parent acid, salt or ester forms used in the experiments should be identified at the first mention of the common name (e.g., methyl ester of diclofop). At the first mention of an herbicide application rate, list whether the weight is acid equivalent (ae) or active ingredient (ai) (e.g., kg ai ha<sup>-1</sup>). If no common name is available, use its designation (trade name or code) followed by the full chemical name. If the chemistry is confidential, identify the source (company) in parentheses after designation.
4. **Adjuvant nomenclature** – Where possible, use the *WSSA Herbicide Handbook*, 10th edition (2014), p.479–481; *Weed Science* (1985) 33 (Suppl. 1): 22–23; or the *WSSA Monograph* (1982) *Adjuvants for Herbicides*. Otherwise, use the most complete available chemical description of the adjuvant.
5. **Weed nomenclature** – Identify weeds by common names. At first mention of a weed, whether in the title or text, follow the common name with the scientific name (underlined and in parentheses). Do not repeat the scientific name in the text if given in the title. Refer to <https://plants.usda.gov/> for approved scientific names for weeds.
6. **Crop nomenclature** – Scientific names for crop plants are optional. They are not needed for well-known crops but should be included for less common crops and whenever needed for clarity. Place scientific names, underlined and in parentheses, following first mention of the common name, whether in the title or text.
7. **Soil nomenclature** – Include the soil series with textural classification and the subgroup name using the terminology of the U.S. Dept. Agric. Natr. Res. Conserv. Serv. publication, *Soil Taxonomy*, U.S. Gov. Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 1988. For soils outside the U.S.A., use the local official terminology.
8. **Measurements** – Report all measurements in International System of units (SI). Abbreviate units of measure if preceded by a number. See *Weed Science* (2003) 51:1029–1033 for additional suggestions and *WSSA Herbicide Handbook*, 10th edition (2014), p. 488–491 for metric conversions.
9. **Abbreviations** – Use abbreviations as shown at <http://wssajournals.org/userimages/ContentEditor/135879>
10. **Numbers** – Use Arabic numerals for all numbers with two or more digits and for all measurements such as time, weight-length, area, quantity, or degree except when the number is the first word in the sentence. Spell out numbers when they are the first word in a sentence or when they are less than 10 and not measurements.

CONTINUED on pg 7 >>>

## SUBMISSION AND REVIEW OF ORAL PRESENTATIONS

Presentations must be uploaded on the submission site by February 7th, 2022. Coordinate with your section chair if you would like to preview your presentation at the meeting to ensure that the formats/fonts are all as you intended them to be. Due to the limited time and equipment, last minute editing is highly discouraged. Submission of files at the time of the presentation or at any other time during the session will **NOT** be allowed.

## COMPUTER AND PROJECTION EQUIPMENT

LCD projection for PowerPoint presentations is standard and will be used exclusively. LCD projectors will be provided by the hotel and Windows PC laptop computers will be supplied by section chairs. Presenters will **NOT** be allowed to use their own computers in the sessions. If possible, computers will be located on the podium in each session. If this is not possible, an infrared remote providing forward and backward control of the presentation will be provided. Screens, microphones, carts, and extension cords will continue to be supplied by AV services and paid for by the Society. To make this process go as smoothly as possible, please follow the guidelines below.

## FORMAT

All presentations **MUST** be in PowerPoint (any version) for MS Windows (PC compatible). PowerPoint will be the software used. Macintosh/Apple formats will **NOT** be supported. Your presentation must be saved as a PowerPoint show file. **ALL presentations must be uploaded on the submission site so that preloading prior to the meeting can be accomplished** (see Submission of Presentations). Please limit the size of presentations to less than 200 MB. If your presentation contains video clips or animation you must contact the section chair for approval one week **PRIOR** to sending your presentation to ensure compatibility with the equipment. Limit fonts used in the presentation to basic fonts, as not all machines may have the same choice of fonts. Examples of standard fonts are Times, Arial, Courier, Tahoma, or similar equivalents.

Section chairs and computer operators are not responsible for changes in fonts, bullets, and other formatting at the time of presentation. Use up-to-date virus protection software to avoid infecting the computers provided by the section chairs.

## SUBJECT INDEX

A subject index consisting of up to five key words per abstract (weed/crop names, herbicides, and other key words) will be included. Providing key words to be used for indexing will be the responsibility of the authors. **Words in the title are not automatically indexed.** Only key words provided by the authors will be used.

CONTINUED on pg 8 ➤➤

**If you are planning on traveling to the annual meeting in Vancouver, British Columbia, be sure to check the Canadian Government's website for restrictions and requirements for entry into Canada.**

**[COVID-19 testing for travellers - Travel restrictions in Canada - Travel.gc.ca](#)**

## Program Committee Members:

WSSA Chair: Stanley Culpepper (contact: [stanley@uga.edu](mailto:stanley@uga.edu))

CWSS Chair: David Clements ([clements@twu.ca](mailto:clements@twu.ca))

Ex-off: Eric Gustafson (contact: [info@wssa.net](mailto:info@wssa.net))

| Section   | Section Chair   |
|---|---|
| 1. Agronomic Crops  | Daljit Singh<br><a href="mailto:Daljit.singh@Bayer.com">Daljit.singh@Bayer.com</a>  |
| 2. Horticultural Crops                                    | Kurt Vollmer<br><a href="mailto:kvollmer@umd.edu">kvollmer@umd.edu</a>  |
| 3. Turf and Ornamentals                                   | David Hillger<br><a href="mailto:David.hillger@corteva.com">David.hillger@corteva.com</a>   |
| 4. Pasture, Range, Forest, Rights of ways & Natural Areas | Scott Nolte<br><a href="mailto:Scott.nolte@tamu.edu">Scott.nolte@tamu.edu</a>   |
| 5. Regulatory Aspects                                     | Monty Dixon<br><a href="mailto:monty.dixon@syngenta.com">monty.dixon@syngenta.com</a>   |
| 6. Teaching and Extension                                 | Dawn Refsell<br><a href="mailto:Dawn.refsell@corteva.com">Dawn.refsell@corteva.com</a>  |
| 7. Formulation, Adjuvant, & Application Technology        | Joe Ikley<br><a href="mailto:Joseph.ikley@ndsu.edu">Joseph.ikley@ndsu.edu</a>   |
| 8. Weed Biology and Ecology                               | Debalin Sarangi<br><a href="mailto:dsarangi@umn.edu">dsarangi@umn.edu</a>   |
| 9. Biocontrol of Weeds                                    | Taylor Randell<br><a href="mailto:trandell@uga.edu">trandell@uga.edu</a>  |
| 10. Physiology  | Chenxi Wu<br><a href="mailto:Chenxi.wu@Bayer.com">Chenxi.wu@Bayer.com</a>   |
| 11. Soil and Environmental Aspects                        | David Russell<br><a href="mailto:Dpr0013@auburn.edu">Dpr0013@auburn.edu</a>   |
| 12. Integrated Weed Management                            | Karla Gage<br><a href="mailto:kgage@siu.edu">kgage@siu.edu</a>  |
| 13. Sustaining Member Exhibits                            | Eric Gustafson<br><a href="mailto:info@wssa.net">info@wssa.net</a><br>Kyle Kepner<br><a href="mailto:Kyle@gdmdata.com">Kyle@gdmdata.com</a> |
| 14. Poster Sessions                                       | Vanessa Jones<br><a href="mailto:Vanessa.Jones@twu.ca">Vanessa.Jones@twu.ca</a>   |
| 15. Student Contest                                       | Marty Schraer<br><a href="mailto:marty.schraer@syngenta.com">marty.schraer@syngenta.com</a>   |
| 16. Student Travel Enrichment Experience                  | Delaney Foster<br><a href="mailto:dfoste37@vols.utk.edu">dfoste37@vols.utk.edu</a>  |



# WASHINGTON REPORT

by Lee Van Wychen, Director of Science Policy

## 2021 SCIENCE POLICY FELLOWS: REBECCA CHAMPAGNE AND DEVON CARROLL

The Weed Science Policy Fellowship program is a unique opportunity for graduate students to assist me in my role as Executive Director of Science Policy for WSSA while gaining experience dealing with a broad array of weed science policy issues. This year's Science Policy Fellows are Rebecca Champagne at the University of Maine and Devon Carroll at the University of Tennessee.



Rebecca is a third year Ph.D. candidate at the University of Maine working with Dr. Eric Gallandt. Her research primarily

focuses on physical and cultural weed management in organic vegetable systems, mainly for small-scale, diversified operations. Prior to her Ph.D. work, she received a B.S. in Sustainable Agriculture from the University of Maine and an M.S. in Agronomy from Penn State. She also worked as a research analyst for an agricultural software startup in New York City. Rebecca's past involvement in the ASA-CSSA-SSSA Congressional Visit Days piqued her interest in science policy work, where she saw an opportunity to apply her research and critical thinking skills to affect positive changes for U.S. agriculture. She is passionate about helping small-scale farmers and under-represented groups through policy and is excited for the opportunities the WSSA policy fellowship will bring.

Devon is a third year Ph.D. candidate at the University of Tennessee



studying Turfgrass Weed Science under the direction of Dr. Jim Brosnan. Her dissertation research is focused on understanding how environmental factors affect the length of life of the species *Poa annua* L. Devon earned a B.S. in Turfgrass Science and M.S. in Agronomy focused in turfgrass both from Penn State. She also holds a second M.S. in Agricultural Leadership, Education & Communications from the University of Tennessee. Devon is passionate about communication and has sought opportunities to expand her skills in this area. Most notably, she conducted sociological research aiming to understand barriers and opportunities for women in the turfgrass industry and was selected to participate in the ASA-CSSA-SSSA Congressional Visits Day. Devon is interested in engaging with stakeholders across the weed science discipline to learn more about how scientific communication shapes policy.

## FY 2022 AG APPROPRIATIONS MOVING FORWARD, BUT SHORT- TERM CONTINUING RESOLUTION LIKELY

The House has moved forward with their \$26.5 billion spending plan for the FY 2022 Agriculture budget that would provide about a 10% increase over current funding levels, including \$3.391 billion (\$321 million above the FY 2021 enacted level) for agriculture research programs. The House ag appropriations bill passed out of committee on a bipartisan vote. It is now part of a more controversial [Seven-Bill](#)

[Appropriations Package](#) in the House that was approved on a party line vote on July 29.

The Senate ag appropriations bill cleared the Appropriations Committee on a 25-5 vote on August 4, has not passed the full Senate. The bill includes about \$25.9 billion and would boost spending on ag research by \$292 million over the current fiscal year to \$3.6 billion, roughly the same increase included in the bill that cleared the House.

Many ag research programs are slated for increases in both the House and Senate versions compared to FY 2021 levels. This includes an approximate \$150 million increase for ARS and \$100 million increase for NIFA. Specifically, the IR-4 Program, which has been flat funded at \$11.9 million per year for the past decade was recommended at \$20 million in the president's FY 2022 budget, but only \$14 million in the House and \$14.5 million in the Senate. Other NIFA programs that were slated to receive increases in both the House and Senate include the Hatch and Smith-Lever Act capacity funding programs, AFRI Competitive Grants, and SARE.

However, there is still no agreement yet on overall spending levels in the Senate for the next fiscal year, which starts October 1, due to the massive "budget reconciliation" bill currently under consideration (see below). Thus, Congress will likely have to pass a continuing resolution that would maintain FY 2021 spending levels for most agencies through the short term.

CONTINUED on pg 10 >>>

**‘INFRASTRUCTURE PACKAGE’ COULD PROVIDE NEARLY \$500 MILLION FOR INVASIVE PLANT MANAGEMENT**

An “Infrastructure Package” has been under consideration many times in the past decade, but has never made it across the finish line. However, Congress has gotten further down the road to final passage in the past couple months than in recent memory.

However, there is a complicated political “do-si-do” going on (some might call it a “game of political chicken”) where the fate of the current \$1.2 trillion (yes, that’s TRILLION) infrastructure package that passed the Senate on a 69-30 vote in early August is inextricably tied to the more monstrous “budget reconciliation” bill that has a \$3.5 trillion price tag. All that aside, the current version of the infrastructure bill will cost \$1.2 trillion over eight years, and has more than \$550 billion in new spending, including:

- \$110 billion in new funds for roads, bridges, and major projects (\$40 billion is new funding for bridge repair, replacement, and rehabilitation, and \$17.5 billion is for major projects)
- \$73 billion for the country's electric grid and power structures
- \$66 billion for rail services
- \$65 billion for broadband
- \$55 billion for water infrastructure
- \$21 billion in environmental remediation

Part of the “environmental remediation” spending in the infrastructure package includes the following two programs that could channel almost \$500 million over five years for invasive plant management:

- Sec. 11522. **\$50 million per year for five years for an “invasive plant elimination program”** through the Federal Highway Administration.
- Sec. 40804. **\$200 million** split between the Dept. of the Interior and

USDA over 5 years for “ecosystem restoration” through the **US Forest Service for “invasive species detection, prevention, and eradication, including conducting research and providing resources to facilitate detection of invasive species at points of entry and awarding grants for eradication of invasive species on non-Federal land and on Federal land.”**

**“BUDGET RECONCILIATION” BILL IS MASSIVE, MIND-BOGGLING, AND A GAME CHANGER**

On Sep. 13, the House Agriculture Committee advanced its portion of the \$3.5 trillion reconciliation package by a party line vote of 27-24. The bill includes a massive \$7.75 billion investment in agriculture climate research and infrastructure. Below are some of the funding INCREASES that are in the current draft of the bill, relative to its FY 2021 funding level.

Some of the “Budget Reconciliation” bill increases occur in a single year, while other increases would occur over five years with the total increase reached by FY 2026. Either way, you can do the math and see why some of

these numbers are both mind-boggling and a game changer.

The path forward for the “budget reconciliation” bill remains unclear (that is a HUGE understatement). To satisfy Senators Manchin (D-WV) and Sinema (D-AZ), the package will have to be smaller. “Much smaller” according to Sen. Manchin, who voiced support for a \$1–1.5 trillion package compared to the current \$3.5 trillion. We will continue to engage on both the budget reconciliation bill and the infrastructure bill to make sure weed science research and management issues are well represented.

**CHUCK SAMS NOMINATED AS NATIONAL PARK SERVICE DIRECTOR**



President Biden has nominated Charles F. “Chuck” Sams III to serve as the next Director of the National Park Service (NPS), a position that requires confirmation from the U.S. Senate and has been vacant since 2017.

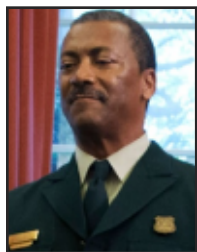
CONTINUED on pg 11 >>

| Agriculture Research Item                                      | FY 2021 Funding Level | “Reconciliation Bill Increase” |
|--|-----------------------|--------------------------------|
| Agricultural Research Infrastructure                           | \$0                   | \$3.65 billion                 |
| Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI)                | \$435 million         | \$500 million                  |
| Agriculture Advanced Research & Development Authority (AgARDA) | \$0                   | \$380 million                  |
| Foundation for Food and Agriculture Research (FFAR)            | \$185 million         | \$540 million                  |
| Smith-Lever Cooperative Extension                              | \$315 million         | \$600 million                  |
| Sustainable Agriculture Research Education (SARE)              | \$40 million          | \$500 million                  |
| Research Equipment Grants                                      | \$5 million           | \$100 million                  |
| Crop Protection & Pest Management                              | \$20 million          | \$30 million                   |
| Organic Agriculture Research and Education Initiative          | \$25 million          | \$200 million                  |
| Agricultural Research Service                                  | \$1.49 billion        | \$250 million                  |

Sams currently serves as a Council Member to the Northwest Power and Conservation Council and has worked in state and tribal governments and the nonprofit natural resource and conservation management fields for more than 25 years. He has previously held a number of positions with the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, most recently serving as their Executive Director. He is a veteran of the U.S. Navy and is also a former adjunct professor at Georgetown University and Whitman College.

Sams earned his B.S. in business administration from Concordia University-Portland and holds a master of legal studies in Indigenous Peoples Law from the University of Oklahoma. If confirmed, Sams would become the first Native American to lead NPS.

### **RANDY MOORE IS THE NEW FOREST SERVICE CHIEF**



On June 28, USDA Secretary Tom Vilsack announced that Randy Moore will serve as the 20th Chief of the USDA Forest Service. Prior

to this appointment, Moore served as the Forest Service's Regional Forester for the California-based Pacific Southwest Region since 2007. He previously served as the Regional Forester for the Milwaukee-based Eastern Region and also worked with USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) as a soil scientist in several states including North Dakota. Moore, who has a bachelor's degree in plant and soil science from Southern University in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, will be the first African American to lead the Forest Service.

### **Confirmed Federal Agency Leaders**

- USDA Secretary – Tom Vilsack

- USDA Deputy Secretary – Jewel Bronaugh
- USDA Under Secretary for Research Education and Economics (nominated) – Chavonda Jacobs-Young
- DOI Secretary – Deb Haaland
- DOI Deputy Secretary – Tommy Beaudreau
- DOI Assistant Secretary for Fish, Wildlife and Parks – Shannon Estenoz
- DOI Assistant Secretary for Water and Science – Tanya Trujillo
- Army Corps Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works (nominated) – Michael Connor
- EPA Administrator – Michael Regan
- EPA Deputy Administrator – Janet McCabe
- EPA Assistant Administrator for Chemical Safety & Pollution Prevention – Michal Freedhoff
- EPA Assistant Administrator for Water – Radhika Fox
- Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) Chair – Brenda Mallory

### **PARAQUAT DECISION DROPS: EPA Finalizes Paraquat Registration, OKs Aerial Applications for Now**

By **Emily Unglesbee**, DTN Staff Reporter.

Published 8/2/2021.

Republished with permission.

<https://www.dtnpf.com/agriculture/web/ag/crops/article/2021/08/02/epa-finalizes-paraquat-registration>

EPA finalized its interim registration decision for paraquat on August 1, reversing its proposal last year to ban most aerial applications.

Instead, the agency will permit aerial applications of the Group 22 herbicide in crops, with expanded buffer requirements and acreage limits designed to protect applicators. Aerial use of paraquat is most common in cotton, where it is used as a plant desiccant to prepare for harvest.

Though finalized, EPA's conclusion here remains an "interim" registration decision. The agency will not have a complete registration decision for

paraquat until it conducts its endangered species assessment and an endocrine screening for the chemical.

The agency first put out a draft interim decision for paraquat back in October 2020, wherein it proposed banning all aerial applications except for cotton desiccation, in addition to banning handgun and backpack sprayer application methods. See more on that draft decision [HERE](#). In its new decision, the EPA noted that, outside cotton desiccation, "aerial application of paraquat is likely minimal or sporadic."

Some of the changes EPA made between that draft and the new finalized decision are the result of new data from a consortium of chemical companies called the Agricultural Handler Exposure Task Force. See more [HERE](#).

Ultimately, the finalized decision has these changes:

- Aerial applications are permitted but limited to a maximum of 350 acres per applicator within a 24-hour period for all uses except cotton desiccation, where no acreage limitations will be required.
- A 50- to 75-foot residential buffer requirement now applies to all aerial uses of paraquat.
- The use of human flaggers during paraquat applications is prohibited.
- Enclosed cabs are required for applications made to more than 80 acres in a 24-hour period, to limit inhalation risks.
- For smaller applications to 80 acres or fewer in a 24-hour-period, PF10 respirators can be used, or enclosed cabs.
- Applications with mechanically pressurized handguns and backpack sprayers are prohibited.
- Applicators must follow a 48-hour restricted entry interval for all crop uses except for cotton desiccation, which requires a seven-day restricted entry interval.

CONTINUED on pg 12 >>>

- Labels will include new language designed to limit spray drift, as well as new units of measurement.

To see the full decision, visit the EPA docket [HERE](#).

Use of paraquat, which is sold under brand names such as Gramaxone, Firestorm and Parazone, has increased steadily in the U.S. in the past decade, in response to the development of herbicide-resistant weeds. Applications rose from under 5 million pounds a year before 2013 to as high as 12 million pounds per year in 2017. Based on survey data from a research company called Kynetec USA, the highest use by acreage is in soybeans, cotton and corn, but producers also lean heavily on paraquat in grapes, pistachios and peanuts.

However, the chemical has also been the target of lawsuits and controversy, given its high toxicity, its role in poisoning accidents and research suggesting it might be linked to Parkinson's disease. Most recently, paraquat registrant Syngenta and a past manufacturer of the chemical, Chevron USA, are facing class-action lawsuits alleging that its use has caused Parkinson's disease in farmers. See more [HERE](#).

The herbicide is undergoing EPA's routine 15-year re-registration review, which the agency began back in 2012. In 2016, the agency instituted new rules on labeling, packaging and handling requirements aimed at reducing accidental poisonings. See more [HERE](#).

Environmental groups reacted with concern to EPA's finalized interim decision permitting aerial applications.

"It's extremely disappointing that the Biden EPA is reapproving this dangerous pesticide, which is outlawed across a lot of the world," Nathan Donley, environmental health science director at the Center for Biological Diversity, said in a news release. "Instead of banning a weed-killer linked

to Parkinson's disease in farmworkers, reproductive harm in small mammals and increased death rates for birds, this administration is bowing to the wishes of the chemical industry and allowing it to be sprayed on crops from the air."

Emily Unglesbee can be reached at [Emily.unglesbee@dtm.com](mailto:Emily.unglesbee@dtm.com)  
Follow her on Twitter @Emily\_Unglesbee  
(c) Copyright 2021 DTN, LLC. All rights reserved.

**Lee Van Wychen NOTE 1:** The cancellation of backpack sprayers and mechanically pressurized handguns **does NOT have an impact on the experimental use of paraquat** under an Experimental Use Permit or the 40 CFR 172.3(b) exemption. Labels for unregistered products distributed solely for experimental use and research purposes do not need EPA approval and can differ from registered products as appropriate for the experimental use.

**Lee Van Wychen NOTE 2:** After a thorough review of the best available science, **EPA has NOT found a clear link between paraquat exposure from labeled uses and adverse health outcomes such as Parkinson's disease and cancer.** EPA has evaluated hundreds of studies, including published toxicity and epidemiology literature on paraquat exposure and adverse health outcomes, including Parkinson's Disease. There are many studies on paraquat and Parkinson's Disease that range in quality and provide conflicting results. Following EPA's 2019 literature [review](#), a [2020 update](#) from the large and comprehensive Agricultural Health Study (AHS) was published that **reported NO association between paraquat exposure and Parkinson's Disease.** The AHS is considered the "Gold Standard" and has been tracking the health of tens of thousands of agricultural workers, farmers and their families in Iowa and North Carolina. Notably, the updated

AHS did not replicate [earlier 2011 findings from AHS](#) that were considered by EPA and suggested a potential association may exist.

## **PRODUCERS CAN NOW HAY, GRAZE AND CHOP COVER CROPS ANY TIME AND STILL RECEIVE FULL PREVENTED PLANTING PAYMENT**

Agricultural producers with crop insurance can hay, graze or chop cover crops for silage, haylage or baleage at any time and still receive 100% of the prevented planting payment. Previously, cover crops could only be hayed, grazed or chopped after November 1, otherwise the prevented planting payment was reduced by 65%.

USDA's Risk Management Agency (RMA) recognizes that cover crops are not planted as an agricultural commodity but rather with the primary purpose for conservation benefits. For the 2021 crop year and beyond, RMA will not consider a cover crop planted following a prevented planting claim to be a second crop. But RMA will continue to consider a cover crop harvested for grain or seed to be a second crop, and it remains subject to a reduction in the prevented planting indemnity in accordance with the policy. [Learn more.](#)

## **WEED SCIENCE SOCIETIES SUPPORT NEPA AND LACEY ACT FIXES FOR INVASIVE SPECIES**

The national and regional weed science societies supported letters that would improve invasive species management on two separate issues.

The [first letter](#) requests that the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) approve the Department of the Interior's request for a number of categorical exclusions under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) for

CONTINUED on pg 13 >>>

invasive species control. Without the ability to use categorical exclusions to promptly control invasive annual grasses after a fire on federal lands, those invasive grasses have spread rapidly while federal land managers have to go through the NEPA process, which has taken years in many cases, before those invasive grasses can be managed.

The [second letter](#) supports legislation, S. 626, in the Senate that would fix a flaw in the Lacey Act, which came

about through a federal court case, where the court interpreted that the US Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) could not regulate interstate commerce in injurious species, notwithstanding decades of generally accepted practice during which FWS had exercised that authority.

**NISAW 2022 IS FEB. 28 – MAR. 4**

The next National Invasive Species Awareness Week (NISAW) will be February 28 – March 4, 2022 and will

return to a single weeklong event and “fly-in” to Washington, DC. If you have topics or issues of concern, or would like to help plan next year’s NISAW, please let me know.

Lee Van Wychen, Ph.D.  
Executive Director of Science Policy  
National and Regional Weed Science  
Societies

[Lee.VanWychen@wssa.net](mailto:Lee.VanWychen@wssa.net)

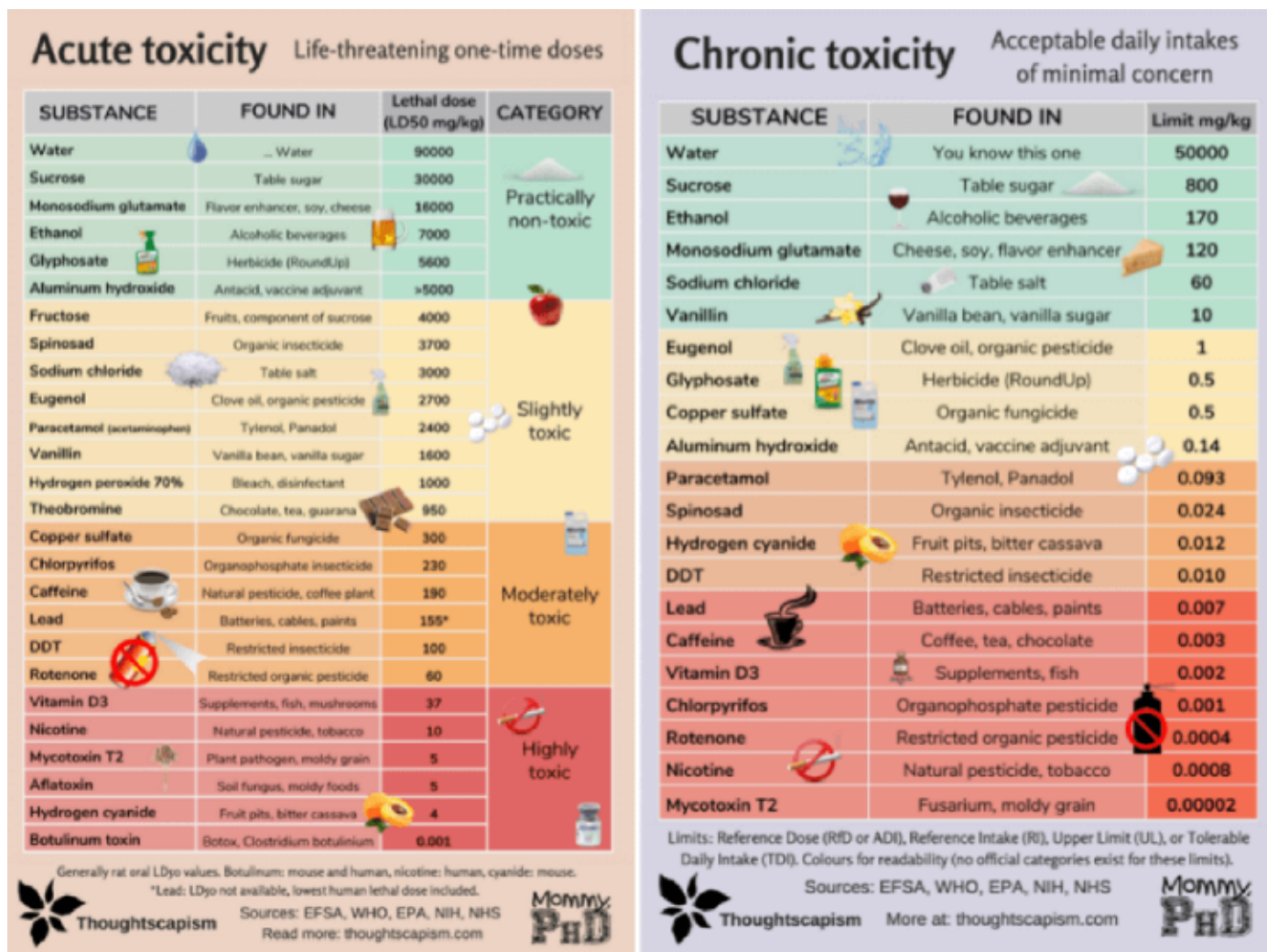
202-746-4686

**INFOGRAPHIC:**

**Does Glyphosate Cause Cancer? 18 of 19 Global Regulatory and Chemical Oversight Agencies Say ‘no’ While One Presents Equivocal Data**

By Genetic Literacy Project. September 13, 2021.

<https://geneticliteracyproject.org/2021/09/13/infographic-does-glyphosate-aka-roundup-cause-cancer-18-of-19-global-regulatory-and-chemical-oversight-agencies-say-no-while-one-presents-equivocal-data/>



## IMPORTANT CONTACTS

### **PRESIDENT**

Anita Dille  
Kansas State University  
dieleman@ksu.edu

### **PRESIDENT-ELECT**

Stanley Culpepper  
University of Georgia  
Stanley@uga.edu

### **VICE-PRESIDENT**

Carroll Mosely  
Syngenta  
carroll.mosely@syngenta.com

### **PAST-PRESIDENT**

Bill Curran  
Penn State University  
williamscurran@gmail.com

### **CONSTITUTION/MOPS**

John Lindquist  
University of Nebraska-Lincoln  
Jlindquist1@unl.edu

### **SECRETARY**

Lauren Lazaro  
Louisiana State University  
llazaro@agcenter.lsu.edu

### **TREASURER**

Greg Elmore  
Bayer Crop Science  
greg.elmore@bayer.com

### **MEMBERS AT LARGE**

Dawn Refsell  
Corteva  
dawn.refsell@corteva.com

Lynn Sosnoski  
Cornell University  
Lms438@cornell.edu

### **EXECUTIVE SECRETARY**

Eric Gustafson  
12110 N. Pecos St., Suite #220  
Westminster, CO 80234  
Telephone: (720) 977-7940  
info@wssa.net

### **DIRECTOR OF PUBLICATIONS**

Chris Willenborg  
University of Saskatchewan  
chris.willenborg@usask.ca

### **NEWSLETTER EDITOR**

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

### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF SCIENCE POLICY**

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

### **CAST REP**

Jill Schroeder  
New Mexico State University  
jischroe1@gmail.com

### **GRAD STUDENT REP**

Delaney Foster  
University of Tennessee, Knoxville  
Dfoste37@vols.utk.edu

### **NIFA FELLOW**

Jim Kells  
Michigan State University  
Department of Plant, Soil and  
Microbial Sciences  
kells@msu.edu

### **EPA LIAISON**

Mark VanGessel  
University of Delaware  
mjv@udel.edu

### **REGIONAL SOCIETY REPRESENTATIVES:**

#### **AQUATIC PLANT MANAGEMENT SOCIETY (APMS) REP**

Rob Richardson  
North Carolina State University  
rob\_richardson@ncsu.edu

#### **NEWSS REP**

Rakesh Chandran  
West Virginia University  
rschandran@mail.wvu.edu

#### **NCWSS REP**

Brett Miller  
Syngenta  
brett.miller@syngenta.com

#### **SWSS REP**

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

#### **WSWS REP**

Alan Helm  
Gowan  
ahelm@gowanco.com

#### **CWSS REP**

Francois Tardif  
University of Guelph  
ftardif@uoguelph.ca

#### **International Weed Science Society (IWSS)**

Samunder Singh  
president@iwss.info

---

# CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

---

| DATE                 | EVENT  | LOCATION                    | CONTACT  |
|----------------------|--|-----------------------------|--|
| December 13–16, 2021 | North Central Weed Science Society<br>Annual Meeting (NCWSS)   | Grand Rapids, Michigan      | <a href="http://www.ncwss.org">www.ncwss.org</a>   |
| January 3-6, 2022    | Northeastern Weed Science Society<br>Annual Meeting (NEWSS)  | Gettysburg, Pennsylvania    | <a href="http://www.newss.org">www.newss.org</a>   |
| January 23–27, 2022  | Southern Weed Science Society<br>Annual Meeting (SWSS)   | Austin, Texas               | <a href="http://www.swss.ws">www.swss.ws</a>   |
| February 21–24, 2022 | Weed Science Society of America (WSSA)<br>and Canadian Weed Science Society (CWSS)<br>Joint Annual Meeting | Vancouver, British Columbia | <a href="http://www.wssa.net">www.wssa.net</a> and<br><a href="http://www.weedscience.ca">www.weedscience.ca</a> |
| March 7–10, 2022     | Western Society of Weed Science<br>Annual Meeting (WSWS)   | Newport Beach, California   | <a href="http://www.wsweedscience.org">www.wsweedscience.org</a>   |

---

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

---

**Send Newsletter material to:**  
**Carl Libbey**  
**225 S. 10th Street**  
**Mount Vernon, WA 98274**  
**[newsletter@wssa.net](mailto:newsletter@wssa.net)**

## WSSA Contacts

**Interactive Management Incorporated (IMI)**  
**Eric Gustafson, Executive Secretary**  
**12110 N. Pecos St., Suite #220**  
**Westminster, CO 80234**  
**(720) 977-7940**  
**[info@wssa.net](mailto:info@wssa.net)**

**Cambridge University Press**  
**Andrea Giannini, Publishing Editor**  
**(212) 337-5080**  
**[agiannini@cambridge.org](mailto:agiannini@cambridge.org)**

**2022 Annual Meeting**  
**Stanley Culpepper**  
**President-Elect**  
**[stanley@uga.edu](mailto:stanley@uga.edu)**