

WSSA Liaison to EPA (Office of Pesticide Programs – OPP)
Interim Report to the WSSA Board of Directors – Quarter 2, 2010
Jill Schroeder
June 25, 2010

Schedule of second quarter visits:
June 7-10, 2010

Overview of Activities: I continue to visit the EPA-OPP headquarters one week approximately every other month. I have also had some email correspondence with EPA personnel during the quarter. In addition, I attended teleconferences for the Herbicide Resistance Education Committee (S 71), the S71 subcommittee working on the Herbicide resistance training module, and the Science Policy Committee. I have corresponded with John Jachetta and other officers as well as Lee Van Wychen during the quarter to keep them informed of my activities.

June 2010: I met with Dan Kenny and members of the Herbicide Branch on a number of topics. In addition, Kurt Getsinger, aquatics SME, and Harold Coble, USDA/OPMP were in DC for part of the week. I met with them and Lee Van Wychen and participated in a number of meetings discussing herbicide resistance, NPDES, and weed science funding. They provided me an opportunity to meet additional people at EPA, Crop Life, and USDA/OPMP.

Plans for Quarter 3:

August 2 through 4: I have invited EPA personnel from OPP/RD and BEAD and Office of Water, Lee Van Wychen, Kurt Getsinger and Harold Coble to attend a tour in New Mexico. I have confirmation that 5 people will attend and am waiting to hear back from others. We have not finalized the agenda for the tour but plan on including the following discussions related to NPDES and information about agriculture in NM:

Elephant Butte Irrigation District– How water is supplied from the Rio Grande through irrigation canals to agricultural producers and homeowners of Las Cruces. We will discuss water quality issues and vegetation management.

Visit with selected producers of specialty crops – chile pepper, onion, and or pecan
Salt cedar management issues (including how it is impacted by endangered species, etc.) on the riparian areas of the southern and middle Rio Grande (including a visit to see a brush control spray project with the BLM and the salt cedar management efforts at the Bosque del Apache,
<http://www.fws.gov/southwest/refuges/newmex/bosque/> San Antonio, NM)

Visit with Bonnie Rabe, NMDA Division Director Ag and Environmental Services, and colleagues

September 2010: I have been working with EPA colleagues to invite Bob Wolf, KSU, to present a seminar at OPP on spray drift reduction technologies. We have a tentative date set for the seminar and I will plan on that activity as part of my next visit to headquarters. Plans will be finalized over the next month.

Other activities: I plan to continue to work as part of the S71 committee on Herbicide Resistance Education. I also plan to attend the Herbicide Resistance Workshop that is being organized by the National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) in early August. This meeting is a follow up to the January 11 meeting that David Shaw and I attended to discuss impacts of herbicide resistant weeds on conservation compliance programs.

Respectfully submitted,
Jill Schroeder
WSSA SME/liaison to EPA