



## **2024-2025 WSSA Standing Committee Report**

**Committee Name and Code:** Extension Committee, W11

**Committee Chair:** Alyssa Essman (2027)

**Committee Members (includes sub-committee members):** Travis Legleiter (2026 NC), Tommy Butts (2026 NC), Joe Ikley (2028 NC), Thierry Besancon (2028 NE), Kurt Vollmer (2028 NE), Whitney Brim-DeForest (2026 W), Connor Webster (2026 S), Mike Marshall (2025 S), Jim Kells (Ex-Off NIFA Fellow), and Lee Van Wychen (Ex-Off EDS).

**Board of Directors Liaison:** Erin Burns

**Committee members rotating off:** Lynn Sosnoskie (2024 NE), Stephen Meyer (2024 NC), Scott Nolte (2024 S), Steve Li (2024 S), Charlie Cahoon (2024 S), Marcelo Moretti (2024 W)

**Recommended member replacements:** Ram Yadav (2028 NC), Debalin Sarangi (2028 NC)

### **Summary of past year's activities including:**

- *Committee charge per WSSA MOP (November 2024):*
  1. Consist of a Chair and a minimum of four other members, each appointed to a renewable three-year term. The Chair shall be appointed from current committee members. The Board Liaison is NCWSS representative.
  2. Maintain a current list of extension specialists working in weed science.
  3. Discuss current weed science issues and provide suggestions for symposia, public awareness, press releases, working groups, and other collaborations.
- *Committee goals:*
  - Communicate weed science information and provide expertise on current topics and events, serve as a resource for WSSA members and the broader agricultural community, and disseminate information internally within the WSSA community and to external stakeholders.
  - Update WSSA "Extension Weed Scientist Contacts" to reflect retirements and new hires.

- WSSA webpage: <https://wssa.net/us-map/>
  - Ensure regional representation of Extension Weed Scientists on the committee.
- *Committee accomplishments (Impact of committee activities/accomplishments on membership, publications, policy, education, other, etc.):*
  - Distributed timely communications from Dr. Lee Van Wychen and others with relevant information.
- WSSA funds requested if any?
  - N/A
- Current state of the committee's projects or activities?
  - The W11 Extension committee is generating ideas for events and deliverables including symposia, press releases, working groups and other collaborations, specifically with regard to the ESA and EPA regulatory changes.
  - Considering ways to improve activity of the committee internally, with other committees, and externally.
  - Collaborated on a primary communication list including all those involved in Extension weed science across the US.
- Any new information posted on the WSSA website?
  - Compiling updates to be made within the website to reflect the recent retirements and hires of Extension weed scientists across the US.

**Summary of plans for next year (changes in goals, key initiatives, plan of action, etc.):** The W11 Extension committee remains committed to keeping the Extension Weed Scientist Contacts webpage up to date (<https://wssa.net/us-map/>). The committee will continue to disseminate timely communications from Dr. Lee Van Wychen, WSSA leadership, and others with relevant information.

**Recommendations for Board or Membership action (funds<sup>1</sup> or other requests):** The W11 Extension continues to support the idea of a member survey to evaluate how this and other committees can better serve members and the agricultural community.