



2023 [E4 Invasive Plants Committee]

Committee Name and Code: E4 Noxious and Invasive Weeds and Biocontrol Committee

*Changed to E4 Invasive Plants Committee (approved by board)

Committee Chair: Jacob Barney

Committee Members: Jane Mangold, Ryan Wersal, Toni DiTommaso, Stephen Enloe, Mark Renz, Mohsen Mesgaran, Gray Turnage, Erik Lenhoff

Jim Kells, Lee Van Wychen, Paul Tseng – Ex-Off

Board of Directors Liaison: Michael Flessner

Committee Members Rotating Off: Mark Renz will move into the chair role

Recommended Replacements/ Additions: Sarah Ward is replacing Paul Tseng as TAG rep to this committee.

Committee Objectives: The objectives of this committee were changed in 2023, see next section below, which resulted in updated/modernized MOPs. These should provide better scope and input from this committee going forward.

Summary of past years activities including:

Goals for [year]:

Accomplishments since last Annual Meeting:

1. We worked with the WSSA website committee to update and modernize the invasive/noxious weed related content on the website, which had not been updated in quite some time.
2. Based on lengthy discussions among our committee we worked to update the name and MOPs of this committee (pasted below). This better reflects the current scope of the committee.
3. We discussed assisting NAISMA with the next National Invasive Species Awareness Week, but there did not seem to be opportunities for input at this time. They have webinars schedules for each day. We were pushing for some in person events, but they favored maintaining web only events. Partly for cost.

New MOP language:

The Invasive Plants Committee shall:

1. Consist of a Chair and a minimum of four other members, each appointed to a renewable three-year term. Committee membership should represent the regional and partner (e.g., APMS, CWSS) societies. A graduate student can serve a renewable one-year term. The Executive Director of Science Policy, the WSSA-NIFA Fellow, and the WSSA-APHIS TAG representative serve as ex officio members of the committee. The Board liaison is Member-at-Large 1.
2. Assist with National Invasive Species Awareness Week activities and make WSSA members aware of these activities.
3. Assimilate and share through appropriate channels (e.g., WSSA website, newsletter) information on:
 - a) The introduction, establishment, and spread of new invasive plants in North America;
 - b) The impact of invasive plants in natural and managed systems, including economic impacts;
 - c) Information on invasive plant control issues.
4. Assist Executive Director of Science Policy on invasive plant-related legislative issues, including on noxious weed and biological control.

Plans for next year (change in goal, key initiatives, plan of action, etc...):

We will make plans for the next year during our winter 2023/2024 meeting before the annual WSSA meeting. This will most likely involve focusing on the revised MOP duties.

Funds requested for next year with narrative: N/A

Recommendations for Board Action: None at the moment.