



2023-2024 WSSA Standing Committee Report

Committee Name and Code: Research Priorities - E6

Committee Chair: Ramon Leon

Committee Members (includes sub-committee members):

Erin Haramoto (NC), Jacob Barney (NE), Pratap Devkota (S), Steve Young (NE)

Board of Directors Liaison: Jim Kells, Lee Van Wychen

Committee members rotating off: None.

Recommended members to replace those rotating off:

Summary of past year's activities including:

- Committee goals: Update the survey about weed problems, research needs, and priorities based on the perceptions and opinions of USA weed scientists.

Committee accomplishments (impact of activities on membership, publications, policy, education, other, etc.): The survey was conducted successfully having 475 responses. An in-depth analysis was conducted and the results were presented in a Symposium during the 2023 WSSA Annual Meeting and published in *Weed Science*:

Brainard DC, Haramoto ER, **Leon RG**, Kells JJ, Van Wychen LR, Devkota P, Jugulam M, Barney JN (2023) A survey of weed research priorities: key findings and future directions. **Weed Science** 71:330–343. doi: 10.1017/wsc.2023.24

This survey and article provided an update of a previous survey published in 2009.

Davis AS, Hall JC, Jasieniuk M, Locke MA, Luschei EC, Mortensen DA, Riechers DE, Smith RG, Sterling TM, Westwood JH (2009) Weed science research and funding: a call to action. *Weed Sci* 57:442–448

The new information provided a clear view of the most important changes that have occurred in the discipline during the last decade. This information will be used for policy making, promoting an increase in funding for weed management, and develop curricula to include new technologies (e.g., genomics, robotics).

- WSSA funds requested if any? n/a
- Current state of the committee's projects or activities? Determination of new projects for the next three years build on the results of the latest survey.
- Any new information posted on the WSSA website? n/a

Summary of plans for next year (changes in goals, key initiatives, plan of action, etc.):

Goal: Based on the results of the study, identify a specific topic/priority, and develop a solution(s) strategy. For this purpose, several zoom meetings will be conducted. This project will likely take two years. This period will allow the participation of all committee members before they rotate off.

Recommendations for Board or Membership action: n/a