

Careers in Weed Science

Kevin B. Thorsness: Crop Protection Development Rep at Bayer CropScience

Primary duties

Provide technical guidance to local sales team, conduct field trials, collaborate with university researchers on field trials, train internal and external customers on Bayer products, etc.

How did you begin working in Weed Science?

I grew up on a farm and had an interest in biology. I liked working with people in a teaching setting and working with crops.

What do you love about your job?

I work with a lot of different individuals within Bayer and with external customers. Internal colleagues range from sales reps to global managers. External customers include farmers, consultants, university personnel, and retailers. I like hands on field training of internal employees and external customers. I get satisfaction from helping bring new products to the market.

What is exciting about the future of weed science?

It is a great profession where you actually get to participate in the process of feeding an ever-growing global population.

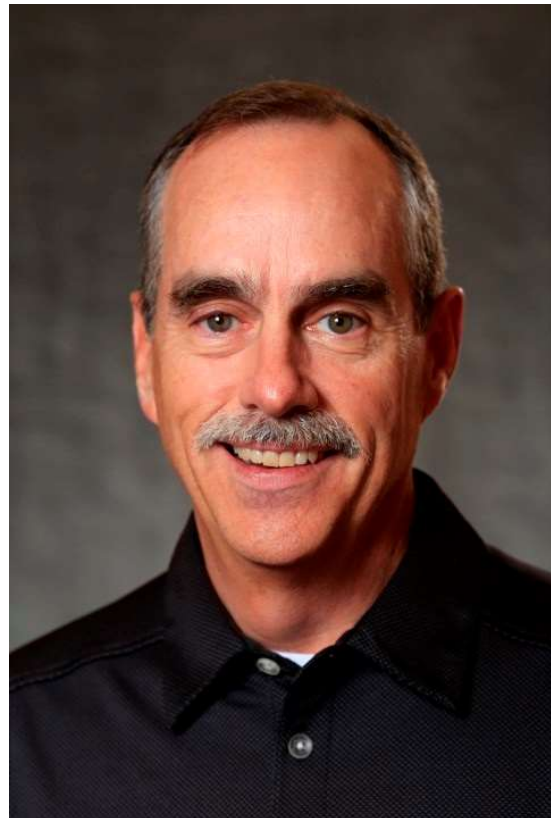
Imparting wisdom

When I was a student I didn't realize the scope of the agricultural industry. One tends to be very focused on their thesis project. So, it can be easy to lose sight of all the opportunities that exist in the agricultural industry.

The important things to remember.

Networking - Networking – Networking
and

Do not become discouraged - keep chasing the job you desire.



Education

PhD 1992 North Dakota State University

Involvement in Professional Societies

NCWSS since 1985 –

Chair of Cereal Oilseed Session (1996)

Chair of Necrology Committee (1997)

Chair of Industry Committee (2004)

Volunteer for Weed Contest (multiple times)

Amer. Soc. Sugar Beet Technologists since 1997 –

Secretary/Treasurer (2009-2011)

US Wheat Barley Scab Initiative since (2010) –

Steering Committee Inds. Rep (2013-present)

Other interests?

Family

Golf

Gardening

If you are interested to hear more about Kevin's story or ask any questions, you can email him at kevin.thorsness@bayer.com