



WSSA

WEED SCIENCE SOCIETY OF AMERICA

Newsletter



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I continue to be impressed with the enthusiasm, dedication, and volunteer spirit of WSSA members dedicated to enhance opportunities for members and broaden the impact of our discipline. I hope that all of you have made plans to attend the 2008 annual meeting scheduled for February 4 to 7 at the Chicago Hilton. Jeff Derr

and the Program Committee are putting together an excellent program for the meeting. Please see Jeff's contributions to this newsletter for highlights of the plans for the general session, symposia, and workshops on timely topics. Jeff has worked with the local arrangements committee chaired by Aaron Hager to take advantage of the opportunities offered by meeting in a dynamic city. Please remember that early registration (by December 1) allows you to save \$100 on pre-registration rates. The registration brochure is available on-line and by direct mail to members and contains all the details about registration and hotel accommodations.

The summer board meeting was busy, to say the least. The committees and projects put in place by Dale Shaner last summer are active and having impact on our society and in the public. Have you noticed that weed science topics are in the news and that our journals and society are being acknowledged? This is the result of efforts by the public relations committee chaired by Janis McFarland. The fact that our members are publishing the results of research on timely topics in our publications greatly helps our exposure as well. The public relations committee is working tirelessly to develop articles for release that are targeted to the general audience. Committee members are Janis McFarland (chair), Mike Chandler, Carol Mallory-Smith, Lee Van Wychen, John Jachetta, and Tony White. As of September 1 the following titles have been released: *Invasive Plants Threaten National Landscapes*, *Four Things You Need to Know about What Might be Lurking in Your Garden*, and *Wildfires: Fueling the Argument for Increased Invasive Weed Control*. The articles can be accessed by clicking on the Press Room section of the society web site, <http://www.wssa.net/WSSA/PressRoom/index.htm>. WSSA has contracted with Achieva, Inc. for an additional three months to continue to publish regular press releases. Please contact Janis or one of the committee members if you have topics to suggest or to volunteer your services to this effort.

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WSSA Newsletter Editor Change

I have been privileged to serve as your WSSA Newsletter Editor for the past 12 years. It has been a tremendous opportunity to get to know so many great people in our society, and see so many facets of this organization. However, with my stepping into the presidential succession, it's time to pass the newsletter torch on. Dr. Clifford "Trey" Koger of the Delta Research and Extension Center, Mississippi State University, will be assuming these responsibilities, effective with the January 2008 issue. I'm sure Trey will do an outstanding job, and continue to look for opportunities to better facilitate communications within our organization, and to others around the world. Please provide him the same support and cooperation that you have to me over the years. Trey's contact information is provided elsewhere in this newsletter.

Again, thanks to everyone for your friendship, your cooperation, and your support.

David Shaw

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The Professional Development Committee chaired by Tracy Sterling summarized the results of the member survey (developed by Chad Brommer) for the board at the summer meeting. The survey results were somewhat surprising to us but provided good feedback on activities we can provide to enhance professional development opportunities for society members. The results of the survey have also been shared with the membership committee (Mike Owen, chair) and the Graduate Student Organization (Wade Givens, President) for their comments and use. Please see Tracy's article in this newsletter for an update on the committee's activities and see the survey results posted on the web site. We appreciate all the work done by this committee but need to continue the efforts to incorporate their suggestions into the way we do business. Sarah Ward is the new committee chair and is working with Jeff Derr to begin to implement some of the recommendations at the 2008 meeting. Please contact Sarah to volunteer your services to this effort.

Steve Dewey has begun his tenure as the Weed Science Subject Matter Expert with EPA, commuting to Washington once a month to work at the agency. Lee Van Wychen continues to be a dynamic force in Washington working as the Director of Science Policy. Nelroy Jackson is extremely busy working on the program for the 2009 National Invasive Weed Awareness Week. Please see updates on all these activities in this newsletter. The Terminology Committee, chaired by Corey Ransom, agreed to take on the difficult assignment to develop definitions for terms used by us, the public, and policy makers to describe different classes of weedy plants (please see Lee Van Wychen's article in the July 2007 newsletter for a discussion of the issues). Please contact Corey or a member of his committee to volunteer your thoughts on the issue.

Publication activities are progressing at an amazing pace. The *Invasive Plant Science and Management Journal* with Joe DiTomaso as editor and Janet Clark as Program Manager will be published ahead of schedule! We are indebted to both of these individuals, to Vanelle Peterson who has championed this initiative since 2006, to the new journal committee co-chaired by Vanelle and Lars Anderson, to the members who volunteered to serve as associate editors, and to the scientists and land managers who have volunteered papers for the inaugural edition. We will have an opportunity to celebrate the publication of the first issue of this new journal at the annual meeting in Chicago. The ninth edition of the *Herbicide Handbook* will soon be available. Scott Senseman and his committee have completely revised and reformatted this handbook and the result is an excellent publication. Their efforts are greatly appreciated.

James V. Anderson was selected to succeed Michael Foley as Director of Publications effective at the close of the meeting in February. Mike has served the society for two terms and we appreciate all he has done for our publications. Please give James your full support as he begins his tenure in this critical position with the society. Neil Harker agreed to accept the position of editor of *Weed Technology* upon the death of John Wilcut. Neil will serve ably as the new editor. John will be remembered as a champion of our discipline and for his many contributions to the society as a member, scientist, author, and editor. Trey Koger will be taking over responsibilities as newsletter editor from David Shaw and Wun Chao was selected to serve as the next abstract editor succeeding Robert Kremer. I would like to thank all of these individuals for their service to the society.

The web site continues to evolve and improve thanks to the work of web master David Kruger, the web editor, Tom Fermanian, and the web site committee. The committee, chaired by Ed Luschei, continues to develop recommendations and procedures for organizing, updating, and monitoring content on the site. The web site is an important tool for providing information and news related to weed science to our members and the public. The site transformation began in 2005 when Carol Mallory-Smith appointed a special committee chaired by Jeff

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WSSA FUTURE MEETING SITES AND DATES

2008

Hilton Chicago

720 S. Michigan Ave.

Chicago, IL 60605

Tel: 1-312-922-4400

February 4-7, 2008

www.wssa.net

**Jeffrey Derr, Program
Chair**

2009

Orlando, FL

THINK NEWSLETTER

**Deadline for January issue
December 1, 2007**

**WSSA HOME PAGE
ACCESSED AT:**

www.wssa.net

WSSA NEWSLETTER

VOL. 35, NO. 4

OCTOBER, 2007

Published quarterly by the Weed Science Society of America. Subscription included in the annual dues paid by members of the Society. Address correspondence and information to:

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WSSA NEWSLETTER

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Derr to make recommendations for upgrading the web site, recognizing the need for a fully functional site as the center point for our organization. Their efforts need to be recognized along with the continuing contributions of the current web site committee.

Planning for the 2009 joint meeting with the Southern Weed Science Society in Orlando, Florida is underway. David Shaw (WSSA Vice-President) and Dan Reynolds (SWSS Vice-President) are working to offer an outstanding meeting program. Please watch for planning updates over the coming year. In addition, planning for the 2010 concurrent meeting with the Society of Range Management in Denver, Colorado is also underway. Rod Lym is chairing a joint planning committee to work out the meeting logistics between our two organizations. Both these meetings are a departure from our normal meeting process; we are optimistic that these efforts will enhance our ability to bring excellent programming and new ideas to our annual meeting.

Finally, the board held our second annual tactical planning session at the recent summer board meeting. The planning committee, Mike Barrett, John Jachetta, and Jill Schroeder, worked with our facilitator, Thomas Sullivan, to develop a process for evaluating the many projects underway in the society. The process we developed assesses the risks and rewards of proposed and ongoing projects using stage gates to determine whether the project furthers the goals of the society without causing undue stress on either our volunteer or financial resources. During the meeting, we evaluated several projects as 'test cases' to determine how well the process worked and spent time revising the questions we need to ask about projects as they move through stage gates from initiation to mature projects. We are currently providing

feedback to the champions of projects evaluated in our session and are revising the process so that it can be incorporated into the manual of operating procedures of the society. I will provide a complete report on the proposed process once it is finalized and before the next meeting.

In closing, I want to thank all of you for your work on behalf of our discipline and the society. I especially want to thank the members who have volunteered to serve on the board for their dedication and time. The board goes out of their way to work on society activities and to attend the summer and annual board meetings. The summer meeting was excellent; the board members are collegial and congenial. All members were prepared for the meeting and worked to streamline the meeting so that we could spend additional time discussing projects and issues. Board members may agree or disagree vigorously with each other during the meeting but everyone respects our final decisions as the consensus of the group. Thank you also to Lee Van Wychen and to Joyce Lancaster for all their work year round.

Finally, I want to ask you for your ideas and input. Please take the time to look at the website and provide content information to the web editor, the website committee chaired by Ed Luschei, or through our WSSA committees (maintenance committee assignments were outlined in the April 2007 newsletter). The web site will only be effective if it is maintained, and member input is critical to keeping the content current. In addition, please share your questions or suggestions about the society with me or other members of the board. We need your input.

Jill Schroeder
President
jischroe@nmsu.edu

SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS

For Students in Aquatic Plant Management

The Northeast Aquatic Plant Management Society (NEAPMS) announces the availability of scholarship funds and/or student stipends for college students focusing in the field of aquatic plant management.

Scholarships in the amount of \$5,000 are available to graduate students that are studying some aspect of aquatic plant management or algal management.

Student stipends up to \$5,000 are available for undergraduate students working on a project related to aquatic plant management.

For more information about the funding opportunities, application requirements, and deadlines, please visit the NEAPMS website at www.neapms.net <<http://www.neapms.net>>, and click on scholarships. Links to summaries of projects that have already received funding are also available at this site.

2008 ANNUAL MEETING UPDATE

Jeffrey Derr, Program Chair

Plans are progressing well for the 48th annual WSSA meeting in Chicago February 4-7, 2008. The host is the Hilton Chicago, 720 South Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, 60605. Tel: 1-312-922-4400.

Our keynote speaker will be Mr. Orion Samuelson, Agribusiness Director since 1960 for WGN radio in Chicago. His program is heard daily on 260 radio stations with his national farm report. See the bio on Mr. Samuelson in this newsletter.

A number of people are working with me on the program, resulting in a solid list of learning opportunities. Aaron Hager, local arrangements chair, and his committee have developed a tour of the Chicago Botanic Gardens for Sunday, February 3, 2008. Lori Wiles and David Shaw have developed a GIS workshop for Monday, February 4 and also have developed a symposium on the use of GIS for invasive species research. See details on the workshop later in this newsletter. Fred Salzman, working with the Horticultural Crops section, is developing a Vegetable Herbicide Roundtable discussion. Del Delfosse and his colleagues will host a USDA-ARS Weed Science workshop at the Hilton Chicago after the WSSA meeting. Although it will add a few extra days to your trip, please consider staying for, and participating in, this important review of the ARS weed science efforts.

Six symposia were chosen for the Chicago meeting. Two will address the invasive plant area and two will focus on glyphosate issues – resistance and complementary herbicides. One will focus on weed genomics and one will address publishing in WSSA journals as part of the graduate student program in Chicago. I would like to thank the organizers for putting together these excellent symposia.

1) **Title: Invasive Plant Species and the New Bioeconomy** – Organizers: Adam Davis, Dan Brainard and Eric Gallandt

2) **Title: GIS for Invasive Weed Management and Research** – Organizers: Lori Wiles, David Shaw, and Lisa Rew

3) **Title: Charting the Course for Weed Genomics** – Organizers: Patrick Tranel and Neal Stewart

4) **Title: The Role, Value, and Importance of Complementary Herbicides for Weed Management in Glyphosate-Tolerant Crops** – Organizers: D. R. Forney and David W. Saunders

5) **Title: Glyphosate Resistance Mechanisms: Current Understanding and New Insights** – Organizer: Vijay K. Nandula

6) **Tips and Tricks for Journal Writing: What Everyone Needs to Know for Preparing Submissions to WSSA Journals (Graduate Student Organization)** – Organizer: Wade Givens

CONDENSED SCHEDULE 48th Annual WSSA Meeting Hilton Chicago • February 4–7, 2008

Sunday, February 3, 2008

Tour of Chicago Botanic Garden
Board of Directors meeting

Monday, February 4, 2008

GIS workshop
Committee meetings
Board of Directors meeting
Exhibit and Poster setup
General session and awards presentation
Awards reception

Tuesday, February 5, 2008

Poster section
Breakout sessions
Symposium: Tips and Tricks for Journal Writing:
What Everyone Needs to Know for Preparing
Submissions to WSSA Journals
Graduate student luncheon/business meeting
*Symposium: GIS for Invasive Weed Management
and Research*

Wednesday, February 6, 2008

Poster section
Breakout sessions
Symposium: Glyphosate Resistance Mechanisms:
Current Understanding and New Insights
Roundtable discussion – Invasive Plant Science
and Management journal
*Symposium: The Role, Value, and Importance of
Complementary Herbicides for Weed
Management in Glyphosate-Tolerant Crops*
*Symposium: Invasive Plant Species and the New
Bioeconomy*
Society Business Meeting
Reception

Thursday, February 7, 2008

Symposium: Charting the Course for Weed Genomics
Breakout sessions
Vegetable Herbicide Roundtable

Friday, February 8, 2008

ARS Weed Science Workshop
Board of Directors meeting

Saturday February 9, 2008

ARS Weed Science Workshop

Sunday February 10, 2008

ARS Weed Science Workshop

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Keynote Speaker: Mr. Orion Samuelson

Orion Samuelson is heard six days a week on WGN Radio in Chicago, where he has served as Agribusiness Director since 1960. Orion and his associate, Max Armstrong, present 16 agricultural reports daily on the station. Orion is also heard daily on 260 radio stations with his syndicated National Farm Report and on 110 stations with his syndicated Samuelson Sez. Orion and Max are seen weekly on RFD-TV as co-hosts of This Week in Agri-Business.



Orion's life long commitment to agriculture has been recognized by organizations in all segments of agri-business. In 1998, the American Farm Bureau Federation honored Orion and Senator Bob Dole with the AFBF Distinguished Service Award. In 1997, Illinois Governor Jim Edgar renamed the State Fair Junior Livestock Building the Orion Samuelson Junior Livestock Building as a tribute to Orion's four decades of service to the agricultural youth of Illinois. In 2001 the University of Illinois conferred Orion with the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Letters; and in 2003, Orion received the highest award in the radio industry when he became the first Agribusiness Broadcaster to be inducted into the National Radio Broadcasters Hall of Fame. Hall of Famer Paul Harvey presented the award to Orion on the national radio broadcast hosted by Larry King.

Orion is also in the Illinois 4-H Hall of Fame, the National 4-H Hall of Fame, the Illinois Broadcasters Hall of Fame, the Scandinavian-American Hall of Fame, and the National Association of Farm Broadcasters Hall of Fame. Orion has traveled with his television crew to 43 countries to cover agriculture; four of his trips were official agricultural trade missions with the Secretary of Agriculture. During his 1989 trip to Taiwan, Orion was presented the International Communicator of the Year Award by the President of the Republic of China.

Orion is active outside broadcasting. He is Chairman of the Board of the Illinois Agricultural Leadership Foundation, a member of the Farm Foundation Bennett Round Table, a member of the Board of the Agriculture Future of America, a member of the Board of Farm Safety 4 Just Kids, a member of the Board of Directors of the Foods Resource Bank, a Trustee of the Cornerstone Foundation of Lutheran Social Services in Illinois and a newly-named member of the Board of Trustees of the National 4-H Council.

USDA-ARS Weed Science Workshop

Earnest 'Del' Delfosse and Barbara Zapp

The USDA - Agricultural Research Service (ARS) will hold a Weed Science Workshop at the Chicago Hilton from February 8-10, 2008, immediately following the WSSA Annual Meeting. This Workshop is part of the retrospective review of ARS National Program 304, "Crop Protection and Quarantine," of which weed science research is a major part. The purpose of this invitation-only Workshop is to gather customer input for the next five-year cycle of ARS research related to Weed Science. ARS will use information from this Workshop, along with other inputs, to prepare a new weed research plan that will cover the next five years.

WSSA Workshop – GIS for Weed Management and Research

Lori Wiles and David Shaw

Monday, February 4, 2008, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

Cost per attendee: \$100.00 (does not include lunch)

Preregistration required – see the meeting preregistration form. Workshop must have a minimum of 20 individuals.

Researchers, federal, state and county land managers and even citizen scientists are mapping infestations of invasive weeds with GIS. There are classes and manuals on how to map weed infestations, but little information on what can be learned from these maps with either simple or advanced methods of GIS, even though this is an essential tool for invasive weed management and research. This one day workshop will provide an introduction to the use of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and will focus on analysis and examples related to invasive weeds. Experienced instructors from the GeoResources Institute at Mississippi State University will lead the workshop. A related GIS symposium will follow during the WSSA meeting. The symposium will be an added introduction to GIS for scientists who are not familiar with this tool and an opportunity for WSSA members who use GIS to meet experts and learn new approaches. Check the WSSA website for more information about the workshop.

Workshop Details

GIS Overview

Basic overview and explanation on GIS concepts will be discussed to in order to give the audience a basic understanding in preparation for the topics to be covered during the symposium.

Web-Based Mapping for Plant Detection and Management

Web-based GIS enables the rapid dissemination of geographic data to a large audience. A plant database is being generated and coupled with a web-based GIS for this purpose. Project details will be discussed along with a demonstration.

Invasive Aquatic Mapping Using GPS and GIS

A cost effective and efficient method to survey large areas and collect large quantities of data on the distribution and abundance of aquatic macrophytes is to conduct a point intercept survey. We have refined the point intercept survey to include the use of ruggedized notebook computers and hand held units enabled with GPS capability. Techniques used and overview of project will be discussed and demonstrated.

GIS-Based Modeling for Prediction of Invasive Weeds

Geographic Information Systems [GIS] are well suited for studies involving habitat delineation or habitat suit-

ability indexing. A GIS model can be constructed which identifies areas of convergence for the environmental and ecological factors which provide desirable habitat for a species of interest. GIS models can be refined using logistic regression models and other statistical permutations to get a more "real world" view of species dynamics. GIS models can further be expanded by integrating them with existing models designed to look at biomass production and water quality. The case study presented here uses the ArcGIS suite of software with the ModelBuilder application to examine habitat modeling of Eurasian watermilfoil (*Myriophyllum spicatum*). This approach could be used on any species, however, for which models of colonization can be determined.

Spatio-Temporal Analysis of Multi-Year Weed Data

Techniques will be discussed and demonstrated that analyze multi-year weed data. The techniques demonstrated will give insight into the behavior of weed populations over time.

Attractions in the Chicago Area

If you have some free time during the annual meeting in Chicago, there are a lot of activities in the area. See the list below for some possibilities. I would like to thank Aaron Hager, local arrangements chair, and his committee: Dean Riechers, Pat Tranel, Dave Thomas, George Czapar, Dawn Nordby, Bryan Young, Jeff Bunting, Jerry Doll, Adam Davis, Mr. Paul Vassalotti, John Masiunas, Loyd Wax, and Matthew Foes for their assistance with this list. Information on the opera was provided by Dale Shaner.

— Activities Close to the Hotel —

- Adler Planetarium – 5 blocks
- Art Institute – 5 blocks
- Broadcast Museum – 9 blocks
- Chicago Symphony Center – 5 blocks
- Field Museum of Natural History – 3 blocks
- John G. Shedd Aquarium – 4 blocks
- Lyric Opera – 1.2 miles
- Magnificent Mile – 1.5 miles
- Museum of Contemporary Art – 1.8 miles
- Museum of Science and Industry – 5 miles
- Sears Tower – 8 blocks

John G. Shedd Aquarium

Shedd Aquarium has been a Chicago icon and a leader in the zoo and aquarium profession for more than three-quarters of a century. Arrive early — Shedd is a popular place, and it can get crowded, especially on weekends, in the summer and on holidays. Sunday mornings, when the aquarium is least crowded, are a great time for relaxed, family visits. John G. Shedd Aquarium, 1200 S. Lake Shore Drive, Chicago, IL 60605, Phone: 312-939-2438 <http://www.sheddaquarium.org/>

Lyric Opera

Lyric Opera of Chicago is recognized internationally as one of the great opera companies of our time. The company, originally known as The Lyric Theatre of Chicago was founded in 1954. There is an opera "Falstaff" on Wednesday night, February 6, 2008 at 7:30 pm. Their website is <http://www.lyricopera.org/> .

— Activities Near Chicago —

Argonne National Laboratory

Argonne is one of the U. S. government's oldest and largest science and engineering research laboratories — the largest in the Midwest. Argonne is managed for the U. S. Department of Energy by UChicago Argonne, LLC. Argonne has five major mission areas, each of which fulfills important governmental and Department of Energy

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ATTRACTIONS IN CHICAGO AREA CONTINUED from pg 6

responsibilities, as well as provides important benefits to our society at large. They are: Conducting basic scientific research to further our understanding of the world we live in. Argonne conducts basic experimental and theoretical scientific research in the physical, life, and environmental sciences, Operating national scientific facilities to help advance America's scientific leadership. Argonne operates world-class research facilities like the Advanced Photon Source, Enhancing the nation's energy resources to ensure America's energy future. Argonne is working to develop and evaluate advanced energy technologies, developing better ways to manage environmental problems. Argonne is at the forefront in developing new ways to manage and solve the nation's environmental problems and to promote environmental stewardship. National Security has increased in significance in recent years for the nation and for Argonne research. Argonne capabilities developed over the years for other purposes are helping counter the threats of terrorism. Argonne National Laboratory, 9700 S. Cass Avenue, Argonne, IL 60439, 630/252-2000, www.anl.gov/visiting/anlil.html.

Argonne National Laboratory occupies 1,500 wooded acres about 25 miles southwest of Chicago's Loop. The site also houses the U.S. Department of Energy's Chicago Operations Office. To reach Argonne from O'Hare International Airport, take I-294 south to I-55. Exit west on I-55 (toward St. Louis) and continue for about four miles to Cass Avenue. Exit south on Cass and turn right at the Argonne sign on Northgate Road, immediately south of I-55. Follow Northgate Road to the Argonne Information Center.

Argonne tours are by reservation only. Visitors to Argonne can schedule a guided tour by calling (630) 252-5562. Tours are normally arranged for Saturdays, either in the morning or afternoon. Morning tours begin at 9 a.m. and end by 11:30 a.m. Afternoon tours begin at 1 p.m. and end by 3:30 p.m. Visitors taking the tour must be at least 16 years old, but children of any age are welcome at the Argonne Information Center if accompanied by an adult. No registration is required to visit the information center, except for Internet and modern technology training in the center's learning lab. For more information on tours, call at 630/252-5562 or send e-mail to tours@anl.gov.

Ball Seed Company

Ball Seed Company is the leading wholesale horticultural distributor in North America. This family-owned company supplies professional greenhouse growers with quality flower seed, an extensive selection of premium plugs and plants, plus a line of high-performance growing equipment and supplies. Ball Seed Company, West Chicago, Illinois 60185 Phone: 630 231-3500, Fax: 630 231-3605 WWW.BallSeed.com

Orchids by Hausermann, Inc.

Hausermann, Inc. is one of the oldest and largest orchid growers in the Midwest. They offer a wide selection of *Cattleya* and *Phalaenopsis* Mericloned orchids, other orchid species, and related orchid hybrids as well as *Paphiopediliums* and *Phragmipediums*. Greenhouse tour hours are Monday through Saturday, 9:00 am to 5:00 pm and Sunday from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm. Their address and phone number is Orchids By Hausermann, 2N134 Addison Road, Villa Park, IL 60181-1191 phone 630/543-6855, email info@orchidsbyhausermann.com.

Orchids by Hausermann, Inc. is located 20 miles west of downtown Chicago in Villa Park. From Chicago, go west on 290 15 miles, then exit North Avenue – Route 64 (exit 13 B). Take North Avenue west 4 miles to Addison Road, then turn right (north) on Addison Road, two blocks to our orchid greenhouse on the west side of the street.

Spraying Systems Company

Spraying Systems Co. is the world's leader in spray technology. Spraying Systems Co. is the world's leading manufacturer of industrial spray products, offering more than 87,000 different spray nozzles and accessories. Nozzles are readily available in thousands of sizes, hundreds of configurations and dozens of materials. And, with 12 manufacturing facilities throughout North America, South America, Europe and Asia, we can quickly deliver to customers anywhere in the world. Spraying Systems Co., P.O. Box 7900, Wheaton, Illinois 60189-7900 USA. Phone (630) 665-5000, Fax (630) 260-0842, Email info@spray.com.

Spraying Systems Co. is easily accessible from either of the major Chicago airports or from the Loop. Please follow these directions and call our switchboard if you need assistance. From: Chicago O'Hare International Airport To: North Ave. and Schmale Rd., Carol Stream, IL Driving Distance: 18.6 miles Time: 32 minutes.

The Morton Arboretum

A visit to the 1,700-acre Arboretum can last a few hours or an entire day. Consider starting with a 60 minute introductory guided tour, historical perspective of the Arboretum, and highlights of our magnificent landscapes, featuring plant collections and current seasonal events. Hours: The Arboretum is open 365 days a year! 7 a.m. year-round and will close at 7 p.m. or sunset, whichever is earlier. Admission Fees: \$9 ages 18–64 (\$6 Wednesdays, \$8 ages 65+ (\$5 Wednesdays), \$6 ages 3–17 (\$4 Wednesdays), Free under age 3. Located 25 miles west of Chicago, The Morton Arboretum is just west of Interstate 355 and north of I-88 on Illinois Route 53. Address: 4100 Illinois Route 53 · Lisle, IL 60532-1293, phone 630-968-0074.

Wilson Nurseries

Wilson Nurseries is a large wholesale grower of nurs-

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ATTRACTIONS IN CHICAGO AREA CONTINUED from pg 7

ery stock in Northern Illinois. They grow a full line of B&B and container material (shade and ornamental trees, deciduous shrubs, upright and spreading evergreens, broadleaf evergreens, vines, groundcovers, grasses, perennials, liners, and garden mums). With **two locations**, Hampshire and Ingleside, Wilson Nurseries has the performance capacity to meet the needs of the individual residential contractor as well as the large commercial project coordinator. Nestled quietly among the native stands of oaks in the Northern Illinois countryside, the Hampshire location supports field and containerized nursery stock, perennials, garden mums, vines and groundcovers, a fully stocked distribution yard and our main office. You are invited to tour our nursery. Please call the location of your choice for an appointment. No time? Take our online tour to get a better idea of what we have to offer. Hampshire location: phone 847/683-3700; Ingleside location: phone 815/344-0944.

The Chicago Botanic Garden

The Chicago Botanic Garden is a 385-acre living plant museum featuring 23 distinct display gardens surrounded by lakes, as well as a prairie and woodlands. With events, programs and activities for all ages, the Garden is

open every day of the year, except Dec. 25. Admission is free; select event fees apply. Parking is \$15; free for members. On Tuesdays, senior citizens age 62 and older pay just \$7 for parking. The Garden is located at 1000 Lake Cook Road in Glencoe, Ill. Visit www.chicagobotanic.org, or call (847) 835-5440 for seasonal hours, images of the Garden and commuter transportation information. The Chicago Botanic Garden is easy to find and easy to reach, approximately 20 miles north of Chicago. The Garden is located at 1000 Lake Cook Road in Glencoe, Illinois. From Chicago, follow the Kennedy Expressway (I-90/94) west to Edens Expressway (I-94) and U.S. Route 41. Exit at Lake Cook Road and travel 1/2 mile east to the Garden. The Garden is located near the Glencoe and Braeside Metra train stations on Metra's Union Pacific North Line. For a schedule of trains, contact Metra Metropolitan Rail at (312) 322-6777 or www.metrarail.com. Bus connections are available from Davis Street in Evanston, Park Avenue Glencoe and Central Street Highland Park train stations. Take the #213 bus marked "Northbrook Court." Buses run north and south on Green Bay Road and then west on Lake Cook Road to the Chicago Botanic Garden. Buses do not run on Sundays and holidays.

Just in time for fall quarter!

The newly revised and updated classic reference,

Ecology of Weeds and Invasive Plants: Relationship to Agriculture and Natural Resource Management

Third Edition

by S. R. Radosevich, J. S. Holt, and C. M. Ghera

was released in August 2007 and is now available for purchase from John Wiley for \$74.95.

To link directly to the publisher:

<http://www.wiley.com/WileyCDA/WileyTitle/productCd-0471767794.html>

The Third Edition of the authoritative reference gives readers an in-depth understanding of how weeds and invasive plants develop and interact in the environment so they can manage and control them more effectively. The guide includes an introduction to weeds and invasive plants in various environments and an overview of their ecology and evolution. With extensive examples, it:

- Focuses on the biological features of weeds and invasive plants, especially as they exist in agriculture, forests, rangelands, and natural ecosystems
- Includes coverage of exotic invasive plants
- Discusses a variety of methods and tools for manag-

ing weeds and invasive plants, including physical, cultural, biological, and chemical approaches

- Examines systems approaches for management, including modern Integrated Pest Management
- Addresses future challenges for scientists, farmers, and land managers

This is the definitive, hands-on reference for land managers and professionals in plant sciences, agronomy, weed science, and horticulture. It is also an excellent textbook for senior undergraduate or graduate students studying agriculture, ecology, natural resources management, environmental management, or related fields.

Report from the WSSA Professional Development Committee

In August 2006, Dale Shaner formed an ad-hoc committee of industry, government, and university representatives across the U. S. and Canada to investigate how WSSA might better serve its members in the area of professional development. During Fall 2006, the committee reviewed what other societies are doing in the area of professional development and recommended to the board that WSSA expand the array of learning experiences for members both at the meeting and through the web with specific attention in the areas of networking, mentoring, career development and on-line resources. At the San Antonio meeting, Chad Brommer put together several creative posters showing the various careers in Weed Science, and John Willis, Chair of the Graduate Student Organization, worked with the web editor to videotape and post the Graduate Student Symposium on interviewing at the WSSA web site. We hope to continue to work with the Web Editor to post additional highlights from our national meetings.

This spring, the committee posted a survey to the membership asking your input on Professional Develop-

ment needs. Survey results support the need for WSSA to provide career and professional development programming with greater emphasis being placed on the development of new research skills and networking. Please find a summary of survey results in this newsletter or go to the WSSA website (<http://wssa.net/WSSA/SocietyInfo/BallotsSurveys.htm>) for the entire survey results. I want to thank Chad Brommer, Emory University, for his tireless efforts in creating and posting the survey. It is through volunteers like Chad that our society will continue to improve and better serve all of us.

The committee continues to work with Program Chair, Jeffrey Derr, to offer additional networking opportunities at the 2008 Chicago meeting and future forums. Please let us know if you have an interest in serving on the committee or additional ideas which will enhance WSSA's service to its members. I am delighted to announce that Sarah Ward, Colorado State University, has agreed to serve as this next year's chair; she has many great ideas and has already started working with Jeff on next year's program. It has been a pleas-

ure serving as chair this past year with such a diverse and committed group; the success of WSSA truly rests in the willingness of its members to contribute and move the society forward as our discipline continues to change.

Respectfully submitted,
Professional Development
Committee Chair
Tracy M. Sterling
New Mexico State University

Members:

Randy Anderson
Greg Armel
Hugh Beckie
Chad Brommer
Doug Doohan
Michael Fidanza
Dave Horvath
Dawn Nordby
J. Pablo Morales Payan
Curtis Rainbolt
Tracy Sterling, Chair, 2006–2007
Neal Stewart
Donn Thill
Rene Van Acker
Sarah Ward, Chair, 2007–2008
John Willis, Graduate Student Rep.

Weed Science Society Professional Development Survey Summary – June 2007

Objective: To obtain feedback from the WSSA membership to determine if WSSA Society is supporting its membership in the areas of career and professional development.

Summary: There were 301 respondents to the survey which is a response rate of ca. 20%; 27 graduate students responded for a response rate of ca. 30%. Each regional society and career position was represented in the responses. There were few significant gender or age differences with respect to survey responses. Most respondents had been members of WSSA for 11 or more years and have held between 1–3 positions in their career. Survey results support the need for WSSA to provide career and professional development programming with greater emphasis being placed on the development of new research skills and networking. Specifically, most respondents felt that on-line resources for career development were not important for their career advancement; however, they felt annual meetings, journals, and job announcement opportunities provided by WSSA were helping advance their careers. A majority of the respondents would consider a new career opportunity if given the opportunity, and thus

would like to continue to enhance their networking and job application skills; most respondents felt that learning new research skills was important to career development. Overall, respondents were more willing to act as mentors than they were to be mentored. Most respondents were in the undecided range about their desired level of participation in career forums, but felt that networking was the strongest career development need area. Developing professional skills was viewed as being moderately important to career development. Most respondents felt that the annual meeting was somewhat or slightly important to developing their careers. Data from each survey question is summarized by response groups at the WSSA website (<http://wssa.net/WSSA/SocietyInfo/BallotsSurveys.htm>). Individual comments and prevalent themes are also presented.

The committee is working with the board and WSSA members to use this information for advancing the membership offerings by the society.

Submitted by:
Chad Brommer, Emory University
Tracy M. Sterling, New Mexico State University

Weeds Across Borders (WAB) is a biennial international conference covering the interests of professionals and organizations involved in weed management and regulation.

It is composed of an affiliation of organizations from various jurisdictions across North America with a common interest in sharing information and promoting weed management throughout North America. Because weeds do not obey human imposed laws or boundaries, we must develop partnerships, share information, coordinate programs and projects that cross these boundaries.

The goal of the conference is to provide a forum for educating, sharing and disseminating knowledge about weed management, regulatory issues and concerns about weed dispersal across and between all jurisdictional boundaries in Mexico, Canada and the United States.

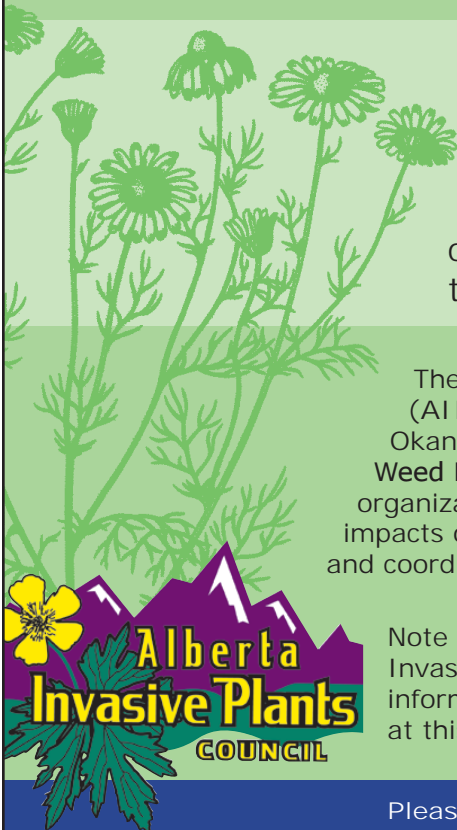


The 2008 WAB conference will be held in Banff, Alberta, Canada from May 27-30 to continue to raise awareness of the ecological, economic and social impacts of invasive species throughout North America. Continued continental cooperation across traditional boundaries will encourage the prevention and control of non-native plants.

The conference will be hosted by the Alberta Invasive Plants Council (AIPC) with major partnership of the U.S. Federal Highway Administration, Okanogan County Noxious Weed Control Board and the North American Weed Management Association (NAWMA). The AIPC is a non-profit organization whose mandate is to increase education and awareness about the impacts of invasive plants in Alberta and to facilitate and encourage cooperation and coordination on weed management within and adjacent to Alberta.

Note that the WAB 2008 web pages will be established at the Alberta Invasive Plants Council web site at www.invasiveplants.ab.ca. All the information you will need for registration, travel and accommodation will be at this site and will begin to appear soon.

Please pass this announcement on to anyone who might be interested.



The Call for Papers information is listed on page 11 on this Newsletter!

Weeds Across Borders 2008

Call for Papers

Abstract acceptance deadline: January 25, 2008

Notification date: February 15, 2008

Event date: May 27-30, 2008

The Weeds Across Borders Organizing committee is now accepting oral and poster presentation abstracts. This is an international conference covering the interests of professionals and organizations involved in weed management and regulation. The purpose of the conference is to help promote awareness of the ecological, economic and social impacts of invasive species throughout North America. Continued continental cooperation across traditional boundaries will encourage the prevention and control of non-native plants.

Oral presentation topics for which papers are being solicited are listed below.

Please submit abstracts in English – no later than January 25, 2008 – to Karen Sundquist at aipc.coordinator@gmail.com. You will be contacted by February 15, 2008 if your presentation has been accepted.

Poster abstracts are not restricted to this outline. Posters may be provided on any topic related to invasive plant management.

Note: ALL ACCEPTED PAPERS MUST BE COMPLETED AND SUBMITTED IN THEIR ENTIRETY BY MAY 2, 2008 TO BE INCLUDED IN PROCEEDINGS.

WAB 2008 Agenda outline:

- **STATUS REPORT PER NATION: CONTINENTAL COOPERATION and PARTNERSHIPS**
- **APPLIED RESEARCH REPORTS**
- **NEW ISSUES**
- **EARLY DETECTION RAPID RESONSE**
- **BEST MANAGEMENT TOOLS & PRACTICES**
- **ECONOMIC and ECOLOGICAL IMPACTS – TODAY & IN THE FUTURE**
- **PUBLIC POLICY AND PUBLIC AWARENESS**
- **OPEN DISCUSSION FORUM**

WASHINGTON REPORT

by Lee Van Wychen, Director of Science Policy

WEED SCIENTISTS: APPLY FOR 1 OF OVER 100 AAAS FELLOWSHIPS

The American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) solicits candidates from a broad array of disciplinary backgrounds to apply for a year-long Science and Technology Policy Fellowship in Washington, DC. Fellows come from a range of sectors, including academia, industry, and non-profits, and represent a spectrum of career stages from recent PhD graduates to faculty on sabbatical, to retired scientists and engineers. The age range of the 2006 Fellows class was 26 to 66. The AAAS also serves as the "umbrella" organization for other scientific societies that sponsor a Fellow, such as the American Society of Agronomy.

The AAAS Fellowship program is a great opportunity to work closely with federal decision-makers in agencies such as the USDA, EPA and the National Science Foundation among others. Fellows receive a stipend of up to \$87,000 for the year. Relocation expenses of up to \$3500 are also provided. The deadline for applications for the 2008-2009 Fellowship class is December 20, 2007. For more information, please visit:

<http://fellowships.aaas.org>

2007 FARM BILL PASSED BY HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The House of Representatives passed the 2007 Farm Bill (H.R. 2419) by a vote of 231-191. The Senate will mark up their version of the 2007 Farm Bill when they return to Washington, DC after Labor Day. The 2002 Farm Bill expires on September 30, 2007.

The House Farm Bill vote was unusually partisan (instead of geographically divided) due to a last minute move by Democrats to find money to pay for the bill's nutrition programs. Democrats said the funds would come from closing tax loop-

holes that allowed foreign companies in the United States to shelter their earnings in tax havens. Republicans called the move a tax increase that would cost American jobs. The White House has threatened a possible veto of the bill because of the tax provision and because of the level of farm subsidy payments. The final House vote of 231-191 fell far short of the margin that would be needed to override a veto, but many things could change with the Senate version of the Farm Bill and the final conference agreement between both chambers.

Despite the partisan wrangling, there are some good proposed changes in the House version of the Farm Bill that will benefit our discipline:

- \$1.6 billion in priorities to strengthen and support the fruit and vegetable industry in the United States. A new section for Horticulture and Organic Agriculture includes nutrition, research, pest management and trade promotion programs.
- Making important new investments in renewable energy research, development and production in rural America. While the Energy Title (Section 9) does not exclusively prohibit the planting of known invasive plants for biomass production, Section 9008 (g)5(C) states that the Secretaries of Agriculture and Energy shall only support biofuels research that is "consistent with the integrity of soil and water resources and with other environmental considerations."
- Amends certain conservation programs to improve awareness and financial assistance to land managers who focus on pest management practices. Some of these changes include:
 - Allowing producers to conduct prescribed grazing for the control of invasive species on Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) lands.

- Providing flexible assistance to producers enrolled in the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) to install and maintain conservation practices that: A) enhance soil, water, and related natural resources, including grazing land, forestland, wetland, and wildlife; and B) conserve energy.
- Assisting producers in EQIP to make beneficial, cost effective changes to cropping systems, grazing management, energy use, forest management, pest or irrigation management, or other practices on agricultural and forested land including control of invasive species.
- Establishes a new National Agriculture Research Program Office (NARPO) composed of 6 Program Offices, each led by a Director appointed by the Under Secretary for Research, Education and Economics, currently Dr. Gale Buchanan. The purpose of NARPO is to coordinate the programs and activities of USDA's research agencies "in an integrated, multi-disciplinary, interdisciplinary, interagency, and interinstitutional manner" to minimize duplication and maximize coordination at all levels.
 - The 6 Program Office are:
 - (1) Renewable energy, natural resources, and environment ;
 - (2) Food safety, nutrition, and health;
 - (3) Plant health and production;
 - (4) Animal health and production and animal products;
 - (5) Agriculture systems and technology; and
 - (6) Agriculture economics and rural communities.
 - The Under Secretary shall fund each Program Office through the appropriations available to the various agencies within the research, education and economics mission area. The aggregate staff for all Program Offices shall

CONTINUED on pg 13 ➤➤

not exceed 30 full-time equivalent positions and shall be filled by current full-time equivalent positions.

- The Under Secretary shall integrate leadership functions of the national program staff of the research agencies (i.e. CSREES, ARS, ERS) into NARPO to ensure that the Directors of the Program Offices are the primary program leaders for the mission areas of the integrated agencies and that administrative duplication does not occur.

HOUSE FY2008 AG APPROPRIATIONS BILL LEAVES MUCH TO BE DESIRED

Rep. Rosa L. DeLauro (D-CT) is the new chair of the House Agriculture Appropriations Subcommittee. While there is still hope that she will comprehend the value of agricultural research and extension, her subcommittee's FY2008 Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration Appropriations Bill left much to be desired. While her funding priorities such as food stamps and nutrition programs were not unexpected, it seems clear that we need to convince her and her staff about the importance of agricultural research. Independent studies have shown that the average social **rate of return** to public investment in **agricultural research ranges from 35 to 53 percent**. Agricultural research investments will influence agricultural productivity in as few as 2 years and the impact will be felt for as long as 30 years. These returns are shared by all levels of the industry, from producers to consumers.

In the House-passed Agriculture Appropriations Bill on August 3, USDA-ARS would receive \$1.1 billion, a **decrease of \$52 million** below FY2007. USDA-CSREES would receive \$671 million, the same as FY2007. Within USDA-CSREES, the National Research Initiative (NRI) would get \$190 million, the same as FY2007. The NRI, authorized at \$500 million annually, has been slowly increasing over the past 6 years, at

least keeping pace with inflation. We will definitely lose ground if the House Agriculture Appropriations Subcommittee flat lines the NRI.

Meanwhile, the Food Stamp Program is provided at \$39.8 billion, an **increase of \$1.7 billion** over 2007. The House ag appropriations bill rejects the Administration's proposal to restrict eligibility for food stamps to families who are receiving other public nutrition services. The Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) program gets \$5.6 billion, which is **\$415.6 million above** FY2007. I don't want to sound like a heartless Science Policy Director, but it begs the question of whether a \$2 billion increase in food stamp and nutrition programs will provide the same social benefits and returns to the American people compared to reducing or flat lining agriculture research programs.

EXECUTIVE BRANCH RELEASES FY2009 R&D PRIORITIES

On 16 August, the White House's Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) and Office of Management and Budget (OMB) released the annual memorandum identifying research and development (R&D) priorities for the federal government. The memo, which is sent to the heads of executive branch agencies and departments, details what programs the Administration intends to prioritize during fiscal year (FY) 2009. To read the full report, please visit: http://www.ostp.gov/html/FY2009_FINALOMB-OSTPRDPriorityMemo.pdf

The American Competitiveness Initiative (ACI) remains a focal point for the administration, as the President has begun work to double research budgets for the National Science Foundation, the Department of Energy's Office of Science, and the Department of Commerce's National Institute of Standards and Technology.

The Administration favors R&D investments that: 1) Advance fundamental scientific discovery to improve future quality of life; 2) Support high-leverage basic research to spur technological innovation, eco-

nomics competitiveness and new job growth; 3) Strengthen science, mathematics and engineering education based on the recommendations of the Academic Competitiveness Council and the National Math Panel to ensure a scientifically literate population and a supply of qualified technical personnel commensurate with national need; 4) Enable potentially high-payoff activities that require a Federal presence to attain long-term national goals, especially national security, energy independence, and a next-generation air transportation system; 5) Sustain specifically authorized agency missions and user facilities that support the authorized missions of other agencies; 6) Enhance the health of our Nation's people to reduce the burden of illness and increase productivity while respecting the inherent dignity and value of every human life; 7) Improve our ability to understand and respond to climate change and other global environmental issues and natural disasters through better observation, data, analysis, models, and basic and social science research; 8) Maximize the efficiency and effectiveness of the science and technology enterprise through expansion of competitive, merit-based peer-review processes; 9) Phase out programs that are only marginally productive or are not important to an agency's mission; and, 10) Encourage interdisciplinary research efforts on complex scientific frontiers and strengthen international partnerships to accelerate the progress of science across borders.

Understanding Complex Biological Systems: The memorandum directs agencies to target research on a deeper understanding of complex biological systems through multi-disciplinary collaborations aimed at developing new and improved measurement and management tools to provide valid data that can be compared across laboratories and platforms. Agencies should concentrate research at 1) the cellular and sub-cellular, and the organism, population, and community levels; and 2) the

CONTINUED on pg 14 >>

interface of the life, physical and computational sciences.

The Administration highlighted the importance of **global earth observations** and their supporting role in various areas of research. Agencies need to place a greater emphasis on coordinating their Earth observation activities. To ensure coordinated, long-term collection of critical land imaging data, agencies should respond to the recommendations of the Future of Land Imaging report in their budget requests. The full 120 page report can be found at: <http://www.ostp.gov/html/FLI-IWG%20report%20Print-ready%20low-res.pdf>

EXECUTIVE ORDER 13443: FACILITATION OF HUNTING HERITAGE AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION

On August 16, President Bush issued Executive Order 13443. The purpose of this order is to direct Federal agencies that have programs and activities that have a measurable effect on public land management, outdoor recreation, and wildlife management, including the Department of the Interior and the Department of Agriculture, to facilitate the expansion and enhancement of hunting opportunities and the management of game species and their habitat. To view the full Executive Order as printed in the Federal Registrar, please visit:

<http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2007/07-4115.htm>

To advance the goals of the Executive Order, President Bush is calling for a White House Conference to convene within the year to focus specifically on North American wildlife policy. Of relevance to weed and invasive plant management, federal agencies are directed to:

- 1) Manage wildlife habitats on public lands in a manner that expands and enhances hunting opportunities; and
- 2) Work collaboratively with State governments to manage and conserve game species and their habitats in a manner that respects private property rights and State management authority over wildlife resources.

Nearly **700 million acres of public lands** are managed by the departments of the Interior and Agriculture, which is approximately 1/3 of the total land area in the United States (2.1 billion acres). And according to the latest figures released by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, more than 12 million hunters spend a total of 225 million days pursuing their game, spending an estimated \$23 billion annually on hunting activities.

NEW INVASIVE SPECIES MANAGEMENT BILL INTRODUCED IN SENATE: 100TH MERIDIAN INVASIVE SPECIES STATE REVOLVING LOAN FUND (S. 1949)

On August 2, Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid (D-NV) along with co-sponsors Wyden (D-OR), Domenici (R-NM) and Craig (R-ID) introduced the 100th Meridian Invasive Species State Revolving Loan Fund bill. S. 1949 was referred to the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, led by Senator's Bingaman and Domenici, both from New Mexico. S. 1949 defines an invasive species as a nonnative species introduced into a specified ecosystem, whether intentional or unintentional, which causes, or may cause,

harm to the economy, the environment, or human, animal, or plant health.

S. 1949 directs the Secretary of the Interior to provide loans to any combination of public or private stakeholders; Federal agencies; Indian tribes; state land, forest, or fish and wildlife management agencies; and academic institutions in the 13 most western states (NM, CO, WY, MT, ID, UT, AZ, NV, CA, OR, WA, AK, and HI) that demonstrate an effort to address or prevent invasive species. In general, 1) at least 25% of the loan must be repaid directly to the U. S. Treasury Department or through in-kind contributions by each qualified organization; and 2) at least 25% of the loan must be repaid by the state in which the project is carried out. S. 1949 authorizes a federal appropriation of \$410 million, in total, over 5 years (2008 to 2012).

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Regarding: Reviewer questions

5th International WEED SCIENCE CONGRESS

weeds—local problems
global challenge

photo credit: Tourism Vancouver; aerial of Vancouver



Vancouver,
British Columbia,
Canada

June 23-27, 2008



NEWS News

Annual Meeting:

The theme for the January 7–10, 2008 meeting in Philadelphia, PA will be “The effect of climate change on weeds.” Tuesday starts with the Poster Session followed by the general session, which will include the traditional Presidential Address and a keynote address to introduce the Climate Change topics, which will then be followed by the Awards Luncheon. The rest of the day will focus on specific presentations given by the climate change symposia speakers. Included will be Dr. Cameron Wake, from the University of New Hampshire Climate Change Research Center, who has given talks on Indicators of Climate Change in the Northeast over the Past 100 Years and Dr. Lewis Ziska, from the USDA-ARS in Beltsville, who has been quoted recently in Newsweek on his work on climate change impacts on weeds and who has just published a paper in the July–August issue of *Weed Science* on the effect of CO₂ on the toxicity of poison ivy. There will also be a Graduate Student Mixer in the evening on Tuesday. The remainder of the program will be somewhat different from past programs because this year all of the Graduate Student Contest papers will be put together in one session, which will take place on Wednesday. The remainder of the day will begin the concurrent sessions to be followed by the Business meeting and social mixer on Wednesday evening. Concurrent sessions will continue on Thursday and a Turfgrass symposium is scheduled for Thursday afternoon.

Weed Contest:

The 2007 NEWS Weed Contest was held in Blacksburg, VA at Virginia Tech’s main campus on July 31, 2007. A total of 45 graduate and undergraduate students participated from six universities. The universities represented at the contest were North Carolina State, Virginia Tech, Penn State, Cornell, Guelph, and Nova Scotia Ag College. Students participated in four contest segments including weed identification, unknown herbicide identification, sprayer calibration, and farmer problems. Shawn Askew of Virginia Tech organized the overall contest event while most of the planning, purchasing, preparing, and worrying was done by his assistant, Julie Keating. The contest has been described by students as “challenging.” The goal of the contest was to include “real-world” scenarios and make the contest fun and educational. Some examples of “real-world” scenarios include the

stomach contents containing common pokeweed berries for the Weed Identification event and the goat farmer problem. An additional event was offered this year; a long putt competition was established in close proximity to the herbicide ID plots. Students were allowed to attempt a 55 foot putt in competition for an I Pod Shuffle. The winner, at 11 inches from the cup, was Craig Reid from Guelph. As always, the contest could not be hosted were it not for the contributions of volunteers.

The overall results were as follows:

GRADUATE DIVISION:

1st place team: North Carolina State University #1
(Juliana Buckelew, Adam Hixson, George Place, Jared Whitaker)

2nd place team: Virginia Tech
(Nathan O’Berry, Mike Weeks)

3rd place team: Guelph
(David Van Dam, Daryl Vermey, Allan Kaastra)

1st place individual: George Place
North Carolina State University

2nd place individual: Virender Kumar
Cornell University

3rd place individual: Jared Whitaker
North Carolina State University

UNDERGRADUATE DIVISION:

1st place team: Guelph #4
(Craig Reid, Jeff Hyatt, Scott Snowe)

2nd place team: Guelph #1
(William Judge, Joel Hemingway, Adam Pfeffer)

3rd place team: Guelph #2
(Margaret Caldecott, Kelly O’Connor, Lisa Dirksen)

1st place individual: Craig Reid – Guelph #4

2nd place individual: Kelly O’Connor – Guelph #2

3rd place individual: Adam Pfeffer Guelph #1

See our website (www.newss.org) for our recent newsletter and for additional details and happening throughout the NEWS.

Dwight Lingenfelter
NEWS Public Relations

BIOPESTICIDE GRANTS FOR 2008



REQUEST FOR GRANT PROPOSALS

The IR-4 Biopesticide Research Program announces a request for grant proposals for funding of efficacy research in 2008. IR-4 is especially interested in proposals containing biopesticides as resistance management tools, rotated with conventional products. While resistance management is an important interest, the proposal must still have a majority focus on biopesticides.

Project proposals will be accepted in Early, Advanced and Demonstration stage categories. The total amount of funding available will be around \$400,000. Most successful grants have generally ranged from \$5,000 to \$25,000.

The primary objective of the IR-4 Biopesticide Research Program is to further the development and registration of biopesticides for use in pest management systems for specialty crops or for minor uses on major crops. **Proposals will be due November 12, 2007.**

GRANT PROCEDURE AND APPLICATION

For questions about proposal format and content, contact:

Michael Braverman, PhD
Biopesticide Program Manager
IR-4 Project
Rutgers University
500 College Road East, Suite 201 W
Princeton, New Jersey 08540
Tel: (732) 932-9575 ext. 4610
FAX: (609) 514-2612
Email: braverman@aesop.rutgers.edu

An electronic copy of the Biopesticide Grant Proposal Form is available at the following site:
www.ir4.rutgeres.edu/
(listed under Call for Proposals).

PEOPLE & PLACES IN THE NEWS

Greg Armell has accepted a tenure-track Assistant professor position in Horticultural Weed Management in the Department of Plant Sciences at the University of Tennessee. Greg will begin work on October 1, 2007, and he will be located in Knoxville, Tennessee. His appointment is 75% Extension, 25% research with state-wide responsibilities. Greg has a PhD from Virginia Tech University and was previously with Dupont.



THINK NEWSLETTER

Deadline for January issue
December 1, 2007

SEND NEWSLETTER MATERIAL TO:

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NECROLOGY

JOHN WILLIAM WILCUT

John William Wilcut, 52, passed away August 24, 2007 at his home after a valiant battle with adrenal cancer. His wife, Cathy Worley Wilcut of Apex, and children Jared, of Raleigh and Caitlyn (Caity) of Apex survive John. He was the son of Pete and Irene Wilcut (Missouri). His father preceded him in death.

Surviving siblings include his brother, Kerry Wilcut and wife, Debbie (Marion, IL), James Wilcut and wife, Daphne (St. Louis, MO), and sister, Kim Amodio and husband, Angelo (Wayneboro, MO). Surviving also are several nephews and nieces.

John was born in Farmington, MO and grew up in Missouri and Illinois. He was an avid St. Louis Cardinal fan. He received his BS and MS degrees at Eastern Illinois University. He then went to Auburn University to receive his Doctorate in Weed Science. The Auburn Tigers were added to his list of favorite teams.

John worked at research stations at Virginia Tech University and The University of Georgia. His desire to be on a main campus to teach and work with students led him to North Carolina State University, where he was a Professor in the Crop Science Department. He dedicated his life to being a mentor to other weed scientists and helping farmers find weed control solutions to maximize crop yields. He was nationally and internationally recognized for his contributions to Agriculture and Weed Science, but his greatest satisfaction came from working with students as they embarked on their careers. He had many more sons and daughters than listed here.

He was strongly devoted to his family, and his first priority was to take care of each of them in the best way he could. He was a thoughtful, romantic man who cherished his wife and children. His impact is profound and he will be sorely missed.

The family received friends from 6:00–8:00 p.m. Tuesday, August 28, 2007 at the Apex Funeral Home, 550 W. Williams St., Apex, NC 27502.

A memorial service was held Wednesday, 3:00 p.m., August 29, 2007 at Olive Chapel Baptist Church, 600 New Hill Olive Chapel Rd., Apex, NC 27502. All were welcomed to stay after and share a meal and fellowship at the church to celebrate John's life.

In lieu of flowers, please make memorials in the memory of John to: American Cancer Society, RFL of Cary/Apex/Morrisville, 8300 Health Park, Suite 10, Raleigh, NC 27615. Online condolences may be made at www.apexfuneral.com.



POSITION ANNOUNCEMENTS

ASSISTANT/ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF AGRONOMY: WEED SCIENCE CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY

Tenure Track, 9 month appointment. Department of Plant Science, California State University, Fresno. Vacancy 08TAG003 AY 2008/09 Appointment level and salary commensurate with experience.

Teaching responsibilities: 12 units per semester (undergrad./grad.) with option to reduce via research funding. Assigned time may also be available for farm activities and/or research.

An earned PhD in Agronomy with specialization in weed science or a related discipline is required for appointment to a tenure track position. The successful candidate will normally teach upper division courses in weed science and pesticides and could include courses in crop production and a general education course.

For more details contact Dr. Sharon Benes, Committee Chair, Dept. of Plant Science, California State University, Fresno, 2415 E. San

Ramon Avenue M/S AS 72, Fresno, CA 93740-8033 at 559-278-2255, email: sbenes@csufresno.edu, or refer to: www.csufresno.edu/aps/vacancy/ag_sci_tech.shtml. To ensure full consideration, send letter of intent, application, cv, three current letters of reference, and graduate transcripts by 11/1/07. Open until filled.



SENIOR USER SERVICES CONSULTANT, JOHNSTON, IA

The successful applicant will work closely with research clients and software development professionals to implement and support appropriate information management solutions for groups involved in technology licensing, product approvals, patenting, research material movement, and regulatory compliance and clearance. This person will be expected to perform as a team member to provide production software support and training to clients. Duties include desktop support; implementation and support of third party software;

testing, training, and support for in-house developed software; and developing adhoc reports from relational databases.

Additionally, this position is expected to lead small software development and implementation projects. Successful applicant is expected to attain credibility with clients and develop an understanding of their processes and needs in order to suggest appropriate information management solutions.

Education Qualifications Desired: Bachelor's degree in Agronomic sciences, molecular biology, genetics or related scientific field with demonstrated experience using information management tools. Or Bachelor's degree in management information systems, computer science or related field with demonstrated experience and working knowledge of molecular biology and agronomics.

Ideal candidate will have at minimum four years experience working in above disciplines or a Master's degree in those areas. Additional knowledge of plant breeding, agribusiness or biotechnology preferred.

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CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	CONTACT
October 7-12, 2007	EWRS Conference: "Novel and Sustainable Weed Management in Arid and Semi-Arid Agro-Ecosystems"	Rehovot, Israel	http://www.agri.huji.ac.il/aridconference
December 10-13, 2007	NCWSS Annual Meeting	St. Louis, Missouri	http://www.ncwss.org/
January 7-10, 2008	NEWSS Annual Meeting	Sheraton Society Hill Philadelphia, Pennsylvania	www.newss.org http://www.newss.org/
January 28-31, 2008	SWSS Annual Meeting	Jacksonville, Florida	www.swss.ws
February 4-7, 2008	WSSA Annual Meeting	Chicago, Illinois	www.wssa.net/
May 27-30, 2008	2008 Weeds Across Borders Conference	Banff, Alberta, Canada	Karen Sundquist, Program Coordinator Alberta Invasive Plants Council P. O. Box 79066, 926 Ash Street Sherwood Park, AB T8A 2G1 Tel: 780-417-1382 www.invasiveplants.ab.ca aipc.coordinator@gmail.com
June 23-27, 2008	5th International Weed Science Congress	Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada	Albert J. Fischer, IWSS Secretary-Treasurer Dept. of Plant Sciences Mail Stop 4 University of California One Shields Avenue Davis, CA 95616-8780 Tel: 530-752-7386 Fax: 530-752-4606 Email: ajfischer@ucdavis.edu http://iws.ucdavis.edu/
July 13-16, 2008	Aquatic Plant Management Society, Inc. 48th Annual Meeting	The Mills House Hotel Charleston, SC	Mark Heilman, APMS Secretary Email: markh@sepro.com
September 21-25, 2008	International Allelopathy Society Triennial World Congress on Allelopathy (the 5th)	Saratoga Springs, NY	www.iascongress5.org
December 8-11, 2008	NCWSS Annual Meeting	Indianapolis, Indiana	http://www.ncwss.org/