

**NEWSS Year End Report
2012**



Submitted by the Executive Committee
For the 67th Annual Meeting
February 6, 2013
Hilton Baltimore
Baltimore, MD

President's Report – Antonio DiTommaso

The 66th Annual Meeting held in Philadelphia, PA at the Hyatt Regency at Penn's Landing, January 3-6, 2012 was very successful. Attendance was higher than the past two years and within the average of the previous five years. Our Past President, Mark VanGessel, did a masterful job in securing a different hotel for our meeting once we learned that renovations to our scheduled hotel would not be completed in time just one week and a half prior to the start of our annual meeting. Again, this year we met jointly with the Northeastern section of the American Society of Horticultural Science (NE-ASHS) who actively participated in the General Sessions and workshops. The theme of the meeting was "*Weed Science Funding: New Avenues for a Changing Landscape*". We had two excellent workshops, one titled "Moving Beyond Rotating Modes of Action: Advancing the Concept and Application of Integrated Weed Management" and the second symposium –was a mini-symposium focused on our current understanding of the distribution, ecology, and management of the invasive swallow-wort vines.

At the 2012 annual meeting, the NEWSS membership also approved the splitting of the Treasurer and Secretary positions, the latter of which will be renamed the "Membership Chair" position. The membership also voted to adopt a new logo for our society (see front page of this report).

Award recipients at the 2012 annual meeting were:

Ronald Ritter, Award of Merit
Timothy Dutt, Fellow Award
Sherrilynn Novak, Service Recognition Award

Robert D. Sweet Outstanding Graduate Student Award:
Matthew A. Cutulle (Ph.D.)
Jose Javier Vargas (M.S.)

Graduate Student Presentation Awards went to: K. Averill (First place) and D. Tekiela (Second place). The Graduate Poster Awards went to: B. Crockett (First place) and K. Venner (Second place). Photo Contest winners were J. Vargas (First place), M. Bravo (Second place), and J. D'Appollonio (Third place).

New members to the Executive Committee joining in 2012 were Greg Armel as Vice President, Javier Vargas, Public Relations; and Erin Hitchner as our incoming Treasurer who worked closely with Melissa Bravo during the year, prior to assuming full responsibility for the position. During 2012, we also welcomed Keith Burnell in the newly created position of Membership Chair and Bryan Dillehay as Research and Education Coordinator.

NEWSS continued to be on a sound financial footing thanks to the hard work of Melissa Bravo and Mark VanGessel and the entire membership. Once again, John O'Barr did an excellent job in soliciting support from our sustaining members. Hotel rates and registration rates for the 2012 meeting were at the same levels as in 2008.

The 2013 NEWSS annual meeting will be held as a joint meeting with the Weed Science Society of America (WSSA) in Baltimore, MD at the Hilton Baltimore Hotel from February 4-7, 2013. Our President-Elect, Dwight Lingenfelter, has worked closely with WSSA program Chair, Jim Kells, to develop a strong and varied program.

The 2012 NEWSS Collegiate Weed Contest was held on July 25 at Rutgers' University Clifford E. and Melda C. Snyder Research and Extension Farm facility in Pittstown, NJ. John Grande and his entire staff and volunteers did a masterful job in assuring a successful contest. More than 65 graduate and undergraduate students from 7 institutions from as far north as Canada (Guelph), and south, as North Carolina competed in this year's contest. Institutions represented at the contest included Cornell Univ., North Carolina State Univ., Ohio State Univ., Penn State Univ., Univ. of Kentucky, Virginia Tech, and Univ. of Guelph.

The Executive Committee met briefly in January at the annual meeting and had three phone conferences, one in January as a summary of the 2012 annual meeting, one in March and again in November. The November phone conference meeting replaced the customary October meeting at the upcoming meeting hotel location since the WSSA was responsible for all hotel related tasks for the joint 2013 NEWSS/WSSA meeting. The Executive Committee also met in July at the NEWSS Collegiate Weed Contest location in New Jersey. Committee Lists were updated and posted to the NEWSS website. Changes were made to the Manual of Operating Procedures. No resolutions were brought by the Resolutions Committee in 2012.

The Executive Committee unanimously approved pursuing the establishment of a NEWSS Endowment that had been proposed by the NEWSS Past Presidents including Renee Keese,

Jeff Derr and Hilary Sandler. This endowment would support future educational endeavors of the society including graduate student support. The President created an ad-hoc committee to determine what would be needed to establish this foundation including objectives, goals and oversight of the foundation. Greg Armel agreed to Chair this ad-hoc committee which included Melissa Bravo, Jeff Derr, Erin Hitchner, Renee Keese, John O'Barr, and Hilary Sandler. The establishment of a NEWSS Endowment and its associated committee was put to an electronic vote of the membership in December 2012 and by an overwhelming majority of 98% the NEWSS membership elected to establish a NEWSS Endowment. The ad-hoc committee will update the membership on their progress toward implementing their plan for the Endowment at the NEWSS Annual Business Meeting on February 6, 2013.

I have truly enjoyed the opportunity to serve as your President during this past year. I have learned much from all of you and have been impressed with the level of passion and commitment that you all have for our society. I want to specifically recognize Darren Lycan who will be rotating off the committee as Editor and will be replaced by Art Gover and Melissa Bravo who will rotate off the committee as the Treasurer/Secretary after her excellent years of service. I would also like to thank John Willis for his service as Research and Education coordinator and Javier Vargas as Public Relations representative. Finally, I would like to thank Mark VanGessel for his service and the wisdom he provided as Past President.

President Elect's Report – Dwight Lingenfelter

2012 Misc. Activities

- I worked with the other Executive team members to populate the 2012 Committee List
- Assisted T. DiTommaso and M. Bravo with developing a budget
- Generally, assisted the President, when necessary, with various activities throughout the year
- I have been serving as the NEWSS representative on the WSSA Public Awareness Committee for the past several years; involvement requires routine conference calls, technical input and editing of monthly press articles

2013 Co-Program Chair for Joint Meeting

- I routinely communicated with Jim Kells, WSSA Pres-elect, about logistics for 2013 joint meeting (ie, overall program, special needs of NEWSS, student paper and poster contest, committee meeting rooms, etc.)
- Also, I was in communication with Joyce Lancaster, WSSA Executive Secretary and Kate Counter, WSSA Meeting Coordinator about various meeting issues
- 24 student oral presentations will comprise the NEWSS speaking contest during the annual meeting; 13 students will be in the NEWSS poster contest

- Details about this were conveyed to the students in newsletters, emails and the like, so to provide updates on logistics
- Otherwise all of our sessions, committee and business meetings, and Past Presidents breakfast will fit into the standard WSSA program
- Overall, it has been a pleasure working with WSSA on this event

2014 Annual Meeting Venue

- I made two hotel site visits, both in Philadelphia: Sheraton Society Hill and Hyatt Regency
- We have recently held our annual meeting at both locations
- After consideration and discussion with the site selection committee, I am in final negotiations with Sheraton Society Hill, and plan to have a contract signed before the joint meeting in Baltimore
- Sheraton Society Hill had lower room and parking rates, is located closer to restaurants and other attractions, and in general seems more willing to work with our needs for future meetings; however, Hyatt was competitive and should be considered if we decide to return to the Philadelphia area
- NE-ASHS wants to join us for a joint meeting again in 2014; I am working with them as we prepare for the meeting

Secretary's Report – Melissa Bravo

Banking information: Signatories on the bank accounts are primary* -Melissa Bravo, secondary-Antonio DiTommaso, third-Dwight Lingenfelter and fourth Erin Hitchner. Due to increasing bank security precautions it will be necessary for outgoing EC board members to update the signatory cards immediately after the annual business meeting. The NEWSS also has a limited daily total transaction use (\$1,000.00) mac card issued to the primary holder of the account (*the Treasurer*). Please note that this bank charges a \$15.00 foreign (Canadian and Euro) check processing fee unless the check is drawn on a United States Bank or received as a money order in American dollars and a \$5.00 fee for cashier's checks and \$12.00 fee to void or cancel a check. *As the EC treasurer position rotates off the bank signatory cards, accounts, post office box will be changed to Erin Hitchner, effective February 15, 2013. Change of address forms, letterhead and updating EC OFFICER information with insurance policies, tax exempt forms and DUNNS number will need to be made.

Insurance: The Society holds a Dishonesty Bond Insurance Policy with Fingar Insurance of New York for the E.C Board. This policy is current and remains in effect through February 16, 2013. The policy renewal has been sent to Fingar Insurance. At this time the Society does not hold a Liability Policy. Instead, single event (Weed Contest, NIVM short course) liability policies were purchased when requested by the Event Facility. Therefore, any event that requires NEWSS be bonded for liability must be sent to the Secretary 6

months prior to the event in order to acquire a Liability Policy (*e.g. as done for NIVM in 2008 and 2009*).

Standing Orders: Current year and archived *Proceedings* continue to be received by Irene T. Bradley and shipped from Cornell University. Past proceedings are also scanned and archived on the web.

Web site: Updates and maintenance continues to be provided by Rob Dickerson at Penn State University. EC members worked with Rob to post the updated EC Contacts, annual meeting registration links and other society information.



New Logo: The winning logo contest image has been incorporated into the EC letterhead and awards. Updates to the website, banner and other promotional materials will continue through 2013.

Office Equipment: A laptop, colored printer/copier and zip drives, and virus protection were purchased in 2012 and will be kept and maintained by the current Treasurer. Items will be brought to the annual meeting for registration and event office support needs.

Weed Contest: Fees for this year's contest were paid to Rutgers University for hosting the event, First Student Bus Garage for transportation for students, the event banquet hall fee and event awards. The total event costs came to \$11,154.26. Monies received by NEWSS for the Contest were \$6,500 from Sustaining Platinum and Gold members for year 2012; \$2,000 from sustaining members that carried over from year 2011; and \$1,000 from an un-deposited sustaining check from year 2007 that was reissued to us this summer. The remaining balance (\$1,654.26) was provided by the EC on behalf of the membership at large. The fees were paid from checking and it was not necessary to cash out the Weed Contest CD that matured in August of 2012 renewed (3/23/2014) but at a very low interest rate (.30000% AIR). The EC voted in July to increase this reserve to a total of \$15,000.00. This reserve is meant to cover Weed Contest expenses over and above the annual contributions received from our Platinum and Gold level industry sustaining members who sponsor the event.

Joint Annual meeting: Registration fees and forms were approved by the EC and posted to the website in November. WSSA was approved to accept and process our annual meeting registrations and dues through their website and the WSSA will send a check to the NEWSS after the event (less expenses). Purchase of proceedings will be available at the annual meeting NEWSS information desk and on line at ACTEVA from January 18th through February 15th. Proceedings will be shipped in March this year.

Hotel Tax Exempt Form: The NEWSS currently has a valid tax exempt certificate for PA (expires 2-2015); MA (expires 10-2018); MD (expires 9-30-2017).

Membership update: As of November 2012, there are 300 **members-at-large** in the Updated Directory (2010-2012 Meeting Attendees) and additional contacts in the NEWSS Listserv who do not consider themselves regular members of the society. Members-at-large who have not been active in the society in the past 3 years are removed from the printed directory if not registered at the next annual meeting, or if they have not paid member dues only (\$50.00) for the current fiscal year, or have since passed away.

NEWSS Annual Meeting	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012*
Distinguished/Fellow	11	4	12	11	11	8	11	2
Dues only	Data not available				6	12	11	9
Invited Speakers	Data not available	3	3	5	3	7	7	5
Regular Members	200	139	148	119	132	91	104	110
Retired or Retired and Distinguished/Fellow	7	5	4	1	3	3	3	6
Student members	50	23	19	21	32	19	21	29
Sustaining Companies	Data not available	16	22	22	13	16	21	17
Symposiums and Workshops	172	22	39	14	76	0	18	20
TOTAL	314	212	247	193	276	156	196	197**
Proceedings Distributed	118	> 116	79	65	75	50	78	117
Standing Order Sales	50	50	50	50	50	50	55	46

*51% of our 2012 meeting registrations were processed through ACTEVA and paid additional for ACTEVA fees.

** 66% of our at large members (Membership Directory 2010-2012) attended or sponsored the annual meeting in 2012; conversely, 34% of our at large membership did not pay dues or registration fee in 2012.

Vice-President's Report – Greg Armel

By an overwhelming majority the NEWSS membership (97.6%) voted to support the initiation of an NEWSS endowment fund and corresponding oversight committee. Seed money for this endeavor will be provided from any small remaining funds (after spending on necessary appropriations) generated from our joint meeting with the WSSA. The rest of the start-up funds for this endowment will need to come from generous donations of our membership. This endowment will take several years to fully establish however it is our goal for our endowment to provide some small but visible support following our first year of establishment. Our endowment committee including myself, Renee Keese, Jeff Derr, John O'Barr, Melissa Bravo, Hilary Sandler, and Erin Hitchner will spend the next year petitioning the membership to financially support this new endeavor. Following our year of service in its establishment, the endowment committee will be annually chaired by the current Vice-President of the society with the remaining committee members being the three most recent Past Presidents, the Treasurer, and one member at large appointed by the current President. The oversight committee's responsibility (with advice and consent

by the board) is to raise money, invest donations, and advocate for expenditures of surplus funds in the endowment for support of student programs. It shall be noted that the endowment will be set up as a non-profit entity that will follow all legal guidelines established for such organizations and will remain a function of the NEWSS and will not act outside of the oversight of the NEWSS board. It is our hope that this new established endowment will set the foundation for future support for student programs for our society.

In addition as we approach our 2014 meeting, we are always in need of great ideas and insights for workshops and symposia. If you have any topics of interest, or just some general ideas about the meeting please let me know (gregory.armel@basf.com) so we can organize a productive educational event. Also for our 2015 meeting, I would like to take the NEWSS to a new venue either in or outside of our current geography. Be on the lookout for a survey where I will ask you to vote for your favorite venues for the meeting. Your vote matters greatly so stay tuned.

Past-President' Report – Mark VanGessel

The Secretary/Treasurer position was split based on vote at the 2012 NEWSS business meeting. The ByLaws were amended to reflect this change. Several changes were made in the MOPs around splitting the Secretary/Treasurers responsibilities to the Treasurer and Membership Committee.

The minutes from the 2011 Executive Committee meetings, annual business meeting, financial statements, newsletters, and other relevant publications were sent to the archives (Dan Kunkel) at the IR-4 Project Headquarters archive room in NJ. Information on the new NEWSS logo and the split of the Secretary/Treasurer position was also included.

EC voted to rename the Service Recognition award, the M. Garry Schnappinger-Service Recognition Award. The Awards Committee consisted of Mark VanGessel as chair, Hilary Sandler, Dave Yarborough, Jerry Baron, and Renee Keese. Nominations were received for Fellow, Award of Merit, Outstanding Researcher, Outstanding Educator, Service Recognition, and Graduate Student (both MS and PhD). Plaques were ordered for all award winners with the updated NEWSS logo and font. The Awards program is being held during the opening session of the NEWSS/WSSA joint meeting. WSSA is publishing the Awards Brochure with bio's for all award winners.

The Past-Presidents' Breakfast is scheduled for Wednesday February 6, 2013 at the Joint meeting.

Editor's Report – Darren Lycan

Titles and abstracts were submitted via the WSSA submission website for the joint 2013 annual meeting of the NEWSS and the WSSA. Program booklets contained information for

both societies for the fully integrated joint meeting and were prepared by the WSSA. Only abstracts that were submitted by NEWSS members and other NEWSS information is included in the 2013 NEWSS Proceedings. There were 45 NEWSS titles submitted for Posters and 93 NEWSS titles submitted for Oral presentations. Due to the delayed submission deadlines for the 2013 joint meeting, printed Proceedings will not be available at the meeting in February, but will be mailed to those who order a copy after the meeting. The cover of the 2013 Proceedings will feature the winning photo from the 2012 NEWSS photo contest: henbit (*Lamium amplexicaule*) taken by Javier Vargas of the University of Tennessee. At the time of this report, the final version of the Proceedings has not been submitted to Omnipress for printing. Likewise, ordering is still active so a final count and cost of printing has not been determined. This specific information will be included in a subsequent Editor's report.

Sustaining Membership Report – John O’Barr

A request for Sustaining Membership was sent to all current sustaining members and prospective new members in fall 2012. We have received commitments from 19 organizations for 2013. This is an increase of one organization from 2012 as well as an increase in sustaining revenue of \$250 over year.

The 2013 Sustaining Membership breakdown is as follows: 2-Platinum, 6-Gold, 5-Silver, and 6-Bronze confirmed for a total commitment of \$15,000.

2013 NEWSS Sustaining Members

Organization	2013 Level
BASF Corporation	Platinum
Syngenta	Platinum
Bayer Crop Sciences	Gold
Dow AgroSciences, LLC	Gold
United Phosphorus, Inc.	Gold
FMC Corporation	Gold
Monsanto	Gold
Valent	Gold
PBI Gordon	Silver

OHP	Silver
BAAR Scientific	Silver
For-Sure Weed Control, Inc.	Silver
DuPont	Silver
ACDS Research	Bronze
Gylling Data Management	Bronze
TeeJet® Technologies	Bronze
Crop Management Strategies (CMS)	Bronze
WEEDS, Inc.	Bronze
LABServices	Bronze

2013 Sustaining Members will be recognized at the 2013 annual meeting and at the 2013 collegiate weed contest. No organization has yet requested a commercial display table for the 2013 annual meeting in Baltimore.

I would like to personally thank each sustaining member for their generous support of the Society.

WSSA Representative Report – Jacob Barney

- The 52nd annual meeting was held in Kona, Hawaii.
- NEWSS is joint hosting the 2013 meeting with WSSA in Baltimore, MD – Jim Kells is organizer
 - Scott Glenn is serving as social arrangements chair
- WSSA is looking to replace EPA Subject Matter Expert Jill Schroeder who is stepping down after a wonderfully successful tenure in this new position. Contact Rod Lym for information or interest (Rod.Lym@ndsu.edu)
- Website to get major redesign. This was decided and agreed upon this year, but no progress has been made on implementation yet. WSSA recently hired a website content manager (Muthu Bagavathiannan, postdoc at Univ Arkansas) who will lead an effort to keep the web content up to date and well organized. Hopefully the WSSA website will not only be better organized, but will be a source for information for weed scientists.

- National Invasive Species Awareness Week was Feb 26-Mar 2, 2012 with over 800 participants. Several WSSA members were involved in this important outreach and education event. Rod Lym gave the opening presentation on the successful management program “Team Leafy Spurge” (nisaw.org)
- WSSA is interested in supporting an effort to develop a CAP (Coordinated Agricultural Project) within USDA for weed science.
- WSSA is looking to reduce the number of Members at Large serving on the Board of Directors to reflect the lower membership number.
- A special committee was formed to investigate the development of an “alternative” form factor for the Herbicide Handbook. Perhaps a tablet or e-version are on the table as potential new products to keep with technology advancements.
- Future WSSA Meeting Sites:
 - 2014 Vancouver, British Columbia as joint meeting with Canadian Weed Science Society
 - 2015 Lexington, Kentucky
 - 2016 San Juan, Puerto Rico
 - 2017 Tucson, Arizona

Graduate Student Representative Report – Adam Smith

The graduate student events for the WSSA/ NEWSS joint meeting will be sponsored by Monsanto and will include a graduate student luncheon and a professional development workshop. Both are being held on Wednesday. A new NEWSS student representative will be voted into office at the luncheon; there are three candidates. Each candidate will be allowed a brief statement and the NEWSS students will have the opportunity to vote.

The NEWSS paper and poster contests will be held on Tuesday. The paper contest has morning and afternoon sessions. Awards will be given for each session. All talks must be uploaded at the registration desk by 4pm Monday. Exceptions will be made for those that are traveling at the time. There is a point deduction for those who do not meet this deadline. Winners for these contests will be announced at the NEWSS business meeting. Judging criteria for both paper and poster contests can be found on the NEWSS website. Poster size was changed for the joint meeting; posters *cannot* exceed 48x48.

NEWSS CAST Representative Report – Randall Prostack

News from CAST

CAST continues to search for funding in difficult economic times.

Dr. John M. Bonner, Executive Vice President/CEO, has announced his retirement in January 2013. A search for the next EVP/CEO is being lead by Phil Stahlman and CAST Board of Directors

On November 15, 2012, the Board of Directors of the Council for Agricultural Science and Technology has appointed Linda Chimenti, current Chief Operating Officer (COO) of CAST, as the next Executive Vice President of the 40-year-old organization. Dr. John Bonner, current Executive Vice President/Chief Executive Officer (EVP/CEO), will leave that position at the end of January 2013 to pursue other interests. Ms. Chimenti has years of experience as a CAST administrator, and she is committed to the organization's mission. As she says, "It is an honor to have the opportunity to take on a new role in CAST, an organization that I have served for twelve years with growing responsibilities." Ms. Chimenti also considers the move a compliment to the entire CAST staff. "The Board of Directors has expressed their confidence in our ability to maintain CAST's output of high quality, credible publications and programs." After working at Iowa State University's Center for Agricultural and Rural Development, Ms. Chimenti joined the CAST organization in January 2001 as Managing Scientific Editor and has led the editorial department continuously since that time. During this period, she has been responsible for the production of approximately 140 CAST publications, including Task Force Reports, Issue Papers, CAST Commentaries, Annual Reports, and organizational histories. In 2008, Ms. Chimenti was promoted to Director of Council Operations and added staff supervision and management duties to her responsibilities. She assisted the Board of Directors and Board of Representatives with a major restructuring of the organization's governance in 2009. Since 2010, Ms. Chimenti has served as COO, working closely with Dr. Bonner on initiatives to expand CAST's impact and broaden its audience. According to Dr. Phil Stahlman, CAST President, "We are very pleased that this transition of leadership will take place within the CAST organization now that Dr. Bonner is stepping down to pursue other interests. We are deeply grateful for all he has done for CAST, and we wish him all the best. We welcome Ms. Chimenti to her new role and look forward to working with her in this capacity."

On September 26, 2012, Dr. Carl Winter Presented with the Borlaug CAST Communication Award. If consumers and policymakers are not getting the message about agriculture, it's not Carl Winter's fault. The respected professor from the University of California--Davis is the author of two books and more than 100 publications. He serves on committees, teaches communication courses to graduate students, and testifies before the U.S. Congress on pesticide/food safety issues. But he is maybe best known for his version of America's Got Talent--Ag Style.

More information of the activities of the past year and be reviewed at:

http://www.cast-science.org/about/summary_of_activities/

News from the NEWSS CAST representative

The 2012 CAST board meeting was held November 12-15 in Kansas City, MO

Western Society of Weed Science's Phillip Stahlman, professor of weed science at the Kansas State University, became CAST president for 2012-2013.

Randy Prostack finished his term as chair of Plant Agriculture and Environmental Issues Working Group in October 2012. At the request of CAST leadership, he will chair a new committee that has been created to mentor individuals new to the CAST board. Randy will also serve on the 2013 CAST nominating committee.

Still a possibility that the 2013 CAST board meeting will come to the northeast.

2012 CAST Publications

Water and Land Issues Associated with Animal Agriculture: A U.S. Perspective

Issue Papers - IP50 - August 2012

This paper addresses specific water and land concerns related to animal agriculture. The authors consider issues of water use and water quality associated with the livestock sector and the related environmental and economic impacts. The paper also includes a discussion of livestock land use, land degradation, land application of manure and manure-based composts, and deforestation related to farm policies. This Issue Paper presents scientific data specific to North America (primarily the United States) and explains how and why these data compare with other parts of the world. Additionally, it discusses how to reduce the environmental impact of livestock agriculture while preserving resources and quality of life. Chair: Kelly D. Zering, North Carolina State University

The Direct Relationship between Animal Health and Food Safety Outcomes

CAST Commentaries - QTA2012-1 - May 2012

The health of the animals within the food animal production system impacts many aspects of the system far removed from the animals themselves. To promote high productivity in animal agriculture, researchers need to examine nutrition, management systems, and animal care practices including the use of antibiotics and vaccines. This Commentary looks at the pressures to change livestock rearing methods, evidence to support the direct public health impact on human illness days, and good safety and inspection service regulations. The authors use indirect evidence, diagrams, and graphs to deliver their findings about the ways that healthy animals result in safer food. Chair: Dr. H. Scott Hurd, Iowa State University

Assessing the Health of Streams in Agricultural Landscapes: The Impacts of Land Management Change on Water Quality Special Publications - SP31 - March 2012

The Clean Water Act of 1987 states that the elimination of pollutant discharge into navigable water is a national goal. Agriculture has been identified repeatedly as a significant contributor of nonpoint source pollution to surface waters. Despite conservation efforts, water quality problems still exist; all agricultural states struggle with balancing productive landscapes and water quality. Legislation, potential regulations, or allocations of millions of dollars to change agricultural practices seem warranted only if we know stream water is favorably impacted by modified agricultural practices, and in which streams the greatest potential impact might be observed. Project Manager/Lead Author: Rick Cruse, Iowa Water Center, Ames, Iowa.

Herbicide-resistant Weeds Threaten Soil Conservation Gains: Finding a Balance for Soil and Farm Sustainability Issue Papers - IP49 - February 2012, additional online video

Herbicides were developed during the twentieth century to be used with conventional tillage for weed control. Conservation (or minimum) tillage subsequently evolved, which enabled less soil damage when used with herbicides. Selection pressure, however, has resulted in weed species that have made adaptations for survival in conjunction with tillage. The U.S. government has put several federal policies and programs in place that help determine the selection and implementation of crops and conservation programs in relation to herbicides and tillage. This Issue Paper examines the impact of certain weed management practices on soil conservation objectives and addresses ways to mitigate negative effects. Chair: David R. Shaw, Office of Research and Economic Development, Mississippi State University, Mississippi State. IP49, February 2012, 16 pp.

Energy Issues Affecting Corn/Soybean Systems: Challenges for Sustainable Production Issue Papers - IP48 - January 2012

Energy Issues Affecting Corn/Soybean Systems: Challenges for Sustainable Production speaks to energy issues within the corn/soybean production system as a model for understanding the complexity of addressing global energy challenges. Research and development is needed to find ways to lower adoption barriers for energy-conserving practices and develop management systems that allow agricultural production to meet multiple demands. The challenges include (1) a growth in biofuel production directly from corn/soybeans coupled with a simultaneous growth in oil and agricultural commodity prices, and (2) the ability of the motor fuel infrastructure to handle an increased volume of ethanol, biodiesel, and advanced biofuels. The authors propose a landscape vision for sustainable corn/soybean systems that is feasible and could be done efficiently and economically if there is a desire and public willingness to do so. It would, among other

things, provide sustainable grain and biomass feedstock supplies for the bioenergy industry, protect water quality, lessen producer/environmental risk, and promote biodiversity. Chair: Douglas L. Karlen, USDA—ARS, National Laboratory for Agriculture and the Environment, Ames, Iowa. IP48, January 2012, 16 pp.

Forthcoming Publications

Agricultural Innovation to Sustainably Feed the World by 2050 (Issue Paper)

Animal Feed vs. Human Food: Challenges and Opportunities in Sustaining Animal Agriculture Toward 2050 (Issue Paper)

The Contributions of Pesticides to Meeting the Global Need for Food Production and Public Health by 2050 (Issue Paper)

Food, Fuel, and Plant Nutrient Use in the Future (Issue Paper)

Impact of the Precautionary Principle in Feeding Current and Future Generations (Issue Paper) (Chair) Gary Marchant, Arizona State University

Integrated Nutrient Cycling: Key to Long-term Food Production (Issue Paper)

Omega-3 Fatty Acids: Health Benefits and Dietary Recommendations (Special Publication)

Research and Education Coordinator – Bryan Dillehay

Requests were sent to the following for pesticide recertification to be offered at the 2013 annual meeting. Current approval status is below.

State	Approval
CT	Yes
DE	Yes
MA	Yes
MD	Yes
ME	Yes

NC	Yes
NH	Not Requested
NJ	Yes
NY	Not Requested
PA	Yes
RI	Yes
VA	Yes
VT	Yes
WV	Yes
CCA	Yes

With the upcoming joint meeting between NEWSS and WSSA, the program is significantly larger than years past. After a discussion with Dwight Lingenfelter and Bill Curran, I applied for recertification credits for selected sessions only and not the entire program.

Credits will be offered in the following sessions:

Herbicide Application in the 21st Century
 NEWSS Graduate Student Paper Contest
 Pasture, Rangeland, Forest, and Rights of Way
 Integrated Pest Management
 Herbicide Resistance Management – The Path Forward
 Formulation, Adjuvant and Application Technology
 Agronomic Crops
 Turf and Ornamentals
 Environmental Assessment of Herbicide Resistance
 Horticultural Crops

I have not applied for recertification credits in New York and New Hampshire. The NH application process is arduous, the size of the upcoming meeting is significantly larger than years past, and lastly, no credits were given during the 2012 annual meeting. With regard to NY, Russ Hahn strongly recommended to not apply for NY credits this year due to the difficult application process and time constraints. For example: NY requires each session speaker to be approved before a session can be approved, which requires a resume or CV

to be submitted. Once a speaker is approved, NY DEC requires session applications 45 days prior to the event. As such, recertification was not sought.

Director of Science Policy Report – Lee Van Wychen

Summary of Activities

1. Generated support for USDA research funding through competitive grants (AFRI) and formula funds (Hatch, Smith-Lever) as well as integrated programs (Regional IPM): met with House and Senate committee staff and wrote coalition letters on behalf of the National and Regional Weed Science Societies. FY 2013 budget is in limbo and a continuing resolution based on FY 2012 may fund the entire FY 2013. The current funding for FY 2013 is funded through March of 2013.
 - a. President's Council of Advisors for Science and Technology (PCAST) recommended that the U.S. increase its investment in agricultural research by a total of \$700 million per year:
 - i. \$180 million for new graduate and post-doctoral fellowships;
 - ii. \$235 million for new competitively funded research at USDA AFRI;
 - iii. \$130 million for basic research at NSF; and
 - iv. \$150 million for new public-private institutes.
 - b. Top challenges they listed for 21st century agriculture:
 - i. Managing new pests, pathogens, and invasive plants.
 - ii. Increasing the efficiency of water use.
 - iii. Reducing the environmental footprint of agriculture.
 - iv. Growing food in a changing climate.
 - v. Managing the production of bioenergy.
 - vi. Producing safe and nutritious food.
 - vii. Assisting with global food security and maintaining abundant yields.
2. Worked to prevent EPA from finalizing a rule which would allow fuel made from two known noxious weeds, *Arundo donax* (giant reed) and *Pennisetum purpureum* (napier grass or elephant grass), to count toward federally-mandated renewable fuels targets. We need more research on *Arundo* and *Pennisetum* before incentivizing their production. If OMB signs off on EPA releasing the rule, we requested to see a complete assessment of the costs and benefits, as outlined in Executive Order 13112. Additionally, if EPA approves *Arundo donax* and similarly high risk feedstocks, we believe that the rule must include – at the very minimum— guidelines on stringent best management practices to reduce the risk of escape.
3. Worked with interested coalitions to get support in both the House and Senate for the NPDES legislative fix bill, H.R. 872 and S. 3605. However, legislation remains blocked by Sen. Boxer (CA). Submitted letters of support on behalf of the National and Regional Weed Science Societies. New legislation will have to be reintroduced in the 11^{3th} Congress.

4. Generated support for the Pesticide Safety Education Program (PSEP) through a technical paper, and a joint press release with entomology and plant pathology. Currently participating in a national stakeholder group to find more permanent funding mechanisms at the federal and state level for PSEP.
5. Generated support for Army Corps of Engineers Aquatic Plant Control Research Program (APCRP) and sent letters to House and Senate Energy and Water appropriations committee members. FY 2013 funding in limbo again for APCRP. Senate has proposed \$4 million, but House and President proposed \$0. Senate support from Schumer (NY), Leahy (VT) and Cochran (MS) will be key again. I will need to send another letter to House and Senate appropriators before the end of March.
6. Coordinated and co-organized support for National Invasive Species Awareness Week activities which occurred Feb. 26 to March 3, 2012. Planning for NISAW 2013 is in the final stages. WSSA is hosting a presentation on Capitol Hill on Mar. 4, 2013 regarding invasive plants and biofuels. We are also working with other NGO's to introduce a Congressional resolution in the House and Senate supporting NISAW.
7. Supported Public Awareness Committee activities and responded to press inquiries. Recent headlines include six news releases on pesticide stewardship as well as the following:
 - a. Three Leading Scientific Societies take an Objective Look at the Issues Associated with "Least Toxic Pesticides" Applied as a "Last Resort".
 - b. Annual Meetings of Weed Science Societies to Highlight Latest Developments in Research and Management of Weeds and Invasive Plants.
 - c. Decades Old Weed Seeds Trigger New Outbreak of Devastating Plant Parasite.
8. Continued educating Federal agency and NGO stakeholders on herbicide resistance management. Watched and listened for any legislation that would attempt to regulate herbicide resistance or restrict the interstate movement of herbicides due to resistance issues.
9. Helped plan and coordinate 2012 EPA Herbicide Resistance Education Tour on the Delmarva Peninsula in August. The tour report is on the WSSA website.
10. Participated in Farm Bill stakeholder meetings and advocated for the following provisions where differences existed between the House and Senate:
 - a. Support the Senate provision that establishes the Foundation for Food and Agricultural Research (FFAR), a new nonprofit corporation designed to supplement USDA's basic and applied research activities, and provides total mandatory funding of up to \$100 million of matching funds. The foundation will solicit and accept private donations to award grants or enter into agreements for collaborative public/private partnerships with scientists at USDA and in academia, non-profits, and the private sector.
 - b. Strongly oppose the House provision that require matching funds for applied research and extension that is commodity or state specific.
 - c. Support the Pesticide Registration Improvement Act (PRIA III) in the House bill. PRIA was set to expire on Oct. 1, 2012, but separate legislation was introduced and passed in Sept 2012.
 - d. Support reauthorization of the Specialty Crops Competitiveness Act through FY2017 in the Senate bill. Increases mandatory funding to \$70 million annually

(FY2013 - FY2017), which would also raise the minimum grant amount received by each state/territory.

- e. WSSA supports conservation compliance, but only if exemptions are granted for herbicide resistance management.

The DSP and Science Policy Committee were active with many other issues on a continuous basis in 2012. Notable issues that arose during the past year that required support through letters, phone calls, and meetings included:

- a) asked USDA NIFA to rethink their “Crop Protection Program” funding line item and explore options on how to maintain equal funding for the six programs involved, especially IR-4, the Regional IPM Centers, and Extension IPM.
- b) Supported a letter to Congress asking them to avoid legislation that would place severe restrictions on government employees' abilities to attend meetings and conferences.
- c) asked EPA OPP to support the use of MSMA in turf weed control

2013 Plan for Committee Activities

- Discuss weed science priorities with NIFA Director, Sonny Ramaswamy and generate support for USDA to fund a \$10 million CAP grant for weed resistance management.
- Investigate the “fine print” of provisions that get incorporated in the 2013 Farm Bill.
- Investigate FY 2014 federal budget proposal for programs affecting weeds and invasive plants
- Support funding for the Aquatic Plant Control Research Program
- Monitor any new Renewable Fuel Standard proposals that try to add invasive plants as biofuels.
- Continue support for an NPDES Fix bill in the 113th Congress.
- Advertise and hire a new EPA Subject Matter Expert (SME) to replace Jill Schroeder.
- Explore the possibility of establishing a similar SME position within USDA
- Engage in formal discussions with USDA-ARS leadership on the importance of refilling John Lydon’s position of National Program Leader for Weed Science.
- Work with new APHIS PPQ leadership to reestablish federal funding for noxious weed control and eradication. The witchweed eradication program is the only funding that has survived.
- Hold a successful National Invasive Species Awareness Week (NISAW)