

NEWSS News



Northeastern weed science society

April 2010

Comments from the President



Annual Meeting Recap.

Big thanks go out to Past President David Yarborough, President-Elect Mark

Hilary Sandler
NEWSS
President

VanGessel and the 2010 Program Committee

for a great job on the 64th Annual Meeting held at the Cambridge Marriott in Cambridge, Massachusetts, January 4-7. Although our attendance was down from the previous year (132 attendees), most attendees had a very good experience and really enjoyed the hotel accommodations as well as the easy access to parts of Boston and surrounding Cambridge. The meeting theme was "Meeting the challenges for food production in Africa". The invited speakers included Dr. Albert Ayeni (Rutgers University), Dr. Peter Jeranyama (Univ. of Massachusetts Cranberry Station), Dr. Dan Gustafson (UN, FAO) and Mr. Leonard Gianessi (CropLife Foundation). We had two excellent workshops, one led by Eric Gallandt on weed seedbank dynamics and another led by Dwight Lingenfelter and Peg Shuffstall on using varied media options and technology for extension and outreach. We also welcome back the participation of members of the Northeastern American Society of Horticultural Science in our first joint meeting since 2005.

Award recipients at the 2010 meeting were: Dr. Scott Glenn for Distinguished Member Award, Mr. Dwight Lingenfelter for Outstanding Educator Award, Dr. Todd Mervosh for Outstanding Researcher Award, and Ms. Betty Marose for the Award of Merit. The Dr. Robert D. Sweet Outstanding Graduate Student Award was presented to Ms. Katherine

Ghantous (Masters) and Mr. Matt Ryan (Doctoral). A Special Recognition Award was presented to Ms. Irene Tsontakis-Bradley for her years of work handling the standing orders for the Society. The Graduate Student Presentation Awards went to: 1st Place, Katherine Ghantous, Univ. of Massachusetts; 2nd Place, Angela Post, Virginia Tech; and 3rd Place, Matthew Cutelle, Virginia Tech. The Graduate Poster Awards went to: 1st Place, Tomas Zavada, UMass-Boston; 2nd Place, Katelyn Venner, Rutgers Univ.; and 3rd Place, J. Cummins, Univ. of Tennessee. During the business meeting, outgoing President Dave Yarborough passed the gavel to incoming President Hilary Sandler.

In 2009, we had a joint weed contest with the North Central Weed Science Society near Indianapolis, IN. Everyone had a great time and the success of this joint event has fostered interest in future events that combine multiple regional weed science societies. This year's weed contest will be hosted by Cornell on July 27, 2010 in Freeville, NY. *Something new!!* Become a Collegiate Weed Contest Sponsor! See details on page 4.

Our next annual meeting will be held in Baltimore at the Renaissance Harborplace, January 3-6, 2011. The program committee is currently working on a theme and your ideas are always welcome. Please contact Toni DiTomasso or Mark VanGessel if you have ideas for the symposium, special workshops, or other topics.

Updates to the Executive Committee.

We thank our members who rotated off the Executive Committee in 2010: Caren

Highlights:

- INFORMATION AND PHOTOS FROM NEWSS MEETING IN CAMBRIDGE
- 2010 FINANCIAL SUMMARY
- WEED SCIENCE FIELD DAYS SCHEDULE
- REPORTS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS
- CALL FOR AWARD NOMINEES
- WEED CONTEST SITE AND DATE INFORMATION

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Comments from the President—cont.

Judge, Sustaining Membership; Robert Sweet, CAST Representative; Greg Armel, Editor; and Jerry Baron, Past President. We are very appreciative of all the time and effort that you gave to your particular roles on the EC and send special thanks for your volunteerism to NEWSS. We also welcome four new members to the EC board: Toni DiTommaso as Vice-President, John O'Barr as Sustaining Membership, Randy Probst as CAST Representative, and Darren Lycan as Editor.

Survey Results for Joint WSSA Meeting. In January, we circulated a Survey Monkey to find out how you felt about having a joint meeting with WSSA in 2013, when the national society meets in Baltimore, MD; 104 people responded to the survey. The membership was overwhelmingly in favor of meeting jointly (87%); 10% were not in favor and 3% were undecided. Those in favor cited cost savings, a chance to attend a national meeting, opportunities to see a different set of colleagues as well as preference for a February meeting as reasons for their favorable response. Those opposed to a joint meeting cited conflicts with other industry meetings, preference for regional meetings, and preference for the January timing as support for their response. If we held separate meetings, 47% said they would attend NEWSS only, 13% WSSA only and 25% said they would attend both anyway; 13% did not know what they would do. When asked what was the likelihood you would actually attend a particular meeting in 2013, 77% said they would attend both if held jointly and 20% said they would attend both even if held separately. We then asked members to list which meeting(s) they had attended in the past 10 years. Attendance ranged between 23 to 34 members attending WSSA meetings and 16 to 26 members attended both NEWSS and WSSA meetings.

Based on these results, the Executive Committee has asked Toni DiTommaso to contact WSSA to determine the next steps for planning a joint meeting with WSSA in 2013.

Changes in Dues Structure and Meeting Fees.

Lastly, I want to encourage all members to read the following pages of this newsletter related to our change in fee structure. NEWSS is in a serious financial deficit due to increased costs (related to the annual meeting and those associated with running the society) as well as reduced revenues due to low meeting attendance and membership dues payment. In addition, WSSA notified us in January that our annual portion (\$6300) of the Director of Science Policy position was not paid in 2006; these funds must come out of this year's budget in

addition to our commitment to the DSP position for the current fiscal year. It is critical that members who do not attend the annual meeting pay their membership dues each year. These monies support the administration and operation of the society. As in years past, if you register for the annual meeting, a portion of your registration fee will automatically go to supporting the society's functions.

We hope you will continue to support NEWSS during this difficult time. On behalf of the EC, we believe NEWSS continues to offer a very good value for the money spent.

2011 Annual Meeting in Baltimore, MD.

Renaissance Harborplace

January 3-6.



Thanks to the members who responded to the survey on a joint NEWSS—WSSA meeting! The EC will keep you posted on this venture.



NOTE: It is recommended to use Adobe Reader 8 or above with this document. Some email hyperlinks (e.g., first.last@company.com) will not work otherwise. Free upgrades are available at adobe.com.



NEWSS Membership Fee Announcement

Members,

Attached are the past two year financial statements. This information is published in the Proceedings and is distributed at the Business meeting at the annual conference. We are providing this information to you at this time as 67% of our at-large¹ membership was not in attendance at the last annual conference.

Over the past 2 fiscal years, our main source of income² has dropped considerably. At the same time, our annual meeting costs, Collegiate Weed Contest expenditures, and fiscal year operating expenses have continued to rise over the past 4 fiscal years. As a result, the Society is facing a deficit situation that, if not corrected, could impact our ability to meet our financial obligations in the 2012 and 2013 fiscal years.

In order to address our fiscal year deficit that ended October 31, 2009 (-\$15,632) and our anticipated 2010 (-\$20,712) fiscal year deficit, NEWSS will need to temporarily increase member benefit (dues) and annual meeting registration fees and where lacking, temporarily create Special Event fees (Collegiate Weed Contest). These increases will go into effect as of June 2010.

Increases are necessary in order for the society to meet its member benefit obligations, annual meeting and fiscal year obligations. The President's proposed budget for the upcoming annual meeting is expected to return a net profit to the Society, assuming an attendance of 175 members and dues payment by 250 people. We anticipate that this and the proposed fee changes will allow the Society to recoup some, if not all, of our recent losses by the end of Fiscal year 2012 if not sooner.

¹At-large membership calculated by: NEWSS listserv (399) and individual member meeting attendance over the past 5 years.

²Member income: Sustaining Membership, Regular Membership, Retired Membership, Student Membership

Beginning in June, the following temporary changes will go into effect.

All non-student membership dues to remain an "active" member:	\$50.00
All student membership dues to remain an "active" member:	\$30.00
Non-student participation in a Collegiate NEWSS sponsored Event (e.g. Collegiate Weed Contest Coach)	\$50.00
Student participation in a Collegiate NEWSS sponsored Event (e.g. Collegiate Weed Contest)	\$30.00
All members non-complimentary 2011 Annual Meeting Conference registration fee	\$200.00
All complimentary members 2011 Annual Meeting Conference registration fee (Complimentary registrations are provided to designated individuals such as certain Sustaining Members and all Retired members who have been an Award Recipient of the Society.)	\$0.00
Annual Meeting Hard Copy Proceedings Purchase (no increase)	\$30.00
with Hard Copy an Annual Meeting CD of Proceedings (no increase)	\$5.00

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Sponsorship Opportunities

To reduce the impact of the Weed Contest fees on students and their advisors and coaches, the NEWSS Executive Committee has created the following Weed Contest Sponsorship opportunity.

A payment of \$30.00 or more can be made to help off-set some of the costs for students.

You may specify a student or team to which your contribution will apply; otherwise monies received will be used to offset the participation fee of unsponsored student turnout. If you are interested in sponsoring a team, contact the Team Coach. Your contribution is tax deductible.

Payment to NEWSS must be received no later than July 19th or hand delivered at the Weed Contest. Payments can be made *on-line payment via ACTEVA for those members who wish to pay by credit card. ACTEVA will be available mid-May.*

Respectfully submitted,

NEWSS Executive Committee

Become a Collegiate Weed Contest Sponsor!

For those members who would like to sponsor a student or team by contributing to the 2010 Collegiate Weed Science Contest to be held in Freeville, NY, and prefer to pay by check, please make your check payable to NEWSS. Mail this form and payment to:

NEWSS Secretary—Treasurer
P.O. Box 307
Fredericksburg, PA 17026.

Payment intended for 2010 Collegiate Weed Contest Sponsorship.

\$ _____ enclosed for student(s) specified



Melissa Bravo
Secretary/
Treasurer

Secretary/Treasurer Update

Item	Number	Number	Number	Income
2010 Meeting, Cambridge, Massachusetts				
	ACTEVA	Regular Mail	Walk In	
	pre meeting	pre meeting	at meeting or after meeting	
Speakers	0	0	7	\$0.00
NEASHS joint meeting payment to NEWSS				\$3,032.55
Membership dues only (\$30.00)	2	5	5	\$360.00
89 Regular membership includes Comp (4) (150.00)	62	23	4	\$13,350.00
19 Student membership (100.00)	15	4		\$1,900.00
8 Distinguished Membership (100.00)	7	1		\$800.00
1 Retired membership (100.00)	0	1		\$100.00
2 Distinguished and Retired Membership (0.00)	0	2		\$0.00
71 Proceedings (\$30.00)	42	6	23	\$2,130.00
34 Proceedings CD (\$5.00)	29	5		\$170.00
16 Sustaining Membership	0	12	4	\$11,750.00
Standing Orders				561.45
Industry Social (6)		6		\$5,400.00
Copy Right Clearance Center for Proceedings				\$166.35
BASF Student Awards				\$300.00
Misc (late fees, fund interest, transfer from sav-ings)	7	2	1	\$1,117.81
				NEWSS paid Acteva \$823.36 for 134 transac-tions. NEWSS captured that in charge back to credit card holders who chose to register on line.
\$6.145 Acteva Fees: average cost per transac-tion				included above
			total year to date income	\$41,138.16
Total who attended meeting	132			
Attendance Awards Luncheon estimate	63	28	5	
NEWSS electronic newsletter list serve	399			33% of our past or present membership attended annual meeting in 2009

** Members, If you purchased a Proceedings this past year and picked up the Proceedings at the registration desk, and you did not pick up the handouts at the business meeting, the attached **2008** financial statement replaces the 2007 Financial Statement on page 117: as we inadvertently published the 2007 financial statement a second year in a row by mistake. We will print both the 2008 and 2009 signed financial statements in the next Proceedings. All Standing Order customers received the 2008 financial statement in their order.

NEWSS News

President-Elect Report



Mark VanGessel
NEWSS
President Elect

I want to thank all the NEWSS members and guests who helped to make the 64th Annual Meeting a great success. The meeting was held at the Boston Cambridge Marriott. The theme for

the 2010 meeting was "Meeting the Challenges for Food Production in Africa". Special thanks to our guest speakers, Dr. Dan Gustafson (UN, FAO), Dr. Albert Ayeni (Rutgers Univ.), Dr. Peter Jeranyama (UMass Cranberry Research Center), and Mr. Leonard Gianessi (CropLife Foundation). We also had a welcome address from Scott Soares, Massachusetts Commissioner of Agriculture, and an invited presentation from Mr. David Barnett, President and CEO of Mount Auburn. Two workshops were held, one on weed seedbanks, organized by Dr. Eric Gallandt, and one on new technologies for extension coordinated by Dwight Lingenfelter and Peg Shuffstall. A complete list of current committee assignments (names, phone numbers, and email) can be found on the web site at www.newss.org/society.php. Thanks to all of our members who volunteer to serve as Chairs, Chair-Elects, and members of our various committees. Through your efforts the meeting was a success.

I have agreed to serve as program chair for the 2011 meeting, shifting this responsibility from the vice-president. If you have any suggestions for workshops or ideas about the program, please contact me.



Comments from the Editor



Darren Lycan
NEWSS
Editor

First, I would like to acknowledge and thank Greg Armel who did a great job serving as Editor for the past few years. He has also been very helpful in providing me with resources and information to acquaint me with the role of Editor.

Last year we utilized the WSSA on-line software system for the Title and Abstract submission process for our annual meeting. Being the first year to use the system, the benefits became clearer as did areas for potential improvement. We will be utilizing this system again this year for submission of Titles and Abstracts. WSSA and NEWSS representatives will work to enhance the performance of the site to be even more convenient this year.

As Spring is upon us, keep your eyes open for any good photo opportunities that could be entered into our 2011 NEWSS Photo Contest. The winning photo will be featured on the cover of the 2012 NEWSS Proceedings. Our 2010 Photo Contest winner was Randy Prostack with his photo of wild carrot (*picture below*) which will be featured on the cover of our 2011 Proceedings.



Even though it is April, it is not too early to think about research/topics that you would like to present at the 2011 Annual Meeting. Below are tentative due dates for Titles and Abstracts. More information will follow in the August newsletter.

Titles due: Wednesday, September 15th

Abstracts due: Friday, October 22nd

2011 Annual meeting in Baltimore, MD: January 3rd- 6th

Past President's Report



David Yarborough
NEWSS
Past President

Over the past three years I have enjoyed participation in the management of NEWSS and I know you are now in competent hands with Hilary Sandler as your new president. There were many challenging duties as Vice President, President-elect and of course President. I recently reviewed the responsibilities of the Past President in the NEWSS Manual of Operation Procedures and discovered that the Past-President still has several important duties. The first and most important is to serve as Chair of the Awards Committee. With

that, there is duty to solicit nominations for the "Award of Merit", "Distinguished Member Award", "Outstanding Educator Award", "Outstanding Researcher Award" and "Service Recognition Award". The specific criteria for these awards are outlined on the NEWSS web site in the Manual of Operation Procedures, at

http://www.newss.org/docs/mop/Newss_Manual_of_Operating_Procedures.pdf .

Please consider the numerous members in who are eligible for these awards and plan on submitting an application to me on or about October 1. More details to follow in our August Newsletter. Another duty of the Past President is to announce the opening for nominations for Vice President. The Chair of the Nomination Committee is Jerry Baron jbaron@aesop.rutgers.edu. Please provide him names of any individuals you think we should consider.



Award of Merit



Distinguished Member



Outstanding Educator



Outstanding Researcher

Call for Nominees

Please submit applications to Dave by October 1.

NEWSS News

2010 NEWSS Executive Committee



Exec Committee

Hilary Sandler	President	508-295-2212	x 21	hsandler@umext.umass.edu
Mark VanGessel	President-Elect	302-856-7303	x 510	mjv@udel.edu
Antonio DiTommaso	Vice President	607-254-4702		ad97@cornell.edu
Melissa Bravo	Secretary / Treasurer	717-787-7204		mab36@psu.edu
David Yarborough	Past President	207-581-2923		davidy@maine.edu
Darren Lycan	Editor	315-635-2818		darren.lycan@syngenta.com
Angela Post	Graduate Student Rep.	540-231-5807		arpost@vt.edu
Rakesh Chandran	Research & Education	304-293-6131	x 4225	RSChandran@mail.wvu.edu
John O'Barr	Sustaining Membership	717-386-8259		john.obarr@basf.com
Barbara Scott	Public Relations	302 856-2585	x 512	bascott@udel.edu
Shawn Askew	WSSA Representative	540-231-5807		saskew@vt.edu
Randy Prostack	CAST Representative	413-577-1738		rprostack@umext.umass.edu
Lee VanWychen	Science Policy Director	202-408-5388		Lee.VanWychen@wssa.net

The Executive Committee would like to express their thanks to those members rotating off the board:

Robert Sweet, Greg Armel, Caren Judge, and Jerry Baron. Thank you for your years of service to NEWSS.

Sustaining Membership Report



NEWSS Sustaining members decreased from 22 in 2009 to 16 in 2010. On behalf of the NEWSS, I would like to personally thank the 16 organizations for your contributions in 2010. In these tough economic times, these contributions are critical to the society and I encourage all who are able to continue to support the society now and in the future.

John O'Barr
NEWSS
Sustaining Membership

All membership levels receive a copy of the proceedings and an exhibit table and recognition at the Annual Meeting. The tiered fee structure provides benefits such as complementary conference registration(s), company link on the NEWSS website, etc., depending on the level of support.

Platinum and Gold Sustaining members automatically make a contribution to the collegiate weed contest. Silver and Bronze members are encouraged to make a separate donation for the collegiate weed competition. If you are interested in contributing to the 2010 weed contest, please contact John O'Barr (john.obarr@basf.com, 717-386-8259).

2010 Sustaining Members	2010 Level
BASF Corporation	Platinum
Syngenta	Platinum
Dow AgroSciences	Gold
Dupont Crop Protection	Gold
Monsanto	Gold
Valent	Gold
AMVAC Chemical Corporation	Silver
Bayer CropScience	Silver
FMC Corporation	Silver
OHP	Silver
PBI Gordon	Silver
BAAR Scientific	Bronze
Crop Management Strategies	Bronze
For-Shore Weed Control	Bronze
Gylling Data Management, Inc.	Bronze
LABServices, Inc.	Bronze

Level	Contribution	2010 Conf Registrations	2010 Weed Competition
Platinum	\$2,000	2	\$1,000
Gold	\$1,000	1	\$500
Silver	\$500	none	none
Bronze	\$250	none	none



NORTHEASTERN WEED SCIENCE SOCIETY

2010 Sustaining Members

Platinum




Gold









Silver











Bronze

BAAR Scientific

Crop Management Strategies

Gylling Data Management

LABServices, Inc.

For-Shore Weed Control

NEWSS News

Research & Education Report



Rakesh Chandran
Research and Education Coord.

At the 2010 NEWSS Annual Meeting, GCSAA (Golf Course Superintendents Association of America), Agronomy Society Certified Crop Advisor Program (CCA), and 14 states provided pesticide recertification credits. Individuals who signed up for pesticide license recertification and CCA accreditation totaled 134 (compared to 202 in 2009), CCA accreditation alone totaled 15 (compared to 31 in 2009). There was no indication of credits signed up online for the GCSAA thus far but the deadline is not over yet. The Agronomy and The General Session and the Bio-fuels symposium received a combined total of 26 requests for credits in 2009. The Graduate Student Session (A+B) received 14 requests this year. Among the breakout sessions, Ornamentals (21) and Agronomy (16), received the most credits. The top three states requesting credits were Pennsylvania (21), New York (19), and Delaware (15). Vermont had a request from 1 individual and Rhode Island had none. Generic attendance sheets and program were provided to the TN state representative for the 3 total requests for the first time this year.

2010 Field Days

Event	Commodity	Location	Date and Time	Contact
Turf Field Day	Turf	Virginia Tech - HRAREC, Virginia	June 22, 2010 8:30 am to Noon	J. Derr
Turf Field Day	Turf	Virginia Tech -	August 31, September 1, 2010.	S. Askew/J. Derr
Nursery, Landscape Field Day	Ornamentals	Virginia Tech - HRAREC, Virginia Beach,	September 8, 2010	J. Derr
Cape Cod Cranberry Assn. and Univ. Mass. Field Day (100 th Anniversary)	Cranberry	Univ. Mass -Cranberry Station, East Warham, MA	August 17, 2010	H. Sandler
Univ. Mass Turfgrass Field Day	Turf (Insects, Diseases, Weeds)	Univ. Mass – Joe Troll Turf Research	June 16, 2010	P. Bhowmik
Field Day	Horticultural Crops	Rutgers, NJ	July 11, 2010	B. Majek
Field Day	N/A	Virginia Tech - Painter,	No field day	H. Wilson
Field Day	Field Crops	Univ. Delaware -	June 23, 2010	M. Vangessel
Field Day	Field Crops	Univ. Maryland -	June 24, 2010	R. Ritter
Twilight Tour	Field Crops	Pennstate - Landisville, PA	June 29, 2010	B. Curran/D. Lingenfelter
Field Day	Field Crops	Pennstate -	July 8, 2010	B. Curran/D. Lingenfelter
Weed Science Field Day	Vegetables	Cornell - H.C. Thompson Research	July 14, 2010 8:00 to 11:30 am	R. Bellinder
Weed Science Field Day	Field Crops	Cornell - R. B. Musgrave Research Farm, Aurora, NY	July 14, 2010 12:00 to 5:00 pm	R. Hahn

Graduate Student Report



We had another great year of presentations at the 64th annual meeting in Cambridge MA. Congratulations to all our poster and oral presentation winners. I am already working on student events for next year's meeting in Baltimore, MD, so if you have

Angela Post
NEWSS Graduate
Student Rep.

requests or suggestions please forward them along to: arpost@vt.edu. Also if you are not graduating before 2013 please be thinking ahead to a joint annual meeting with the WSSA in Baltimore, MD. If you have ideas about student programming for that meeting, let me know. I will be passing the torch to the next graduate student representative at the 2012 meeting and it could be you.

The spring semester is coming to a close already and it's time for everyone to start thinking about summer field and lab work. While you're at it don't forget about this year's Collegiate Weed Science Competition to be held at Cornell University in Freeville, NY, July 27th. Last year's joint competition with the North Central Weed Science Society was such a success that some of the North Central teams will be joining us again this year, though it is not technically a joint competition. Please encourage your fellow weed science classmates and advisors to participate in this event. There will be a small registration fee for each student, as there was last year, but it is well worth the cost. It looks like we might be the only regional society holding a contest this year, and it is your last chance to train for the Weed Olympics of 2011, to be held in Knoxville, TN!! I look forward to seeing everyone at the end of July. Have a great summer! If you have any student-related ideas, comments, or concerns please don't hesitate to contact me.

Volunteers Needed:

For the 2010 Northeastern Collegiate Weed Science Contest in Freeville, NY.

Tuesday, July 27

Please contact Larissa Smith at lls14@cornell.edu or 607-255-2177 to volunteer!

WSSA Report



WSSA 64th Annual Meeting, Denver Colorado, February 6-10, 2010. Submitted for Shawn Askew by M. Bravo.

Shawn Askew
NEWSS
Representative to
WSSA

"The Weed Science Society of America 50th annual meeting was held in conjunction with the 64th Annual Meeting of the Society for Rangeland Management (SRM) in the downtown Sheraton Hotel, Denver Colorado February 6-10, 2010. This was one of the largest gatherings of weed management professionals in recent history with more than 1200 people in attendance. In all more than 340 oral papers; 100 posters and 200 symposiums were presented. The traditional Weed Science Society sessions (Agronomic Crops, Horticulture Crops, Turf and Ornamentals, Physiology, Weed Biology and Ecology, Wildland and Aquatic Weeds, Biocontrol of Weeds, Pastures, Rangelands, Forests and Right of Ways, Teaching and Extension, Herbicide Resistance, Formulation, Adjuvant and Application Technology, Soil and Environmental Aspects, Regulatory Aspects) were offered in addition to the SRM sessions specific to rangeland management including Grazing; Pastoralists and Property Rights, Energy Production, Cattle Producer Forums, Inventory and Monitoring, and Carbon Sequestration. Weed/Invasive Plant Related Symposia included Invasive Species Keynote Symposium, NRCS West Region Grazing Consortium, Ecological Site Descriptions Symposium, Working Landscapes, Impact of Herbicide Resistant Weeds in Agroecosystems, Rangeland Restoration, Conservation Management, Spray Drift Minimization Technologies, Advancements in Automation and Machine Guided Technologies for Precision Weed Control, Dicamba Resistant Soybeans: How will it fit, Weed Management in Organic Agriculture: Current and Future Prospects, and Technology and Communication Skills for the 21st Century. In addition to sessions, workshops and symposiums, the two societies have over 100 committees that work on regional and national issues. The next meeting of the WSSA will be Feb. 7-10, 2011 in Portland, Oregon at the Hilton Hotel. The call for Symposia proposals has recently been announced (Deadline June 1, 2010). More information can be found at www.wssa.net.



NEWSS News

2010 NEWSS Collegiate Weed Contest



Toni DiTommaso
NEWSS
Vice President

On July 27th the Departments of Horticulture and Crop & Soil Sciences at Cornell will host the 2010 Northeastern Collegiate Weed Science Contest at the Homer Thompson Vegetable Research Farm in Freeville, NY.

The purpose of the Northeastern Collegiate Weed Science Contest is to provide an educational experience from which students from universities in the Northeast and adjacent regions can broaden their applied skills in weed science. The contest provides an opportunity for weed science students to meet and talk with each other, be exposed to researchers from other universities and industry, and apply what they have learned. It is also hoped that the contest will increase the visibility of weed science and intensify the interest level of those participating in the discipline of weed science.

We have a record number of students planning to attend this year, from as far away as Florida and Canada and Midwest from Indiana. As you can imagine, it is no small feat to plan and orchestrate this annual event. We are looking for volunteers on Tuesday, July 27th to help our team of faculty and staff with this event. Tasks may include but are certainly not limited to proctoring students during weed or herbicide identification exams or working in teams to challenge students with “grower problems”. If you would like to help out with this great educational event and receive a free lunch, please contact Larissa Smith at ljs14@cornell.edu or 607-255-2177.

Your willingness to volunteer is greatly appreciated
Sincerely,

Toni DiTommaso
Russ Hahn
Robin Bellinder

****Sponsor a Student**

On-line payment via ACTEVA will soon be available at the website. **See pg 4 for details.

www.newss.org

Student sponsorship opportunities

Become a Collegiate Weed Contest Sponsor!

For those members who would like to sponsor a student or team by contributing to the 2010 Collegiate Weed Science Contest to be held in Freeville, NY, and prefer to pay by check, please make your check payable to NEWSS. Mail this form and payment to:

NEWSS Secretary—Treasurer
P.O. Box 307
Fredericksburg, PA 17026.

Payment intended for 2010 Collegiate Weed Contest Sponsorship.

\$ _____ enclosed for student(s) specified

Washington D.C.: Science Policy Report



Doubling Campaign for USDA Agricultural and Food Research Initiative (AFRI)

Lee Van Wychen
Director of Science
Policy

The National and Regional Weed Science Societies have joined in an effort with other agricultural research organizations to double the USDA Agricultural and Food Research Initiative (AFRI) competitive grants program over the next 5 years. Funding was \$193 million in FY 2008 and \$201 million in FY 2009. Our agriculture research coalition was pushing Congress for \$250 million in FY 2010 (exclusive of any Section 406 Program funding), with a goal of \$500 million in total funding by FY 2015. The FY 2010 ag appropriations bill was passed last fall with \$262 million for AFRI.

The FY 2011 budget, released on February 1, targets AFRI for \$429 million. Great! However, \$45.15 million of that increase comes from the Section 406 Integrated Programs being “zeroed out”. The National and Regional Weed Science Societies strongly oppose this budget maneuver. The Section 406 programs include \$4.1 million in funding for the Regional Pest Management Centers, \$5 million for the Organic Transitions Program, \$1.4 million for the Crops at Risk from FQPA Implementation and \$4.4 million for the FQPA at Risk Mitigation Program for Major Food Crop Systems.

USDA Releases RFA’s for AFRI Competitive Grants

On March 22, USDA released the request for applications (RFA’s) for AFRI and represents a major departure from previous USDA competitive funding. For 2010, \$262 million is available through AFRI, \$61 million more than last year. No less than 30 percent of this will fund integrated projects that have research, education, and extension components.

There are six AFRI RFAs: one Foundational Program RFA and five RFAs targeted at addressing five “challenge” areas. The RFAs support a variety of project sizes and types. The five RFAs in the challenge areas include funding for **large, multi-disciplinary, multi-million dollar** projects called Coordinated Agricultural Projects (CAPs) that are broad in scope. There will be a seventh RFA supporting pre- and post-doctoral fellowships that has not yet been released.

For a **comprehensive chart** of the program areas, program area contacts, and deadlines for **letters of intent** and the final **application deadline**, please go to:

http://www.csrees.usda.gov/funding/afri/afri_program_deadline_dates.html#foundprog

The [Foundational Program RFA](#) makes \$64 million available to fund research-only projects in program areas that existed in the previous iteration of AFRI and that correspond to congressionally-designated priorities written into the farm bill. These programs previously received the bulk of the program funding, so many of the earlier programs that evolved over the past several decades have **now been ended** as separate priorities, given the decrease in dollars available. This includes the \$4.6 million biology of weedy invasive species program. The members of the National and Regional Weed Science Societies have voiced their extreme dissatisfaction with this since this was the **ONLY** program that has supported weed science work. Many of the other agricultural science disciplines had multiple program areas supported in the old NRI and under the new AFRI structure, at least maintain their discipline’s identity.

The [Climate Change RFA](#) makes \$55 million available to fund integrated, research, education, and extension projects that seek to reduce agricultural use of energy, nitrogen, and water, and that increase carbon sequestration. The RFA includes funding for a Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation in Agriculture. Specific priorities include developing or improving models and technologies for climate mitigation or adaptation to forecast and control weed, pest, disease, and invasive species outbreaks brought about by climate variability and long-term climate change.

The [Bioenergy RFA](#) makes \$40 million available to fund Regional Bioenergy CAPs and research grants to help meet the goal of 36 billion gallons/year of biofuels by 2022. The Regional Bioenergy CAPs will support the development of regional systems of bioenergy production that reduce dependence on foreign oil; have net positive social, environmental, and rural economic impacts; and are integrated with current agricultural systems. For biofuel feedstock production systems, they are looking for RFA’s that will identify management practices that minimize water usage, and nutrient, pesticide, and herbicide inputs.

The [Global Food Security RFA](#) makes \$19 million available to fund integrated, research, education, and extension projects that improve food availability and food accessibility, focusing on research that addresses production challenges and that supports the development of sustainable food systems. The FAO estimates that **more than 40 percent** of current crop production among the ten leading food crops is lost to pests and diseases annually. And a majority of that is **due to**

NEWSS News

Washington D.C.: Science Policy Report cont.-

weeds! However, this entire program area leaves much to be desired and completely falls of short of supporting any practical research that will ensure global food security by economically managing weeds.

The [Food Safety RFA](#) makes \$20 million available to fund integrated, research, education, and extension projects that seek to improve food safety through the development and implementation of detection technologies, traceability systems, and other strategies, and through increasing the number of food safety scientists. The RFA focuses on particular pathogens and viruses, and includes research on multiple scales of production and processing.

The [Childhood Obesity RFA](#) makes \$25 million available to fund integrated, research, education, and extension projects that contribute to reducing the prevalence of obesity among children and teens. The RFA seeks to fund proposals that generate new knowledge, develop effective behavioral and environmental interventions, bring to scale effective interventions and assess their impacts, and increase the number of researchers, educators, and practitioners trained to address the problem of obesity.

The webcast by Dr. Beachy regarding the AFRI RFA's can be viewed at:

<http://www.nifa.usda.gov/newsroom/webcast.html>

Herbicide Resistance Management Policy -WSSA members Bill Vencill, Carol Mallory-Smith, Bill Johnson, Nilda Burgos, Ted Webster, Bob Nichols, John Soteres, and Mike Owen have been working on a "state of the science" review paper on the development of herbicide-resistant weeds and weed shifts that are linked to the introduction of GE herbicide-tolerant corn, soybeans, wheat, rice, cotton, alfalfa and switchgrass. The goal is publish the review paper via "open access" in *Weed Science* by **Sept. 2010**.

The WSSA continues to work with EPA and industry stakeholders involved in a sound herbicide resistance management program. There is general agreement with the usefulness of mode of action labeling and the critical need for the WSSA education materials including an economic message. Dr. David Shaw, WSSA Past-President, has given presentations to EPA, CropLife America, and the National Association of Conservation Districts where he discussed results after 3 years from the 6-state benchmark study that has shown that net returns on fields managed according to recommended best practices are equal to or greater than the returns on those where glyphosate is used alone. WSSA recommendations include focused educational efforts that target all appropriate groups including media, growers, dealers/distributors, and consultants. We need to convey a consistent, accurate message about managing herbicide resistance and it must be urgent.

Clean Water Act (CWA) National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permits (NPDES) -The WSSA wants to ensure that FIFRA remains the preeminent federal law for pesticide regulation that protects both people and the environment. The extensive research and science-based risk assessments required by FIFRA should not be jeopardized by political agendas. In January 2009, the 6th Circuit Court ruled that EPA's rule exempting pesticides from CWA permits was not a reasonable interpretation of the CWA since the terms "chemical waste" and "biological materials" unambiguously include aquatic pesticides. The National and Regional Weed Science Societies along with many other stakeholders (including USDA Secretary Vilsack, and House and Senate Ag Committees) asked EPA to petition for a full 6th Circuit court rehearing because it was EPA's rule that was vacated by the court. When that did not happen, industry petitioned the full 6th Circuit Court to rehear the case, while in the meantime, EPA only asked for 2 year stay in the 6th Circuit decision in order have time to implement National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits for pesticides applied "in, over, or near water". The industry (Crop Life, National Cotton Council, etc...) appeal to the full 6th Circuit Court was denied last summer. Industry then petitioned the Supreme Court to hear the case, but as expected, the Supreme Court decided not to hear the appeal at this time.

EPA has until **April 9, 2011** to implement NPDES permits for all pesticides applied in, over, or near water. EPA plans to release NPDES general permit draft language for public comment by **May 2010**. This will be a very short comment period, likely **no more than 45 days**. Comments will be incorporated into final permit language that will be released to the states in December 2010. States will be required to do their own permitting (except for AK, ID, MA, NM, OK and VT which don't have EPA authority to do so). State general permits must be approved by EPA prior to **April 9, 2011**.

Washington D.C.: Science Policy Report cont.-

My biggest concern is that exposure to nuisance claims, litigation and onerous fines would prevent/inhibit weed managers from carrying out an appropriate weed management program. In discussions with EPA last week, pesticide applicators could be fined up to \$32,000 day for violating the terms of the NPDES permit. Depending on how EPA drafts language pertaining to “adverse incidents”, weed managers could be in for real surprises come April 2011. I’ll need all your help in reviewing the NPDES permit language once it’s published in the Federal Register in May. Stay tuned.

Spray Drift Labeling - EPA has proposed new language for FIFRA labels which poses many problems. Vague language such as “could cause” or “may cause” adverse effects does not belong on a pesticide label because it is NOT in accordance with the FIFRA risk-based standard of ‘no unreasonable adverse effects’ and it forces state regulators into the role of risk assessor to determine what ‘may or could’ cause an effect, which they are not trained to do and is EPA’s role. EPA’s guidance on how to enforce the proposed drift label language sets an unachievable zero drift standard and sets the stage for frivolous lawsuits and enforcement actions. For example, a headache that is untreated or verified by a medical professional, may be the basis for an enforcement action or lawsuit, particularly when a farmer’s neighbor has a predetermined reason or history of conflict with the farmer. On March 3rd, I submitted comments on behalf of the WSSA, the American Phytopathological Society and the Entomology Society of America Plant-Insect Section in response to the Federal Register notice regarding EPA’s proposed new regulations for pesticide drift labeling and drift labeling interpretation. Together these three societies represent a healthy fraction of all agricultural research and extension efforts on pest management.

Atrazine Re-Evaluation in 2010 - Atrazine was re-registered in 2006 after a 3 year review of over 6,000 studies on atrazine. EPA concluded that “no harm that would result to the general U.S. population, infants, children or other... consumers” from atrazine use. However, the new EPA administration wants to review atrazine again, based on questionable data from a study generated by a researcher with a track record of letting his “activism” generate his data. The results from this study have not been able to be reproduced by other scientists. Its unfortunate that this researcher will not share his raw data with EPA, but feels compelled to publish his studies “via press releases” coordinated by agenda-driven environmental groups. We strongly urge EPA to base their conclusions about the future use of atrazine on research that can stand up to scientific rigor and thoroughness.

Senator Reid Introduces Invasive Species Emergency Response Fund Act - In March, Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid introduced S. 3063, the Invasive Species Emergency Response Fund Act. The bill is co-sponsored by Sens. Begich (AK), Bennet (CO), Bennett (UT), Feinstein (CA), Merkley (OR), Murkowski (AK), and Wyden (OR). The companion bill in the House, HR 4782 was introduced by Rep. Don Young (AK) and co-sponsored by Shelley Berkley (NV). The purpose of the bill is to encourage partnerships among Federal and State agencies, Indian tribes, academic institutions, and public and private stakeholders to: (1) prevent against the introduction and spread of harmful invasive species; (2) protect, enhance, restore, and manage a variety of habitats for native plants, fish, and wildlife; and (3) establish early detection and rapid response capabilities to combat incipient harmful invasive species. The bill authorizes \$80 million per year for 2011-2015 through federal loans, of which at least 25% of the loan must be repaid in 10yrs. However, “In-Kind Repayment” will be accepted for maintenance, remediation, prevention, alteration, repair, improvement, or restoration activities.

House Passes Bill to Expand Research on Harmful Algal Blooms - In March, the House of Representatives passed legislation that would expand research on harmful algal blooms and hypoxia in U.S. marine and fresh waters. The Harmful Algal Blooms and Hypoxia Research and Control Amendments Act of 2009 (HR 3650), sponsored by Representative Brian Baird (D-WA), passed by voice vote after falling two votes shy of passage under the two-thirds majority needed under suspension of House rules. If enacted, the bill would double authorizations for harmful algal blooms and hypoxia research programs at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), up to \$41 million a year. The legislation would also require NOAA to oversee the development of regional research and action plans for addressing these poor water quality events. The Senate is currently considering similar legislation (S. 952), which was approved by the Senate Commerce Committee last year.

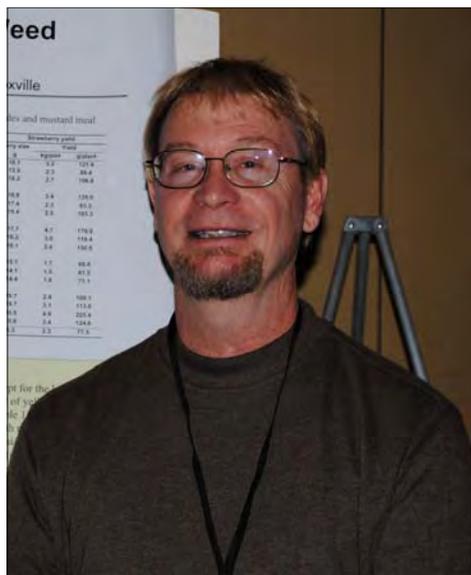
NEWSS News

Award Winners—2010 Annual Meeting, Cambridge, MA

Graduate student paper presentation awards went to: 3rd place: Matthew Cutulle, Virginia Tech; 2nd place: Angela Post, Virginia Tech; and 1st place: Katherine Ghantous, Univ. of Mass.



Graduate poster contest awards went to: 3rd place: John Cummins, Univ. of Tenn.; 2nd place: Katelyn Venner, Rutgers Univ.; and 1st place: Tomas Zavada, Univ. of Mass—Boston.



Award Winners—2010 Annual Meeting, Cambridge, MA

Photo contest awards went to: 3rd place: Nelson DeBarros, Penn State, for his photo of common milkweed; 2nd place: Javier Vargas, Univ. of Tenn., for his photo of musk thistle; and 1st place: Randy Prostak, Univ. of Mass., for his photo of wild carrot.



Annual Business Meeting



NEWSS News

NEWSS Awards Ceremony



Left: Two students received the 'Robert D. Sweet Outstanding Graduate Student Award' - Matt Ryan, Penn State Univ. and Katherine Ghantous, Univ. of Mass.

Below: Dwight Lingenfelter received the Outstanding Educator Award

Todd Mervosh received the Outstanding Researcher Award



Scott Glenn received the Distinguished Member Award

Far right:

Betty Marose received the Award of Merit

Irene Tsontakis-Bradley received the Service Recognition Award. (not pictured)



Bob Sweet was formally recognized for his 30-year contribution as the NEWSS representative to CAST at the Annual Awards Luncheon at our last meeting in Cambridge. Randy Prostak, the current CAST representative, read a letter of congratulations (below) from John Bonner, CAST Executive Vice President and Todd Patterson, CAST President, congratulating Bob for his unprecedented service. We also thanked Bob for his record, which I am sure will never be broken and we will still look forward to seeing Bob at our annual meetings. Submitted by: David Yarborough.



November 30, 2009

Dear Dr. Yarborough and Members of the Northeastern Weed Science Society,

We would like to express our sincere congratulations and best wishes to Dr. Robert Sweet on his retirement as a member of CAST's Board of Directors representing the Northeastern Weed Science Society (NEWSS) after more than 30 years of service. CAST appreciates not only the longevity of Bob's contributions—unparalleled in CAST's nearly four-decade history—but also his unwavering enthusiasm for advancing CAST's mission of communicating science-based information and for helping define and magnify the "job description" for an active, committed CAST Board Representative.

Bob consistently demonstrates a willingness to learn beyond his own discipline, a critical component in CAST's efforts to bring together the best science for the best solutions to agricultural challenges. And he exemplifies his own signature statement—"People can disagree without being disagreeable"—teaching countless individuals and groups how to maximize science for maximum positive impact.

From all of us who have had the privilege of working with Bob—and from all of those who will yet benefit from his contributions to CAST and agricultural science—we convey our deepest thanks.

Best regards,

John M. Bonner, CAST Executive Vice President/CEO

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Todd A. Peterson". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Todd A. Peterson, CAST President

NEWSS News

Pictures from the 64th Annual Meeting—Theme: “Meeting the Challenges of Food Production in Africa”

General Session and Symposium speakers—



(Above) The general session was opened with a Welcome Address by Scott Soares, Massachusetts Commissioner of Agriculture (left), followed by Dave Yarborough’s Presidential address (center). An invited Speaker from the Mount Auburn Cemetery, David Barnett (right), gave an extraordinary talk on the preservation and enhancement of the cemetery landscape.

(Right) Symposium speakers included (l to r) Albert Ayeni, Rutgers University International Research Programs; Leonard Gianessi, CropLife Foundation; Peter Jeranyama, UMass Cranberry Station; and Daniel Gustafson, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.



Special Workshops at the 64th Annual Meeting included:

Weed Seedbanks: Dynamics and Implications for Management. Speakers included (from l to r): John Teasdale, Matt Ryan, Eric Gallandt, Steven Mirsky, and Dave Mortensen.



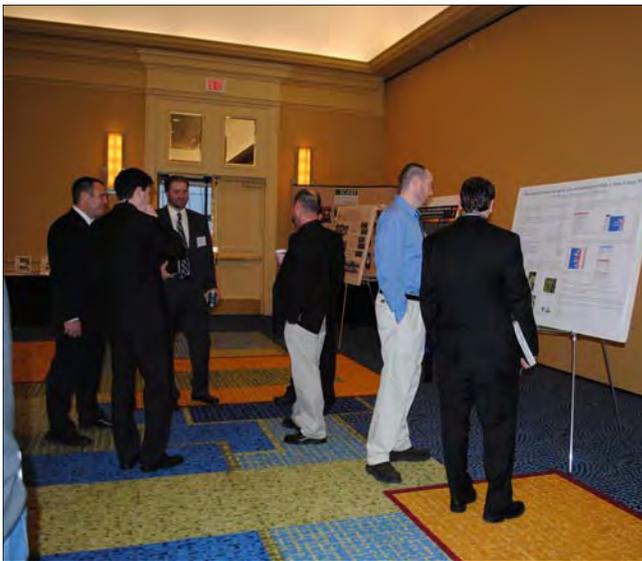
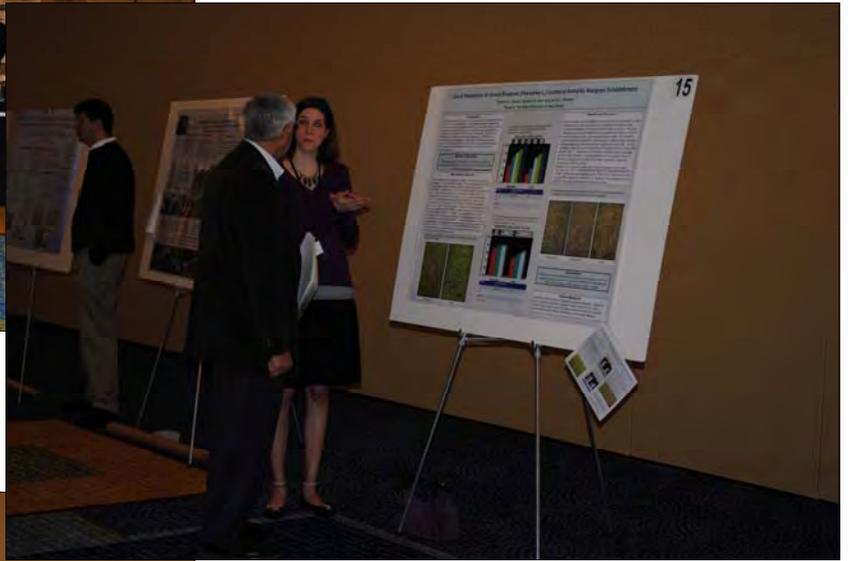
Technology and Extension: New Media Options Uncovered and Demonstrated for Use in Extension and Teaching. Peg Shuffstall and Dwight Lingenfelter conducted the workshop.



NEWSS News

Pictures from the Meeting -

Poster Session



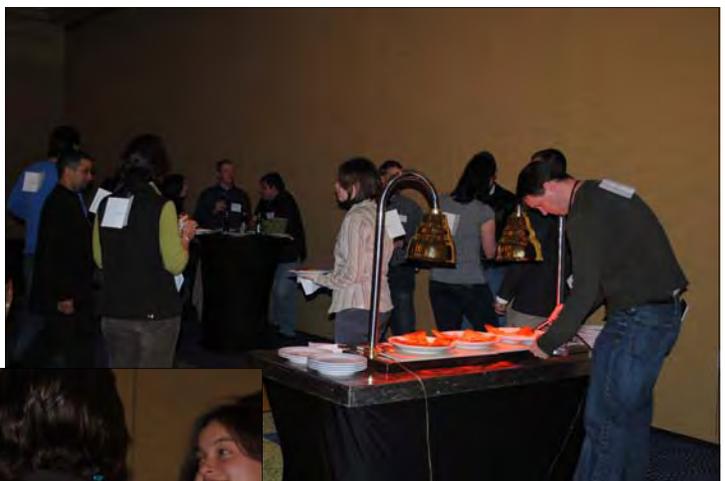
Pictures from the Meeting -



Past Presidents' Breakfast



Graduate Student Mixer



NEWSS News

64th Annual Meeting - Industry & NEWSS/NEASHS Social Events





NOTE: It is recommended to use Adobe Reader 8 or above with this document. Some email hyperlinks (e.g., first.last@company.com) will not work otherwise. Free upgrades are available at adobe.com.



NORTHEASTERN WEED SCIENCE SOCIETY

Northeastern weed science society

The Northeastern Weed Science Society serves the Northeastern United States by bringing together those who are concerned with the knowledge of weeds and their control; cooperates with other scientific societies to promote research, education, and outreach activities; and publishes scientific and practical information of value concerning Weed Science and related fields.

NEWSS Website:

www.newss.org



NORTHEASTERN WEED SCIENCE SOCIETY

2010 Sustaining Members

Platinum



Gold



Silver



Bayer CropScience



Bronze

BAAR Scientific

Crop Management Strategies
Gylying Data Management

LABServices, Inc.

For-Shore Weed Control

Volunteers

Needed:

For the 2010 Northeastern Collegiate Weed Science Contest in Freeville, NY.

Tuesday, July 27

Please contact Larissa Smith at lls14@cornell.edu or 607-255-2177 to volunteer!

Sponsor a

Student**

On-line payment via ACTEVA will soon be available at the website.

www.newss.org

**see page 4 for details