COMMENTS FROM THE PRESIDENT

In less than two months, our 68th NEWSS Annual Meeting will be upon us. It will be held January 6 - 9, 2014 at the Sheraton Society Hill in Philadelphia, PA. (Please note this is one week later than usual, due to New Year’s Day falling mid-week.) We have been at this venue previously and since then it has undergone some nice renovations.

Greg Armel is working on the overall program, the General Session and a symposium. The theme of the meeting is “Weed Control in the Future.” Greg has assembled an interesting and well-rounded group of people to provide insight during the symposium on what weed management is heading towards and what it may look like in the years to come. Aside from the plenary sessions, there will be our usual set of concurrent topical sessions in which we can share information on research and education.

Again, we are pleased to have the Northeast Region of the American Society for Horticultural Science (NE-ASHS) join us. In addition to their sessions, we will be hosting a workshop on weed management in vegetable crops. This workshop has been organized by Rakesh Chandran and will bring together a group of weed scientists to discuss various means of controlling weeds in these crops. We hope this allows for some outside participants to take advantage of this opportunity.

The program is filled to capacity. Committee meetings, poster set-up, and the Graduate student social will occur on Monday. Tuesday events include the poster session, general session, the main symposium, and the evening social. During Wednesday, the graduate student paper contest will occur in addition to certain concurrent sessions and the Business meeting. On Wednesday night, the ever popular industry-sponsored Nightcap and Dessert Social will take place. Then on Thursday morning, numerous concurrent sessions will ensue. Our society awards will be presented during the meeting, and election of Vice-President and committee members will take place during the Business meeting. Please see the following articles for more details about the program.

The Sheraton Society Hill is nicely located in the historic district of Philadelphia, with easy access off I-95. You will only be a few blocks away from the Liberty Bell, Independence Hall, plus bars, pubs and gourmet cuisine, which ever you may fancy. Our hotel rate is $124/night, with discounted valet parking of $17/night and free guest room wi-fi. The website for direct room reservations is: https://www.starwoodmeeting.com/Book/NEWSS2014

Our cutoff date is December 15, 2013, but don't wait too long to reserve rooms!
For those flying into the Philadelphia airport, shuttle service is available through Lady Liberty Shuttle Service that will take people from the airport to the hotel. The cost is $10.00 per person cash or credit. Phones are located in baggage claim that will connect you directly to the shuttle company. Just tell them what terminal you are at and they will come pick you up. If you would like to call and confirm a reservation, the number is 215-724-8888. On the return trip, the hotel front desk or concierge can make shuttle arrangements when heading back to the airport.

For those driving to Philly in larger vehicles (i.e., maxi-vans or pickups with caps), the maximum height is 6 feet in the parking garage. There is an additional $10.00 charge for oversized vehicles.

I encourage you to look through this newsletter as it contains critical information. Your Executive Committee has done an outstanding job preparing for this conference.

I have enjoyed the opportunity to serve as your President. Our society has a very capable and dedicated Executive Committee that will keep the society viable and continuing onward in coming years. I want to thank everyone for their support; we have very dedicated members that are willing to be involved and help in whatever capacity. I look forward to seeing everyone in Philly in January!

Dwight Lingenfelter
NEWSS President

Sheraton Society Hill Hotel

Sheraton Society Hill
1 Dock Street, Philadelphia, PA 19106
Phone: 215-238-6000
http://www.sheratonphiladelphiasocietyhill.com/

RESERVE ROOMS BEFORE DECEMBER 15

Philadelphia International Airport - 9 miles from the hotel
There are 25 airlines that fly into PHL. Driving directions from the airport are listed below

Amtrak - 2.6 miles from the hotel
Station Building
2955 Market Street
30th Street Station
Philadelphia, PA 19104

Greyhound - 1.2 miles from the hotel
1001 Filbert St
Philadelphia, PA 19107

Driving Directions

From Philadelphia International Airport
Take Interstate 95 North to Exit 20 (Columbus Boulevard). Turn left at the traffic light onto Columbus. Turn left turn at the sixth light for Dock Street. Turn right at the stop sign. The hotel is on the right-hand side.

From East
Take Ben Franklin Bridge from Camden, stay in the right lane. Take the first right off of bridge to Sixth Street then follow Sixth Street to Market Street and turn left. Follow Market to Second Street and turn right. Follow Second Street to Dock Street and the hotel is on the left.

From North
Take Interstate 95 South to Exit 20 (Columbus Boulevard). At the bottom of the ramp, turn left onto Columbus Boulevard. Follow for 3 traffic lights to Dock Street and turn left. Continue to a dead end and turn right. The hotel will be on the right.

From West
Take Pennsylvania Turnpike to 76 East (Exit 326 - Valley Forge). Follow 76 East to 676 East (Exit 344 - Central Philadelphia). Continue on 676 East to Interstate 95 South. Take I-95 South to Penn's Landing (Exit 20). At the bottom of the ramp, turn left onto Columbus Boulevard. Follow to Dock Street and turn left. Continue to the dead end and turn right. The hotel is on the right-hand side.
2014 Annual Meeting

I hope everyone is excited about our Annual Meeting at the Sheraton Society Hill on the week of Jan 6th 2014. We have a great program scheduled in conjunction with the Northeastern American Society for Horticultural Sciences (NE-ASHS). The theme of our 2014 meeting will be “Weed Control in the Future” which will be highlighted by a symposium with several special guest speakers from university, industry, and government who will provide us updates on the latest and greatest technologies in weed management. Moreover, they will give us some key insights into the challenges in bringing new innovations to the market. Also, thanks to leadership from Vice President Rakesh Chandran we will be having a workshop focusing on strategies and insights for vegetable production.

Finally, our regular program is also really exciting with 111 separate poster and oral presentations in agronomy, turfgrass and plant growth regulators, fruits and vegetables, ornamentals, weed ecology and biology, and vegetation management and restoration. Below is a rough schedule of events for our meeting. Please be aware that times and locations may change a bit as we get closer to the event. The final program will be posted to the website after we ship off to the printers for publishing.

2015 Annual Meeting

As you know, I recently initiated some polling to determine our 2015 location for the NEWSS meeting. Through multiple rounds of surveying, we had identified two locations: Raleigh, NC and Orlando, FL. However, we were not able to identify a hotel in these two areas that would deliver us a room rate consistent with our past meetings and offer us the amenities we desire as an organization. To that end, we expanded our search to other locations and found available hotels in Roanoke, VA and Williamsburg, VA that offered to host our group and provided us rates consistent with our previous meetings. After a recent site visit to venues in both cities it became clear to us that Roanoke, VA offered us the best facilities for our event. Therefore, our meeting will be held from January 5-8, 2015 at the beautiful and historic Hotel Roanoke in Roanoke, VA. For more information on the hotel and things to do in the Roanoke area please go to the following links:
(http://www.visitroanokeva.com/visitors/history/roanoke-history/)

Education Fund (a.k.a Endowment Fund)

Our committee has finally completed its Education Fund bylaws, and they have been voted upon and approved by the NEWSS Executive Committee. Currently our Education Fund has assets of $7,900 ($5,000 contributed by the board with $2,900 being submitted by generous NEWSS members). Our by-laws dictate that the fund must have at least $20,000 to become capable of delivering any type of disbursements for educational support. So right now we need to collect another $12,100 to activate our Education Fund. By my calculation, if everyone who looks at this newsletter contributes just $75 then our new Education Fund will become an active force in the education of our members. So I challenge each of our members to find at least $75 to contribute to our Education Fund so we can start to make a positive impact in the expansion of educational programs for the NEWSS.

You will be able to make a donation very easily when you register online through our PayPal supported credit card payment system. Or you can make checks payable to the Northeastern Weed Science Society with a clear designation in the comment section that your funds should be used for the Education Fund. These checks can be brought to our meeting and given to me, Erin Hitchner, or any other member of our Education Fund committee.
If you would like to send checks for the Education Fund before the meeting or at any time, send them to the following address:

NEWSS, Treasurer
P.O. Box 25
Woodstown, NJ 0809

Thank you,

*Greg Armel*
President Elect

**NEWSS 68th Annual Meeting**
**Sheraton Society Hill**
**Philadelphia, PA**

**CONDENSED PROGRAM**

**MONDAY, JANUARY 6, 2014**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Committee Meetings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Drop off photo contest entries at Registration Desk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Posters set-up</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Commercial Displays set-up</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Program Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Graduate Student Mixer</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 7, 2014**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Speaker's Preparation Room</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Poster Judging</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:45 a.m.</td>
<td>Posters (authors present)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:45 a.m.</td>
<td>Commercial Displays set-up</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Job Positions at Registration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00 a.m.</td>
<td>General Session and Awards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Lunch break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:30 p.m.</td>
<td>New Innovations in Weed Management Symposium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Posters (authors not present)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Commercial Displays</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8, 2014**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Past-Presidents' Breakfast and Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Speaker's Preparation Room</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Joint NE-ASHS and NEWSS Fruit &amp; Vegetable Workshop</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Job Positions at Registration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Posters (authors not present)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Commercial Displays</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Graduate Student Presentations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:45 a.m.</td>
<td>Lunch break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:15 p.m.</td>
<td>Graduate Student Presentations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:15 p.m.</td>
<td>Joint NE-ASHS and NEWSS Fruit &amp; Vegetable Workshop</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:45 p.m.</td>
<td>Agronomy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:45 p.m.</td>
<td>Ornamentals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:45 p.m.</td>
<td>Turfgrass &amp; Plant Growth Regulators</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:45 p.m.</td>
<td>Weed Biology &amp; Ecology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Student Paper Judging Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:45 p.m.</td>
<td>NEWSS Annual Business Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Industry Dessert Social and Nightcap</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 9, 2014**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Executive Committee (Old and New)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Speaker's Preparation Room</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Job Positions at Registration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Agronomy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Turfgrass &amp; Plant Growth Regulators</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Vegetation Management &amp; Restoration</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**IMPORTANT**

Please download your presentations at the Registration Desk at the meeting!!

*USB memory sticks are required.*

**Deadline for Downloading Presentations**

**NEWSS Graduate Students:** Tuesday 6:30pm

**All other NEWSS Presentations:**

**Wednesday 8:45am**

**VICE-PRESIDENT’S REPORT**

[Image of Rakesh Chandran]

Rakesh Chandran

A workshop focusing on weed management in vegetables is planned for the 68th Annual Meeting in Philadelphia. The panel will include Robin Bellinder, Rich Bonanno, Brad Majek, Sudeep Mathew, Edith Lurvey, and Mark VanGessel. The NE-ASHS also expressed a strong interest to participate in this event. The workshop will be held on January 8th (Wednesday) afternoon but we are planning to dedicate the entire day towards vegetable production by including concurrent sessions on vegetables from both NEWSS and NE-ASHS for the rest of the day.

I would like to solicit ideas from our membership for potential topics for symposia and workshops at our 2015 annual meeting and also suggestions for a meeting location in 2016, as our society celebrates its 70th anniversary. I wish you safe and productive fall, happy holiday season, and look forward to seeing you as we start 2014 together!

*Rakesh Chandran
Vice President*

**REPORT FROM THE EDITOR**

[Image of Art Gover]

Art Gover

I want to thank everyone who shared their work with the Society by submitting titles and abstracts for this year’s meeting in Philadelphia. In the current vernacular, there were no 'glitches' in the online system, and I am very pleased that we are able work with WSSA’s site manager, Apex Web Studios.

**NOTE:** You do not need to submit your presentations in advance through the website this year. We did that in 2013 to fall in line with WSSA practice. NEWSS will be returning to our traditional practice of having speakers provide their presentations to the Section Chairs at the meeting.

The Program and Proceedings are coming together as you read this, and the final program will be available at the NEWSS website (www.newss.org) in early December. The printed program booklets will be available at the registration desk at the meeting. This year’s Program and Proceedings cover will feature the winner of the 2013 Photo Contest - velvetleaf seeds submitted by Farnaz Kordbacheh of Cornell University.

**2014 NEWSS Photo Contest**

The tradition continues– the best kept secret of the Society’s Annual Meeting, the Photo Contest, will again feature huge prizes, and a high probability of pay-off. That is, if tradition persists and the number of entries is low. Step up to Big Pay, folks, and submit your photos of weed related happenings.

Photos can be dropped off at the registration desk until Tuesday, January 7, at 5:30 pm. The Photo Judging Committee will meet that evening to judge the entries. The preferred photo media is on CD or memory stick, and the preferred file format is JPG. We would like to have the images in their highest resolution, as the winning image will be featured on the covers of the 2015
meeting program and proceedings. If you would like to send your photos early, you can email them directly to Art Gover at aeg2@psu.edu. Remember to clearly identify the species and label the picture file with a descriptive title and your name (ex. AmbrosiaPollen_Jane Doe).

Rules for the contest can be found in the NEWSS Manual of Operating Procedures Addendum 5 (http://www.newss.org/docs/mop/addendum-5.pdf).

- Contestants can enter up to 5 photos (only one can win).
- Photos can be of anything associated with weed science – push the envelope.
- Judges will consider subject, composition, technical aspects, and overall appeal.
- Three Prizes - certificates and $100 for 1st, $50 for 2nd, and $25 for 3rd.

Please adhere to the drop-off deadline Tuesday, January 7 before 5:30 pm.

QUESTIONS: Please send an email to Art Gover (aeg2@psu.edu).

TREASURER'S REPORT

Erin Hitchner

Welcome 2014 Northeastern Weed Science Society members and conference attendees. This year, we are using PayPal to facilitate our online membership dues, meeting registration fees as well as Proceedings orders. You can use a PayPal account to make these purchases or any major credit card. Proceedings ordered via PayPal will be available for pick-up at the meeting. Please visit the NEWSS website (http://www.newss.org/annualmeeting.php) to access the PayPal link and other relevant meeting information. We will also have the means to process credit card payments at the meeting for the convenience of our membership. If you prefer to pay for any of these items via mail, please see the mail-in registration form also listed on the NEWSS website.

Please Note: The registration deadline is December 15, 2013. Any registration received after this date will incur a $30 late fee.

Lastly, Proceedings from the 2013 Annual Meeting which took place in Baltimore are also still available for purchase ($35) and will be available at the meeting. For questions, please contact me at erin.hitchner@syngenta.com.

NEWSS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2013


EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Dwight Lingenfelter
Greg Armel
Rakesh Chandran
Erin Hitchner
Antonio DiTommaso
Keith Burnell
Art Gover
John Orlowski
Bryan Dillehay
John O’Barr
Todd Mervosh
Jacob Barney
Randy Prostak
Lee Van Wychen

President
President Elect
Vice President
Treasurer
Past President
Membership Chair
Editor
Graduate Student Rep.
Research & Education
Sustaining Membership
Public Relations Rep.
WSSA Representative
CAST Representative
Science Policy Director
Scenes in and around the Sheraton Society Hill
(photos by Todd Mervosh – October 2013)

Lobby of Sheraton Society Hill

A few of the many historic buildings and sculptures

City Tavern - less than 1 block from Sheraton
If anyone is not getting or knows of anyone not getting the newsletter or emails due to not being on the email list, incorrect email address, email address has changed, or any other reason, please notify me (keith.burnell@syngenta.com) to have this corrected. In addition, if you are a member and any of your contact information has changed or needs updating, please send it to me.

If you have names of any members that need to be included in the necrology report, please notify me. Thanks.

Also, I am seeking help at the registration desk. If any student is interested, please contact me at keith.burnell@syngenta.com for more information.

First order of business is to find a replacement for me on the board as your WSSA Representative. This is a three-year term enabling you to be a part of both the NEWSS and WSSA boards as a voting member. You get an inside perspective on how both societies function, while also having a participatory role in their activities. The responsibilities are to attend four board meeting in person (2 NEWSS, 2 WSSA) annually, but half of those occur at the annual meetings. NEWSS also gives travel support to attend the WSSA summer board meeting, which in the next three years will be in Lexington, KY, Puerto Rico, and Tucson, AZ - pretty nice places! Please contact me or Dwight.
Lingenfelter regarding additional details, but I can say without rhetoric that I truly enjoyed the experience, and would highly recommend doing so to others.

I don't have much new information regarding WSSA since the previous newsletter. I will remind you that the upcoming meeting is a joint meeting with the Canadian Weed Science Society in Vancouver, British Columbia - February 3-6, 2014. Also, the 2016 meeting in Puerto Rico will also be a joint meeting with the Southern Weed Science Society. As always, I encourage you to attend these important national conferences. For more info see www.wssa.net.

It has been a pleasure serving the NEWSS membership!

Jacob Barney
WSSA Liaison

CANDIDATE FOR NEWSS VICE PRESIDENT

Dr. Shawn Askew is originally from Mt. Olive, Mississippi. He obtained his B.S. (1995) and M.S. (1997) degrees at Mississippi State University. His M.S. was in Weed Science with a minor in Botany under the direction of Dr. David Shaw. He received his Ph.D. degree in Weed Science at North Carolina State University (2001) under the direction of the late Dr. John Wilcut.

Shawn started his career in 2001 as Assistant Professor and Extension Specialist in turfgrass weed science at Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University (Virginia Tech) in Blacksburg. His responsibilities include weed management recommendations for turfgrass in Virginia and heading the Phytochemistry and Radiological Materials Laboratory in the Department of Plant Pathology, Physiology, and Weed Science, where he now serves as Associate Professor. He is also the acting head of the Virginia Weed Clinic at Virginia Tech. Shawn’s research has focused on turfgrass weed management, lateral movement of turfgrass herbicides, and managing transition of overseeded turfgrasses. He has authored or co-authored hundreds of scientific and trade publications and speaks at over 75 venues per year. He has extended weed science research through 437 invited or volunteered publications since 1996.

Shawn has mentored 35 undergraduate and hourly employees and advised 15 graduate students. Currently he mentors four Ph.D. students and one M.S. student, teaches two courses and guest lectures in seven different courses at Virginia Tech. Shawn and his students are very active in SWSS, NEWSS, and WSSA and have presented research at every meeting for these societies since he started at Virginia Tech in 2001. He actively promotes student involvement in the societies by coaching weed team participants for Virginia Tech; in addition, he and his students hosted the Northeastern Weed Science Contest in 2007.

Shawn served previously as the webmaster for NEWSS. He is currently chair of the computer science committee and serves on several other committees for SWSS. He completed two terms as Associate Editor for Weed Technology. Shawn has received numerous honors from the societies including the SWSS Outstanding Graduate Student Award at the M.S. level in 1998 and the WSSA Outstanding Graduate Student Award in 2002. He was awarded the Outstanding Researcher Award by NEWSS in 2008 and the Allen H. Kates Extension Employee of the Year by Virginia Tech in 2010, along with the WSSA and SWSS Outstanding Early Career Awards in 2012 and 2013, respectively.
Farm Bill Progress Slow but Steady

The extension of the 2008 Farm Bill expired Sept. 30, but lawmakers are looking at Jan. 1, 2014 as the critical deadline when permanent 1938 and 1949 agriculture laws take effect, triggering higher crop and dairy supports. We were in this scenario a year ago, but have made some slow, steady progress since then. The Senate passed their version of a new Farm Bill for the second time in two years in June, but the House failed on their first attempt. After that, the House split their Farm Bill legislation into two separate bills. The first bill, which has been referred to as the “Farm Bill Farm Bill” (H.R. 2642) was passed 216-208 on July 11. The second bill contains only the Nutrition Title (H.R. 3102) and was passed on September 19 by a 217-210 vote.

Neither bill received a Democratic vote because of Republican proposals to restrict SNAP eligibility for certain recipients, to separate the Nutrition title from the Farm Bill and review it on a 3 year cycle, and for their overall food stamp reimbursement rate reductions as compared to the Senate. The 41-member Farm Bill conference committee composed of 12 Senators and 29 Representatives has been negotiating details for the past couple of weeks. They met publically for the first time on October 30 to give their opening statements, but it is likely the remainder of the negotiations will occur behind closed doors. The conference committee has an almost impossible task of finding a middle ground and negotiating some very significant differences between the bills from the two chambers. One thing the Farm Bill has going for it is the four principle negotiators are all strong supporters of ag and food policy.

The “principles” are House Agriculture Committee Chair Frank Lucas (R-OK) and Ranking Member Collin Peterson (D-MN), and Senate Agriculture Committee Chair Debbie Stabenow (D-MI) and Ranking Member Thad Cochran (R-MS).

WSSA Recognized for Pesticide Stewardship

At their annual meeting in August, the American Association of Pesticide Safety Educators (AAPSE) passed two resolutions recognizing the work of WSSA and its members on pesticide stewardship outreach issues. The first AAPSE resolution recognized the various stewardship activities that the WSSA has undertaken over the past few years. These activities include trying to find stable federal funding for the Pesticide Safety Education Program (PSEP), the Public Awareness committee’s 11 part pesticide stewardship series, and the Herbicide Resistant Plants and Herbicide Resistance Education Committee’s development of the online Lesson Modules for Herbicide Resistant Weeds.

A new lesson module for turf crops was just released, and there are upcoming modules being developed for aquatics and non-crop land weeds. The second AAPSE resolution recognized the work of the 41-member National Stakeholder Team for PSEP funding. The WSSA is a member of this diverse team of representatives from government, industry, and academia, plus WSSA member Carol Somody has helped lead the stakeholder team as co-chair over the past couple years.

Harden Confirmed as USDA Deputy Secretary

Krysta L. Harden was confirmed by the Senate in July to succeed Kathleen Merrigan as the number two in charge at USDA behind Secretary Vilsack. Krysta received strong bipartisan support from the Senate Ag Committee members and was introduced and
endorsed by two of her home state Congressman from Georgia- Sen. Saxby Chambliss and Rep. Sanford Bishop. Prior to her nomination as USDA Deputy Secretary, Harden was the USDA Chief of Staff and the Assistant Secretary for Congressional Relations. She also spent 5 years as the CEO of the National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD).

Krysta got her start in Washington DC in 1981 with Rep. Charles Hatcher where she worked as Press Secretary, Legislative Director, and Chief of Staff. She also was Staff Director for the U.S. House Committee on Agriculture, Subcommittee on Peanuts and Tobacco. Krysta has an excellent understanding of agricultural issues and often mentions her parent’s farm in Camilla, Georgia. She is acutely aware of the herbicide-resistant Palmer amaranth in her home state and pledged USDA’s help in addressing the problem when she spoke at a herbicide resistance stakeholder workshop on Sept. 26 in Washington, DC, organized by the National and Regional Weed Science Societies.

**Knipling Retires from USDA-ARS**

Dr. Edward B. Knipling has retired from USDA-ARS after 46 years of service, which included the last 9 years as Administrator. He joined ARS in 1968 as a research plant physiologist in Gainesville, FL, followed by work in Stoneville, MS, Fresno, CA, and then Beltsville, MD where he was appointed Associate Administrator in 1997, and as Administrator in July 2004. Dr. Knipling is a native of Texas, but grew up primarily in the Washington, D.C. area. His father was Edward F Knipling, who also worked for USDA-ARS and was well known for his work developing the Sterile Insect Technique. Dr. Knipling earned a B.S. in forestry in 1961 from Virginia Tech University and received his M.A. in 1963 and Ph.D. in 1966 in plant physiology from Duke University.

Lee Van Wychen, Ph.D.
Science Policy Director
National and Regional Weed Science Societies
5720 Glenmullen Place
Alexandria, VA 22303
Lee.VanWychen@wssa.net
cell: 202-746-4686

**2014 NAIPSC WEB COURSE**

For the first time, a “field course” on invasive plants is being offered online. A computer and Internet connection are all you’ll need to participate. The NAIPSC Web Course (WC) is a two-day course that will provide in-depth learning about the topics you’d expect in a traditional invasive plants field course. You’ll hear from top instructors and have the opportunity to communicate with them and other participants in real-time using a reliable interface supported by the University of Nebraska–Lincoln. Whether you have limited or in-depth understanding of invasive plants, you will gain new knowledge for immediate application to your particular situation. For more information and registration details, visit the NAIPSC website (http://ipscourse.unl.edu). The NAIPSC WC will be January 22-23, 2014.

NEWSS NEWS was compiled by Todd Mervosh, Public Relations Representative. Please contact him at todd.mervosh@ct.gov or 860-683-4984 with any corrections, suggestions, or items to include in the next newsletter (April 2014 issue).
COLLEGIATE WEED SCIENCE CONTEST
Students from NEWSS and NCWSS
Monsanto Research & Learning Center

Thanks to all the Monsanto representatives and other volunteers, many who traveled very far, to help make the Weed Contest a success.

NEWSS Contest Winners

North Carolina State University: Graduate Teams
Front (l to r): Sushila Chaudhari, R. Eric Paynter, Alexandra Knight; Back (l to r): Matthew Inman, Nicholas Basinger, Bryan Hicks, Thierry Besançon, Lewis Braswell

NCSU 1st Place Graduate Team:
Thierry Besançon, Sushila Chaudhari, Alexandra Knight, R. Eric Paynter

NCSU 2nd Place Graduate Team:
Nicholas Basinger, Lewis Braswell, Bryan Hicks, Matthew Inman

Penn State 3rd Place Graduate Team:
Kelly Patches, Denyse Schrenker, Clair Keene

1st Place Graduate:
Sushila Chaudhari, NC State University with Dwight Lingenfelter, NEWSS President

2nd Place Graduate:
Courtney Stokes, Cornell University

3rd Place Graduate:
Clair Keene, Penn State University
Univ. of Guelph 1st Place Undergraduate Team: Jacob Nederend, Jordan Eyamie, Johanna Burrows

Univ. of Guelph 2nd Place Undergraduate Team: Thomas Heeman, Nicole Bloetjes, Joshua Burrows

Penn State Univ. 3rd Place Undergraduate Team: Lyle Stephens, Kaycee Browell, Phil Sebulsky, Rachel DeFlumeri

1st Place Undergraduate: Johanna Burrows, Univ. of Guelph with Dwight Lingenfelter, NEWSS President

2nd Place Undergraduate: Nicole Bloetjes, Univ. of Guelph

3rd Place Undergraduate: Jordan Eyamie, Univ. of Guelph
North Carolina State University teams

Penn State University teams

University of Guelph teams