As summer winds down, it is that time of year to assess our results from this year’s work and plan for new activities. There are a few NEWSS activities to draw your attention to.

Firstly, we had another very successful Collegiate Weed Science Contest. The contest was hosted by the weed team at Penn State at their farm site just outside of State College. We had a wonderful turnout and I would like to sincerely thank all the students, volunteers, and coaches who sacrificed their time and energy to participate in another great event. Moreover, I pass along my gratitude to Dwight Lingenfelter, Bill Curran, and the entire Penn State group for hosting such a wonderful event for our society.

The NEWSS Executive Committee also met at the time of the weed contest and we had very productive session. Aside from normal business issues, we have begun working on the 69th Annual Meeting to be held January 5-8, 2015 at the Williamsburg Lodge in Williamsburg, VA. We have negotiated a room rate of $125/night with free parking and free internet included in the package. The hotel is located in the heart of Colonial Williamsburg and should offer a nice setting for our annual meeting. Please visit the Williamsburg Lodge website for more details: http://www.colonialwilliamsburg.com/stay/williamsburg-lodge/?WT.mc_id=2475&gclid=CP--4cWMkcACFeRj7AodlgcAPg). Rakesh Chandran is busy planning a great program for our meeting in Williamsburg, so please think about potential titles and abstracts to strengthen this meeting. Look for additional announcements regarding our annual meeting by email or online as more information becomes available later in the year (www.newss.org).
As we look ahead to our 2016 meeting, I am happy to announce that we have commitments from the Northeast Division of the American Phytopathological Society, Northeastern American Society of Agronomy, Eastern Branch of the Entomological Society of America, and the Northeastern Branch of the American Society for Horticultural Sciences to join us for a joint meeting called the “Northeastern Plant Health and Pest Conference”. This never before attempted joint meeting will be held at the Sheraton Society Hill in Philadelphia, PA. We are initiating planning for this event with leadership from the other societies so that we accentuates the benefits of our group meeting, while still allowing each society to maintain those things about their current meetings which are special to their members. There will definitely be a balance to our efforts, but I think this meeting will offer up the opportunity for us all to broaden our knowledge in other agricultural related disciplines, while concurrently forging new relationships with scientists who have some different perspectives and backgrounds. As we move forward in planning for this meeting, I may ask many of you for special assistance in the design and implementation of key aspects of this meeting, so I ask that each of us do what we can to make this joint meeting a huge success.

As always, it takes input and participation from our membership to keep the NEWSS a functioning and relevant society. Have a good fall season and I look forward to seeing each of you in Williamsburg in January.

Greg Armel
NEWSS President
PAST PRESIDENT’S REPORT

Call for NEWSS Awards Nominations

It is that time of year again! The NEWSS Awards Committee, which includes Dwight Lingenfelter as Chair, Toni DiTommaso, Mark VanGessel, Hilary Sandler, and Dave Yarborough are soliciting nominations for the:

• Fellow Award
• Award of Merit
• Outstanding Educator
• Outstanding Researcher
• Robert D. Sweet Outstanding Graduate Student Award
• M. Garry Schnappinger Service Recognition Award

Award nomination information and guidelines are described below and on the web site (http://www.newss.org under “Publications”: “Manual of Operating Procedures – Past President section” and Addendum 6 nomination form.

Please consider nominating one or more of your peers by sending completed nominations to Dwight Lingenfelter (dwight@psu.edu) by October 20, 2014. Specific information is listed below:

AWARD CRITERIA

The Fellow Award is one of the highest honors the Society presents. The purpose of this award is to recognize those members, at any point in their tenure, who have made significant contributions to the NEWSS. Criteria for eligibility are simple: the recipient must have been a member of the NEWSS and have made significant contributions to the NEWSS and to Weed Science in the Northeast.

• The nomination must be by letter and two supporting letters are required.

• The nominating letter should explain in general and specific terms the outstanding contributions of the nominee.

• The contributions must be in regards to NEWSS and weed science in the Northeast.

• Awards Committee members are not eligible.

• Award is limited to a maximum of three recipients per year.

• The Award is a plaque and life membership.

The Award of Merit recognizes career contributions to the NEWSS and weed management in the Northeast. Qualifications for the Award of Merit include: at least 5 years of participation at the annual meeting, service to the NEWSS on the executive committee or as a section chair, and presentation and authorship of papers at the annual meetings. The Award of Merit is normally awarded at or near an individual’s retirement.

• At least five years attendance at the Annual Meeting

• A combination of two or more listed below:
  • Presented or was the author/co-author of at least two papers at the Annual Meeting, or
  • Served the Society for at least two years on the Executive Committee, or
  • Served the Society for at least two years as a Section Chair

• In case of doubt as to whether a member qualifies, the Awards Committee will decide. The Award should be flexible and the purpose or objective of the Award should be the major consideration. Has the person contributed significantly so that the recognition would be meaningful and appreciated?

• A nomination letter and one supporting letter are required. In case of doubt as to whether a nominee qualifies, the Awards Committee will decide.

• The Award is a plaque.

The Outstanding Educator Award was established to recognize outstanding contributions to outreach education or resident instruction in Weed Science and weed management. Accomplishments that may be considered include (but are not limited to)
excellence in Cooperative Extension education, resident instruction, or other educational programs; or the development of novel and effective educational resources in Weed Science. Criteria for the award include:

- Significant impact of an educational program (or programs) on weed management practices in the Northeast; and / or
- Innovative and effective educational programs or materials which have improved or enhanced weed management systems in the Northeast (or show the potential to do so); and / or
- Excellence in teaching, as evidenced by innovative teaching methods or significant impact on their audiences (understanding of Weed Science and weed management).

Candidates for the award must be active members of the NEWSS.
- Public and private sector members are eligible.
- A nomination letter and one supporting letter are required. In case of doubt as to whether a nominee qualifies, the Awards Committee will decide.
- The Award is a plaque.

The Outstanding Researcher Award was established to recognize NEWSS members for their outstanding research contributions, in the public or private sector, that have had (or have the potential to have) a significant impact on weed management practices in the Northeast.

Criteria for the award include:

- Significant impact (or potential for such) of a research program or project on weed management practices in the Northeast; and/or
- Innovative and effective approaches to weed management research and/or
- Developments of novel instrumentation or devices used in weed management or weed science research in the Northeast.

Candidates for the award must be active members of the NEWSS.
- Public and private sector members are eligible.
- A nomination letter and one supporting letter are required. In case of doubt as to whether a nominee qualifies, the Awards Committee will decide.
- The Award is a plaque.

The Robert D. Sweet Outstanding Graduate Student Awards were established to recognize outstanding NEWSS students at the M.S. and Ph.D. levels for their work and contributions to the field of weed science in research, teaching, extension, and to the society.

Criteria for the award include:

- Students must be currently enrolled or have received their degrees no more than 12 months prior to the annual meeting and awards are limited to one M.S. and one Ph.D. per year.
- Students are judged on academic and work history, research, teaching, and outreach activities, service, and honors and awards.
- Awards are limited to a maximum of one M.S. and one Ph.D. level award per year, and both level awards are not required to be given in any one year.
- Winners are student members of NEWSS.
- Winners of the M.S. level award are also eligible for the award during their Ph.D. program.
- A nomination letter and one supporting letter are required. In case of doubt as to whether a nominee qualifies, the Awards Committee will decide.
- The Award is a plaque.

The Garry Schnappinger Service Recognition Award was established to recognize outstanding service, above and beyond the call of duty, from someone who works in the area of weed science under the direction of university, federal, industry or private sector scientists. The nominee must demonstrate significant contributions to the field of weed science and/or to NEWSS. The nominee must be involved in the field of weed science and must have a combination of two or more listed below:

- Presented or was the author/co-author of a paper at the Annual Meeting, or
- Served the Society for at least two years as a Section Chair, or
- Organized or had significant input into the Collegiate Weed Contest, or
- Assisted a NEWSS member with other society duties, or
- Published a paper in other Weed Science journals, or
- Demonstrated other significant weed science activity (public schools or other areas).
• A nomination letter and one supporting letter are required. In case of doubt as to whether a nominee qualifies, the Awards Committee will decide. The Award should be flexible and the purpose or objective of the Award should be the major consideration. The person should have contributed significantly so that the recognition would be meaningful and appreciated. The "Special Recognition Award" can be presented to service personnel who are not members of NEWSS but support members of NEWSS.

• The Award is a plaque.

Please consider nominating a worthy colleague for one of our NEWSS Awards. Contact Dwight Lingenfelter (814) 865-2242 or dwight@psu.edu for more information or with questions.

Call for Vice-President Nominations
This is to announce the opening of nominations for Vice-President. The Chair of the Nomination Committee is Toni DiTommaso; ad97@cornell.edu. Please provide him with names of any individuals you think we should consider for Vice-President of NEWSS.

NEWSS Collegiate Weed Science Contest
We had another successful Collegiate Weed Science Contest. The contest was hosted by Penn State at their Agronomy Research Farm near State College on July 29. Thanks to all the volunteers from NEWSS and Penn State, the contest ran very smoothly. All total, 37 undergraduates (10 teams and 1 individual) and 26 graduates (8 teams) competed from five universities. The universities represented at the contest were Cornell, Guelph, North Carolina State, Ohio State, and Virginia Tech.

The graduate individual winners were: John Brewer (1st, VT), Kristy Perano (2nd, Cornell), and Dan Tekiela (3rd, VT). The undergraduate individual winners were all from Guelph: Stephen Boersma (1st), Chris Budd (2nd), and Joanna Burrows (3rd). The graduate team awards went to: Virginia Tech-Team 1 (1st), NC State-Team 3 (2nd), and Cornell (3rd). The undergraduate team winners were: Guelph-Team 2 (1st), Guelph-Team 1 (2nd), and Guelph-Team 3 (3rd). More details and photos about the contest will be included in the November newsletter. As always, the weed contest was a great opportunity to interact with other students and colleagues in the weed science profession. Regardless of the outcome, the contest allows students to use the practical knowledge gained to, not only assist them during the competition, but also apply it to actual situations upon graduation.

Dwight Lingenfelter
Past President

PRESIDENT-ELECT’S REPORT

Rakesh Chandran

“It’s not good because it’s old, it’s old because it’s good” (Anonymous). The theme for the upcoming meeting in Colonial Williamsburg will be “Bridging the Gap.” The Northeastern Weed Science Society is 69 years old and keeps evolving from its humble beginnings. We all join the society at some point in our professional career and continue our own personal “journey” without much insight or orientation as part of the “big journey” we have collectively embarked upon. Many of us who became NEWSS members in recent years may not be aware of the origins of our society and how the science of weed management has evolved over the years. To this end, the Executive Committee felt it would be worthwhile to listen to stories of our society’s journey since its inception. Dr. Jim Parochetti, a Past President and Fellow, has graciously agreed to lead a symposium to narrate the “story” of NEWSS.

This is an excellent opportunity to bring yourself up to speed on the journey of our society. One may not only find these historical aspects interesting, but certain elements may also serve as a source of ideas for aspiring scientists as they develop new tools for the
Historic Williamsburg serves as an appropriate location for such a theme as well. Please plan on attending the upcoming meeting. It cannot be successful without your active participation! Listed below are the Chairs and Chair-elects for the various sections.

**2015 NEWSS Meeting**

Rakesh Chandran - Program Chair  
Shawn Askew - Program Vice-Chair

**Agronomy**

Bryan Dillehay - Chair  
Wes Everman - Chair-Elect

**Vegetation Management and Restoration**

Javier Vargas - Chair  
Brett Hartis - Chair-Elect

**Ornamentals**

Andy Senesac - Chair  
Todd Mervosh - Chair-Elect

**Poster**

Aman Rana - Chair  
Barbara Scott - Chair-Elect

**Turfgrass and Plant Growth Regulators**

Matt Elmore - Chair  
Katelyn Venner - Chair-Elect

**Vegetables and Fruit**

Jennifer D'Appollonio-Cote - Chair  
Katherine Ghantous - Chair-Elect

**Weed Biology and Ecology**

Katherine Ghantous - Chair  
Daniel Tekiela - Chair-Elect

Recently, a two-day planning meeting was held at the Society Hill Sheraton in Philadelphia under the leadership of NEWSS President Greg Armel to plan the joint meeting in 2016. Representatives of regional entomology and plant pathology societies and ASA/CSSA/SSSA also participated in this meeting. All societies were in agreement to meet jointly in Philadelphia during our regular meeting time-frame (the regional horticultural society is also expected to join us). As excited as we are to host this joint event, we want to ensure that it will be a successful one. The conference will commence on Sunday, January 3 with a public outreach event and will adjourn on Thursday, January 7. An outline of meeting components was chalked out during this planning meeting. Please think of ideas to make this joint meeting a grand success and a productive one for all concerned.

*Rakesh Chandran*  
*President-Elect*

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**TREASURER’S REPORT**

Erin Hitchner  
Treasurer


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*Erin Hitchner*  
*Treasurer*
SUBMITTING TITLES AND ABSTRACTS
We will again be using the website housed through the Weed Science Society of America for title and abstract submissions for our 2015 NEWSS Annual Meeting. Deadlines and instructions are below.

DEADLINES: Titles are due on Friday, September 19. Abstracts are due on Friday, October 31.

LOG-IN. Go to http://wssaabstracts.com. If you submitted a presentation last year, your user login and password have been carried forward. Enter your login (usually your email address) and password and then click 'login'. If you have forgotten your password, click 'Reset Password' and follow the instructions. Be sure your email program/server is able to receive emails from admin@wssaabstracts.com and it is not blocked as junk email. If you are a new user, click 'Setup Account' and follow the instructions.

SUBMIT TITLE (September 8 through September 19). Once logged in using the instructions above, click 'Join a Conference'. You should then see a drop-down list appear at the bottom of the screen. Select "2015 Northeast Weed Science Society" and click 'Add'. Now click the green 'Enter' button that will appear next to 2015 NEWSS. Click 'My Titles and Abstracts' and then 'Add Title/Abstract'. Enter title using WSSA approved common names for crops and weeds (hover cursor over green question mark for formatting hints). Choose Poster or Oral presentation. If an Oral presentation, select your preferences for paper section (e.g. Agronomy, Ornamentals, Biology and Ecology, etc.). Students wishing to compete in the oral competition need to select Student Presentations as your 1st Section choice. Students that are presenting papers but do NOT wish to be in the competition should NOT choose Student Presentations section but other appropriate sections. If competing in either the Oral or Poster student competition, choose 'yes' paper is to be judged.

Authors from 2014 have been carried forward to 2015. Add the applicable authors from the drop-down list or click 'new author' to enter information for any author not already listed. Select the blue box next to the author that will be presenting the paper and use the green arrows to adjust the order the authors are listed if needed.

Once you have double-checked your information, click 'Save'. The submitter and presenter should both receive a confirmation email that your title has been received. You will be able to log back in to edit, add, or delete any title, section, or author information until September 15th. After that time, contact Art Gover (aeg2@psu.edu) and Shawn Askew (saskew@vt.edu) to make changes.

SUBMIT ABSTRACT (September 19 through October 31). Login using instructions above. Click 'My Titles and Abstracts' and select 'Edit' next to the desired title. Click 'Add Key Words' and choose the appropriate selections from the drop-down lists. NOTE: All key words contained in your Title should be actively selected as key words. They will NOT automatically appear in the index if not selected here. If a key word is not found in the prepopulated lists, you can enter additional terms in the User Defined category. Abstract text can be entered directly into the text window or copied from another program. It is not necessary to reenter any title or author information into the text window. Please use Arial font size 12 if copying abstract from another program. This will help ensure that no unintended changes in content or clarity occur when abstracts are converted to Arial font size 12 for the Proceedings. Abstracts over one page will incur additional page charges. To ensure your abstract is one page, the character count (visible at the bottom of the 'Abstract Text' window on the submission page) should not exceed 3200.
You may find it helpful to compose your abstract using the author guidelines (http://www.newss.org/docs/newss-instructions-authors.pdf) prior to online submission to ensure your document will fit the allotted space. If you submit a table with your abstract, this will not incur additional page charges. It is recommended to minimize the use of trade names unless it is an abstract describing the initial evaluations of a new product offering or if multiple formulations of nearly identical herbicide products are being evaluated. If submitting a full paper for publication, Supporting Files (e.g. tables, figures) can be uploaded directly while in the site. Consider adding comments or sending me an email if further formatting explanation is needed for uploaded files.

Once you thoroughly review all information and abstract text and any corrections have been made, click ‘Save’. Edits can be made until October 31 when the Abstract submission site will be closed. After that time, contact Art Gover.

QUESTIONS: Please send an email to both Art Gover (aeg2@psu.edu) and Shawn Askew (saskew@vt.edu).

GRADUATE STUDENT UPDATE

Looking ahead, the next big item is the annual meeting being held January 5-8, 2015 in Williamsburg, Virginia. Greg Armel and the rest of the EC have put in a lot of work to have another quality program. It will be especially nice this year to have the meeting at a location different than the usual sites. Remember the title submission deadline is September 19 and the abstract deadline is October, 31. Please consider entering the Grad Student Paper and Poster competitions for your chance to win your share of fabulous prizes.

Finally, at the meeting in January we will need to elect a new NEWSS Graduate Student Representative. The position is a two year term on the Executive Committee. Responsibilities include; representing graduate students on the EC and assisting with the planning of the annual meeting and weed contest. Please think about running for this position.

I hope everyone has a smooth fall and good luck to all the NEWSS graduate students who will be finishing up this coming semester.

Take care,

John

John Orlowski
Graduate Student Rep

Hello Grad Students,

I hope everyone has had a good growing season and that you all are getting a little break before classes and harvest. It was real nice to see everyone at the NEWSS Weed Contest at Penn State this year. I think that everyone who attended can agree that the Penn State crew put on an outstanding contest. The grower problems were interesting, the herbicide plots looked great and everyone had a good time. Congratulations to all of the winners and first time participants.
MEMBERSHIP CHAIR

Keith Burnell

Membership and Contact Information
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 that information to me.

Necrology Report
If you have names of any members that have passed away, please notify me. The following are the names I have so far: Dr. John A. Meade, Dr. Philip C. Kearney, Dr. Harry H. Witkze, Dr. Dean L. Linscott, James Riggleman, Dr. Stephen Hart, and Dr. Robert Sweet. Please let me know if I’ve missed anyone, and if possible, send obituary information.

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.

NEWSS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2014

Front row (L to R): Shawn Askew, Rakesh Chandran, Greg Armel, Dwight Lingenfelter.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
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<tr>
<td>Greg Armel</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rakesh Chandran</td>
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<td>Shawn Askew</td>
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<td>Erin Hitchner</td>
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<td>Dwight Lingenfelter</td>
<td>Past President</td>
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<td>Keith Burnell</td>
<td>Membership Chair</td>
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<td>Art Gover</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Bryan Dillehay</td>
<td>Research &amp; Education</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prasanta Bhowmik</td>
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<tr>
<td>Randy Prostak</td>
<td>CAST Representative</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lee Van Wychen</td>
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NEWSS NEWS was compiled by Todd Mervosh, Public Relations Representative. Please contact him at tmervosh@att.net or 860-502-7765 with any corrections, suggestions, or items to include in the next newsletter (November 2014 issue).
I participated in the Summer Board Meeting in Lexington during July 8-9, 2014. This meeting was a successful one with all board members present.

The 55th Annual Meeting of the Weed Science Society of America will be held in Lexington, KY in February 9-12, 2015. Some of our board members toured the hotel facilities and made favorable comments. Abstract Titles and Author Information must be submitted electronically by October 2, 2014, to be considered. This deadline applies to symposium papers, as well as to volunteer papers and posters. Abstract texts must be submitted by January 15, 2015. For more information, visit www.wssa.net.

New WSSA Graduate Student Poster Award Contest: Ms Kate Venner (Ph. D. student, VPI) submitted a proposal “Graduate Student Poster Award Contest” to the WSSA Board. At the summer board meeting, members discussed potential contest rules and judging criteria. The Board approved this award for 2015 Annual Meeting. The Graduate Student Poster Award Contest will be a part of the 2015 WSSA Annual Meeting for the first time. There will be several sections (agronomy, turfgrass & ornamentals, physiology, horticulture, biology & ecology, etc.) depending on number of posters submitted. There will be three awards (First, second and third) for each section. More detailed information will be posted on the WSSA website, www.wssa.net.

New WSSA Weed Science Advocacy and Public Service Award for 2015: This award has been approved by the Board. This award differs from Extension Award. This is not for career recognition but something above and beyond what is expected for someone’s position. This will be announced in the upcoming newsletter as well as on the WSSA website.

Plans are being made for the Second Herbicide Resistance Summit, to be held September 10, 2014, in Washington DC. The event will be hosted by the National Research Council at the Auditorium in the National Academy of Sciences Building on Constitution Avenue. It is expected to draw public policy makers, manufacturers, distributors, retailers, growers and educators who are interested in reducing the devastating threat herbicide resistance represents to agricultural productivity. Funding commitments for the Second Herbicide Resistance Summit have been made to the following organizations: WSSA, Regional Weed Science Societies, Regional IPM Centers, USDA-APHIS, USDA-ARS OPMP, and Herbicide Resistance Action Committee.

The Herbicide Resistance Training Modules have been released and utilization of them has been excellent. The training modules have been translated into Spanish, and are available on the WSSA website. Herbicide Modules have been redeveloped in partnership with HRAC as self-paced accredited on-line Continuing Education Courses with test questions. The modules are posted at http://www.pentonag.com/wssa.wrm.

The 10th Edition of the Herbicide Handbook is now available. This version is completely revised and updated – over 500 pages. It is easy to find herbicide as it has been formatted in alphabetical order. The handbook contains detailed information on more than 230 herbicides currently available in commercial production. Price: $95.00. For purchasing information, visit www.wssa.net.

The 2016 WSSA meeting in Puerto Rico will be a joint meeting with the Southern Weed Science Society. This meeting will be held in February 8-11 at the Sheraton Hotel, San Juan, Puerto Rico.
Next CAST President-Elect and President, June 18, 2014 - In a recent election at the Council for Agricultural Science and Technology (CAST), Dr. Mark Armfelt was chosen as the President-Elect for 2014-2015. He will officially assume his responsibilities at the conclusion of CAST’s Fall Board Meeting in October. In 2015-2016, he will become the 43rd President of CAST, a singular honor and responsibility dating back to 1972, when Charles A. Black and Norman Borlaug, along with other committed scientists, spearheaded the movement to "bring science-based information to policymaking and the public."

Following his graduation from vet school in 1977, Dr. Armfelt started a mixed large- and small-animal practice, and in 1998 he achieved the distinction of Board Certification in Dairy Practice by the American Board of Veterinary Practitioners. In 2000, he began working full time for Monsanto as a Technical Services Veterinarian, and today he is a Dairy Technical Consultant with Elanco Animal Health. During the years, he has supported dairy producers across Ohio, providing unbiased, scientifically based information in an unassuming manner.

Dr. Armfelt has been involved with CAST since 2012 as the current Board Representative for the American Association of Bovine Practitioners. He aims to continue CAST’s mission of communicating science-based information. "This must be done in a timely manner, and the value of that information needs to be demonstrated to our members and stakeholders for us to remain viable." He cites the Ag Innovations series as an example of these efforts, and he believes CAST will continue to flourish if they involve "dedicated people in all levels of leadership."

2014 Borlaug CAST Communication Award Winner - May 1, 2014

The Council for Agricultural Science and Technology (CAST) announces that the prestigious 2014 Borlaug CAST Communication Award goes to Alison Van Eenennaam, an honored faculty member at the University of California, Davis. Nominees must demonstrate an ability to communicate by written material; public presentations; and/or the use of television, radio, or other social media. Van Eenennaam excels in all three areas. As a specialist in the field of animal genomics and biotechnology, she is at the forefront of those delivering clear, science-based information to the public and policymakers alike.

Dr. Van Eenennaam was nominated by colleagues from several academic, industry, and nonprofit organizations--they highlight her combined research skills, teaching abilities, and scientific understanding. They also agree that she has an "outstanding ability to communicate complicated and sometimes controversial scientific issues to the general public, nationally and internationally."

The author of numerous articles and book chapters, Van Eenennaam led the Task Force teams for two important CAST publications: (1) The Science and Regulation of Food from Genetically Engineered Animals, a Commentary; and (2) The Potential Impacts of Mandatory Labeling for Genetically Engineered Food in the United States, an Issue Paper.

Established in 1986 by CAST, the Borlaug CAST Communication Award goes to a specialist who communicates the importance of food and agricultural science to the public, policymakers, and news media. Dr. Van Eenennaam fits this description perfectly. As one nominator said, "Dr. Van Eenennaam has distinguished herself and her university by tireless effort in the pursuit of science and communicating the importance of science in improving the quality of human life."
NEW CAST PUBLICATIONS

IP 54, The Potential Impacts of Mandatory Labeling for Genetically Engineered Food in the United States

Although genetically engineered (GE) products are used around the world, the issue becomes contentious when they are present in our food. A key part of the resulting debate centers on proposals regarding the mandatory labeling of GE food. With some states considering legislation to mandate such labels, this CAST Issue Paper examines arguments for and against labels, the costs involved with labeling, and experiences in countries that use mandatory labeling. Chair: Alison Van Eenennaam, Department of Animal Science, University of California - Davis. April 2014

QTA2014-1 Benefits of Controlling Nuisance Aquatic Plants and Algae in the United States, July 2014

Aquatic plants are often dealt with on a local scale, when in reality they impact wide areas outside of the traditional lake or river habitat. They can affect aesthetics, drainage, fishing, water quality, fish and wildlife habitat, flood control, human and animal health, hydropower generation, irrigation, navigation, recreation, and, ultimately, land values. The authors of this paper emphasize the necessity for the skillful management of nuisance aquatic plants and algae, and they hope regulators, managers, stakeholders, and legislators gain scientific insights about this important issue. Chair: Kurt Getsinger, U.S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center, Vicksburg, MS

Food Production by 2050 (Issue Paper) (Chair) Stephen Weller, Purdue University


How Labeling Influences the Willingness of Consumers to Accept Technology

Omega-3 Fatty Acids: Health Benefits and Dietary Recommendations (Special Publication) (Chair) Don Beitz, Iowa State University

Recruiting and Educating Graduate Students to Become Researchers and Leaders in Global Agricultural Sciences (Issue Paper) (Chair) Charles Rice, Kansas State University

Scientific, Ethical, and Economic Aspects of Farm Animal Well-being (Task Force Report) (Co-chairs) Candace Croney and William Muir, Purdue University

The 2014 Annual Board Meeting will be held October 29-30 in Indianapolis, Indiana.

FORTHCOMING PUBLICATIONS


The Contributions of Pesticides to Pest Management in Meeting the Global Need for
Lee Van Wychen
Science Policy Director
August 10, 2014

FY 2015 USDA Appropriations
The FY 2015 appropriations process was in full swing as the Administration released its budget request in April and the House and Senate marked up their draft USDA budget in May. However, with the defeat of House Majority Leader Cantor in his primary and the unwillingness of the Senate to take “tough votes” on germane amendments, appropriations activity has screeched to a halt. The House managed to pass 8 of the 12 appropriations bills prior to August recess, but the Senate has not yet passed any of its appropriations bills. It is highly likely there will be a continuing resolution funding the government through at least the November elections. Included in the table is the enacted budget for each of the USDA agencies in FY 2014, followed by the proposed FY 2015 numbers from the Administration, House and Senate. The USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), Economic Research Service (ERS), National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) and the National Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) are all slated for higher budgets by the Administration, House and Senate compared to FY 2014. The Administration’s budget for the Agricultural Research Service (ARS) is down 1.6% percent to $1.104 billion compared to FY 2014 while the Senate proposed a $17 million increase for ARS compared to FY 2014. The Administration proposed a 4.4% increase for the USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) to $1.335 billion compared to FY 2014 while the House proposed a NIFA budget for FY 2015 that’s a smidge lower than its $1.277 billion it received this year.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>USDA Agency</th>
<th>FY 2014</th>
<th>FY 2015 President</th>
<th>FY 2015 House</th>
<th>FY 2015 Senate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(in thousands of dollars)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APHIS</td>
<td>821,721</td>
<td>834,341</td>
<td>867,705</td>
<td>872,414</td>
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<tr>
<td>ARS</td>
<td>1,122,482</td>
<td>1,104,403</td>
<td>1,120,253</td>
<td>1,139,673</td>
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<td>ERS</td>
<td>78,058</td>
<td>83,446</td>
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<td>85,373</td>
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<td>NASS</td>
<td>161,206</td>
<td>178,999</td>
<td>169,371</td>
<td>178,154</td>
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<tr>
<td>NIFA</td>
<td>1,277,067</td>
<td>1,335,536</td>
<td>1,273,804</td>
<td>1,292,448</td>
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<tr>
<td>NRCS</td>
<td>812,939</td>
<td>814,772</td>
<td>843,053</td>
<td>849,295</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Within NIFA, the Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI) is proposed to increase 2.8% from $316 million to $325 million in all three FY 2015 budget proposals. Similarly, all three budget proposals for FY 2015 from the Administration, the House, and the Senate have the Hatch Act staying at $244 million, the Smith Lever 3b and 3c funding for extension staying at $300 million, and IR-4 program funding staying at $11.9 million. The new Farm Bill that was passed in February also revived 2 programs that would have expired. The Specialty Crop Research Initiative (SCRI) will get $80 million per year in mandatory funding. The Organic Agriculture Research and Extension Initiative (OREI) will get $20 million per year.
USDA NIFA Crop Protection and Pest Management (CPPM) Funding

CPPM is a new budget line item that repackages the following funding authorities: the Pest Management Alternatives Program, the IPM grants program, the Regional IPM Centers funding, and the Extension IPM (E-IPM) Coordinators program. CPPM received $17.1 million in funding for FY 2014 and is expected to see the same next year. Over half of the CPPM funding authority is derived from E-IPM capacity funds ($9.9 million). While the RFA for the CPPM closed in June, the Science Policy Committee would like to pass along some information regarding the distribution of funds among the pest management disciplines for the E-IPM program. Each eligible institution must submit a 3 yr proposal for the E-IPM funds at $300,000 max per year. There is only one proposal allowed for an institution. With the “repackaging” of the E-IPM funds into CPPM, there will now be up to a 30% indirect cost charge. However, USDA is hoping that universities take less than the 30% rate. The process of developing each institution’s proposal is the responsibility of the Director of Cooperative Extension. The Director puts together the writing team and vets the proposal before submission. The 2014 directory of State Extension Service Directors and Administrators can be found here. Every state is a little different in terms of how the E-IPM application process works and who is the lead P.I. for the E-IPM funds proposal. Some states have very good “team efforts” among the pest management disciplines. Other states are completely run by one pest management discipline or another. If your institution is not inclusive of all pest disciplines (specifically Weed Science) please let me know.

House and Senate Direct Spending Towards Herbicide Resistance

The FY 2015 agriculture appropriation bills from the House and Senate both contain directives to the various USDA agencies to help improve herbicide resistance management. In the Senate Ag Appropriations Committee bill under the USDA research programs it states: “Herbicide resistant weeds are a major threat to food, feed, and fiber production in the United States and the problem is expected to continue to increase in size and scope. Current funding for research and extension is woefully inadequate. The Committee is concerned that the lack of research based information significantly delays developing effective management strategies to address the herbicide resistance problem. The Committee encourages NIFA, in conjunction with ARS and land-grant institutions, to conduct research that will more comprehensively address herbicide resistance. Research may include: identification of herbicide resistant weed populations or those most likely to develop resistance, characterization of mechanisms of resistance, and development of innovative weed management strategies to overcome current resistance problems and delay or prevent future ones. In addition, effective and widespread dissemination of results to farmers, foresters, and rights of way land managers through extension and outreach will be critical to the success of this endeavor.”

The Senate Ag Approps Committee also has directives for the NRCS addressing a variety of weed science related issues including promoting the adoption of cover crops, addressing the threats posed by invasive plant species, and herbicide resistance. Specifically: “Herbicide Resistance- The Committee is concerned that pigweed has seriously endangered conservation tillage and has increased herbicide costs by more than 70 percent for some crops. In an effort to address herbicide-resistant weeds and associated environmental concerns, agricultural advisors and producers have become increasingly more aggressive with conservation planning and practice implementation to solve this issue. The Committee directs NRCS to ensure agency staff, partners, and producers are aware of new and interim conservation practice standards and conservation activity plans to address herbicide-resistant weeds, such as pigweed, and that financial assistance through certain conservation programs is available to assist producers in their efforts to control these weeds.”

The House Ag Appropriations committee has similar directives to manage invasive weeds and herbicide resistance in its markup language. “Cheat Grass Eradication. —The Committee encourages ARS to continue research on cheat grass eradication, control, and the reduction of fuel loads, including late-season grazing techniques, and to work with the NRCS on this effort”. Herbicide Resistance. The Committee
reminds NRCS of the challenges many producers are facing due to the spread of herbicide-resistant weeds and encourages it to ensure agency staff, partners, and producers are aware of conservation practice standards and conservation activity plans to address herbicide-resistant weeds, and that financial assistance through certain conservation programs is available to assist producers in their efforts to control these weeds. **Invasive Annual Grasses.**—The Secretary is encouraged to consider targeted herbicide treatments of invasive annual grasses and restoration efforts to compliment juniper control efforts on greater sage-grouse habitat on private rangelands.

**Herbicide Resistance Summit II**
The 2nd National Summit on Strategies to Manage Herbicide-Resistant Weeds will be held September 10, 2014 in Washington DC. Everyone is invited and attendance at the Summit is free. However, we kindly ask that you register at [http://wssa.net/meeting-registration/](http://wssa.net/meeting-registration/) Unlike the planning workshop that was held last fall in Washington DC where there was only room for about 40 stakeholder representatives, the Herbicide Resistance Summit II will be held at the 670 seat National Academy of Sciences auditorium, a beautiful facility located at 2101 Constitution Ave. N.W., Washington DC. I hope to see you there!

**Jill Schroeder Takes USDA-OPMP Weed Science Position**
I am excited to announce that I’ll have a new neighbor and fellow weed scientist in Washington DC. On July 27, Dr. Jill Schroeder started in her new position at USDA as a Weed Scientist in the Office of Pest Management Policy (OPMP). Dr. Schroeder was a Distinguished Professor of Weed Science at New Mexico State University and is a Past-President and Fellow of both WSSA and WSWS. She also recently served several years in the role of WSSA-EPA Liaison. Dr. Schroeder fills the position vacated by Dr. Harold Coble who retired in January 2014. Jill’s new email is [Jill.Schroeder@ars.usda.gov](mailto:Jill.Schroeder@ars.usda.gov) and phone: (202) 720-0066.

The USDA Office of Pest Management Policy (OPMP) was established in September 1997, with the mandate to: 1) Integrate the Department’s strategic planning and activities related to pest management; 2) Coordinate the Department’s role in the pesticide regulatory process and related interagency affairs, primarily with the Environmental Protection Agency; and 3) Strengthen the Department’s support for agriculture by promoting the development of new pest management approaches that meet the needs of an evolving and sustainable U.S. agricultural system. Dr. Sheryl Kunickis currently serves as the Director of USDA-OPMP.

**Aquatic Plant Research Gets $5 million Boost**
On June 10, the president signed into law the Water Resources Reform and Development Act of 2014 (WRRDA). This follows Congressional approval of the conference agreement reached in May by House and Senate negotiators that resolved the differences that occurred over 6 months between each chamber’s versions of the water resources reauthorization legislation. Within WRRDA, there is language for aquatic invasive species prevention and management, as well as a review of existing Federal authorities related to responding to invasive species, including aquatic weeds. WRRDA increases the authorization of funding from $15 million to $20 million per year that supports the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers’ (ACOE) Aquatic Plant Control Research Program (APCRP), the nation’s only federally authorized program for research and development of science-based management strategies for invasive aquatic weeds. WRRDA also authorized $20 million in new annual funding to establish watercraft inspection stations in the Columbia River Basin to be located in the States of Idaho, Montana, Oregon, and Washington at locations with the highest likelihood of preventing the spread of aquatic invasive species at reservoirs operated and maintained by the ACOE.

However, you may be aware that while APCRP was authorized at $15 million per year for the past 20 years, the most they were appropriated was $6 million, and over the last few years we have had to scratch tooth and nail to get $4 million in funding appropriated. The expertise and institutional
knowledge encompassed by APCRP is very underrated and often gets overlooked in the $1.6 billion construction account the ACOE oversees. The good news is that there was broad bipartisan support from both chambers on final passage of the WRRDA conference agreement. In addition, WRRDA expanded the scope of research directed to control not just aquatic plant growths, but all aquatic invasive species. Specifically, the authorizing language will now read: "There is hereby authorized a comprehensive program to provide for prevention, control, and progressive eradication of noxious aquatic plant growths and aquatic invasive species from the navigable waters, tributary streams, connecting channels, and other allied waters of the United States, in the combined interest of navigation, flood control, drainage, agriculture, fish and wildlife conservation, public health, and related purposes, including continued research for development of the most effective and economic control measures, to be administered by the Chief of Engineers, under the direction of the Secretary of the Army, in cooperation with other Federal and State agencies."

NPDES Fix Bill Passes House
On July 31, the House passed H.R. 935, the Reducing Regulatory Burdens Act of 2014, by a 267-161 vote. The bill clarifies Congressional intent of having the application of pesticides regulated under FIFRA and "fixes" a 2009 Circuit Court ruling that forced EPA to issue additional National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits under the Clean Water Act for application of pesticides in, over, or near water. This legislation was passed in the House in the 112th Congress as well, but faces the same problem once again in the Senate where we know a majority of the Senators would support the bill (S. 802 in the Senate), but one or two Senators are being obstructionist. I encourage you to contact the Chair of the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee, Sen. Boxer (CA) and voice your support for S. 802.

Controversy Abounds on WOTUS
On April 21, the EPA and Army Corp of Engineers jointly published a rule meant to clarify what are Waters Of The United States (WOTUS). The proposed rule would expand Clean Water Act (CWA) jurisdiction to almost all waters in the United States subjecting thousands of streams, ditches, and other “small” waters to federal permitting and citizen lawsuits, impacting how communities and landowners manage their public and private property. The proposed rule states that all streams, as well as all waters and wetlands located in floodplains and riparian corridors, share a connection or "nexus" to downstream, traditionally regulated waters and are therefore subject to default regulation. The proposed definition includes a number of imprecise and broadly-defined terms such as ‘adjacent,’ ‘riparian area’ and ‘floodplain’ that do not clearly delineate which waters are covered. For the first time, ‘tributary’ is defined and includes bodies of water such as manmade and natural ditches. ‘Other waters’ also may be subject to the jurisdiction of the CWA on a case-by-case basis if there is a ‘significant nexus’ to traditional navigable water. The expanded jurisdiction and the imprecision of the terms used by the agencies may result in significant added legal and regulatory costs. Farmers, ranchers, home builders and home owners that conduct activities and projects on lands with WOTUS designation will be directly affected. Permits may be required for removing debris and vegetation from a ditch, applying a pesticide, or building a fence or pond. In addition, landowners will be subject to citizen lawsuits under CWA provisions, challenging their ability to manage their own property. Opponents of the rule say that clarification is not necessary because EPA and the Corps already have authority under the CWA to prosecute illegal dumping. Under section 402 of the CWA, unpermitted discharges of pollutants that reach jurisdictional waters either directly or indirectly are unlawful. EPA is taking comments on the proposed rule from now through Monday, October 20, 2014 and has already received over 3.5 million comments. To submit your comments via the Federal Register, please go to: https://www.federalregister.gov/articles/2014/04/21/2014-07142/definition-of-waters-of-the-united-states-under-the-clean-water-act#p-5
USDA-NASS Releases 2012 Ag Census
On May 2, USDA’s National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) released the final results of the 2012 Census of Agriculture, which is the 28th Federal census of agriculture and the 4th conducted by USDA. The census of agriculture provides a detailed picture of U.S. farms and ranches every five years. It is the only source of uniform, comprehensive agricultural data for every State and county or county equivalent. The USDA Census of Agriculture homepage is: http://www.agcensus.usda.gov/

USDA-ERS Publishes Pesticide Use Report

Pesticide Registrants Can Now Make Legally Valid Product Labels Accessible on the Internet
In April, EPA provided guidance to pesticide registrants for optional participation in web-distributed labeling for pesticide products. EPA believes that voluntary adoption of these recommendations by pesticide registrants will help pesticide users to better understand and comply with pesticide labeling. In addition, EPA believes that web-distributed labeling could allow addition of new uses, modification of existing labeling, and implementation of labeling-based risk mitigation measures more quickly. However, all pesticide products must still be accompanied by a physical copy of EPA-approved labeling. Those physical product labels will not be shortened in any way due to the launch of Web-distributed labeling, but the new process will allow pesticide registrants to include a reference to a website from which pesticide applicators can download enforceable labeling. The pesticide registration notice on Web-distributed labeling is available at http://www.epa.gov/PR_Notices/pr2014-1.pdf

Foundation for Food Agricultural Research (FFAR) Board Selected
On July 23, USDA Secretary Tom Vilsack announced the creation of FFAR and the appointment of a 15-member board of directors. The new foundation will leverage public and private resources to increase
the scientific and technological research, innovation, and partnerships critical to boosting America’s agricultural economy. Authorized by Congress as part of the 2014 Farm Bill, the foundation will operate as a non-profit corporation seeking and accepting private donations in order to fund research activities that focus on problems of national and international significance. Congress also provided $200 million for the foundation which must be matched by non-federal funds as the Foundation identifies and approves projects. FFAR’s board of directors was chosen to represent the diverse sectors of agriculture. Seven of these board members were selected by the unanimous vote of the board’s five ex-officio members from lists of candidates provided by industry, while eight representatives were unanimously elected from a list of candidates provided by the National Academy of Sciences. The 15 FFAR Board Members are:

• Dr. Kathryn Boor - the Ronald P. Lynch Dean of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, Cornell University
• Dr. Douglas Buhler (Weed Scientist) - Director of AgBioResearch and Senior Associate Dean for Research for the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Michigan State University
• Dr. Nancy Creamer - Distinguished Professor of Sustainable Agriculture and Community Based Food Systems, North Carolina State University
• Dr. Deborah Delmer - Professor Emeritus of Biology, University of California-Davis
• The Honorable Dan Glickman (CHAIR) - former U.S. Secretary of Agriculture, current Executive Director of the Aspen Institute’s Congressional Program
• Dr. Robert Horsch - Deputy Director, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
• Pamela Johnson - Chairwoman, National Corn Growers Association
• Dr. Mark E. Keenum (VICE CHAIR) - President, Mississippi State University
• Dr. Michael Ladisch - Director of the Laboratory of Renewable Resources Engineering and Distinguished Professor of Agricultural and Biological Engineering, Purdue University
• Dr. Christopher Mallett - Vice President of Research & Development, Cargill, Inc.
• Dr. Pamela Matson - Chester Naramore Dean of the School of Earth Sciences, the Richard and Rhoda Goldman Professor of Environmental Studies and Senior Fellow at the Woods Institute for the Environment, Stanford University
• Dr. Terry McElwain - Associate Director and Professor, Paul G. Allen School for Global Animal Health, and Executive Director, Washington Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory, Washington State University
• Dr. Stanley Prusiner - Director of the Institute for Neurodegenerative Diseases and Professor of Neurology, University of California-San Francisco and 1997 Nobel laureate in physiology or medicine
• Dr. Yehia "Mo" Saif - Professor Emeritus, The Ohio State University
• Dr. Barbara Schaal - Dean of the Faculty of Arts & Sciences and Mary-Dell Chilton Distinguished Professor at Washington University in St. Louis.

More detailed biographical information for the FFAR Board of Directors can be found here: http://www.ars.usda.gov/is/FFARBios2014.pdf

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2014 NEWSS COLLEGIATE WEED SCIENCE CONTEST AT PENN STATE'S RESEARCH FARM NEAR STATE COLLEGE, PA
(Photos taken by Todd Mervosh)

More photos, including those of the contest winners, will appear in the November newsletter.