COMMENTS FROM THE PRESIDENT

Gregory Armel

2014 Annual Meeting

Our annual meeting, held jointly with the Northeastern American Society of Horticultural Sciences this past January in Philadelphia, PA, was a tremendous success, and I thank all of our members who supported the society in sessions, committee work, and in contests. I would ask each of you to look at your current activity level in the society and consider serving in other capacities including serving on the board, as a section chair, or in various committee roles. If you have any interest in serving the NEWSS in a greater capacity, please let any Executive Committee member know. Without your involvement the society would not exist.

I am also very proud of how our EC worked together to execute our meeting plan. I especially want to thank our Past-President Dwight Lingenfelter for his planning and vision for this meeting. Additionally, many thanks go out to our President-Elect Rakesh Chandran for pulling together a very nice workshop on Vegetable Production. Finally, I want to thank our Treasurer Erin Hitchner and Membership Chair Keith Burnell for doing all the little things behind the scenes to accommodate the needs of our membership. In fact, I extend my gratitude to our entire EC for their role in each aspect of running this meeting. There are a lot of details in putting a meeting together from documentation of the meeting (both in word and picture), to getting pesticide applicator credits, to getting a proceedings pulled together, to organizing awards/contests, etc., etc. Without dedicated people, these things would never get done. We have a great team of devoted professionals on our EC and I am proud to serve with them.

At our most recent meeting we welcomed two new members to our EC. Shawn Askew was nominated and voted unanimously as our new Vice-President. In addition, Prasanta Bhowmik, a former President of NEWSS, graciously offered his services to return to the EC as our WSSA Representative. Please help me in welcoming them to these leadership roles in our society. In addition, I thank our outgoing EC members Toni DiTommaso (Past-President) and Jacob Barney (WSSA Representative) for their excellent service to the society.

IMPORTANT DATES

July 28-29, 2014: NEWSS Weed Science Contest  
Penn State farm at Rock Springs, PA  
September 19, 2014: Title submission deadline  
October 30, 2014: Abstract submission deadline  
January 5-8, 2015: NEWSS Annual Meeting  
Williamsburg Lodge, Williamsburg, VA
2015 Annual Meeting

I realize there has been a bit of confusion on where we will be meeting next year and I take full responsibility for this confusion. Originally we polled the membership and found the preferred destinations both inside and outside our regions were San Juan, PR, Orlando, FL, and Williamsburg, VA. Initial attempts to identify a suitable site in these locales that could accommodate us with the amenities we are accustomed to were fruitless. Instead we entertained a potential offer from the Hotel Roanoke in Roanoke, VA. After nearly reaching an agreement with them, we hit a significant snag in negotiations as they could not provide us estimates on the cost of food and beverages. So we headed back to the drawing board and redoubled our efforts in search of another location. Following this search, we identified and signed an agreement with the Williamsburg Lodge in the heart of old town Williamsburg, VA. Many of you may remember that we met at this location in 1996, and it is important to note the hotel has gone through significant renovations since our last trip there. Our meeting will be held there from January 5-8, 2015. We have negotiated a room rate of $125 per night with free parking and internet which is competitive for a hotel nestled in the heart of downtown Williamsburg. Be thinking of titles to submit for this upcoming meeting, and if you have ideas for a symposium or workshop, please forward those to our President-Elect Rakesh Chandran.

Potential Joint Meeting in 2016

Just so you are aware, our EC recently voted unanimously to extend an invitation to host a joint meeting with the other regional northeastern agricultural/horticultural societies (Northeast Division of the American Phytopathological Society, Potomac Branch of the American Phytopathological Society, Northeastern American Society of Agronomy, Eastern Branch of the Entomological Society of America, Northeastern Branch of the American Society for Horticultural Sciences). The joint meeting is currently being referred to as the “Northeastern Plant Health and Pest Conference” and will be held at the Sheraton Society Hill the week of January 4, 2016. We expect a reply to our invitation from these societies in the next month or so.

The goal of this event is to provide a venue for the sharing of ideas and the education of members in the fields of agronomy, plant pathology, entomology, horticulture, and weed science. In addition, we hope to provide outreach to practitioners and other professionals associated with the aforementioned disciplines. It is important to note that the NEWSS will lead the implementation and planning of this event. Every attempt will be made to integrate our efforts with the other societies to form a cohesive and effective meeting while still maintaining the identity and purpose of each participating society. I have asked our current CAST Representative Randy Prostak to chair an ad hoc committee that will be charged with planning the details for this joint meeting with representatives from those other societies who wish to participate. If you have a strong interest in being a member of this committee to help plan this unique event please contact Randy Prostak.

Weed Contest Information

In 2013, the NEWSS Weed Science Contest was held in conjunction with the NCWSS at the Monsanto research facility in Monmouth, IL. Considering the distance, our society was well represented and Monsanto did a terrific job with the event. In 2014, our contest will be graciously hosted by the Penn State team at their Research Farm near Rock Springs (about 10 miles outside of State College). The travel day with orientation dinner will be on the July 28th with the actual contest taking place on July 29th. Currently, the contest logistics, accommodations, and rules are being finalized so stay tuned for future updates. Many thanks to Dwight Lingenfelter and the Penn State Weed Science program for offering to host this event.

If you have any questions, suggestions, or comments on anything being planned by the EC please let me know. We desire your feedback. I look forward to graciously serving the NEWSS as your president this year.

Greg Armel
NEWSS President
NEWSS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2014

OFFICERS
Greg Armel  PRESIDENT  
BASF – The Chemical Company  
Ph.: (919) 547-2674  
gregory.armel@basf.com

Rakesh Chandran  PRESIDENT-ELECT  
West Virginia University  
Ph. (304) 293-2603  
rschandran@mail.wvu.edu

Shawn Askew  VICE PRESIDENT  
Virginia Tech  
Ph. (540) 231-5807  
saskew@vt.edu

Erin Hitchner  TREASURER  
Syngenta  
Ph. (609) 980-8832  
erin.hitchner@syngenta.com

Dwight Lingenfelter  PAST PRESIDENT  
Penn State University  
Ph. (814) 865-2242  
dxl18@psu.edu

COMMITTEE CHAIRS & REPRESENTATIVES
Randy Prostak  CAST REPRESENTATIVE  
University of Massachusetts  
Ph. (413) 577-1738  
rprostak@umass.edu

Art Gover  EDITOR  
Penn State University  
Ph. (814) 863-9904  
aeg2@psu.edu

John Orlowski  GRADUATE STUDENT REP  
University of Kentucky  
Ph. (518) 596-9311  
john.orlowski@uky.edu

Keith Burnell  MEMBERSHIP CHAIR  
Syngenta  
Ph.: (315) 296-9904  
keith.burnell@syngenta.com

Todd Mervosh  PUBLIC RELATIONS REP  
Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station  
Ph.: (860) 683-4984  
todd.mervosh@ct.gov

Bryan Dillehay  RESEARCH & EDUCATION CHAIR  
Monsanto Company  
Ph.: (814) 404-2683  
bryan.dillehay@monsanto.com

John O’Barr  SUSTAINING MEMBER CHAIR  
BASF – The Chemical Company  
Ph.: (717) 386-8259  
john.obarr@basf.com

Prasanta Bhowmik  WSSA REPRESENTATIVE  
University of Massachusetts  
Ph.: (413) 545-5223  
pbhowmik@pssci.umass.edu

PAST PRESIDENT’S REPORT

Dwight Lingenfelter

As I look back over the past year of my Presidency, I think of the many people I interacted with at numerous stages in order to conduct a successful meeting and other various weed science activities; for these people, I am greatly appreciative! Also, I thank all of you who attended the 2014 Annual Meeting in Philly. The meeting was well attended and Program Chairs Greg Armel and Rakesh Chandran did a good job in putting together a most interesting and varied program. Now that the NEWSS Educational (Endowment) Fund is up and running, I encourage you to contribute to the Fund to support educational programs for our graduate and undergraduate students. Funds can be donated electronically via our NEWSS website or through a check.

Also, my colleagues and I at Penn State look forward to welcoming you to Happy Valley (i.e., State College, PA) on July 28-29 for the 2014 NEWSS Collegiate Weed Science Contest. Coaches, start preparing your teams; and others, please consider volunteering. You will be hearing from us in the upcoming weeks with more details about the contest and our pleas to volunteer during the event.

CALL FOR AWARD NOMINEES

As Past-President, my duties include Chair of the Awards Committee. As such, I am looking for nominations for the following NEWSS awards to be presented at the 2015 Annual meeting in Williamsburg, VA. This is the first call for nominations:

- Fellow Award
- Award of Merit
- Outstanding Educator
- Outstanding Researcher
- Robert D. Sweet Outstanding Graduate Student Award
- M. Garry Schnappinger Service Recognition Award
Please consider nominating a worthy colleague for one of our NEWSS Awards. Criteria and nomination forms for all awards are posted at: http://www.newss.org/publications.php. (Scroll to the bottom and click on the Manual of Operating Procedures and Addendum 6.) Please contact Dwight Lingenfelter (814) 865-2242 or dwight@psu.edu for more information. 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 Toni DiTommaso (ad97@cornell.edu). Please provide him with names of any individuals you think we should consider.

Dwight Lingenfelter
Past President

PRESIDENT-ELECT’S REPORT

PRESIDENT-ELECT’S REPORT

Rakesh Chandran

Most of us may remember the winter of 2013-’14 as the year we met in Philadelphia for the 68th annual meeting of NEWSS. I am sure you are looking forward to spring and yet another growing season as much as I am. Meanwhile, I would like you to think of creative ways to make our 69th meeting in Williamsburg a memorable and successful one. If you have topics in mind that may also generate interest from a broader audience, please let Vice-President Shawn Askew (saskew@vt.edu), or me (RScandran@mail.wvu.edu) know about it soon. If you have conducted research or carried out educational efforts in recent years but did not have a venue to present the same, please consider this as an opportunity to share those with your peers in the region and elsewhere. Shawn and I will be working closely to come up with an excellent program for 2015 but it cannot happen without your valuable suggestions!

I would like to thank you for your prompt response to help pick a site for the 2016 meeting. A total of 84 members responded with an overwhelming (92%) support in favor of going back to Sheraton Society Hill in Philadelphia. The hotel and location was not a concern for a vast majority (93%) of those who could not attend the 2014 meeting. Several useful suggestions were also provided and were passed on to the hotel management for consideration when they host us next time. Sheraton is holding the first full week of 2016 (January 4th-8th) for a potential joint-meeting with our sister societies in the region.

Listed below are the Chairs and Chair-elects for the various sections in 2015.

2015 NEWSS Annual 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:
Jenny Kao-Kniffin - 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
**Site Selection Committee**
- Rakesh Chandran, President-Elect
- Greg Armel, President
- Erin Hitchner, Treasurer
- Keith Burnell, Membership Chair

**Awards Committee**
- Dwight Lingenfelter, Chair
- Antonio DiTommaso
- Mark VanGessel
- Hilary Sandler
- David Yarborough

**Nomination Committee**
- Antonio DiTommaso, Chair
- Javier Vargas, Appointed by President
- Jon Johnson, Selected at business mtg
- Todd Davis, Selected at business mtg
- Robert Richardson, Selected at business mtg

**Resolutions Committee**
- Andy Senesac, Chair, Appointed by President
- Courtney Stokes, Appointed by President
- Jennifer D'Appollonio-Cote, Appointed by President

**Collegiate Weed Contest**
- Rakesh Chandran, Chair
- Dwight Lingenfelter, Current Host
- John Grande, Host in 2012
- Greg Armel, Host in 2011
- Antonio DiTommaso, Host in 2010
- John Orlowski, Graduate Student Rep.
- Shawn Askew, Mentor
- Wes Everman, Mentor

**Audit Committee**
- Erin Hitchner, Treasurer
- Todd Mervosh
- Jim Steffel

**Archives Committee**
- Dan Kunkel, Chair
- Dwight Lingenfelter, Past President

**Photo Award Committee**
- Javier Vargas, Chair
- Erin Hitchner
- Rakesh Chandran
- Art Gover
- Victoria Kleczewski
- Hilary Sandler

**Student Paper Awards Committee**
- Dwight Lingenfelter, Chair
- Antonio DiTommaso
- Mark VanGessel
- Hilary Sandler
- David Yarborough

**Poster Awards Committee**
- Keith Burnell, Chair
- Donald Ganske
- Todd Mervosh
- Art Gover
- Joseph Argentine

**Weed Science Field Days Committee**
- Bryan Dillehay, Research & Education
- Quintin Johnson, Appointed by Pres-Elect

**Past Presidents' Committee**
- Roy Johnson, Chair
- Dwight Lingenfelter, Past President

**Herbicide Resistance Plants Committee**
- Mark VanGessel, Chair
- Russ Hahn
- Bill Curran
- Brian Olson
- Dan Kunkel
- Dave Mayonado

**Endowment Committee**
- Shawn Askew, Chair
- Erin Hitchner
- Keith Burnell
- Dwight Lingenfelter
- Antonio DiTommaso
- Mark VanGessel
- Renee Keese, Appointed by President
Call for Support of the NEWSS Education Fund

Recently, an Education Fund was established to support future educational efforts of benefit to NEWSS membership. Neighboring societies have established similar funds that measure several hundred thousand dollars. The NEWSS executive board hopes the Education Fund will grow with membership and cooperator support to augment current NEWSS efforts to support graduate students and education in a broader sense.

To that end, a recent revenue surplus of $20K has empowered the board to offer the following call to our membership:

THE NEWSS BOARD WILL MATCH DOLLAR-FOR-DOLLAR THE FIRST $20K IN MEMBER DONATIONS TO THE EDUCATION FUND!

Please take this opportunity to participate in the founding of this important service to the society by donating at any level. For more information, contact Erin Hitchner (erin.hitchner@syngenta.com) or Shawn Askew (saskew@vt.edu).

Shawn Askew
Vice President

NWSS Account Balances as of March 1, 2014

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Account Type</th>
<th>Balance</th>
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<td>Savings</td>
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<td>60 Month CD (Meeting in reserve)</td>
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<td>18 Month CD (Weed Contest)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Net Assets</strong></td>
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| Total Income               | $55,754.33 |
| Total Expenses             | $31,987.30 |
| **2013 Net Gain**          | **$23,767.03** |

Voted to match Education Funds Received in 2013: $4,000
Voted to match Education Funds Received in 2014 (Pending): $2,700

**2013 Net Gain** $17,067

NEWSS Education Fund Account Balance as of March 1, 2014

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<th>Item</th>
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<td><strong>Fund Balance</strong></td>
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</table>

Erin Hitchner
Treasurer
UPDATE FROM THE EDITOR

As of this writing, we are planning to use the website housed through the Weed Science Society of America (wssaababstracts.com) for title and abstract submissions for our 2015 NEWSS Annual Meeting. Detailed instructions for submission will be provided in the NEWSS August Newsletter.

DEADLINES: Titles are due on Friday, September 19, 2014. Abstracts are due on Friday, October 30, 2014.

One element that I hope to improve for the 2015 proceedings is consistency of nomenclature. I will endeavor to have instructions for authors available on the submission site, rather than hiding in obscurity on the NEWSS website (http://www.newss.org/docs/newss-instructions-authors.pdf). A number of abstracts were devoid of scientific names or lacked proper authority attribution last year, and I did not leave myself enough time to harangue all of you to revise. Not so this year. By August, we will also identify our preferred source for current nomenclature when a species is not in the WSSA Composite List, or is clearly out of date.

RESEARCH & EDUCATION REPORT

Pesticide application recertification and Certified Crop Adviser credits were offered at the 68th Annual Meeting of NEWSS this past January in Philadelphia, PA. A total of 52 credits were awarded across 12 sessions over the 3-day meeting. The number of credits awarded were up from last year’s Annual Meeting in Baltimore (43). The increase in 2014 was similar to prior year levels of the Annual Meetings, where as the decrease of 2013 was likely due to the joint meeting with the WSSA. The Vegetation Management and Restoration session was most popular session for recertification credits with 11 signatures. Again this year, CCA credits were the most popular category with 11 requested.

Weed tour dates and locations for several universities are included in this month’s newsletter (page 15). Please refer to the listed contacts for more information for each event.
Dear NEWSS Graduate Students,

It was great to see everyone at the NEWSS Annual Meeting in Philadelphia, PA in January. If you didn’t get a chance to go, you missed a really good meeting. The 2014 Graduate Student Paper Contest was the best one that I have ever been a part of. The quality of both the research and the presentations was off the charts. Well done to everyone who participated in both the paper and poster contests and congratulations to the winners. I hope everyone had a good time at the NEWSS Welcome Pizza Party. If you guys would like to do something different next year, please let me know and we can set it up.

The next big event for NEWSS graduate students is the Summer Weed Contest to be hosted by Penn State University in State College, PA on Tuesday July 29. Dwight and everyone at Penn State have been working hard to get everything lined up for the contest. Keep an eye out for e-mails from Dwight with information about the contest including the herbicide and weed lists. I hope everyone can make it.

Finally, on behalf of all of the NEWSS grad students, I just want to say congratulations to everyone who is finishing up their degrees and/or graduating this spring. Good luck in whatever you are moving on to do.

Have a good spring,

John

John Orlowski
Graduate Student Rep

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 (August 2014 issue).
First, let me thank all NEWSS board members to select me as the WSSA Representative for the next three years. I am happy to be on the Board of both societies, and I hope to represent the NEWSS to the WSSA Board for any functions, activities or any other related society affairs.

The 2014 Joint Meeting of WSSA and Canadian Weed Science Society held in Vancouver, British Columbia - February 3-6, 2014 was a successful one. This year there were 393 presentations of which 125 are posters. The Keynote speaker, Dr. Chan, “Oregon Sea Grant’s expert in aquatic invasive species and aquatic ecosystem health” gave a fascinating talk on the movement of invasive marine species to the west coast of the US on debris deposited in the ocean from the Japan tsunami a couple of years ago.

The symposium on “Turf wars and the emergence of pesticide bans in Canada and the US” discussed the development of alternative weed management techniques that utilize non-chemical or organic methods for turf establishment and maintenance. One of the objectives was to link Canadian and American turf scientists together on this topic. The second symposium “Vulnerability of the Pacific Northwest to plant invasions” reviewed the general vulnerability of the Pacific Northwest region to invasion, highlighted cases involving invasive plants, and evaluated the response by researchers and managers. The symposium on “Bioherbicides: Current status and the future prospects” brought together innovators in the area of bioherbicide development and discussed some of the potential products and their utility. The final symposium was on “Addressing global herbicide resistance issues – industry perspective and initiatives.” The symposium emphasized the role of industry in addressing herbicide resistance and the initiatives they are taking to prevent and manage resistance.

Dr. Russell R. Hahn, Cornell University was awarded the Outstanding Extension Award for his achievements. Dr. Hahn’s contributions in research and outreach activities in the northeast have been enormous and have made a significant impact in agricultural production. He has been also recognized for his extension outreach efforts by the New York State Association of County Agricultural Agents. Hahn is a past president of the Northeastern Weed Science Society and is a WSSA Fellow. I would like to point out to our members that NEWSS continues to be well represented at the WSSA awards for the last several years.

One of the latest activities of WSSA, APMS and four regional weed science societies was to recommend the USDA-ARS to increase their investment for the next five years as we work together to solve some of the most pressing economic and environmental issues facing agriculture and natural areas in the US. The priority areas include i) Weed systematics, genetics, biology, physiology and ecology, ii) Weed environment and climate change, and iii) Integrated weed and invasive plant management systems.

These research areas are equally applicable to all the agricultural and natural areas that are impacted by weeds and invasive plants. Attention to these three priority areas to effectively address the weed and invasive plant management challenges facing the nation will require a more concerted and collaborative effort among USDA-ARS, other government agencies, universities, industries, land managers, and growers. Collaborations between USDA-ARS and other groups can increase the capacity to leverage resources, as was emphasized in both the retrospective review and the stakeholder webinar. It is incumbent upon all of us to seek both applied and fundamental solutions through strategically funded research.

The 2015 WSSA meeting will be in February 9-12 in Lexington, KY. For the 2015 WSSA Annual Meeting, follow the www.wssa.net for title and abstract submissions. And the 2016 WSSA meeting in Puerto Rico will be a joint meeting with the Southern Weed Science Society. This meeting will be a good one, and plan ahead for the meeting.
NEWSS CAST Committee
I have created a CAST (Council for Agricultural Science and Technology) committee within the Northeastern Weed Science Society. The committee will serve three purposes.
1. Help the NEWSS CAST representative represent the society by providing suggestions on current activities in CAST as well as ideas for future publications
2. Serve as an additional resource to NEWSS membership
3. Next CAST representative in training when a successor is needed

Members of NEWSS CAST committee
Greg Armel, BASF
Rich Bonanno, Univ. of Massachusetts
Bill Curran, Penn State Univ.
Jeff Derr (WSSA rep), Virginia Tech
Dave Mayonado, Monsanto
Brian Olson, Dow AgroSciences
Matt Ryan, Cornell University
Lee Van Wychen, Director of Science Policy

Forthcoming publications:
1. Ag Innovation Series - The three work groups within CAST have been working together on a series of 12 papers on agricultural innovations.
   An outline of the Agricultural Series publication project:
   An Introduction (Overview)
   Technologies on the Shelf (Keynote Paper)
   I. Animals
      A. Protecting Food Animal Gene Pools for Future Generations
      B. Evolution of Genetic Intervention in Food Production
   C. Precision Production Technologies
   II. Plants
      A. Plant Breeding and Genetics
      B. Crop Protection Contributions toward Agricultural Productivity
      C. Irrigation and Precision Crop Management Technologies
   III. Food
      A. Socioeconomic Impacts of Food Security
      B. Innovation Needed to Solve Key Food Technology Issues
      C. Understanding the Needs and Wants of Current and Future Generations

   Barriers to Innovation Implementation: A Summary

2. Benefits of Controlling Nuisance Aquatic Plants in the United States

3. The Contributions of Pesticides to Pest Management in Meeting the Global Need for Food Production by 2050

4. Omega-3 Fatty Acids: Health Benefits and Dietary Recommendations

5. The Potential Impacts of Mandatory Labeling for Genetically Engineered Food

6. Recruiting and Educating Graduate Students to Become Researchers and Leaders in Global Agricultural Sciences
2014 Farm Bill Becomes Law

After more than two years of negotiating and two extensions of the 2008 Farm Bill, the President signed a new Farm Bill into law on Feb. 7. Led by the “Four Principals” - Agriculture Committee Chairs Senator Debbie Stabenow (MI) and Congressman Frank Lucas (OK), and Ranking Members Senator Thad Cochran (MS) and Congressman Collin Peterson (MN), the new law is largely seen as a victory for research, education, and extension. Most notably, the Research Title of the Farm Bill creates a new nonprofit foundation, the Foundation for Food and Agriculture Research (FFAR), that is intended to complement—not replace—USDA’s research, education, extension, and economics activities conducted mainly by the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA), the Agricultural Research Service (ARS), and the Economic Research Service (ERS).

FFAR is modeled after existing Foundations that were established to leverage private funding such as the Foundation for the National Institutes of Health and the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation. FFAR will have $200 million in mandatory funding as a match to solicit private donations for additional research on plant health; animal health; food safety and nutrition; renewable energy, natural resources and environment; agricultural and food security; technology; and agricultural economics and rural communities. FFAR will be led by a Board of Directors comprised of 15 members, of which 8 will be recommended by the National Science Foundation and 7 by industry. All 15 members will be appointed by the Secretary of Agriculture and 4 other ex-officio Agency scientists. This public-private partnership represented by FFAR could be very beneficial for advancing weed management research and innovation.

Another highlight from the Research Title in the new farm bill is that it provides $80 million per year for the Specialty Crop Research Initiative (SCRI) and $20 million per year for the Organic Agriculture Research and Extension Initiative (OREI). These programs have been stranded without funding since 2012. The new funding levels are significant increases for both programs compared to the 2008 Farm Bill levels. In addition, the new funding that is authorized for SCRI is permanent funding.

Unfortunately, there were a couple issues that didn’t go quite the way we would have liked them too. One was a House provision that will require non-governmental organizations and private research institutions to provide a 100% match on all competitive research grants. However, the land grant universities are exempt from this matching funds requirement.

The biggest disappointment is that Sen. Stabenow did not allow inclusion of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) fix language that was in the House version of the Farm Bill. There was strong bipartisan support for this language in both houses of Congress that would have clarified Congress’s intent for the regulation of pesticides applied to or near water. As you know, pesticides are regulated through FIFRA, including sites to which pesticides can be applied. However in 2009, a three judge U.S. Circuit Court panel ruled that pesticide applications to or near waters required additional processing under the Clean Water Act, NPDES permits. These permits impose additional resource and liability burdens on small businesses, farms, municipalities, state agencies, and federal agencies. The National and Regional Weed Science Societies have supported a legislative fix for this issue since the Circuit Court ruling and will continue to support efforts to resolve this issue going forward.

Last but not least, I wanted to put in a reminder about the noxious weed control provision in the Commodity Title that has been in effect since the 2002 Farm Bill. In order for farmers to receive payments under the Commodity Title, the farmers shall agree --- “to
effectively control noxious weeds and otherwise maintain the land in accordance with sound agricultural practices, as determined by the Secretary.” The provision is part of the “Producer Agreements” section that also discusses conservation compliance for Highly Erodible Land and Wetland Conservation. The Farm Service Agency (FSA) and the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) have primary responsibility for enforcing these requirements. Having to “effectively control noxious weeds” and maintain conservation compliance is a pretty fair tradeoff, in my opinion, for the taxpayer subsidies that cover about 60% of the cost of each crop insurance premium.

**Jacobs-Young Named New ARS-Administrator**

On Feb. 24, Dr. Chavonda Jacobs-Young was named Administrator for the USDA Agricultural Research Service (ARS) by USDA’s Chief Scientist, Dr. Cathy Woteki. Dr. Jacobs-Young recently served as ARS Associate Administrator for National Programs, where she led the Office of National Programs which manages the research objectives of the Agency. Prior to moving into her role at ARS, she served as the Director of the Office of the Chief Scientist at USDA as well serving as the Acting Director for USDA-NIFA.

Dr. Jacobs-Young is a native of Georgia. She holds M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in Wood and Paper Science and a B.S. degree in Pulp and Paper Science and Technology from North Carolina State University. She also is a graduate of American University’s Executive Leadership in Public Policy Implementation Program.

**EPA Seeks Comments on Draft Guidance Documents for Evaluating Spray Drift**

EPA announced the availability of two draft guidance documents for public comment. These documents describe how off-site spray drift will be evaluated for ecological and human health risk assessments for pesticides. The January 29, 2014, Federal Register Notice specifically seeks public input on approaches that include:

- a policy for conducting human health risk assessments associated with the potential for exposure from off-site drift during pesticide applications and
- an updated method for estimating environmental exposures associated with spray drift.

The 60-day public comment period will close on March 31, 2014. For details and to submit comments, please go to: [http://www.regulations.gov/#/documentDetail;D=EPA-HQ-OPP-2013-0676-0001](http://www.regulations.gov/#/documentDetail;D=EPA-HQ-OPP-2013-0676-0001)

**EPA Seeks Comments on New Worker Protection Standards**

New proposed rules meant to safeguard farm workers from pesticide exposure were announced Feb. 20 by EPA. The proposed regulations are the first updating of its Worker Protection Standard (WPS) in 20 years. Proposed changes to the WPS include:

- Increased frequency of mandatory trainings (from once every 5 years to annually) to inform farm workers about the protections they are afforded under the law, including restrictions on entering pesticide-treated fields and surrounding areas, decontamination supplies, access to information and use of personal protective equipment. Expanded trainings will include instructions to reduce take-home exposure from pesticides on work clothing and other safety topics.
- Expanded mandatory posting of no-entry signs for the most hazardous pesticides; the signs prohibit entry into pesticide-treated fields until residues decline to a safe level.
- First time-ever minimum age requirement: Children under 16 will be prohibited from handling pesticides, with an exemption for family farms.
- No-entry buffer areas surrounding pesticide-treated fields will protect workers and others from exposure from pesticide overspray and fumes.
• Measures to improve the states’ ability to enforce compliance including requiring employers to keep records of application-specific pesticide information as well as farm worker training and early-entry notification for 2 years.
• Personal Protection Equipment (respirator use) must be consistent with the Occupational Safety & Health Administration standards for ensuring respirators are providing protection, including fit test, medical evaluation, and training.
• Make available to farm workers or their advocates (including medical personnel) information specific to the pesticide application, including the pesticide label and Safety Data Sheets.
• Additional changes make the rule more practical and easier to comply for farmers.
• Continues the exemptions for family farms.

For details and to submit comments, please go to: [http://www.epa.gov/oppfead1/safety/workers/proposed/index.html](http://www.epa.gov/oppfead1/safety/workers/proposed/index.html)

**Secretary Vilsack Announces Seven Regional Climate Hubs**

On Feb. 5, USDA Secretary Vilsack announced the creation of the first ever Regional Hubs for Risk Adaptation and Mitigation to Climate Change at seven locations around the country. "Climate Hubs" will address increasing risks such as fires, invasive pests, devastating floods, and crippling droughts on a regional basis, aiming to translate science and research into information to farmers, ranchers, and forest landowners on ways to adapt and adjust their resource management. Vilsack said “USDA’s Climate Hubs are part of our broad commitment to developing the next generation of climate solutions, so that our agricultural leaders have the modern technologies and tools they need to adapt and succeed in the face of a changing climate."

The Hubs will provide outreach and information to producers on ways to mitigate risks; public education about the risks climate change poses to agriculture, ranchlands and forests; regional climate risk and vulnerability assessments; and centers of climate forecast data and information. They will also link a broad network of partners participating in climate risk adaptation and mitigation, including universities; non-governmental organizations; federal agencies such as the Department of Interior and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration; Native Nations and organizations; state departments of environment and agriculture; research centers; farm groups and more.

The Hubs were chosen through a competitive process among USDA facilities. In addition to the seven Hubs, USDA is designating three Subsidiary Hubs ("Sub Hubs") that will function within the Southeast, Midwest, and Southwest. The Sub Hubs will support the Hub within their region and focus on a narrow and unique set of issues relative to what will be going on in the rest of the Hub. The Southwest Sub Hub, located in Davis, California, will focus on specialty crops and Southwest forests, the Southeast Sub Hub will address issues important to the Caribbean, and the Midwest Sub Hub will address climate change and Lake State forests.

**Drought Forecasting Program Reauthorized**

The House and Senate expeditiously passed legislation and the President signed into law (P.L. 113-86) a measure that reauthorizes the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration’s system for monitoring and forecasting droughts nationwide. P.L. 113-86 authorizes $13.5 million for the National Integrated Drought Information System each year from fiscal 2014 through 2018. The program was authorized at $16 million in fiscal 2012, which is when its funding expired. The measure specifies which agencies should be consulted for the National Integrated Drought Information System’s forecasts. It also would require the system to monitor the effects of droughts, including on water supplies and soil moisture, and to coordinate federal, state, regional, public, private and academic early-warning research.
The following locations have been selected to serve as their region’s center of climate change information and outreach to mitigate risks to the agricultural sector:

- **Midwest**: National Laboratory for Agriculture and the Environment, Agricultural Research Service, Ames, Iowa
- **Northeast**: Northern Research Station, Forest Service, Durham, N.H.
- **Southeast**: Southern Research Station, Forest Service, Raleigh, N.C.
- Southeast Sub-Hub in Rio Piedras, Puerto Rico
- **Northern Plains**: National Resources Center, Agricultural Research Service, Fort Collins, Colo.
- **Southern Plains**: Grazinglands Research Lab, Agricultural Research Service, El Reno, Okla.
- **Pacific Northwest**: Pacific Northwest Research Station, Forest Service, Corvallis, Ore.
- **Southwest**: Rangeland Management Unit/Jornada Experimental Range, Agricultural Research Service, Las Cruces, N.M.
- Southwest Sub-hub in Davis, Calif.

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
www.wssa.net

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**SUSTAINING MEMBERSHIP REPORT**

John O’Barr

We received commitments from 18 organizations for 2014. This is a decrease of one organization from 2013 as well as a decrease in sustaining revenue of $1,750.

The 2014 sustaining membership breakdown is as follows: 2-Platinum, 5-Gold, 6-Silver, and 5-Bronze confirmed for a total commitment of $13,250, of which $4,500 will be committed to the weed contest fund.

On behalf of NEWSS, I would like to personally thank these 18 organizations for their contributions for 2014. These contributions are critical to the financial health of the society and I invite other companies and organizations to consider becoming a sustaining member today!

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

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 becoming a sustaining member or would like to contribute to the weed contest, please contact John O’Barr (john.obarr@basf.com, 717-386-8259).

Please see the last page of this Newsletter for a poster of our Sustaining Members.
# WEED TOUR DATES 2014

Compiled by Bryan Dillehay  
Research & Education Representative

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>University</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Contact</th>
<th>Email</th>
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<tr>
<td>Virginia Tech</td>
<td>Weed Tour</td>
<td>Painter, VA</td>
<td>July 9</td>
<td></td>
<td>Henry Wilson</td>
<td><a href="mailto:hwilson@vt.edu">hwilson@vt.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Penn State</td>
<td>Twilight Tour</td>
<td>Landisville, PA</td>
<td>June 25</td>
<td>5 pm</td>
<td>Bill Curran</td>
<td><a href="mailto:wsc2@psu.edu">wsc2@psu.edu</a></td>
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<td>Weed Tour</td>
<td>Georgetown, DE</td>
<td>June 24</td>
<td></td>
<td>Mark VanGessel</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mjv@udel.edu">mjv@udel.edu</a></td>
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<td>Ron Ritter</td>
<td><a href="mailto:rrlitter@umd.edu">rrlitter@umd.edu</a></td>
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<td>July 9</td>
<td>9 am</td>
<td>Bill Curran</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cornell</td>
<td>Vegetable Crops Weed</td>
<td>Freeville, NY</td>
<td>July 16</td>
<td>8 am</td>
<td>Robin Bellinder</td>
<td><a href="mailto:rrb3@cornell.edu">rrb3@cornell.edu</a></td>
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<td>Cornell</td>
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<td>July 16</td>
<td>Noon</td>
<td>Russ Hahn</td>
<td><a href="mailto:rrh4@cornell.edu">rrh4@cornell.edu</a></td>
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<td>Weed Tour</td>
<td>By Appointment</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Brad Majek</td>
<td><a href="mailto:majek@aesop.rutgers.edu">majek@aesop.rutgers.edu</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Membership update: As of January 2014, there are 390 members-at-large in the Updated Directory (2013-2014 Meeting Attendees) and additional contacts in the NEWSS List serve who do not consider themselves regular members of the society. Members-at-large who have not been active in the society in the past 3 years are removed from the printed directory if not registered at the next annual meeting, or if they have not paid member dues only ($50.00) for the current fiscal year, or have since passed away.

Dr. Robert D. (Bob) Sweet
1915-2014

Dr. Robert Sweet passed away in late January at the age of 98. He was one of the founders of the Northeastern Weed Science Society in 1947 and served as its 2nd President in 1949-50. Dr. Sweet remained active as a weed scientist at Cornell University for more than 70 years. In short, Bob Sweet was one of the most influential and well respected weed scientists of all time. A number of people are preparing a tribute to Dr. Sweet that will appear in an upcoming issue of NEWSS News and on the NEWSS website.
President-Elect Gregory Armel at the start of the General Session.

Philadelphia Tour Guide Josh Silver presented an interesting history of the Society Hill area.

Past President Antonio DiTommaso follows with some interesting remarks of his own.

Awards Committee Chair Toni DiTommaso presided over the NEWSS Awards Program.

Dr. Renee Keese, currently with BASF Corp., was presented with the NEWSS Fellow Award (formerly known as the Distinguished Member Award).

President Grego ory Arml at the start of the General Session.

Past President Antonio DiTommaso follows with some interesting remarks of his own.
Dr. Russell Hahn of Cornell Univ. was honored with the NEWSS Award of Merit.

Chuck Mohler

Dr. Charles Mohler of Cornell Univ. was presented with the Outstanding Researcher Award.

Dr. David Mortensen of Penn State received the Outstanding Educator Award.
Dr. Katherine Ghantous of the Univ. of Massachusetts was named the Robert D. Sweet Outstanding Graduate Student at the Ph.D. level.

Ms. Barbara Scott of the Univ. of Delaware was presented with the M. Garry Schnappinger Service Recognition Award.

NEWSS President Dwight Lingenfelter presented his Presidential Address entitled “Has It Been 20 Years Already?”
Attendees at the General Session & Awards Program.

Greg Armel presided over the "New Innovations in Weed Management" Symposium.

Symposium speakers included:
Bob Scott of University of Arkansas.

Allen Gent (Bayer CropSciences, RTP, NC)

Luke Mankin (BASF Corporation, RTP, NC)

Stephen Young (University of Nebraska)
Holiday decorations in the lobby of the Sheraton Society Hill, Philadelphia, PA

President Dwight Lingenfelter at the start of the NEWSS Business Meeting.

Randy Prostak presented a report on CAST activities and publications.

Lee Van Wychen, Science Policy Director, discussed effects of federal policies and legislation on weed science programs in his Washington DC report.
At the NEWSS Business Meeting, the Presidency was passed from Dwight Lingenfelter to Greg Armel.

Mark VanGessel discussed the Herbicide-Resistant Weeds Summit.

New President Greg Armel presents outgoing President Dwight Lingenfelter with a plaque in appreciation of his service to NEWSS.

President Greg Armel presides over the latter portion of the Business Meeting.

Bill Curran (Penn State) 2nd Place, Photo Contest

Jennifer Cote (Univ. of Maine) 3rd Place, Photo Contest
NEWSS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2014
Front row (L to R): Shawn Askew, Rakesh Chandran, Greg Armel, Dwight Lingenfelter.
Back row (L to R): John Orlowski, John O'Barr, Bryan Dillehay, Keith Burnell, Art Gover,
Erin Hitchner, Prasanta Bhowmik, Randy Prostak, Todd Mervosh.

NEWSS PAST PRESIDENTS at the Annual Meeting in 2014
Front row (L to R): Bradley Majek, David Mayonado, Prasanta Bhowmik, Hilary Sandler, Antonio DiTommaso,
Renee Keese, Robin Bellinder, Joseph Neal, Richard Bonanno. Back row (L to R): Brian Olson, Roy Johnson,
Mark VanGessel, William Curran, Jerry Baron, Timothy Dutt, David Yarborough, Russell Hahn.
NEWSS & NE-ASHS Industry Nightcap and Dessert Social – January 2014
NORTHEASTERN WEED SCIENCE SOCIETY
2014 Sustaining Members

**Platinum**
- BASF
- syngenta

**Gold**
- VALENT
- FMC
- Dow AgroSciences
- Bayer CropScience
- MONSANTO

**Silver**
- DUPONT
- oihp
- BAAR Scientific LLC
- pbi/gordon corporation
- Gowan

**Bronze**
- Crop Management Strategies
- Gylling Data Management
- LABServices
- TeeJet® Technologies
- Weeds, Inc.