NEWSS News

Northeastern Weed Science Society
Spring 2017

Important Information

July 25-26, 2017: Northeastern Weed Science Contest hosted by ACDS Research, Inc.
Please contact Grant Jordan at gljordan@acdsresarch.com if you are interested in volunteering for this event.

Comments from the President

Randy Prostak

The 71st Northeastern Weed Science Society Annual Meeting (NEWSS) and 2nd annual Northeast Plant, Pest, and Soils Conference (NEPPSC) was held January 3-6, 2017 in Philadelphia, PA. The NEWSS served as the host society and was joined by the Northeast Branch of the American Society of Agronomy, Crop Science Society of America, and the Soil Science Society of America (NE ASA-CSAA-SSSA), and the American Society of Horticultural Science - Northeast Region (NE-ASHS). From the inception of NEPPSC the goal and objective was for this conference to become self-sustaining. A conference were different agricultural science societies and disciplines would come together meet, share information, network and explore possible collaborations. The success of the 2nd annual NEPPSC conference is another step toward this goal and objective. The NEWSS EC is currently exploring the role of the Northeast IPM Center in the future of NEPPSC.

As president-elect in 2016 and program chair for our January 2017 meeting. I want to thank the NEWSS EC, representatives from NE ASA-CSAA-SSSA and NE-ASHS, as well as the many NEWSS members that generously offered assistance. Your help is greatly appreciated and was very important for the overall success of the meeting.

The NEWSS Executive Committee has many projects in process as we move toward our society's 72nd annual meeting and the 3rd annual NEPPSC. The site selection committee is hard at work contacting and/or visiting potential sites for 2018. A big thank you to Jim Parochetti. In mid-January, Jim offered his assistance to the site selection committee. Jim prepared a Request for Proposals (RPF) on behalf of our society and sent it the Convention and Visitors' Bureau of Philadelphia and Baltimore. This site selection RFP will now be available for using in future years. Thank you, Jim.

Despite what appeared to be a slow start it looks as spring and the beginning of the 2017 growing season in upon us. Wish you a

productive 2017 research and education season. Please feel free to reach out with any concerns and/or suggestions. Hope to see you at the weed contest or at a field day this summer.

President-Elect's Report

Carroll Mosley

Thanks to ACDS (Grant Jordan's crew) for taking on the 2017 Summer Weed Science Contest. The contest will take place on July 25th at the ACDS facility in North Rose, New York. Look for the registration and hotel information from Sudeep Mathew. Make sure you get these items filled out and sent to gljordan@acdsresearch.com at ACDS as soon as possible. We will need a large set of volunteers for this contest (40+), so please let Grant know what job you would like to have to help prepare and conduct the contest. We are currently working on scheduling the 2018 contest. Further details will become available when we meet in North Rose!

Thanks to everyone that took the time to fill out the evaluation form for the 2017 annual meeting. Plans are underway for the 2018 Annual NEPPSC meeting the week of January 8th. We will have the city and hotel sorted out by mid-April of this year. Thanks to Jim Parochetti for helping with this process. The ultimate decision will come down to overall costs (with a close eye on room rates) for the NEWSS and others. Two cities (Philadelphia and Baltimore) led the survey and we are concentrating the bid efforts on these two areas. The final decision will be established by the NEWSS Executive committee in conjunction with other NEPPSC participants.

I hope to see many of you at the student contest this summer!

Past President's Report

Shawn D. Askew

The Second Annual Northeastern Plant, Pest, and Soils Conference was a success. The NEWSS Executive Committee is committed to expanding the conference agenda and recruiting more societies. A key challenge moving forward is to offset the administrative burden of the conference. We are optimistic about the future of NEPPSC and negotiations are underway now for meeting sites and new society partners for 2018 and 2019.

The membership is encouraged to provide nominations from our region for the "Award of Merit", "Fellow Award", "Outstanding Educator Award", "Outstanding Researcher Award", Robert D. Sweet "Outstanding Graduate Students Awards" and "M. Garry Schnappinger-Service Recognition Award" for the 2018 meeting. Please refer to the NEWSS Manual of Operating Procedures

(pages 9-12) for the awards criteria. Please let me know if you have potential nominations or any related questions.

Treasurer's Report

Kurt Vollmer

April 2017 Financial Report as of April 4, 2017	
Savings Balance	$31,847.20
Checking Balance	$88,562.34
Endowment Fund	$24,547.64
Total Net Assets	**$144,957.18**

The mailing address for NEWSS has changed. Please address all correspondence to:

Kurt Vollmer, NEWSS Treasurer
16483 County Seat Hwy
Georgetown, DE 19947

NEWSS Board 2017

Front Row (L to R): Sudeep Mathew, Katelyn Venner, Randy Prostak, Kurt Vollmer, Quintin Johnson, Lee Van Wychen
Back Row (L to R): Theresa Reinhardt, Carroll Mosley, Wesley Everman, Shawn Askew, Michael Flessner, Dan Kunkel

Executive Committee, Chairs and Representatives

Randy Prostak	President
Carroll Mosley	President-Elect
Dan Kunkel	Vice-President
Shawn Askew	Past President
Kurt Vollmer	Treasurer
Sudeep Mathew	Membership Chair
Michael Flessner	Editor
Katelyn Venner	Public Relations Rep.
Wesley Everman	Sustaining Membership
Quentin Johnson	Research & Education
Theresa Reinhardt	Graduate Student Rep.
Mike Fidanza	WSSA Representative
Dan Kunkel	CAST Representative
Lee Van Wychen	Science Policy Director

NEWSS Executive Committee 2016

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Committee Members

Listed below are the Chairs and Chair-Elects for the various sections in 2017.

2018 NEWSS Annual Meeting
Carroll Mosley – Program Chair

Poster Session:
Michael Flessner – Chair

Agronomy:
Sandeep Rana – Chair

Turfgrass and Ornamentals:
Kyung-min Han – Chair
Matt Elmore– Chair-Elect

Vegetables and Fruit:
Thierry Bensacon – Chair
Charlie Cahoon – Chair-elect

Vegetation Management and Restoration:
Lane Heimer - Chair

Program Committees for the 2017 NEWSS Meeting

Site Selection Committee

Carroll Mosley	President-Elect
Randy Prostak	President
Kurt Vollmer	Treasurer

Awards Committee

Shawn Askew	Chair
Rakesh Chandran	
Greg Armel	
Dwight Lingenfelter	
Antonio DiTommaso	

Nomination Committee

Shawn Askew	Past President
Jennifer D'Appollonio-Cote	Appointed by President
Sali Barolli	Selected at business mtg.
Darren Lycan	Selected at business mtg.
Michael Flessner	Selected at business mtg.

Collegiate Weed Contest Committee

Randy Prostak	President
Carroll Mosley	Chair
Grant Jordan	Current Host
Shawn Askew	Host in 2016
Jacob Barney	Host in 2016
Dwight Lingenfelter	Host in 2014
Greg Armel	Host in 2011
Theresa Reinhardt	Graduate Student Rep.
Wes Everman	Sustaining Membership

Audit Committee

Kurt Vollmer	Treasurer

Additional members to be chosen at meeting

Archives Committee

Dan Kunkel	Chair
Shawn Askew	Past-President

Photo Award Committee

Hillary Sandler	Chair
Erin Hitchner	
Rakesh Chandran	
Art Gover	
Shawn Askew	

Student Paper Awards Committee

Shawn Askew	Past President
Rakesh Chandran	
Greg Armel	
Dwight Lingenfelter	
Antonio DiTommaso	

Weed Science Field Days Committee

Quintin Johnson	Appointed by Pres-elect

Past President's Committee

Shawn Askew	Past President
Rakesh Chandran	

Herbicide Resistance Plant Committee

Mark VanGessel	Chair
Bill Curran	
Dan Kunkel	
Dave Mayonado	

Endowment Committee

Carroll Mosley	President-Elect
Kurt Vollmer	Treasurer
Sudeep Mathew	Membership Chair
Shawn Askew	Past President
Rakesh Chandran	Past President
Greg Armel	Past President
Renee Keese	Appointed by President

NEWSS News was compiled by Katelyn Venner, Public Relations Representative. Please contact her at katelyn.venner@basf.com with any corrections, suggestions, or items to be included in the next newsletter (August 2017).

Editor's Report

Michael Flessner

The 2017 NEPPSC Proceedings are nearing completion and will be posted to the NEWSS website soon. I will also be producing a NEWSS Proceedings, separate from the NEPPSC Proceedings. Thanks to all who submitted titles and abstracts.

While many followed instructions for formatting titles and abstracts, many did not. For those who did, thank you. For those who did not, please follow formatting instructions, which are posted on the NEWSS website and published in the September newsletter. This makes life much easier for the program chair, editor, and others.

For the 2018 meeting, we will continue to use the WSSA Abstracts website for submission of titles and abstracts. We will also continue with the Proceedings in an electronic format only. Doing so eliminates time constraints for printing and shipping and allows for submission deadlines to be closer to the meetings.

Membership Report

Sudeep Mathew

As of January 2017, there are 416 **members-at-large** in the Updated Directory (2016-2017 Meeting Attendees) and additional contacts in the NEWSS Listserv who do not consider themselves regular members of the society**.** Members-at-large who have not been active in the society in the past 3 years are removed from the 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.

Finally, if you know of a member who is not receiving communications from NEWSS, please let me know and I will add them to the list. Also, if you know someone who is not yet a member but could benefit from the Society, please encourage them to become a member and pass their contact information to me.

Thank you for keeping your contact information with NEWSS current. Please indicate any address changes by sending an email to sudeep.mathew@syngenta.com.

NEWSS Annual Meeting	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Distinguished/Fellow	12	11	11	8	11	2	3	11	xx*	xx*	xx*
Dues only	Data not available		6	12	11	9	Data not available	10	4	3	4
Invited Speakers	3	5	3	7	7	5	Data not available	3	5	Data not available	Data not available
Regular Members	148	119	132	91	104	110	94	87	83	140	96
Retired or Retired and Distinguished/Fellow	4	1	3	3	3	6	3	23	11	Data not available	Data not available
Student members	19	21	32	19	21	29	26	34	24	21	26
Sustaining Companies	22	22	13	16	21	17	18	18	20	20	5*
Symposiums and Workshops	39	14	76	0	18	20	Data not available	13	6	0	0
TOTAL	247	193	276	156	196	197**	144*	190**	153	184	131
Proceedings Distributed	79	65	75	50	78	97	40	48	24	Digital Copy	Digital Copy
Standing Order Sales	50	50	50	50	55	46	43	43	18	N/A	N/A

*2013 Total = all in the 2013 column and number can be a double count of some member via Regular members possibly being part of the Sustaining Companies numbers. Also the numbers are from the WSSA/NEWSS combine meeting were many of the NEWSS members are/signed up as WSSA members.

*2014, 2017 Total does not include the 100% of Sustaining Companies as not all attended, number used was 9 for 2014.

*2015, 2016, 2017 - Combined to make up the Retired or retired and Distinguished/Fellow line

Graduate Student Update

Theresa Reinhardt

Fellow Graduate Students,

Hello to all and a happy spring to you! I hope you all are having a productive semester and are excited for the next growing season to begin! I am honored to be representing you on behalf of the GSO for the Northeastern Plant, Pest and Soils Conference. As a new member myself, I felt welcomed and instantly connected at our recent annual meeting. For those of you who were unable to attend, besides presentations from key members in industry and academia, this year's meeting featured a symposium "Communicating with Non-Science Audiences", a society mixer, and of course, the paper and poster student contest.

Congratulations to all the winners of the student contest and thank you to everyone who participated in poster and paper presentations. This year we had a good turnout and quality in the presentations, so remember to help mentor our new students next year and pass on your skills! Participating in paper and poster contest is always a rewarding experience, even when you do not place. I encourage you to tell your advisor or anyone who helped judge what the experience and constructive feedback meant to you.

The Executive Committee is already planning for next year's meeting. If you have any comments on how this year's meeting went or suggestions for symposia, workshops, or events, please send them my way. I would love to hear from you so I can represent the interest of the graduate students.

I hope to see you all again at the summer Weed Contest, which will be held in North Rose, NY at the ACDS farm July 25. This event is a great opportunity to brandish your skills in Weed Science and join in comradery with your fellow graduate students. Gather your team and start studying!

On a final note, I would like to congratulate all the graduates and thank you for your participation in the society. We wish you all the best in your future endeavors.

WSSA Representative

Prasanta Bhowmik

The 2017 WSSA Annual Meeting was held at the Hilton El Conquistador Resort in Tucson, Arizona, February 6-9, 2017. Janis McFarland, Program Chair for 2017 meeting had a very exciting program.

There were three outstanding symposia during the 2017 meeting as follows: i) Precision Agriculture and Weed Science, ii) Contributions of USDA-ARS Area-wide Projects in Weed Science Research and Practices, and iii) Understanding and Reducing the Impact of Herbicide Off-Site Movement: Advancements to Reduce Drift and Considerations for Herbicide Synergy.

One workshop on "Teaching Undergraduate Weed Science: Strategies to Improve Learning" was also held. One special session, "Navigating the New Landscape of Federal Funding for Weed Science Research." was organized. In addition to these, the graduate students had a workshop entitled "Utilizing Online Resources for the Development of a Professional Web Presence".

The Weed Science Society of America honored the following individuals for their outstanding contributions to the field of weed science. The awards were presented during the annual meeting, held in Tucson, Arizona.

- **Fellow Awards (WSSA, Highest Recognition):** Nilda Burgos, Ph.D., University of Arkansas, and Richard Zollinger, Ph.D., North Dakota State University
- **Outstanding Extension Award:** Mark J. VanGessel, Ph.D., University of Delaware
- **Outstanding Research Award:** Joe DiTomaso, Ph.D., University of California, Davis
- **Outstanding Graduate Student Award:** Matthew Jeffries, Ph.D. candidate, North Carolina State University
- **Outstanding Early Career Weed Scientist**: Amit Jhala, Ph.D., University of Nebraska-Lincoln
- **Outstanding Industry Award:** Arlene Cotie, Bayer
- **Outstanding Reviewer Awards:** Albert Ayeni, Ph.D., Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey, and Aman Chandie, Ph.D., DuPont
- **Public Service Award:** Michael Barrett, Ph.D., University of Kentucky

2017 Graduate Students Oral Papers Contest: 2017 was a successful year for student oral presentation contest in addition to regular student poster presentation contest.

There were 68 posters and oral presentations (MS and Ph. D) at the contest. Posters included 13 MS and 19 PhD students, while oral presentations included 22 MS and 14 PhD students. There were 32 students at the graduate student workshop entitled "Utilizing Online Resources for the Development of a Professional Web Presence," and 51 students present at the Graduate student luncheon. For the winners, please visit http://wssa.net.

WSSA Journals moved to Cambridge University Press (CUP):
The CUP is our publisher for Weed Science, Weed Technology, and Invasive Plant Science and Management journals from January 1, 2017. All three journals are **online publication** by CUP. The first 2017 First View paper for Weed Science has just been published at https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/weed-science/first-view.

All 2016 published articles and older journal content will be maintained by Allen Press until the end of December. To access this content, go to wssa.net, click on "Member Access" under "WSSA Journals" in the grey menu bar on the left, and log in as a WSSA member.

The WSSA Herbicide Resistance Education Committee held several workshops at regional levels. The workshops will reflect the diversity of herbicide resistance challenges, commodities, and other differences between areas or regions. Our NEWSS members, Bill Curran and Mark Van

Gessel are responsible for northeast session.

WSSA seeking New EPA Liaison:
The Weed Science Society of America is seeking a qualified individual to interact with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and serve as a liaison between WSSA members and EPA employees. Dr. Michael Barrett from the University of Kentucky has served in this role for the past four years but plans to step down from the position by Fall 2017. Our intention is for Mike and the new liaison to initially work together during the transition period. Ideally, the new individual will travel to Arlington, VA approximately once per month for the first six months and then approximately once every 6-8 weeks after that to work in EPA's Office of Pesticide Programs (OPP). This individual will interact with EPA employees and provide input on a wide range of topics such as current weed management practices, the utility of label mitigations for herbicide use, herbicide resistance management, spray drift reduction technologies, invasive plant management, and endangered and threatened species protection. A key role for the liaison is to connect EPA OPP staff with WSSA committees and members to leverage their expertise to address these and other weed science issues. The liaison also conducts and arranges weed science training for EPA staff.

Further information on the liaison position and a listing of previous liaison reports can be found at http://wssa.net/society/epa-liaison

New Executive Secretary - WSSA:
Eric Gustafson, Interactive Management Incorporated (IMI), Westminster, CO is our new Executive Secretary in 2017.

New WSSA Business Management: The IMI will manage 2018 WSSA Annual Meeting, January 29 to February 1, 2018 at the Crystal Gateway Marriott, Arlington, VA.

New NEWSS Representative to WSSA:
Michael (Mike) Fidanza, Penn State Berks Campus, Penn State University Park.

Finally, this is my last report as NEWSS Representative to WSSA. First, let me thank the NEWSS Board for giving me this opportunity to serve as WSSA Representative. I thoroughly enjoyed working with all board members and participating in all summer board meetings and annual meetings. The last year has been an exciting year for the WSSA Board to make many major decisions for the society and members. And I really enjoyed being a part of the WSSA Board. Thanks to all Board members. THANK YOU.

Director of Science Policy Report

Lee Van Wychen

Pruitt Confirmed as EPA Administrator

On February 17, 2017, the United States Senate confirmed Scott Pruitt as the 14th Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The 49 year old Pruitt was born and raised in Kentucky where he graduated from Georgetown College in 1990. After that, he moved to Oklahoma where he earned his law degree at the University of Tulsa specializing in constitutional law. Most recently, Pruitt served as the Attorney General for Oklahoma. He worked with his Democratic counterpart in Arkansas to reach agreement to study the water quality of the Illinois River, which crosses the border between the two states and has been enjoyed by generations of Oklahomans. The Statement of Joint Principles provides for a best science study using EPA-approved methods, with both states agreeing, for the first time, to be bound by the outcome.

Also during his tenure as Oklahoma's Attorney General, Pruitt led an historic water rights settlement between Oklahoma, Oklahoma City and the Choctaw and Chickasaw Tribal Nations that preserved the ecosystems of scenic lakes and rivers on native lands. The agreement, which required Congressional approval, provides a framework that fosters intergovernmental collaboration on significant water resource concerns with the settlement area, while at the same time protecting existing water rights and affirming the state's role in water rights permitting and administration. More on Administrator Pruitt at: https://www.epa.gov/aboutepa/epas-administrator

Zinke Confirmed as Secretary of Interior

On December 13, 2016, Ryan Zinke was nominated by President Trump to serve as Secretary of Interior. The 55 year old Zinke served 23 years as a U.S. Navy Seal officer, retiring in 2008. He has a B.S. in Geology from the University of Oregon, a Masters in Business Finance from National University, and a Masters in Global Leadership from the University of San Diego. In November, Zinke had won his second term as Montana's sole Representative in the U.S. House. He is known both as an avid sportsman and conservationist.

Zinke was approved by the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources by 16-6 vote on January 31st. After a month of Democratic delay tactics, Zinke was confirmed as the 52nd Secretary of the Interior by the Senate on March 1st by a vote of 68-31. During his confirmation hearings, Zinke said he would take a "multi-use approach" to federal land management on the more than 500 million acres of public land managed by the Departmetn of Interior. He also vowed to clear the estimated $12 billion backlog in maintenance and repair at national parks. More on Secretary Zinke at: https://www.doi.gov/pressreleases/ryan-zinke-sworn-52nd-secretary-interior

Less Federal Regulations Expected: The last couple of years have been daunting for the sheer number of rules and regulations that have required comments from the weed science societies. It used to be shocking when the federal register would reach 80,000 pages of proposed rules, regulations, and executive orders in a calendar year, but in 2016 that benchmark was obliterated when the federal register reached 97,000 pages.

One primary area of concern is how Endangered Species Act (ESA) assessments are grinding the FIFRA registration process to a halt. There has been decades of dysfunction between the EPA and the Fish and Wildlife Service and National Marine Fisheries Service over how to integrate the requirements of both FIFRA and ESA. However, new leadership at EPA, Interior, and Commerce can take the steps necessary to implement existing FIFRA/ESA Counterpart

Regulations to fix this situation without the need for new regulations or statutes.

Senate Ag Committee Members in 115th Congress

There will be 11 Republicans and 10 Democrats on the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry in the 115th Congress, which has jurisdiction over all matters relating to the nation's agriculture industry, farming programs, forestry and logging, and legislation relating to nutrition and health. The chairman of the Senate Ag Committee, Pat Roberts from Kansas, and ranking member, Debbie Stabenow from Michigan, will remain in their same roles as the 114th Congress. They have already conducted the first field hearing on Feb. 23rd at Kansas State University, in preparation for the 2018 Farm Bill. Committee members, in order of seniority (**NEWSS states bolded**):

Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry – 115th Congress			
Republicans (11)		Democrats (10)	
Pat Roberts - Chair	KS	**Debbie Stabenow - Ranking Member**	**MI**
Thad Cochran	MS	**Patrick Leahy**	**VT**
Mitch McConnell	KY	**Sherrod Brown**	**OH**
John Boozman	AR	Amy Klobuchar	MN
John Hoeven	ND	Michael Bennett	CO
Joni Ernst	IA	**Kirsten Gillibrand**	**NY**
Charles E. Grassley	IA	Joe Donnelly	IN
Jeff Sessions	AL	Heidi Heitkamp	ND
John Thune	SD	**Bob Casey**	**PA**
Steve Daines	MT	**Chris Van Hollen**	**MD**
David Perdue	GA		

House Ag Committee Members in 115th Congress

There will be 26 Republicans and 20 Democrats on the House Agriculture Committee in the 115th Congress. Mike Conaway, Texas, will remain chair and Collin Peterson, Minnesota, will remain the ranking member. Members, in order of seniority (**NEWSS states bolded**):

House Committee on Agriculture – 115th Congress			
Republicans (26)		Democrats (20)	
Michael Conaway- Chair	TX	Collin Peterson- Ranking Member	MN
Glenn 'GT' Thompson	**PA**	David Scott	GA
Bob Goodlatte	**VA**	Jim Costa	CA
Frank D. Lucas	OK	Tim Walz	MN
Steven King	IA	**Marcia Fudge**	**OH**
Mike Rogers	AL	**Jim McGovern**	**MA**
Bob Gibbs	**OH**	Filemon Vela	TX
Austin Scott	GA	Michelle Lujan Grisham	NM
Rick Crawford	AR	**Ann Kuster**	**NH**
Scott DesJarlais	TN	Rick Nolan	MN
Vicky Hartzler	MO	Cheri Bustos	IL
Jeff Denham	CA	**Sean Patrick Maloney**	**NY**
Doug LaMalfa	CA	Stacey Plaskett	VI
Rodney Davis	IL	**Alma Adams**	**NC**
Ted Yoho	FL	**Dwight Evans**	**PA**
Rick Allen	GA	Al Lawson	FL
Mike Bost	IL	Tom O'Halleran	AZ
David Rouzer	**NC**	Jimmy Panetta	CA
Ralph Abraham	LA	Darren Soto	FL
Trent Kelly	MS	**Lisa Blunt Rochester**	**DE**
James Cormer	KY		
Roger Marshall	KS		
Don Bacon	NE		
John Faso	**NY**		
Neal Dunn	FL		
Jodey Arrington	TX		

Federal Government Funded on CR Through April 28.

Congress passed a continuing resolution (CR) on Dec. 9, 2016 funding the government at FY 2016 levels through April 28, 2017. The new 115th Congress of the United States will have to deal with the remainder of FY 2017 funding as well as start on FY 2018 federal funding where

sequestration will kick back in for discretionary spending. There will be much debate over how those recessions will be distributed between defense and non-defense programs or if there will be another budget deal to "raise the (spending) caps". Most federal research dollars depend on non-defense discretionary funding.

2016 Survey Results -Most Common and Troublesome Weeds in Broadleaf Crops

In 2016, the National and Regional Weed Science Societies conducted a survey of the most common and troublesome weeds in the following broadleaf crop categories: 1) alfalfa, 2) canola, 3) cotton, 4) fruits & nuts, 5) peanuts, 6) pulse crops, 7) soybean, 8) sugar beets, 9) vegetables-cole crops, 10) vegetables-cucurbits, 11) vegetables-fruiting, and 12) vegetables-other.

Common weeds refer to those weeds you most frequently see, while **troublesome weeds** are those that are most difficult to control (but may not be widespread). There were approximately 200 responses from weed scientists across the U.S. and Canada. The "top 10" lists below are an aggregation of their responses, based on my interpretation of the 2016 data. For example, I chose to combine the morningglory species (ivyleaf, pitted, tall, & sharppod) into one category since their biology and management is fairly similar.

TOP 10 WEEDS in BROADLEAF CROPS, FRUITS & VEGETABLES in 2016

Rank	Most Troublesome	*Times Listed
1	Palmer amaranth	66
2	common lambsquarters	60
3	horseweed (marestail)	55
4	morningglory spp.	54
5	waterhemp	49
6	nutsedge spp.	46
7	nightshade spp.	39
8	kochia	35
T9	common ragweed	33
T9	giant ragweed	33

Rank	Most Common	Times Listed
1	common lambsquarters	80
2	foxtail spp.	62
3	morningglory spp.	55
4	Palmer amaranth	53
5	redroot pigweed	49
6	waterhemp	40
7	horseweed (marestail)	38
8	common ragweed	33
9	barnyardgrass	31
10	velvetleaf	30

**"Times Listed" is the number of survey respondents who listed that weed as one of their top five weed species in any of the 12 broadleaf crop categories in the U.S. or Canada.*

Six weed species appeared on both the "most troublesome" and "most common" lists, including Palmer amaranth, common lambsquarters, horseweed, morningglory spp., waterhemp and common ragweed. All of those weed species have documented herbicide resistance to at least two mechanisms of action in the United States, except the morningglories which have no reported herbicide resistance. Finally, as you would expect, there were no grass weed species listed as "troublesome" in the top 10 weeds in broadleaf crops. The 2016 data set is available at: http://wssa.net/wssa/weed/surveys/

2017 National Weed Survey Now Available!

The 2017 survey for the most common and troublesome weeds is now available at: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2017weeds

The survey is for the most common and troublesome weeds in **grass crops**, specifically: 1) corn 2) rice, 3) sorghum, 4) spring grains, 5) winter grains, 6) pastures, and 7) turf.

The survey is open to all members of the National and Regional Weed Science Societies. Please take a few minutes to complete the survey now!

New Paraquat Risk Mitigation Measures Final, EPA Grants Research Exemption

As part of the registration review process for paraquat, EPA proposed additional mitigation measures last year, such as paraquat-specific applicator training material and prohibiting backpack applications, in order to minimize human health incidents from paraquat. These proposals were open for a 60 day comment period that closed last May. The WSSA Science Policy Committee had several concerns related to the costs and requirements of some of the proposed mitigation measures, but our **greatest concern** was that prohibiting paraquat applications from hand-held equipment would essentially eliminate the weed science community's ability to do small plot research with paraquat. WSSA's comments are at: http://wssa.net/wp-content/uploads/WSSA-comments-on-paraquat-mitigation_FINAL.pdf

On Dec. 15, 2016, EPA finalized its mitigation decisions and implementation plan which can be found at: https://www.regulations.gov/document?D=EPA-HQ-OPP-2011-0855-0112

I am happy to report that EPA addressed many of our concerns with their final decision. Most importantly, they included the following provision:

f. RESEARCH EXEMPTION

The Agency recognizes that paraquat is widely used in agricultural research as a standard burndown and desiccant treatment, to which other herbicides and desiccants are compared. Because of its use as a standard treatment, it has high benefits for use in small scale research trials. Based on these facts and the comments received regarding the importance of paraquat for research purposes, EPA will grant a ***research exemption from the closed system requirement and the 'certified applicator only' requirement****.*

Other key provisions in the paraquat mitigation decisions include:

- All paraquat non-bulk (less than 120 gallon) end use product containers must comply with EPA-approved **closed system** standards (e.g Lock and Load type systems). Registrants must comply with these standards by **March, 30 2019**.

- Paraquat products are **only to be used by certified applicators** who have met the applicator competency standards established by states, tribal, and federal agencies to use or handle paraquat. They are not to be used by uncertified individuals working under the supervision of a certified applicator.

- EPA is permitting the **continued use of handheld and backpack application equipment**, so long as it complies with EPA-approved closed system technology. Additionally, paraquat products intended for handheld and backpack equipment should contain an indicator dye to aid in early detection of paraquat leaks and spills, effective **March 30, 2019**.

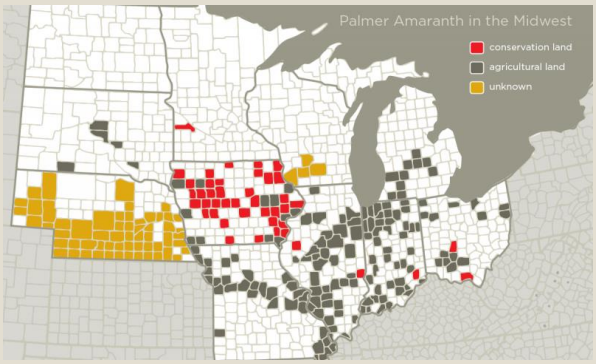
Education and Awareness of Auxin BMPs Will Be Critical

After the fallout from last summer's off label applications of dicamba, it is very clear that the weed science community will need to work

extra hard on educating growers and applicators about appropriate best management practices (BMPs) for auxin herbicides. The products Extendimax with VaporGrip, Engenia, and Enlist Duo have been approved for use in 34 states, which includes **MI, OH, PA, WV, VA, NC, MD, DE, NJ, and NY** in the NEWSS region. There is a lot of excellent work going on already in many states across the country, but we must continue to get those auxin herbicide BMPs out there anyway we can. The WSSA Public Awareness Committee will be issuing a couple press releases highlighting the auxin herbicide BMP's that were developed for www.TakeActionOnWeeds.com

Kevin Bradley gave a great presentation at the NCWSS annual meeting about his experiences with off-label dicamba applications in Missouri. One of the biggest eye-opening pieces of information that I took away was that were 24 days with temperature inversions in June 2016 in the Missouri Bootheel. 24 days out of 30! *Successful Farming* magazine had a nice summary of his talk titled "10 Dicamba Damage Takeaways From Missouri" at http://www.agriculture.com/crops/soybeans/10-dicamba-damage-takeaways-from-missouri

"100% Weed-Free" Pollinator Habitat Seed Spreading Palmer Amaranth in CRP Land



Weed scientists are finding Palmer amaranth across the Midwest. Counties in black indicate Palmer amaranth was first found in an agricultural field, whereas red indicates it was first detected on conservation program land. Yellow signifies the source of introduction was not identified. Credit: Graphic by Julie McMahon, University of Illinois

Read more at: https://phys.org/news/2016-12-effort-seeds-destruction-midwest.html#jCp

Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation (WIIN) Act Becomes Law

Just after midnight on December 10, 2016, the Senate passed the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation (WIIN) Act on the last vote of the 114th Congress. The Senate vote was 78-21 and the House vote was 360-61. The legislation was subsequently signed into law on December 16, 2016.

The WIIN Act provides funding for water infrastructure improvements and research, reauthorizes the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, Lake Tahoe Restoration Act, the Delaware River Basin Conservation Program, and Columbia River Basin Restoration Initiative; disburses critical resources to help communities provide safe drinking water, including grant financing to remove lead service lines; and provides funding to help communities expand water supply through investments in water recycling and desalination.

The authorization of the **Aquatic Plant Control Research Program** (APCRP), the nation's only federally authorized research program for the management of aquatic invasive species, remains at $40 million, with $20 million of that designated for watercraft inspection stations on the Columbia River in the Pacific Northwest.

The **Great Lakes Restoration Initiative** (GRLI) is reauthorized under the WIIN Act to provide $300 million a year for the next five years to strengthen fish and wildlife protection, ecosystem restoration, Great Lakes navigation systems, and updates to freshwater infrastructure. These funds are administered through the EPA. Some 3,000 projects have been completed across the 8-state basin since the inception of GRLI in 2010.

The full text of the WIIN Act is at: https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/senate-bill/612/text

WOTUS rule - Judicial, Legislative, and Executive Branch Actions

On November 1, 2016, opening briefs to the 6th Circuit Court were filed by 31 states, plus various organizations and companies opposed to the expanded federal jurisdiction over streams and wetlands under the Waters of the United States (WOTUS) rule finalized in 2015. The challengers argue that the WOTUS rule undermines state authority and take particular issue with what they say is the federal government's disregard for whether a body of water is considered "navigable," which they say should be key in determining where it can regulate. A **6th Circuit Court** hearing is unlikely to occur before April 2017.

On Jan. 12, 2017, **Senators** Joni Ernst (R-IA) and Deb Fisher (R-NE) resurrected a resolution calling for the WOTUS rule to be scrapped. The nonbinding resolution would put the Senate on record as calling for the water rule to be withdrawn or vacated. The Senate fell just short of the 60 votes necessary to kill it last year, but with multiple moderate Democrats facing tough reelections in 2018, that could change. The new resolution could offer a test vote to see where lawmakers stand on the water rule now.

On Jan. 13, 2017, the **Supreme Court** agreed to hear a challenge by the National Association of Manufacturers (NAM) to a lower court ruling because of a provision in the Clean Water Act that lays out when challenges are allowed to leapfrog lower courts. NAM's petition argues that challenges to the water rule should be first heard by district courts, rather than by appellate courts, as the 6th Circuit Court decided, because they are closer to concerns on the ground.

On Feb. 28, 2017, **President Trump** ordered a revised WOTUS rule. His executive order directs the heads of the Army Corps of Engineers and EPA to "review and reconsider" the existing WOTUS rule, which likely means it will be resubmitted through the federal rule making process. The order instructs the two agency leaders to review a 2006 opinion written by late Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia in Rapanos v. United States.
In that opinion, Scalia argued that federal jurisdiction extends only to water bodies with a permanent flow or non-navigable waterways that connect via surface water with areas with permanent flow — definitions with a more limited approach than the EPA established in its existing WOTUS rule that was finalized in 2015.

NPDES "Fix" Legislation Introduced in 115th Congress

New NPDES fix legislation has been re-introduced in both the House and Senate in the 115th Congress. The Reducing Regulatory Burdens Act of 2017 (HR 953) was introduced on Feb. 7, 2017 by Rep. Bob Gibbs (R-OH) and currently has 31 cosponsors. The House Agriculture Committee has already passed HR 953 by a voice vote on Feb. 16th.

The companion bill in the Senate is S. 340 and was also introduced on Feb. 7 by Sen. Mike Crapo (R-ID) and Sen. Claire McCaskill (D-MO). S. 340 is titled the "Sensible Environmental Protection Act of 2017" and has 15 cosponsors. The NPDES-fix legislation has been passed by the House of Representatives in each of the last three sessions of Congress in 2011, 2013, and 2016.

National Invasive Species Awareness Week (NISAW)

NISAW will be held February 27 to March 3, 2017 in Washington DC. Hopefully you had a chance to participate is some of the many events in DC or online via the webinars. Please see www.nisaw.org for details.

The first ever **NISAW in the Field** will be held this summer from July 9 – 15, 2017. Stay tuned for more information on state-led weed pulls,

field days, seminars, and more. Finally, the **Congressional Invasive Species Caucus** has a new co-chair: Rep. Elise Stefanik (R-NY) who was first elected to Congress in 2015 and is the youngest member in the House of Representatives at 32. She represents the northern 1/3 of New York. Mike Thompson (D-CA), first elected to Congress in 1998 from California's wine country just north of San Francisco, will remain as the other co-chair of the Congressional Invasive Species Caucus.

Invasive Species Executive Order Amended

On December 5th, President Obama issued an Executive Order amending President Clinton's Executive Order 13112 issued in 1999. This new order:

- directs actions to continue coordinated Federal prevention and control efforts related to invasive species
- maintains the National Invasive Species Council (NISC) and the Invasive Species Advisory Committee (ISAC)
- expands the membership of NISC
- clarifies the operations of NISC
- incorporates considerations of human and environmental health, climate change, technological innovation, and other emerging priorities into Federal efforts to address invasive species; and
- strengthens coordinated, cost-efficient Federal action

For details, please see:
https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2016/12/05/executive-order-safeguarding-nation-impacts-invasive-species

Invasive Species Issues Farm Bill Task Force Team.

A group of invasive species management stakeholders, led by the Reduce Risks from Invasive Species Coalition (RRISC) is drafting invasive species management language for the 2018 Farm Bill. Stakeholders include: American Forest & Paper Association, American Hort, Center for Invasive Species Prevention, Davey Tree Expert Company, Kansas State, Lone Tree Cattle Company, Lost Coast Forest Products, National Assocation of Conservation Districts, National Association of State Departments of Agriculture, National Cattlemen's Beef Association, National Wooden Pallet & Container Association, Noble Foundation, Northeast-Midwest Institute, Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission, Society for Range Management, Society of American Foresters, State of Colorado, Syngenta, TNC, University of Georgia, US Chamber of Commerce, Vermont Woodlands Association, and WSSA.

A few examples of some of the invasive species management language the coalition is working on include:

- Adding weed treatment area designations under Healthy Forest Restoration Act
- Promoting Areawide IPM language and funding through USDA NIFA
- Prevent NRCS program participants from planting "invasive plant species" on "reserve" lands
- Pilot projects for landscape-scale testing of grazing as a tool for rangeland invasive species control
- Adding "invasive species" to the Foundation of Food and Agricultural Research's list of national priorities

2017 USDA State Fact Sheets Available

The USDA Economic Research Service (ERS) has updated its data sets on Jan. 27, 2017, which provide information on "... population, income, poverty, food security, education, employment, organic agriculture, farm characteristics, farm financial indicators, top commodities, and agricultural exports ..."

2017 State Fact Sheets:
http://www.ers.usda.gov/data-products/state-fact-sheets/

Summary of the State Fact Sheets:
http://data.ers.usda.gov/reports.aspx?ID=10633

The Rise of Predatory Publishing: How To Avoid Being Scammed!

This last news item is a little bit off the beaten path, but still very relevant to weed scientists. I want to specifically highlight an article in *Weed Science* written by WSSA's Director of Publications, Dr. Sarah Ward from Colorado State University. The issue of predatory publishing is a rapidly growing concern among ALL disciplines of science and many seasoned scientists have already been duped.

Prospective authors must ultimately decide for themselves whether an unfamiliar on-line open access journal is legitimate and of sufficient quality to be trusted with a manuscript submission. A useful first step is to find out whether the publisher belongs to the Open Access Scholarly Publishers Association (http://oaspa.org), and whether the journal is listed in the Directory of Open Access Journals (http://doaj.org), which has taken stronger recent action to filter out predatory publications.

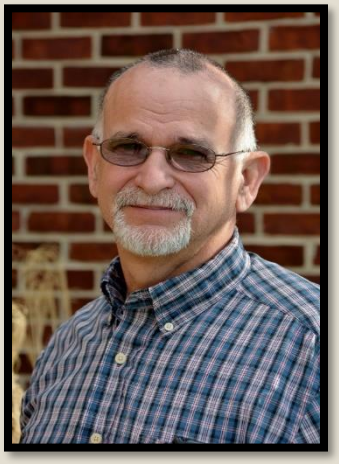
Here is the abstract from Sarah's article (DOI: https://doi.org/10.1614/WS-D-16-00080.1):

The rise of on-line open access (OA) has profound implications for academic publishing, not least the shift from subscribers to authors as the primary transactional partners for peer-reviewed journals. Although OA offers many benefits, it also paves the way for predatory publishers, who exploit the author-as-customer model to obtain revenue from author fees while providing few of the editorial services associated with academic publishing. Predatory journals publish papers with little or no peer review, and often disguise their real geographical location while exaggerating their scope and editorial expertise. ***Such journals also attempt to attract authors by promising unrealistically rapid editorial decisions while falsely claiming peer review, and fabricating impact factors and inclusion in academic indexes.*** *The explosive increase in predatory OA journals is not only a risk to inexperienced authors, but also threatens to undermine the OA model and the legitimate communication of research.*

Meetings of the National and Regional Weed Science Societies

Mar. 13-16, 2017 Western Society of Weed Science (WSWS), Coeur d'Alene, ID www.wsweedscience.org
Jul. 16 - 19, 2017 Aquatic Plant Management Society (APMS), Daytona Beach, FL www.apms.org
Dec. 4 - 7, 2017 North Central Weed Science Society (NCWSS), St. Louis, MO www.ncwss.org
Jan. 2018 Northeastern Weed Science Society (NEWSS), www.newss.org
Jan. 22 - 24, 2018 Southern Weed Science Society (SWSS), Atlanta, GA www.swss.ws
Jan. 29 - Feb. 1, 2018 Weed Science Society of America (WSSA), Arlington, VA www.wssa.net

Research and Education Report



Quintin Johnson

Pesticide applicator recertification credits were offered at the 71st Annual Meeting of the Northeastern Weed Science Society, which was the second joint meeting of the Northeastern Plant, Pest, and Soils Conference (NEPPSC17) this past January in Philadelphia,

PA. A total of 37 pesticide recertification credits were awarded across 7 sessions over the 4-day meeting. The number of credits awarded were down significantly from last year's Annual Meeting (82) due to fewer sessions and fewer societies participating. The Agronomic Crops sessions and Student Oral Presentations sessions were the most popular sessions for recertification credits each with 12 signatures. We were unable to provide Certified Crop Advisor (CCA) credits for this meeting due to the late date for program completion. We hope to resume CCA credit offerings at the next meeting.

Weed tour dates and locations for several universities are included in this month's newsletter. Please refer to the listed contacts for more information for each event.

NEWSS Weed Science Field Day Tours Planned for 2017

University	Event	Location	Date	Time	Contact	Email
Virginia Tech	VT-Eastern Shore AREC Weed Tour	Painter, VA	June 27	8:30 am	Charlie Cahoon	cwcahoon@vt.edu
Virginia Tech	VT-Blacksburgh Weed Tour	--	--	--	Michael Flessner	flessner@vt.edu
Delaware	UD Weed Tour	Georgetown, DE	June 28	8:30 am	Mark VanGessel	mjv@udel.edu
Maryland	MD Weed Tour	TBD	TBD	TBD	Burkhard Schulz	bschulz1@umd.edu
Penn State	Penn State Twilight Weed Tour	Landisville, PA	June 28	4:30 pm	Bill Curran	wsc2@psu.edu
Penn State	Penn State Morning Weed Tour	Rock Springs, PA	July 11	8:30 am	Bill Curran	wsc2@psu.edu
Penn State	Penn State No Turfgrass Field Days 2017	--	--	--	Pete Landschoot	pjl1@psu.edu
Cornell	Fresh Market Vegetable Field Day	Portland, NY	TBD	TBD	Darcy Telenko	dep10@cornell.edu
Cornell	Fresh Market Vegetable Field Day	Batavia, NY	TBD	TBD	Darcy Telenko	dep10@cornell.edu
Cornell	No traditional Vegetable Crops Weed Tour 2017	--	--	--	Darcy Telenko	dep10@cornell.edu
Cornell	No traditional Field Crops Weed Tour 2017	--	--	--	Richard Richtmyer	rjr39@cornell.edu
Rutgers	No Tour 2017	--	--	--	--	--

Other NEWSS News

Mark VanGessel was awarded the Outstanding Extension Award by the WSSA at the national meeting in Tuscon, Arizona. Press release is below.

2017 Award Winners Named by Weed Science Society of America

Posted on February 7, 2017

LAWRENCE, Kansas — February 7, 2017 – The Weed Science Society of America (WSSA) this week honored more than two dozen individuals for their outstanding contributions to the field of weed science. The awards were presented during the organization's annual meeting, held this year in Tucson, Arizona.

"We're proud to honor true innovators who are making a significant mark on weed science through their commitment to research, education and teaching," said Janis McFarland, Ph.D., 2017 annual meeting program chair and incoming president of WSSA.

This year's winners include:

- **Fellow Awards (WSSA's Highest Recognition):** Nilda Burgos, Ph.D., University of Arkansas, and Richard Zollinger, Ph.D., North Dakota State University
- **Outstanding Extension Award:** Mark J. VanGessel, Ph.D., University of Delaware
- **Outstanding Research Award:** Joe DiTomaso, Ph.D., University of California, Davis
- **Outstanding Graduate Student Award:** Matthew Jeffries, Ph.D. candidate, North Carolina State University
- **Outstanding Paper Award, Invasive Plant Science and Management:** Influence of Intensity and Duration of Invasion by Amur Honeysuckle (*Lonicera Maackii*) on Mixed Hardwood Forests of Indiana, Joshua Shields, Ph.D., Manistee and Mason-Lake Conservation Districts, corresponding author
- **Outstanding Paper Award, Invasive Plant Science and Management:** Plastid DNA Analysis Reveals Cryptic Hybridization in Invasive Dalmatian Toadflax (*Linaria dalmatica*) Populations, Sarah Ward, Ph.D., Colorado State University, corresponding author
- **Outstanding Paper Award, Weed Science:** Field Application of Glyphosate Induces Molecular Changes Affecting Vegetative Growth Processes in Leafy Spurge (*Euphorbia esula*), Münevver Doğramacı, Ph.D., USDA-Agricultural Research Service, corresponding author
- **Outstanding Paper Award, Weed Technology**: Evaluating Cover Crops and Herbicides for Glyphosate Resistant Palmer Amaranth (*Amaranthus palmeri*) Control in Cotton, Lawrence Steckel, Ph.D., University of Tennessee
- **Outstanding Early Career Weed Scientist**: Amit Jhala, Ph.D., University of Nebraska-Lincoln
- **Outstanding Industry Award:** Arlene Cotie, Bayer
- **Outstanding Reviewer Awards:** Albert Ayeni, Ph.D., Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey, and Aman Chandie, Ph.D., DuPont
- **Public Service Award:** Michael Barrett, Ph.D., University of Kentucky

Andy Senesac (center) was chosen by the IR-4 Program to receive the 2017 IR-4 SOAR Award presented by Christi Palmer (left) and Jerry Baron (right).

NEPPSC/NEWSS Meeting 2017
Philadephia, PA

2016-2017 President, Shawn Askew (on right), opens the NEPPSC/NEWSS meeting at the start of the General Session and delivers his address.

The Presidents of two participating societies: Mike Fidanza (NE ASA-CSSA-SSSA) (left) and Shawn Askew (right).

NEWSS Awards Ceremony

NEWSS Fellow Award – Dr. Hillary Sandler

Hillary Sandler (right) was recognized as a fellow by Past-President, Rakesh Chandran (left).

NEWSS Award of Merit – Drs. Gregory Armel and Robin Bellinder

Greg Armel (right) is presented his award by Past-President Rakesh Chandran (always on left).

Robin Bellinder's daughter, Jessica (right), accepts the award on behalf of her late mother from Rakesh Chandran.

NEWSS Outstanding Educator Award – Dr. James Brosnan

James Brosnan (right) accepts his award for Outstanding Educator from Past-President, Rakesh Chandran (left).

NEWSS Outstanding Researcher Award – Dr. Wesley Everman

Wesley Everman (right) accepts his award for Outstanding researcher from Past-President, Rakesh Chandran (left).

Robert D. Sweet Outstanding Graduate Student Award – Jeffery Leibert (M.S.) and Dr. Katelyn Venner (Ph.D.)

Jeffery Leibert (right) accepts his award for the Robert D. Sweet Outstanding M.S. Graduate Student from Past-President, Rakesh Chandran (left).

Katelyn Venner (right) accepts the Robert D. Sweet Outstanding Ph.D. Graduate Student Award (above) from Past – President, Rakesh Chandran (left).

NEWSS Oral Paper Contest – Cody Dickinson (1st Place), Jeffery Leibert (2nd Place)

Greg Armel, Past-President (left in both photos) presents Cody Dickinson (1st) and Jeffery Leibert (2nd) with their awards for outstanding student oral presentations.

NEWSS Oral Paper Contest Honorable Mention – Steven Haring, Rebecca Champagne

Greg Armel, Past-President, presents Steven Haring and Rebecca Champagne with their honorable mentions for outstanding student oral presentations.

NEWSS Poster Contest – Brandon Schrage (1st), John Sanders (2nd)

Darren Lycan, Poster Award Committee Chair presented awards to Brandon Schrage (1st) and John Sanders (2nd) for their outstanding student posters (not pictured, Darren Lycan).

NEWSS Photography Contest (not pictured) – Antonio DiTommaso (1st), Connor Youngman (2nd), Eugene Law (3rd)

NEWSS Business Meeting

The Passing of the Gavel

Randy Prostak (left) recognizes the incredible job of our outgoing President, Shawn Askew (right).

Shawn Askew (right) hands the gavel to the incoming president, Randy Prostak (left).

NEWSS Executive Board 2017

Front Row (L to R): Sudeep Mathew, Katelyn Venner, Randy Prostak, Kurt Vollmer, Quintin Johnson, Lee Van Wychen

Back Row (L to R): Theresa Reinhardt, Carroll Mosley, Wesley Everman, Shawn Askew, Michael Flessner, Dan Kunkel

NEWSS Past Presidents at the 2017 Meeting

Front row (L to R): Rakesh Chandran, Toni DiTommaso, Hillary Sandler, Renee Keese, Prasanta Bhowmik, Jim Parochetti, Joe Neal

Back row (L to R): Shawn Askew, Jerry Baron, Dave Yarborough, Bill Curran, Dwight Lingenfelter, Jeff Derr, Mark VanGessel

NEPPSC Social Events