I hope the November 2018 NEWSS newsletter finds you completing a successful research season. Preparations for the 73rd Northeastern Weed Science Society Annual Meeting (NEWSS) and 4th annual Northeastern Plant, Pest, and Soils Conference (NEPPSC) are progressing (Jan 7-10, 2019). NEWSS President-elect Dan Kunkel is hard at work as the 2019 program chair.

The NEWSS serves as the host society and will be joined by the Northeast Branch of the American Society of Agronomy, Crop Science Society of America, and the Soil Science Society of America (NE ASACSAA-SSSA) and the American Society of Horticultural Science - Northeast Region (NEASHS). Great to have NE ASA-CSAA-SSSA and NEASHS with us again this year. Representatives from NE ASA-CSAA-SSSA and the American Society of Horticultural Science - Northeast Region (NE-ASHS) joined us at the fall board meeting and stated their commitment to NEPPSC in future years. We continue to coordinate the luncheon and quiz bowl event with graduate students from all organizations. We have been coordinating questions from all Societies and mixing up the teams among schools and graduate programs to learn from each other and have a little fun.

The NEWSS board has been working on the many planning tasks associate with our annual meeting. Monday night we will have a little get together to welcome the early attendees and watch the NCAA National Championship Football game. Tuesday morning will include several committee meetings and that afternoon will begin with the three roundtable discussions: Agronomic Crops and 

### Important Dates

- **December 7, 2018 by Noon**: Reserve rooms by this date to receive NEWSS rate
- **December 7, 2018 by Noon**: Register for meeting to avoid the late fee
- **January 4, 2019**: Deadline to submit abstracts
- **January 6, 2019**: Deadline for PowerPoint presentation upload
- **January 8-10, 2019**: NEPPSC Meeting at Delta Hotel Hunt Valley, Baltimore MD
Soils; Fruit, Vegetable, and Tree Crops; and Turf and Ornamentals. Right after that will be a session on Glyphosate: Get the Facts. This will include expertise on glyphosate, information about the IARC ruling as a probable carcinogen, and an expert panel. That will be followed by the Opening Ceremony and Social Mixer (including the Grad Student Quiz Bowl!). There are many sessions planned (see Dan Kunkel’s report) including symposia on communications, participatory research, a workshop on pollinator plantings, and a potential tour of the McCormick & Company facility nearby.

We look forward to seeing you at the NEPPSC meeting. Here is to wishing you and your family a wonderful holiday season!!! See you at Hunt Valley in January!!!

**President-Elect’s Report**

Dan Kunkel

Program planning continues for the 2019 Northeast Plant, Pest, and Soils Conference (NEPPSC) meeting at the Delta Hotels Baltimore, 245 Shawan Rd., Hunt Valley, MD 21031. The deadline for the group hotel rate of $134 is December 7, 2018; follow this link: [Book your group rate for Northeastern Plant, Pest and Soil Conference.](#) I am looking forward to seeing some great papers and posters (nearly 100 titles have been received) at the upcoming annual meeting.

**Do not forget these Deadlines!**

- Abstract Submission: January 4, 2019
- Presentation PowerPoint Upload: Sunday, January 6, 2019
- The meeting will begin on Monday, January 7, 2019 with the NEWSS Board Meetings and NEPPSC planning meeting and will conclude on January 10, 2019, with the NEWSS board and NEPPSC planning meetings rolling into Friday, January 11.

- We are planning a National Football Game Night Social in the Garden Room at the hotel for those who arrive early.
- The Industry and Extension Roundtable discussions are planned again for Tuesday afternoon, followed by the NEPPSC Opening Ceremony and Social Mixer.
- We are pleased to announce that our guest speaker for the opening ceremonies will be Dr. Barbara P. Glenn, Chief Executive Officer, National Association of State Departments of Agriculture. Presenting: The State of the States: The State Departments of Agriculture Continued Commitment to and Role in Agriculture.
- There will be Graduate Student quiz bowl again this year on Tuesday night that will include questions about NEPPSC societies, questions from different society disciplines, and general agriculture information. May the best team win!
- Art Gover (VP NEWSS) has been planning a symposium for “The Art and Science of Science Communication” please see his section for more details.
- Also, see Theresa Piskackova’s section on another symposium that is being organized by the graduate students, “The Benefits and Challenges of Participatory Research”.
- We will also have a mini workshop regarding Weed Management in Pollinator Plantings.
• Along with the traditional student paper and poster contests and other presentations, the program will be a full one.
• Finally, we will have an event Wednesday night (during the dessert social) that will intermix universities, students, professors, and industry representatives in a friendly competition or a who done it!

We are looking forward to hosting everyone at the Delta Marriott in Hunt Valley, which is just outside of Baltimore. Please do not forget the important deadlines as we look forward to hearing all about your research as we get together in January 2018! If you have questions, please contact me at daniel.kunkel@rutgers.edu.

Vice President’s Report

Art Gover

The items on my punch list are progressing. Glacier-like in a few instances. With the news of melting glaciers in the far northern latitudes, that analogy may not work for me anymore.
The general symposium is close to falling together. Working title is “The Art and Science of Science Communication”. We will have an Oxford-style debate (see https://www.intelligencesquaredus.org/ for examples), followed by an analysis of the debate in terms of rhetoric and execution. The debate resolution is currently set, but I don’t want to assume the concrete has completely cured. It will be in the realm of sustainable agriculture, but we sought to find a topic that attracts intellectual vigor, while staying collegial. More Light than Heat. There are clearly very divisive topics we could explore, and they would also heighten the challenge of presenting scientific data to general audiences. However, my hope is that we can delve into the “How” of clearly disseminating science, and evaluating our own motives, filters, and biases, while sticking with a topic that is of significance to the Society that falls within our shared interest in uninvited plants.

The 2020 meeting will run from January 6 to 9, in Philadelphia, at a venue still awaiting my signature on the proposal. Glaciers. This is where I exhort you to think about the 2021 venue. I am sure we’ll figure out a way to conduct a survey to capture your intent formally. Considerations in the interim: a place within the Northeastern United States; a place a lot of us are willing to go; a place where the frugal academics can drive, or at least their graduate students while they fly; prepared comestibles of varying presentation quality within walking distance or easy-to-use transportation; and venue size where we can fit and still be the only show in town so we get all the attention from the Event and Sales staff. Perhaps I should stress additionally the graduate student element. Incrementally, I see us emphasizing graduate student participation more, so I believe we really need to make sure we optimize graduate student participation.

I briefly mentioned 2022 as a target for the next NEPPSC that would be on a scale similar to 2016. I will be proposing to the NEPPSC board (NEWSS, NE-ASHS, NE Tri-Societies) at our post-conference meeting a coarse planning template for the next two iterations of that meeting, where the two major variables are 1) primary organizer (who writes the checks) and 2) dates. In 2016, NEWSS wrote the checks and we used
our traditional week, with an extra day. It was a great meeting in my opinion. Easy to say when essentially other cool, smart people come to your meeting. Our Society was arguably least inconvenienced – though the members of the Executive Board tasked with the moment by moment issues of that meeting could disagree. Scenarios under consideration include the larger societies in the collective taking turns as prime organizer, and thereby being rewarded by using their traditional dates; and the larger societies take turns, and the NEPPSC fall on a date that is non-traditional for all parties. If you have thoughts on this, including other combinations of the variables I mentioned as well as the “let’s not do that anymore!” option, please let me know.

I look forward to seeing all of you, okay, most of you, at Hunt Valley, as well as passing on the responsibility for staying awake through entire board meetings to make up, um, capture the minutes.

Treasurer’s Report

Kurt Vollmer

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NEWSS Financial Report as of October 31, 2018</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Savings Balance</td>
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<td>Checking Balance</td>
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<tr>
<td>Endowment Fund</td>
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<td>Total Net Assets</td>
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I look forward to seeing everyone at the fourth Northeastern Plant, Pest, and Soils Conference (NEPPSC). Meeting registration can be completed at http://neppsc.org/register. Regular registration is $260, one-day registration is $110, and Student Registration is $50. Members also have the option to bring guests for an additional $50 per person. A $50 late fee will be assessed to regular registration after December 7. Sponsorship of NEPPSC events and donations to the endowment fund can also be included with registration. If you prefer to mail-in your registration, a form is available at the NEPPSC website. Please note that NEWSS membership dues are included with your meeting registration fee. Those unable to attend the meeting can renew their memberships at http://www.newss.org/membership/sign-up-or-renew-membership and sustaining memberships can be renewed at http://www.newss.org/about/sustaining-members. Questions? Please contact kvollmer@udel.edu

Treasurer's Report

Kurt Vollmer

NEWSS Financial Report as of October 31, 2018

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<thead>
<tr>
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</table>
Hotel/Meeting Information


Book before December 7, 2018 at NOON to take advantage of the group room rate.

Register for the meeting by December 7, 2018 to avoid the late fee at http://neppsc.org/register/

Delta Hotels Baltimore Hunt Valley
245 Shawan Rd.
Hunt Valley, MD
1-410-785-7000

Check-in and Check-out
Check in: 3:00 PM
Check out: 12:00 PM

Parking
Complimentary on-site parking

Airport
Baltimore/Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport - BWI
Hotel direction: 30.5 miles NE (approx. $35 one way for taxi)
Washington Dulles International Airport - IAD
Hotel direction: 78.9 miles NE (approx. $75 one way for taxi)

Light Rail
The light rail system is available to and from BWI airport. Get off at the McCormick Rd stop for the hotel.
https://mta.maryland.gov/sites/default/files/light-rail.jpg
Executive Committee

NEWSS Board 2018

Front Row (L to R): Randy Prostak, Kurt Vollmer, Stacey Pickard, Carroll Moseley, Art Gover
Back Row (L to R): Rakesh Chandran, Quintin Johnson, Theresa Reinhardt Piskáčková, Michael Flessner, Katelyn Venner
Not Pictured: Dan Kunkel, Rob Richardson, Wes Everman, Lee VanWychen, Thierry Besançon

Who's Who

Carroll Moseley  President
Dan Kunkel  President-Elect
Art Gover  Vice-President
Randy Prostak  Past President
Kurt Vollmer  Treasurer
Thierry Besançon  Membership Chair
Michael Flessner  Editor
Katelyn Venner  Public Relations Rep.
Wes Everman  Sustaining Membership
Quentin Johnson  Research & Education
Theresa Piskackova  Graduate Student Rep.
Rakesh Chandran  WSSA Representative
Dan Kunkel  CAST Representative
Lee Van Wychen  Science Policy Dir.

NEWSS Executive Committee 2018

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Committee Members

Listed below are the Chairs and Chair-Elects for the various sections in 2018.

2018 NEWSS Annual Meeting
Dan Kunkel – Program Chair

Poster Session:
Katelyn Venner – Chair

Student Oral Papers:
Shawn Askew – Chair

Agronomy:
Larissa Smith – Chair

Turfgrass and Ornamentals:
Matt Elmore – Chair
Jatinder Aulakh – Chair-Elect

Vegetables and Fruit:
Charlie Cahoon – Chair
Ramon Arancibia – Chair-elect

Vegetation Management and Restoration:
Lane Heimer – Chair
Art Gover – Chair-elect

Program Committees for the 2018 NEWSS Meeting

Program Committee
Dan Kunkel President-Elect
Art Gover Vice President

Site Selection Committee for 2020
Art Gover Vice-President
Dan Kunkel President-Elect
Kurt Vollmer Treasurer

Awards Committee
Randy Prostak Chair
Shawn Askew
Rakesh Chandran
Greg Armel
Antonio DiTommaso
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 (Spring 2019).
Editor's Report

Michael Flessner


When writing the abstract, please follow formatting guidelines, which can be found at: http://neppsc.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/10/Instructions-for-Contributors-to-the-NEWSS-Proceedings.pdf. Please limit abstracts to one page. When entering the abstract text in wssaabstracts.com, there is a field for you to compose or paste your abstract text. DO NOT ENTER THE TITLE or AUTHORS into this field. Remember to save prior to exiting the window. Your cooperation and attention to detail are greatly appreciated.

When submitting titles and abstracts, please follow the instructions below.

SUBMITTING TITLES AND ABSTRACTS
We will again be using http://wssaabstracts.com for title and abstract submissions for our 2018 Annual Meeting. Deadlines and instructions are below.

DEADLINES: Title deadline passed on September 30, 2018. Abstracts are due January 4, 2019. These deadlines are FIRM. If an abstract is not entered by the end of the annual meeting, the title will not be included in the meeting’s proceedings.

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

SUBMIT ABSTRACT (September 1, 2018 to January 4, 2019). Prior to submission, refer to Instructions for Authors at http://neppsc.org/submissions/. Login to wssaabstracts.com using instructions above. Click ‘My Titles and Abstracts’ and select ‘Edit’ next to the desired title. Click ‘Add Key Words’ and choose the appropriate selections from the drop-down lists. NOTE: All key words contained in your Title should be actively selected as key words. They will NOT automatically appear in the index if not selected here. If a key word is not found in the prepopulated lists, you can enter additional terms in the User Defined category. Abstract text can be entered directly into the text window or copied from another program. DO NOT reenter any title or author information into the text window. Please use Arial font size 12 if copying abstract from another program. This will help ensure that no unintended changes in content or clarity occur when abstracts are converted to Arial font size 12 for the Proceedings. The proceedings are online only - not printed. However, abstracts should not exceed one page. To ensure your abstract is one page, the character count (visible at the bottom of the ‘Abstract Text’ window on the submission
page) should not exceed 3200. If you do not intend to publish your data elsewhere, you may include a table on a second page.

Once you thoroughly review all information and abstract text and any corrections have been made, click 'Save'. Edits can be made until January 11, 2019 when the Abstract submission site will be closed. After that time, contact Michael Flessner (flessner@vt.edu). These deadlines are FIRM. If an abstract is not entered by January 11, 2019, the title will not be included in the meeting’s proceedings.

GENERAL INFORMATION
The NEWSS Proceedings are produced as an online document only, in PDF format. Authors may publish abstracts up to one page. Abstracts should address the general area of weed science and summarize the content of the oral presentation to be given at the meeting. If you are not publishing the presented data elsewhere, you may include Tables or Figures.

PREPARATION OF ABSTRACTS
Typing Instructions: Do not add the title to your submission. The wssaabstracts.com website automatically adds the title and authors as you submitted them. However, to stay within the one-page limit, you should prepare your abstract as formatted in the proceedings. Margins are 1-inch top and sides, 0.75-inch bottom; 12-point Arial font, single space. Documents with a character count (with spaces) of 3200 or less should fit on one page.

Herbicide names: If a common name has not yet been approved by WSSA, use the manufacturer's code number. Check the Weed Science Society of America’s website http://www.wssa.net (click 'Weeds', then 'Herbicides', then "Common and Chemical Names of Herbicides Approved by the WSSA") for the current list of approved chemical and common names. Herbicide trade names may be used as long as accompanied by appropriate common name. If use of a trade name is required to properly identify product, at first mention use the appropriate common name, immediately followed by trade name in parenthesis. Herbicide trade names are acceptable for clarification of pre-packaged mixtures.

Plant and animal names: In the body of abstracts, at the first mention of a crop, weed, or other organism give the common name and follow it with the approved scientific name. The scientific name should be italicized, in parentheses, or in brackets if there are parentheses within the scientific name. Give the genus, species, and authority for the binomial. Include the cultivated variety of a crop plant if known and indicate it by enclosing it in single quotes. Example: Corn (Zea mays L. 'Dixie 18'). For cultivar names that are registered trade names insert (R) after the name. For approved common and scientific names of weeds see the 'Composite List of Weeds' at the WSSA website. After the first mention, use only the common name. For species without an accepted or useful common name, use the italicized genus initial and specific epithet, i.e. G. species.

Abbreviations: Use abbreviations as shown in the current WSSA Herbicide Handbook or as used in one of the previous year’s issues of Weed Science. Abbreviations acceptable for NEWSS use (although not in agreement with the CBE Style Manual) include two letter abbreviations for states, 'Ci' for curie, 'M' for molar (do not abbreviate mole), 'L' for liter, 'ppmw' for parts per million by weight, 'ppmv' for parts per million by volume, 'ae' for acid equivalent, and 'ai' for active ingredient. Do not place a period after an abbreviation in the text. Do not start a sentence with an abbreviation. All abbreviations not shown in Weed Science should be introduced in parentheses immediately after the first use of the word. Example: cation exchange capacity (CEC). Do not use a hyphen for the preposition “to”; or an “x” for the preposition ‘by’, except in tables or figures. Write '1 to 3' rather than '1-3' and '100 by 20' rather than '100 x 20'. Explicitly identify pre-packaged mixtures of herbicide, and use ‘+’ between ingredients.

Numbers: Use Arabic numbers for all numbers
with two or more digits and for all measurements such as time, weight, or degrees except when the number is the first word in a sentence. Spell out numbers when they are the first word in a sentence or when they are less than 10 and not measurements, except when in a series in which one figure has two or more digits. Report only significant figures.

**Measurements and units:** Report measurements in metric units. In laboratory studies, express concentration of acids and bases in normality (N) and of herbicide and salt solutions in molarity (M) rather than 'ppm'. Use 'ml' rather than 'cc' for all measurements of volume.

**Trade names:** Use trade names only when the presentation is a product introduction.

**QUESTIONS:** Please send an email to both Michael Flessner (flessner@vt.edu) and Dan Kunkel (daniel.kunkel@rutgers.edu).

### Graduate Student Update

![Theresa Piskackova](image)

As the annual meeting draws closer, I hope you are all looking forward to attend! The call for titles has already passed, but there is still plenty that the meeting has to offer even if you aren’t scheduled to present. For those who will not be presenting but still wish to join: early registration prices will end on December 7, which is the last day to book a room at the Hilton at the block rate of $134 a night. Registration for graduate students is only $50 a person, which gets you a program, entry to all papers and symposia, entry to the socials. Below are my “student highlights” of the meeting.

- **Section meetings:** Students welcome to participate. This is a great way to meet established society members and begin involvement in the meeting without a long-term commitment. Any student who is interested to be involved in the meeting in any way should contact me tareinha@ncsu.edu)
- **National Football Game Night Social:** Those who arrive on Monday night to help with the meeting are invited to join.
- **Round Table Discussions:** The newest and most relevant issues in Crops, Turf, and Horticulture will be discussed. Again, this is a great place for students to network in a small setting
- **Tuesday Society Social and Student Quizbowl:** Students will be mixed in teams of 3-4. Demonstrate your science and agronomy knowledge and meet students throughout the Northeast region.
- **Student Poster and Paper Contest Even if you aren’t presenting, come support fellow students and learn from their research and presentation skills.
- **Graduate Student Luncheon**
- **Society Symposium: The Art and Science of Science Communication**
- **Wednesday Society Social and surprise event**
- **Workshop: Weed Management in Pollinator Plantings**
Student Symposium (all are welcome):
The Benefits and Challenges of Participatory Research Panel Discussion

The Graduate Students of NEPPSC are especially excited to present their first symposium: The Benefits and Challenges of Participatory Research. This symposium will be open to everyone and will be exploring the following:

There has been a recent surge of interest to engage communities in citizen science and participatory research projects for a few reasons: to expand the possibility of scientific questions that can be addressed, to increase the quantity and scope of data collected, to educate non-professional scientists about science or a specific topic, to give concerned citizens a voice, and to nurture science enthusiasts. These projects are often interdisciplinary and include biologists, economists, and social scientists as well as community members to conduct research or brainstorm projects for research; however, any research project that engages the community for experimental ideas or data collection can be considered a participatory research project. Many of us in agriculture are very familiar with the Extension program through land-grant colleges in every state; in some ways participatory research is similar to extension and in some ways extension provides an infrastructure for more participatory projects.

Some researchers are excited for the opportunity to educate the community through participation before considering all of the challenges. Others believe that involving others will inhibit the reaches of research and provide poor quality data before considering the assets and increased project scale that may come with community participation. With 4-5 panelists who have been involved in participatory research projects from different perspectives, this symposium will be a discussion on what works, what is challenging, and what new insights can be gained by conducting participatory research.

For those that have submitted titles, be mindful of the deadlines coming up. Abstracts are due January 4 and oral presentation slides MUST be submitted by Sunday, January 6 through the WSSA abstracts website. Note that the slides are due a full 2 days before the first day of the meeting.

I would like to reiterate: remember to help mentor our new students, make sure they are aware of deadlines, and pass on your skills! Write these deadlines on your calendar and give yourself time to practice. I look forward to seeing you in January. Remember, I am here to represent you so feel free to email me with any comments or questions.

WSSA Representative

Rakesh Chandran

The 59th Annual Meeting of the Weed Science Society of America will be held from February 11-16, 2019 at the Sheraton New Orleans, New Orleans, LA. Use this link for information related to the Program

Important Deadlines:

- Abstract title/author information deadline: Nov 26, 2018 (extended)
- Hotel reservation at group rate: Jan 12, 2019 (subject to availability)
- Abstract text due: Jan 28, 2019
- Presentation slides upload: Feb 1, 2019
For any additional specific questions about the 2019 meeting, please e-mail eric@imigroup.org.

Executive Director of Science Policy Report

Lee Van Wychen

EPA Re-RegistersDicamba Through 2020

On October 31, 2018, EPA extended the registration for two years for over-the-top use of dicamba to control weeds in fields for cotton and soybean plants genetically engineered to resist dicamba. This decision was informed by collaboration between EPA, the pesticide manufacturers, farmers, state regulators, and other stakeholders. The registration includes label updates that add protective measures to further minimize the potential for off-site damage. The registration will automatically expire on December 20, 2020, unless EPA further extends the registration. Details are at: https://www.epa.gov/ingredients-used-pesticide-products/registration-dicamba-use-dicamba-tolerant-crops

Weblinks to the following product labels:

2019 Xtendimax with Vaporgrip (aka: M1748 Herbicide). Note- there has been an update since the first version of this label posted on Nov. 1, 2018

2019 Engenia

2019 Fexapan

Congress Punts Farm Bill Until After the Elections

The Farm Bill conference committee composed of 47 House members and 9 Senators, could not reach agreement on a compromise between the House- and Senate-passed Farm Bills before the House adjourned on September 28. The House was not scheduled to return to business until November 13, a week after the midterm elections.

There are parts of the House bill and parts of the Senate bill that we’d like to see make it into the final conference agreement. For the House bill, this includes a legislative fix for the duplicative National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) program permits, a Congressional repeal of the 2015 Waters of the United States (WOTUS) rule, legislative guidance to streamline the FIFRA-Endangered Species Act consultation process, and reauthorization of the Pesticide Registration Improvement Act (PRIA). A provision in the Senate bill we’d like to see passed is the reauthorization for the Foundation for Food and Agriculture Research (FFAR).

A lot of pressure is being applied by Farm Bill stakeholders of all stripes and colors to complete a Farm Bill during the upcoming lame duck session. Let’s hope Congress can reach a compromise on this. However, anything is possible, including a multiyear extension of the current Farm Bill.

Five of 12 Appropriations Bills Approved, but Not Ag

As of September 30, five of the 12 annual appropriations bills have been completed. These include: 1) Military Construction and Veterans Affairs; 2) Energy and Water; 3) the Legislative Branch; 4) Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education; and 5) Defense. Congress still must approve appropriations bills related to: 1) Agriculture; 2) Commerce, Justice, and Science; 3) Financial Services; 4) Homeland Security; 5) Interior and Environment; 6) State and Foreign
Operations; and 7) Transportation and Housing and Urban Development (T-HUD).

For the remaining seven appropriations bills, Congress approved a continuing resolution (CR) that will keep the federal government funded through December 7, 2018. Lawmakers had hoped to bundle the Agriculture, Interior-Environment, T-HUD and Financial Services bills into one minibus package, but progress slowed in the past month due to differences between the House and the Senate on specific funding levels and certain policy riders. It remains to be seen if agreements can be worked out during the lame duck session after the midterm elections.

Angle Begins Term as USDA NIFA Director

U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue swore in Dr. J. Scott Angle as the Director of the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) on October 29. The White House appointed Angle for a six-year term at the agency on August 31.

Dr. Angle was most recently President and CEO of the International Fertilizer Development Center (IFDC). He worked for 24 years as a professor of soil science and administrator for the Maryland Agricultural Experiment Station and Maryland Cooperative Extension at the University of Maryland. He also served as Dean and Director of the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences at the University of Georgia for 10 years. He is a Fellow at the American Society of Agronomy and the Soil Science Society of America. Dr. Angle earned his Ph.D. in soil microbiology from the University of Missouri.

Dr. Scott Hutchins, the Global Head of Integrated Field Sciences for Corteva is still awaiting Senate confirmation for the role of USDA Under Secretary for Research, Education and Economics, which is also referred to as USDA’s Chief Scientist. If confirmed by the Senate, Hutchins will oversee the operations of ARS, NIFA, NASS, and possibly ERS.

USDA NIFA, ERS Moving from DC

This fall USDA announced that the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) and Economic Research Service (ERS) will be moving from D.C. While the new location for the agencies has yet to be determined, the timeframe for the move is expected to occur by the end of 2019. USDA’s announcement of intent to move the agencies has garnered many concerns from the agricultural research community, including WSSA. Some of our concerns about moving NIFA out of the National Capitol Region (NCR) include:

- Isolating NIFA from stakeholders (commodity groups, agricultural leaders, university administrators, academic scientists). Stakeholder leaders routinely travel to the NCR to meet with legislators and many other agencies. If NIFA is located outside the NCR, it will become more difficult for many stakeholders to visit NIFA, and many stakeholders would incur additional travel expenses and inconvenience to do so, making these trips less frequent. How does USDA envision maintaining strong stakeholder input?

- Isolating NIFA from other research agencies (i.e. NSF, DOE). Increased inter-agency collaboration is needed in order to address the major scientific challenges facing agriculture. For example, herbicide-resistant weeds can now be found on over 100 million acres in the U.S. New technologies like robotics with computer vision and machine learning algorithms for intelligent weed removal are likely to play a role in addressing this challenge. Innovations like these will require transdisciplinary research in agriculture, engineering and computer sciences. How does USDA envision strengthening these needed collaborations if NIFA is located outside the NCR?
• Loss of NIFA personnel who are unable to move will likely disrupt productivity and take considerable time to fully re-staff. How long does USDA anticipate it will take to build back to full staffing? How will USDA assure program continuity and minimize disruption during this transitional period?

• Potential conflict of interest with land grant universities near the new location. For example, would a NIFA location in Missouri favor grants to agricultural commodities prevalent in Missouri? How does USDA envision maintaining an unbiased prioritization and proposal review process?

2,4-D Task Force Update

The Industry Task Force II on 2,4-D Research Data is a joint research venture that funds the Good Laboratory Practice (GLP) research studies required to support the registration and registration review of 2,4-D in the U.S. and Canada.

Check out Brad Hanson and Tim Miller’s analysis of Orchard, Vineyard, Hops, and Soft Fruit Production. They examine 2,4-D’s unique fit in production systems that use grass cover crops between rows of perennial fruit and nut trees. Scott Nissen at Colorado State University examines the aquatic uses of 2,4-D, concluding that if were 2,4-D unavailable, state government agencies would have to either increase their budgets for aquatic weed control by a factor of 13, or drastically reduce the acreage protected. Finally, Nelson-Schneider Consulting has assembled detailed information on the properties, characteristics, effectiveness and trade-offs of Amine and Ester formulations. Moreover, they lay out how drift can be managed through proper selection.

Farm Bureau Seeks National WOTUS Injunction

The American Farm Bureau Federation and other business groups are asking a Georgia district court for a nationwide injunction on the Obama administration’s Waters of the United States (WOTUS) rule. There is shifting patchwork of states where the 2015 WOTUS Rule is currently at play. As of September 28, there were 22 states plus the District of Columbia not covered by one of three different district courts’ injunctions (federal courts in North Dakota, Georgia, and Texas). States not covered by a stay of 2015 WOTUS rule are: CA, CT, DE, HI, IL, ME, MD, MA, MI, MN, NH, NJ, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, TN, VT, VA, WA

New Cover Crops and Water Quality Fact Sheets Available

In a review of 98 publications, staff from USDA’s Sustainable Agriculture Research & Education (SARE) program and the University of Missouri identified how cover cropping influences soil and nutrient losses from agricultural fields, water infiltration, and soil organic matter. Cover Crops and Water Quality resources include five fact sheets, three infographics and a PowerPoint presentation template that can be downloaded and used for outreach and educational purposes.

Meetings of the National and Regional Weed Science Societies

Dec. 3 - 6, 2018 North Central Weed Science Society (NCWSS), Milwaukee, WI www.ncwss.org
Jan. 7 - 10, 2019 Northeastern Weed Science Society (NEWSS), Baltimore, MD www.newss.org
Feb. 3 - 7, 2019 Southern Weed Science Society (SWSS), Oklahoma City, OK www.swss.ws
Feb. 11 - 14, 2019 Weed Science Society of America (WSSA), New Orleans, LA www.wssa.net
Mar. 11 - 14, 2019 Western Society of Weed Science (WSWS), Denver, CO www.wsweedscience.org
Jul. 14 - 17, 2019 Aquatic Plant Management Society (APMS), San Diego, CA www.apms.org
Attached is a Summary of Activities for June - September, with activities, projects, and new board members. CAST’s Annual Meeting was recently held in Sacramento/Davis, California (October 23-25). If you have any suggestions or questions for the CAST staff or boards, please share those with me and I will bring them forward on a future work group call. Also, remember that there is a “Submit an Idea” button on the CAST homepage where anyone can make a suggestion.

Concerns about sustainable food production systems along with the evolution of herbicide-resistant weeds necessitate a review of current weed control strategies. Sustainable weed control requires an integrated approach based on knowledge of each crop and the weeds that threaten it.

Important topics of weed science related to sustainable issues, potential hazards, and risks are thoroughly discussed in the first part of the book. The effects of herbicides and weed control methods on soil, freshwater ecosystems and insects are critically reviewed.

Occupational hazards due to non-judicious use of herbicides along with occupational hygiene practices for using herbicides such as use of personal protective equipment, spillage management herbicide storage, drift avoidance are discussed in detail. The potential use, types, advantages and disadvantages of bioherbicides and allelopathy for sustainable weed control and research needs are explored in depth. Important issues of herbicide resistance evolution, distribution in major crops, and the contribution of genetically engineered herbicide tolerant crops on sustainable weed management are examined thoroughly.

The second part of the book discusses weed control in cereals, row crops, cash crops, plantations, orchards and vineyards and root crops in terms of mechanical, physical, cultural, preventive and chemical weed control. The evaluation of weed control sustainability for each crop is also discussed. Under miscellaneous cropping systems, the use of aromatic plants and essential oils for sustainable weed control along with weed control in grassland and organic farming systems are examined.

This book is an invaluable source of information for scholars, growers, consultants, researchers and other stakeholders dealing with agronomic-, horticultural-, plantation-, and grassland-based production systems. It amalgamates and discusses the most appropriate, judicious and suitable weed control strategies for a wide range of crops.

Please see attached PDF for discount code when ordering.