

A close-up photograph of a green plant stem with several clusters of small, purple and green flower buds. The background is a soft-focus green field of similar plants.

Northeastern Weed Science
Society

NEWSletter

Summer 2021



Caren A. Schmidt

Comments from the President **Caren A. Schmidt**

What a year it's been! I'm so grateful to the NEWSS Board and the membership for being so flexible in the virtual world of the last 18 months. However, it is time to get the band back together. I hope that I am speaking for many when I express my overwhelming enthusiasm for the upcoming in-person NEPPSC meeting in January. I look so forward to reuniting with my existing network of colleagues and welcoming and meeting new students and members to the region.

The program committee has put together an outstanding program for the 76th Northeastern Weed Science Society and 7th annual Northeastern Plant, Pest and Soils Conference and we look forward to the volunteer student and member submissions as well. The Northeastern Regional Branch of the American Society of Agronomy, Crop Science Society of America and the Soil Science Society of America (NEB-

CSA) and the American Society for Horticultural Science – Northern Region (NR-ASHS) continue their commitment to share in planning and participating with their membership in the meetings. Please see President Elect Jacob's section for more on the "refreshed" meeting format.

The "refreshed" meeting format was devised to harness the positives that were borne out the 2021 virtual meeting. I'm personally looking forward to non-concurrent breakout sessions, which was definitely a highlight of the 2021 virtual meeting. This will enable broader and more diverse participation across the topics. I'm also looking forward to the reinvention of the dessert social to a NEPPSC wide bowling social / student endowment fundraiser. In my opinion, there is something of interest for every member every day of the meeting.

The Wyndham Gettysburg is a very nice facility, with a lot of space, that we will have to ourselves. It is also close to the geographic center of the membership. There will be a free shuttle available to get to the heart of Gettysburg, and there is an Appalachian Brewing Company about 100 steps out the front door. The in-house restaurant is nice as well and will stay open as long as you give them a reason.

On a non-meeting note, I wanted to extend my tremendous gratitude to the NEWSS Futures Committee for their time, dedication, and recommendations. Art Gover, Past President charged a diverse committee to evaluate the NEWSS mission and make recommendations for a viable and beneficial NEWSS moving forward. The committee was chaired by Hilary Sandler and supported by committee members Richard Bonanno, John Brewer, Theresa Piskackova, Steve Pyle, Vijay Singh and John Wallace.

The NEWSS board is reviewing the recommendations and will be working towards thoughtful implementation moving into 2022.

Lastly, thanks to the Endowment committee for putting together and refining the Student Writing Contest, which is featured later. Rakesh Chandran will serve as the judging committee chair. This is a tremendous step forward for the student endowment fund and I'm looking forward to seeing the participation from the students and the continued progress of the fund. We look so forward to seeing you at NEPPSC 2022. Wishing you a successful remainder of your 2021 and see you in Gettysburg first thing in the New Year!

Important Dates

August 16, 2021

Title submission website opens
<https://www.weedscimeetingabstracts.com>

September 17, 2021

Title submission deadline

November 1, 2021

Meeting registration opens

December 10, 2021

Early bird meeting registration ends AND hotel reservation deadline

January 2, 2022

PowerPoint slides and abstract deadline

January 3-6, 2022

NEPPSC meeting at the Wyndham Gettysburg, Gettysburg, PA, Theme – Science Communication

July 27, 2022

Weed Science Contest

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Art Gover

Past President's Report Art Gover

Happy Summer. Personally, I wish the Solstice was at the middle of summer, as the realization that the days are going to get shorter throws a bit of melancholy on the first day of summer. On the eleventh day of summer this year, I retired from Penn State. Such events are a veritable swirl of thoughts and emotions, of which I will burden you with just a few. One, my participation in this Society was always a source of enjoyment and enlightenment. Two, I am only retired in the sense that I left the service of a large institution that entitled me to begin to collect a pension. I remain active, so nothing will change except being less resourced, connected, and cognitively acute. Otherwise, onward.

To business. Take a few moments to refresh your memory regarding the Society awards in the NEWSS Manual of Operating Procedures, conveniently located at newss.org in PDF format for your reading pleasure. Download it and keep it on your phone. My urgings to have you nominate your peers for their efforts will be much more fervent in the next newsletter. Prepare.

2022 will be the year that is incrementally more normal than 2021, but likely still not. I suspect “remember when we thought the pandemic was over?” will be a theme. As such, we are urgently communicating with every higher power we can engage to ensure that the in-person Weed Science Contest is a reality. The location will be Honeywood Research Facility in Plattsville, Ontario, Canada. Syngenta Canada has remained our gracious host of the “next” weed contest since late 2019, and Karrie Boucher will lead the effort with the staff of the Syngenta Honeywood Research Facility in Plattsville, Ontario, and rely on technical support from the Weed Science team at the University of Guelph, led by Francois Tardif. The contest date will be July 27, 2022.

I mentioned in the spring NEWSSletter that there was an ad hoc committee critically examining the mission and operation of the Society. The NEWSS Future Committee provided the Board their draft report on June 9, well ahead of schedule. I wish I could say they were under budget, but less than zero would suggest they were paying us for the privilege of engaging. They like us, but not that much. Our gratitude and admiration are heaped upon Hilary Sandler (chair), Rich Bonanno, John Brewer, Theresa Piskackova, Steve Pyle, Vijay Singh, and John Wallace for their time, effort, insight, and remarkable diligence.

The following is verbatim from the report “Highlights”.

- **Promoting scholarship of young weed scientists is key**

- **Must be creative to provide value to members**
- **Adjustment to Board structure could increase member participation**
- **Creation of a Weed Contest Committee is proposed**
- **Creation of new Media/Communication Committee is proposed**
- **Successful mentorship could strengthen membership**
- **Combing virtual and in-person platforms could reach additional members**
- **Recommend creation of peer-reviewed publication for herbicide trials**
- **Increase and promote activities sponsored by the Endowment Fund**

The NEWSS Board will determine the venue for the full report at our July meeting, as well as prioritize and begin implementing the report recommendations.

Finally, the Manual of Operating Procedures (recently revised) reminds me I am currently Chair of the Endowment Committee. Two highlights: The 2022 meeting will see the full-fledged initiation of the NEWSS Student Writing Contest, funded by the NEWSS Endowment. More information is provided later in the newsletter; I only planned to say it was awesome. Second, at our in-person 2022 meeting in Gettysburg we will try again to hold our inaugural Bowling Night social as not only a fabulous evening of fellowship, food and beverage, and kegling-as-blood-sport; but also an Effervescent Endowment Enrichment Encounter. I'll stop now. Promise.



Wesley Everman

Vice President's Report **Wesley Everman**

Hello from balmy North Carolina! I hope your summer is off to a great start and that your summer research is on track for success. I'm excited to be contributing my first newsletter submission as the Vice-President of the NEWSS. This year, my responsibility is to serve as Assistant Program Chair to Jacob Barney for the 2022 annual meeting in Gettysburg. The program committee has put a proposal in place and I am excited to see everyone at the upcoming meeting. As the program gets finalized, I will be in touch with section chairs and help with program development. Keep an eye out for key announcements. Please let me know if serving as a Section Chair at a future meeting is of interest to you.

For the 2022 annual meeting, I am in charge of developing the General Symposium. Jacob had lined up an excellent speaker for our planned meeting in 2021, so we decided to keep the same speaker and theme going forward. Often we, as scientists, struggle to communicate what we are working on and the impact of our work to the general public. We focus primarily on presenting in a professional arena. To help address this, we have lined up the Director of the Center for Communicating Science at Virginia Tech, Patty Raun. Patty is a trained actor who uses techniques of the theater to improve scientist's ability to make their communication "more personal, direct, spontaneous, and responsive." She will be leading our NEPPSC symposium as well as an event for the graduate students. Get ready for a really enjoyable and engaging event.

I hate we will not have a chance to all meet up at the Weed Contest this year, but we can make up for lost time in Gettysburg! Have a safe and productive summer, I am looking forward to hearing what you all have been up to, your challenges, successes, and everything in between.

Treasurer's Report Larissa Smith

The mailing address for NEWSS has changed.

Please address correspondence to:

Larissa Smith, NEWSS Treasurer
P.O. Box 303
King Ferry, NY 13081



Larissa Smith

2021 Financial Report as of July 1, 2021

Savings Balance	\$31,871.00
Checking Balance	\$48,713.28
12 Month CD	\$50,264.72
Endowment Fund	\$46,695.29
Total Net Assets	\$177,544.29

Sustaining Membership Report

John Wallace

Financial contributions from sustaining members help support our annual conference and the Graduate Student Weed Contest. As always, we are grateful to those who have contributed in the past and we encourage these members to maintain their support for events hosted in 2022. If the NEWSS supports your organization via communication of important research or through graduate student training, please consider becoming a sustaining member. A tiered structure is available for making financial contributions (Platinum = \$3,000; Gold = \$2,000; Silver = \$1,000; Bronze = \$500). A portion of contributions received from Platinum and Gold members is used to support the Graduate Student Weed Contest. Sustaining members are encouraged to have a display at the annual meeting and will be recognized for their support to our society. The deadline for sustaining member contributions is November 1. Please feel free to contact me with any questions (jmw309@psu.edu). Looking forward to seeing everyone in 2022.



Jacob Barney

President Elect's Report Jacob Barney

I hope your summer is going well, and you are able to relax between killing weeds. I have certainly enjoyed re-entering the world again. I have a few items to share regarding the 2022 annual meeting. First off, we are having an in-person meeting!!! While I am sure Covid will still be hanging around, the latest CDC guidelines and reduced restrictions will allow us to meet in person. Yeah!

The Program Committee (Wes Everman, Maria Gannett, Eric Jones, Karen Gartley, and Rebecca Brown) have met and discussed the format, events, and timing of the meeting. Based on the feedback from the virtual 2021 meeting, we are capitalizing on a few elements of that format that the membership really liked (sorry, no cheeky trivia host). One of the most popular elements of the 2021 meeting was no concurrent sessions, which resulted in really large attendance at all sessions. This became our organizing principle for the 2022 meeting.

As you can see from the condensed program below, there will be no concurrent sessions for the duration of the meeting, which has several advantages. First, everyone can see everything! Second, we will spend the meeting in one large room, which will allow for distancing as wanted, but also simplifies logistics and everyone knows where everything is. Third, we maintain a focus on student presentations, but still keep our breakouts and the popular roundtables. All talks will be live and back to our traditional 15 min format. We are excited to try out this new format! The theme for this meeting is Science Communication, and suggest you see Vice President Wes Everman's report for details on the meeting theme and symposium.

We are also excited to announce a new event this year...bowling! This NEPPSC event will replace the industry desert social, and will serve as a social event, fundraiser for the Endowment, and some friendly competition among teams. Shout out to Art, Renee, and Hilary for organizing this. Stay tuned for more details.

Meeting registration costs will return to our previous in-person rates, including reduced rates for students. We are still weighing meeting costs and will announce registration rates soon.

See President Caren Schmidt's report for the important dates for the meeting. Once the website (<http://weedscimeetingab->

stracts.com/) opens on August 16 please upload your titles.

Thanks to Caren Schmidt and the Program Committee for pulling this together, and we hope you will enjoy this new format and that everyone can find something of interest every day.

Start	End	Function
January 3, 2022		
8:00 AM	11:00 PM	Storage
8:00 AM	11:00 PM	Office
1:00 PM	2:00 PM	NEWSS Board + Program Committee
1:00 PM	10:00 PM	Poster/Exhibit setup
2:00 PM	3:00 PM	NEWSS Board meeting
3:00 PM	4:00 PM	Mid-Atlantic Weed Guide
3:00 PM	3:30 PM	Weed Contest Committee
3:00 PM	3:30 PM	Endowment Committee
3:30 PM	4:00 PM	Section Chair meeting
3:30 PM	4:00 PM	Awards Committee
4:00 PM	6:00 PM	Opening Session + Awards
6:00 PM	7:30 PM	Student Quiz Bowl / Opening Social

Start	End	Function
January 4, 2022		
7:00 AM	11:00 PM	Storage
7:00 AM	11:00 PM	Office
7:00 AM	8:45 AM	Poster Session
8:45 AM	10:15 AM	Student Oral Presentations 1
10:15 AM	10:30 AM	Break
10:30 AM	12:30 PM	Student Oral Presentations 2
12:30 PM	1:45 PM	Lunch Break + Awards/Guest speaker luncheon + EC
1:45 PM	3:45 PM	Student Oral Presentations 3
3:45 PM	4:00 PM	Break
4:00 PM	6:00 PM	Symposium - Science Communication
6:00 PM	7:30 PM	Happy Hour + posters
January 5, 2022		
7:00 AM	11:00 PM	Storage
7:00 AM	11:00 PM	Office
8:00 AM	10:00 AM	Fruit, Veg, Tree Crops 1
10:00 AM	10:15 AM	Break

10:15 AM	12:15 PM	Turf, Ornamental, Non-crop 1
12:15 PM	1:30 PM	Lunch Break
12:15 PM	1:30 PM	Grad Student Luncheon + Student Symposium
1:30 PM	3:30 PM	Agronomic Crops 1
3:30 PM	3:45 PM	Break
3:45 PM	5:00 PM	Breakout Roundtables
5:00 PM	5:15 PM	Break
5:15 PM	6:30 PM	Business Meeting NEWSS
5:15 PM	6:30 PM	Business Meeting NE-ASHS
5:15 PM	6:30 PM	Business Meeting NE-SCA
7:00 PM	10:PM	Bowling
January 6, 2022		
7:00 AM	5:00 PM	Storage
7:00 AM	5:00 PM	Office
7:00 AM	8:00 AM	Past presidents' breakfast
8:00 AM	9:30 AM	Fruit, Veg, Tree Crops 2
9:30 AM	11:00 AM	Turf, Ornamental, Non-crop 2
11:00 AM	12:30 PM	Agronomic Crops 2
12:30 PM	3:00 PM	Lunch meeting-NEPPSC Board

Editor's Report

Lane Heimer

The 2021 NEPPSC and NEWSS Proceedings are delayed and will be available soon on the NEWSS website at: <https://www.newss.org/publications/> and also distributed to our partner societies.

For the 2022 Meeting, we will be using the WSSA Abstract site for submission of titles and abstracts.

Mark Your Calendars With These Important Dates

- **Title and abstract submissions open August 16, 2021**
- **Title submission closes on September 17, 2021.**
- **Abstract & PowerPoint Slides submission closes January 2, 2022.
That is the Sunday before the meeting!**

SUBMITTING TITLES AND ABSTRACTS

The WSSA Abstract website is : <http://www.weedscimeetingabstracts.com/>

Instructions on title and abstract formatting will be posted on the [NEWSS website](#) along with instructions for submission through the WSSA Abstracts website.

You will have to create a new account ID and profile if you have not used the system previously.

The website is easy to use and will guide you through the process. To submit your title, use Titles on the top bar, then Create New, and choose the 2022 NEPPCS from the list of conferences.

Please remember, A brief bio of the speaker is also required.

Also, an email of a co-submitter may be included giving them submission editing authorization.

Lane Heimer
Maryland Department of Agriculture
Plant Protection and Weed Management

Graduate Student Report

Maria Gannett and Eric Jones

With the field-season and research in full-swing, classes, grading, deskwork, and *gasp* conferences may seem like a far-off dream. But Eric and I are here to give you good news. NEPPSC 2021 is being planned as an in-person event! We will all get a chance to see one another in Gettysburg, PA in the not-too-distant future. The conference schedule this year will be a bit of a mix between previous in-person meetings and last year's virtual meetings. We're keeping most of the activities: the awards, welcome and President's address, 15-minute student competitions, the morning poster session, the graduate student lunch, and business meetings. What we're changing is the concurrent topic-specific section breakout meetings. This year these topic sessions will be successive, with only the round-table discussions happening concurrently. The goal is to allow people to attend every talk they're interested in and thereby increase attendance at the talks.

Some exciting highlights for this year include a conference-wide symposium led by Professor Patty Raun from Virginia Tech, focusing on science communication. We're really looking forward to participating in her interactive workshop! Patty will also be with us students during our graduate student luncheon. Then on Wednesday night of the conference, we should all get ready to channel our inner Dudes because the endowment committee is hosting a bowling tournament as a fundraiser for the student endowment fund. Can't wait to see you all there!

Another opportunity I'd like to highlight is the newly created graduate student writing contest. This is a great way to get some experience in writing for a broader, practical audience. Submissions are due to the writing contest chair October 1st and winning entries will be announced at the January meeting. Although judging will be done on original submissions, all writing will be reviewed and edited before being published on the NEWSS website, so submissions could be considered a reviewed outreach publication for a CV. Plus there will be monetary prizes. See some details about the writing contest below and check the website for full instructions soon. Be sure to submit a piece!

I also want to remind you to share any good news with Eric or me. We'd love to give you a shout-out on twitter. Follow us at @NE_WeedSci.

- Maria and Eric

Announcing the NEWSS Graduate Student Writing Contest

In order to support the development of effective writing skills of graduate students, and to communicate with a broader audience, the Northeastern Weed Science Society is happy to announce its first 'Graduate Student Writing Contest' in the Fall of 2021. With publishing capabilities at one's fingertips, excellent writing skills are valuable skillsets to possess down the road!

Graduate students currently enrolled or has recently completed an MS or PhD Weed Science degree program in the Northeastern region are eligible to participate. Articles submitted should be targeted to practitioners and may cover a range of topics within Weed Science.

Submissions are due by October 1, 2021 by email to the Graduate Student Writing Contest Chair. Separate awards are available for MS and PhD students with cash prizes of \$200, and \$100, for 1st and 2nd, respectively. Submissions will be judged based on writing skill (grammar, spelling, clarity), originality/creativity, technical accuracy, thoroughness of the topic, and relevance to the Northeast. Awards will be presented at the Annual Meeting in 2022.

The NEWSS intends to post selected submissions on its website following the annual meeting and make them available to the public. Authors are free to use their submissions in other formats after they are posted to the NEWSS website. Submissions posted to the NEWSS website can be considered a reviewed outreach publication for a student's resume.

The 2021-2022 Graduate Student Writing Contest judging committee will be chaired by Rakesh Chandran (rschandran@mail.wvu.edu) with committee members Jeff Derr, Renee Keese, Hilary Sandler, and Mark VanGessel.

Contest rules and regulations will be posted on the NEWSS website shortly.

Washington Report

Lee Van Wychen

Seeking Your Expertise for the 2021 Weed Survey

The 2021 survey of the most common and troublesome weeds in aquatic and non-crop areas in the U.S. and Canada is here! <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2021WeedSurvey>

We invite you to participate in this year's weed survey to list the five most common and troublesome weeds in at least one of the following areas:

1. **Aquatic: irrigation, flood control**
2. **Aquatic: lakes, reservoirs, rivers**
3. **Aquatic: ponds**
4. **Forestry**
5. **Natural Areas: parks, wildlife refuges**
6. **Ornamentals: field nursery crops, outdoor containers, Christmas trees**
7. **Right-Of-Ways: railways, roads, public utilities**

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. Your expertise is important and will be invaluable in highlighting weed species trends over time.

Survey: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2021WeedSurvey>

Support for \$11.5 Billion in Ag Research Infrastructure

The Weed Science Societies joined over 350 other national, re-

gional, and state organizations and companies in a letter to House and Senate Agriculture Committee leadership to request their support for \$11.5 billion in ag research infrastructure investments over five years. This investment in our 1862, 1890, and 1994 land grant and non-land grant schools of agriculture is necessary in order to ensure the U.S. remains a global leader in food and agricultural innovation. A recent Gordian/APLU study assessed the state of facilities at U.S. colleges and schools of agriculture this year and reported that 69% of these buildings are at the end of their useful life. [Click here to read the letter and see the signatories.](#)

Legislation to Boost USDA Research Funding Reintroduced

Senators Dick Durbin (D-IL) and Jerry Moran (R-KS) reintroduced the America Grows Act, S. 1371, that would require a five percent annual funding increase each year for the next 10 years for research activities at USDA's ARS, NIFA, NASS, and ERS. The U.S. share of total agriculture research investments among high-income countries as a group has declined from 35 percent in 1960 to less than 25 percent by 2013. By comparison, in the past 30 years, Chinese investments in agriculture research have risen eight-fold.

The six National and Regional Weed Science Societies [joined over 120 other organizations](#) in a letter to Senate Agriculture and Appropriations Committee members supporting the America Grows Act of 2021.

Eagle Killing Neurotoxin Linked to Hydrilla Identified

Bald eagles, as well as other wildlife, have been succumbing to vacuolar myelinopathy (VM) in the southern U.S. since the 1990s. In a March 2021 issue of Science, researchers finally identified the neurotoxin, aetokthonotoxin (AETX), which is produced by the cyanobacterium *Aetokthonos hydrillicola* that is the cause of VM deaths. The cyanobacterium, *A. hydrillicola*, grows very well on hydrilla covering 20-90% of its leaf surfaces. *A. hydrillicola* has also col-

onized hydrilla in more than half the watersheds in the southeastern US.

Reference: “Hunting the eagle killer: A cyanobacterial neurotoxin causes vacuolar myelinopathy” by Breinlinger et al., 26 March 2021, Science 371. DOI: [10.1126/science.aax9050](https://doi.org/10.1126/science.aax9050)

There was some controversy created by inaccurate media reports that linked the herbicide diquat dibromide as a possible cause. AETX biosynthesis relies on the availability of bromide. The authors recognize that a number of conditions may increase or even decrease bromide availability such as environmental conditions (e.g., lake turnover, agitation), natural sources (e.g., geologic), as well as anthropogenic sources (e.g., power plants, water treatment plants, gasoline additives, chemicals, plant management). Breinlinger et al. (2021) state that “the consequences of elevated bromide from geologic and anthropogenic sources (e.g., water treatment and power plants) on VM should be further investigated”.

It should be noted that there are VM-positive water bodies with AETX where diquat has never been used. Likewise, diquat controlling hydrilla is desired because hydrilla is the source of the problem. Furthermore, the water concentration of bromide after a diquat application is 25 to 125 times below the optimum water concentration of bromide required for AETX production.

The bigger travesty in all of this is that **hydrilla is a federally listed noxious weed**, and without question, the most widespread aquatic noxious weed on the federal list. APHIS Plant Protection and Quarantine (PPQ) has limited funding for managing and preventing the interstate spread of federal noxious weeds under the Plant

Protection Act. While APHIS has active permits for two hydrilla biocontrol agents, *Hydrellia balciunasi* and *Hydrellia pakistanae*, unfortunately, APHIS confirmed that they **do not have a current program** for the control and management of hydrilla. WSSA has ongoing conversations with APHIS on this important issue.

EPA Announces Plan to Revise WOTUS Definition

The EPA and the Army Corps of Engineers have announced plans to revise the definition of “waters of the U.S.” or WOTUS to determine which waterways and wetlands federal agencies can regulate under the Clean Water Act.

The agencies also intend to initiate a new rulemaking process to restore the pre-2015 definition of what constitutes WOTUS and have requested a federal judge to remand the Trump Administration’s 2020 Navigable Waters Protection Rule. The 2020 rule, which replaced the Obama Administration’s 2015 Clean Water Rule, moved WOTUS back towards Congress’s original intent of “navigable waters” and removed ephemeral streams that flow only after heavy rainfall or snowmelt as well as wetlands without surface water connections to intermittent or perennial streams from the agencies definition of WOTUS.

Many agricultural groups are opposed to changing the current Navigable Waters Protection Rule because they feel it provided long-overdue certainty and clarity for landowners affected by the scope of WOTUS’ jurisdiction. There is concern about government overreach and regulatory confusion in how federal agencies decide which waters of the United States they can regulate.

The Biden Administration eventually plans to draft its own definition of which waterways, wetlands and groundwater they can regulate by “drawing from the lessons learned from the current and previous regulations, as well as input from a wide array of stakeholders, so we can better protect our nation’s waters, foster

economic growth, and support thriving communities.” More information about the new rulemaking is forthcoming.

National Invasive Species Awareness Week (NISAW)-Part II

NISAW Part II was May 15-22, 2021 and focused on local invasive species prevention and removal events, plus included five educational webinars. The North American Invasive Species Forum was also held virtually during NISAW Part II and led by the Canadian Council on Invasive Species.

The webinars from NISAW part II are now available. Click a link to begin watching.

May 17: [The Climate Crisis and Invasive Species](#)

May 18: [Biological Threat Surveillance Tools \(US Geological Survey Special Event\)](#)

[The Model Legislative Framework for State Aquatic Nuisance Species \(ANS\) Programs and Resource Toolkit for Local Governments](#)

May 19: [The Regulatory Process for Classical Weed Biological Control](#)

May 20: [Aquatic Plant Management Priorities](#)

May 21: [A Comparison of State Noxious Weed Lists and The Western Weed Action Plan](#)

The May 21st webinar was presented by **Jacob Barney**, an associate professor at Virginia Tech and chair of WSSA’s Noxious and Invasive Weed and Biocontrol Committee. He discussed his recent work that focused on variations in how states regulate

noxious weeds, the challenges those variations pose and ways to bridge the gap.

NISAW 2022 is February 28 – March 4

Next year, National Invasive Species Awareness Week (NISAW) will be February 28, 2022 – March 4, 2022 and will return to just a single weeklong event instead of two separate events. If you have topics or speakers in mind, or would like to help plan next year’s NISAW, please let me know.

Weed Science Societies Support Invasive Species Fixes

The six national and regional weed science societies supported two letters that would improve invasive species management. The [first letter](#) requests that the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) approve the Department of the Interior’s request for a number of categorical exclusions under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) for invasive species control. Without the ability to use categorical exclusions to promptly control invasive annual grasses after a fire on federal lands, those invasive grasses have spread rapidly while federal land managers have to go through the NEPA process, which has taken years in many cases, before those invasive grasses can be managed. The [second letter](#) supports legislation, S. 626, in the Senate that would fix a flaw in the Lacey Act, which came about through a federal court case, where the court interpreted that the US Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) could not regulate interstate commerce in injurious species, notwithstanding decades of generally accepted practice during which FWS had exercised that authority.

Lee Van Wychen, Ph.D.
Executive Director of Science Policy
National and Regional Weed Science Societies
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202-746-4686

WSSA Report

Rakesh Chandran, WSSA Representative

The 2022 Annual Meeting of the Weed Science Society of America is scheduled for February 21-24, in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, to be organized jointly between the WSSA and the Canadian Weed Science Society (CWSS). The meeting will be held at the Sheraton Wall Centre, Vancouver, BC, Canada.

The room rate will be \$209 CAD for regular members and \$159 CAD for students. A joint-award session and reception is planned for Monday and a joint-reception is being planned for Tuesday (Industry sponsor, tentative). Student award session will also be jointly organized. The CWSS is working on tours, “Puff Run” and other events.

Conrad Berube and Richard Mack are tentative keynote speakers. Symposia proposals have been received and are currently being voted by WSSA Board.

As of now, WSSA is anticipating some form of hybrid meeting in 2022, the extent of the hybrid nature is to yet be determined. More than likely, only one or more of the symposia may be offered virtually; it is doubtful whether all sessions/ events/contests be offered in virtual and in-person formats.

The nomination deadline for WSSA Awards for the upcoming Annual Meeting is **September 30th, 2021**. Please use this [link](#) for details related to WSSA Award Categories and nominations. For general questions related to WSSA Awards, please contact me or Dwight Lingenfelter, Awards Committee Chair at dxl18@psu.edu.

A committee led by Karla Gage and Theresa Reinhardt Piskáčková is currently attempting to go through the entire WSSA common plant names list to merge with USDA names. This began as effort to standardize WSSA common names with USDA Plants common names. Eventually USDA Plants is expected to include WSSA common name on their website.

The 2023 WSSA Annual meeting will be held jointly with NEWSS in Arlington, VA, and 2024 Annual Meeting will be held jointly with the Southern Weed Science Society in San Antonio, TX.

Respectfully submitted,
Rakesh Chandran, WSSA Representative

WSSA Award Nominations Requested

Deadline: September 30

Our society has many members who deserve recognition for outstanding achievements, contributions, and service in weed science, but recognition can only come after nomination. The success of the WSSA Awards Program depends on the efforts of WSSA members as nominators. Now is the time to begin preparing nominations as the September 30, 2020 deadline will be here soon. Please take the time to nominate so the society can recognize deserving members and students. (Some awards have not been given at past meetings due to lack of nominations.)

Information and instructions for nominations for the awards to be presented at the February 2021 meeting in San Antonio, TX (or virtually depending on the status of the COVID-19 pandemic) are available on the WSSA website (<http://wssa.net/society/awards-2/>).

All award nominations must be submitted electronically as a single pdf file. The deadline is September 30th for all awards except the Graduate Student Travel Awards (Oct 31), Excellence in Journalism Award (Oct 31), US-HRAC Herbicide Resistance Management Award (Nov 13), Undergraduate Research Award (Dec 20), and the Photo Contest (TBD). Contact the subcommittee chair for questions or problems with electronic submission.

Any WSSA member who has won an outstanding service award is not eligible to receive another one for the subsequent three years. Fellows are eligible for all awards. Members of subcommittees are not eligible and cannot nominate for award of their committee.

Winners of most awards will be asked to supply a biographical sketch (approximately 250 words), the names of two individuals whom the winner would like contacted with information about the award, and an electronic copy of a recent black and white picture and an informal color picture at work.

For general questions about the Awards, contact Dwight Lingenfelter (dwright@psu.edu).

Early Career Outstanding Scientist	<u>Information Nomination Form</u>
Fellow	<u>Information Nomination Form</u>
Honorary Member	<u>Information Nomination Form</u>
Outstanding Extension	<u>Information Nomination Form</u> <u>Nomination Support Form</u>
Outstanding Graduate Student	<u>Information Nomination Form</u> <u>Nomination Support Form</u>
Outstanding Industry	<u>Information Nomination Form</u>
Outstanding Research	<u>Information Nomination Form</u>
Outstanding Teacher	<u>Information Nomination Form</u> <u>Nomination Support Form</u>
Public Service Award	<u>Information Nomination Form</u>
Excellence in Journalism	<u>Information and Nomination Form</u>
Photo Contest	<u>Information</u>
Undergraduate Research	<u>Information forthcoming</u>
Graduate Student Travel Award	<u>Information</u>
US-HRAC Herbicide Resistance Management Award	<u>Information</u>

Committee List

Name	Title	Email	Term Expires
Officers (Executive Committee)			
Caren Schmidt	President	caren.schmidt@basf.com	2022 - Rotates to Past President
Jacob Barney	President Elect	jnbarney@vt.edu	2022 - Rotates to President
Wes Everman	Vice President	wesley_everman@ncsu.edu	2022 - Rotates to President-Elect
Larissa Smith	Treasurer	larissa.smith@syngenta.com	2025 - need to elect apprentice in 2024
Art Gover	Past President	aeg2@psu.edu	2022 - Rotates off the board
Committee Chairs			
Thierry Besancon	Membership Chair	thierry.besancon@rutgers.edu	2022
Lane Heimer	Editor	lane.heimer@maryland.gov	2023
Maria Gannett	Graduate Student Rep.	mag449@cornell.edu	2022
Eric Jones	Graduate Studen Rep. Elect	eajone22@ncsu.edu	2023
Matt Cutulle	Research & Education	mcutull@clemsom.edu	2022
John Wallace	Sustaining Membership	jmw309@psu.edu	2024
John Kaminski	Public Relations	kaminski@psu.edu	2024

Committee List Continued

Rakesh Chandran	WSSA Representative	rschandran@mail.wvu.edu	2022
Hilary Sandler	CAST Representative	hsandler@umass.edu	2022
Lee VanWychen	Science Policy Director	Lee.VanWychen@wssa.net	NA
Program Committee for 2022 Meeting			
Jacob Barney	President Elect	jnbarney@vt.edu	
Wes Everman	Vice President	wes_everman@ncsu.edu	
Maria Gannett	Graduate Student Representative	mag449@cornell.edu	
Eric Jones	Graduate Student Representative	eajone22@ncsu.edu	
Agronomic Crops			
Vijay Singh	Chair	v.singh@vt.edu	2022
Ramon Leon	Chair-Elect	rleon@ncsu.edu	2023
Turf, Ornamental and Non-Crop			
Matt Elmore	Chair	matthew.elmore@rutgers.edu	2022
David Hillger	Chair-Elect	david.hillger@corteva.com	2023
Fruit, Vegetable and Tree Crops			

Committee List Continued

Kurt Vollmer	Chair	kvollmer@umd.edu	2022
Roger Batts	Chair-Elect	rbbatts@ncsu.edu	2023
Student Oral Papers			
Dan Kunkel	Chair, 2nd Past President	DanielK@amvac.com	2022
Poster Section			
Kate Venner	Chair	katelyn.venner@basf.com	2022
	Chair-Elect		
Site Selection Committee for 2024 (2023 Joint with WSSA - Arlington, VA)			
Wes Everman	Will be President Elect	wesley_everman@ncsu.edu	2022
To be named in 2022	Vice-President		2022
Larissa Smith	Treasurer	larissa.smith@syngenta.com	2025
Awards Committee			
Art Gover	Chair, Past President	aeg2@psu.edu	2026
Dan Kunkel	2nd Past President	DanielK@amvac.com	2025
Carroll Moseley	3rd Past President	carroll.moseley@syngenta.com	2024

Committee List Continued

Randy Prostak	4th Past President	rprostak@umext.umass.edu	2023
Shawn Askew	5th Past President	saskew@vt.edu	2022
Nomination Committee			
Lynn Sosnoski	Chair, Appointed by President	lms438@cornell.edu	2022
Michael Flessner	Appointed by President	flessner@vt.edu	2022
John Wallace	Nominated from the floor	jmw309@psu.edu	2022
Matt Cutulle	Nominated from the floor	mcutull@clemsun.edu	2022
Craig Austin	Nominated from the floor	craig.austin@syngenta.com	2022
Resolutions Committee			
Carroll Moseley	Chair, Appointed by President	carroll.moseley@syngenta.com	2022
Joe Neal	Appointed by President	joe_neal@ncsu.edu	2022
Jeff Derr	Appointed by President	jderr@vt.edu	2022

Committee List Continued

Collegiate Weed Contest Committee		
Jacob Barney	Chair, President Elect, Host in 2016	jnbarney@vt.edu
Caren Schmidt	President, Host in 2018	carenschmidt@basf.co
Karrie Boucher	Host to Be 2022	karrie.boucher@syngenta.com
Francois Tardif	Host to Be 2022	ftardif@uoguelph.ca
Stacey Pickard	Host in 2017	
Dwight Lingenfelter	Host in 2014	DXL18@psu.edu
Maria Gannett	Graduate Student Rep.	mag449@cornell.edu
John Wallace	Sustaining Membership Chair	eajone22@ncsu.edu
Audit Committee		
Larissa Smith	Treasurer	larissa.smith@syngenta.com
Barbara Scott	Selected	bascott@udel.edu
Quintin Johnson	Selected	quintin@udel.edu
Archives Committee		
Art Gover	Chair	aeg2@psu.edu

Committee List Continued

Art Gover	Past President	aeg2@psu.edu
Photo Award Committee		
Hilary Sandler	Chair	hsandler@umass.edu
Erin Hitchner		erin.hitcher@syngenta.com
Art Gover		aeg2@psu.edu
Shawn Askew		saskew@vt.edu
Rakesh Chandran		rschandran@mail.wvu.edu
Thierry Besancon		thierry.besancon@rutgers.edu
Student Paper Awards Committee		
Dan Kunkel	Chair, 2nd Past President	DanielK@amvac.com
Art Gover	Past President	aeg2@psu.edu
Carroll Moseley	3rd Past President	carroll.moseley@syngenta.com
Randy Prostack	4th Past President	rprostack@umext.umass.edu
Shawn Askew	5th Past President	saskew@vt.edu
Poster Award Committee		

Committee List Continued

Anthony Witcher	Chair	awitcher@tnstate.edu
Kate Venner	Volunteer	katelyn.venner@basf.com
Matt Elmore	Volunteer	matthew.elmore@rutgers.edu
Chris Leon	Volunteer	chris.leon@fmc.com
Past President's Committee		
Art Gover	Chair, Past President	aeg2@psu.edu
Dan Kunkel	2nd Past President	DanielK@amvac.com
Carroll Moseley	3rd Past President	carroll.moseley@syngenta.com
Endowment Committee		
Art Gover	Chair, Past President	aeg2@psu.edu
Dan Kunkel	2nd Past President	DanielK@amvac.com
Renee Keese	Appointed by President	renee.keese@basf.com
Larissa Smith	Treasurer	larissa.smith@syngenta.com
Thierry Besancon	Membership Chair	thierry.besancon@rutgers.edu
Carroll Moseley	3rd Past President	carroll.moseley@syngenta.com

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Mark VanGessel	Volunteer	mjv@udel.edu
Jeff Derr	Volunteer	jderr@vt.edu
Hilary Sandler	Volunteer	hsandler@umass.edu
Student Paper Writing Contest - Judging Committee		
Rakesh Chandran	Chair	rschandran@mail.wvu.edu
Hilary Sandler	Volunteer	hsandler@umass.edu
Renee Keese	Volunteer	renee.keese@basf.com
Mark VanGessel	Volunteer	mjv@udel.edu
Jeff Derr	Volunteer	jderr@vt.edu



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Anniversary