



WSWS Officer and Committee Report 2018 Summer Board Meeting – Denver, CO

Office or Committee Name: WSWS representative to CAST

Officer or Chairperson Name: Brian Jenks

Date of Preparation (include year): July 2018

Purpose: CAST, through its network of experts, assembles, interprets, and communicates credible, balanced, science-based information to policymakers, the media, the private sector, and the public.

Committee Activities during the Year:

The Plant Working Group meets once per month via conference call.

Drew Lyon currently serves as Chair of the Plant Working Group on the CAST Board of Representatives. Other Weed Scientists in the group include Dallas Peterson (WSSA), Lowell Sandell (NCWSS), and Rob Richardson (NEWSS).

2018 Borlaug CAST Communication Award goes to Dr. Marty Matlock. Matlock received his Ph.D. in biosystems engineering from Oklahoma State University. Currently he serves as the Executive Director of the University of Arkansas Resiliency Center and Professor of Ecological Engineering in the Department of Biological and Agricultural Engineering. He has made an impact through his development of specialized courses, his expert supervision of students, and his ability to conduct competitively funded research.

Papers released in the past year:

- Impact of Free-range Poultry Production Systems on Animal Health, Human Health, Productivity, Environment, Food Safety, and Animal Welfare Issues. CAST Issue Paper 61. July 2018.
- Genome Editing in Agriculture. CAST Issue Paper 60. July 2018.
- Omega-3 Fatty Acids. CAST Special Publication SP 32. May 2018.
- Scientific, Ethical, and Economic Aspects of Farm Animal Welfare. CAST Tank Force Report 143. April 2018.
- Regulatory Barriers to the Development of Innovative Agricultural Biotechnology by Small Business and Universities. CAST Issue Paper 59. March 2018.
- Why Does Bee Health Matter? The Science Surrounding Honey Bee Health Concerns and What We Can Do About It. CAST Commentary. June 2017.

- Crop Protection Contributions toward Agricultural Productivity. CAST Issue Paper 58. April 2017.
- Plant Breeding and Genetics. CAST Issue Paper 57. March 2017.

Many other papers are in various stages of preparation.

The CAST annual meeting will be October 23-25, 2018 in Sacramento, CA.

Recommendations for Board Action: None

Budget Needs: None

Suggestions for the Future: Continue WSWS commitment to CAST and encourage individual memberships.

Current Committee Members: Brian Jenks

Name of Person Preparing This Report: Brian Jenks