The WSWS Board of Directors recently held the summer board meeting at the Pappasill Resort Hotel in Reno. It is a wonderful venue for the March 12-15, 2012. All the meeting rooms are adjacent to each other and they are large enough to accommodate everyone in every session! The hotel has a great staff and some of the best food you have ever experienced, and the casino and shows for your entertainment when the meeting is not in session. The meeting rooms and several of the banquet rooms are arranged away from the casino so you can avoid the noisy areas if you desire. All in all it is a great place for an annual meeting. I highly recommend that you participate – you won’t be disappointed with the Pappasill experience! For more information see article for more information).

The WSWS website (www.wsweedscience.org) will have the latest information and deadlines for meeting registration, title and abstract submission. A link to the WSWS website for title and abstract submission will be available on the Info page of the WSWS website. Remember that registration for the meeting should be done at the WSWS website (

In addition to working on the day-to-day operations of the society at the summer Board meeting, the board of Directors spent time working to summarize their strategic planning work and develop a membership survey which will come to you via email in the near future. We want to thank you – the members of WSWS think needs to be done to improve the annual meeting and membership in the society.

Social events were a major part of the meeting. Luke Samra, chairman of the Finance committee, met with the Board by phone to review the committee’s recommendations. WSWS finances are in good standing and, in fact, the conservative investments with RBC Dain Rauscher has had a return of 5.37% this year. However, we need to be aware that the annual meeting must not be broken down but be strong enough to support the society for our support to our students (Program for a payment by director, contributions to the Director of Science Policy, student scholarships, CAST dues, WSWS Noxious Weed Short course, etc.). The Board has struggled with the idea that the registration fee has been too low for a couple of years. Now is the time; the finance committee recommended and the board voted to raise meeting membership registration by $15 ($205 to $220) and student registration by $20 ($80 to $100). We hope that this increase in membership understanding that we are price relevant to this but need to make sure that the society remains sustainable. We are fortunate that past leaders in WSWS saw fit to create the Weeds of the West book which helped support the idea of the society for many years. Sales of the book are still good but not as high as in the past. The Board also voted at the recent Board meetings to re-print the book on the same for that are common and common names match those listed in the WSSA Composite List of Weeds. That should see the society through the near future as we attempt to understand how we can get our finances more in balance. I would like to have feedback from anyone who would consider setting up an end of committee to develop the next step for Weeds of the West (smart phone apps? tablet programs?) Another vote by the Board is to store and handle all of the Weeds of the West books from the Business Manager’s office in Las Cruces. Joe DiTomasso, WSWS Past President, in cooperation with Tom Willis at Dow Agrosciences, investigated how the books are handled now and how WSWS might save/make more money if the storage were moved from the University of Wyoming to Las Cruces. Even considering shipping and handling costs, etc from Las Cruces, the bottom line is still an estimated increase in revenue for the society of about $4000 per year beyond what we may already make. For more details see Joe’s report on the WSWS website.

As you are aware, WSWS is contracting with Sandra McDonald, Mountain PCT, to coordinate the WSWS Noxious Weed Short Course. She, and her abled bodied faculty, ran an excellent course at the Sylvan Dale Ranch outside of Denver, Colorado. The course was lower than desired and was mostly from Colorado and Wyoming; however it may have been due to the economy and fewer resources for people to travel and to not holding the course for one year. Sandra has a plan to increase the short course during this year to increase attendee rates. Next year’s short course will be held at the same location on April 16 - 19, 2012. Please contact Sandra McDonald (jmditomaso@ucdavis.edu) for more information on future WSWS Short Course programs.

This year was unusual because there was no National Weed Contest called the Weedscapes held in Knoxville, TN on July 27, 2011. Last year Greg Arrel, University of Tennessee, and Phil Banks, Marathon Ag Consulting, as Business Manager. We are very fortunate to have Phil working with us. As you can see, a calm and reasoned approach with C.O. to market the short course during this year to increase attendance next year. Next year’s short course will be held at the same location on April 16 - 19, 2012. Please contact Sandra McDonald (jmditomaso@ucdavis.edu) for more information on future WSWS Short Course programs.

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identifications of herbicide symptoms, weed ID, calibration exercise, and problem-solving skills – all in one day! It was a grueling day for the contestants starting at 7 am and ending at about 5 pm. Feedback from the students was that it was a tough, but fun, day and they were (mostly) glad that they had put in some extra time studying. Thanks to the coaches and students that participated, it took a lot of time and effort on their part to be there. It was a fun and exciting day for everyone. At the end of the day there was a banquet at which the WSWS “elder statesman” Robert Norris (retired University of California, Davis) gave a brief history of WSWS. Awards were given to the regional winners and to national first place winners. Some of the scores were very close (one within ½ a point!) and showed that the students had taken the exercise seriously enough to spend extra time studying. Please join us in congratulating those individuals and teams that participated and those that won.

WSWS Regional Winners

Graduate students
1st place – J.D. Riffl, Kansas State University
2nd place – Samantha Ambrose, Oklahoma State University
3rd place – Janel Bell, Washington State University

Undergraduate Students
1st place – Janel Blount
2nd place – Drew Garnett

Graduate teams
1st place – Washington State University (team members: Janel Bell, Mike Maruchetti, Navin Lawrence, and Alan Raeder and coach, Ian Burke)
2nd place – Kansas State University (team members: Josh Putnam, J.D. Riffl, and Jessaca Zimmerman and coach Dallas Peterson)
3rd place – Oklahoma State University (team members: Samantha Ambrose, Robert-Steven Cahnoun, Matt Terry, and Lydia Tomkinson and coach Joe Armstrong)

Undergraduate teams
1st place: – New Mexico State University (team members: Janel Blount, Andy Dyer, Drew Garnett, and Heather Bedale and coaches Phil Banks and Jill Schroeder)

National winners
Graduate Student: Jason Parrish, Ohio State University
Undergraduate Student: Dan Tekela, Virginia Polytechnic University
Graduate team: Purdue University (team members: Jared Roskamp, Ryan Terry, Chad Barthelm, and Paul Marquardt)
Undergraduate team: University of Georgia (team members: Thomas Ludd, Adam Parker, Michael Verhage, and Jessica Gel)

See Sidebars photo gallery

Call for Papers and Posters for the 65th Annual Meeting of WSWS by Kia Umada, Program Chair

As the summer research season winds down, it is time to organize your thoughts to put together a poster display or an oral presentation for the 65th Annual Meeting of the Western Society of Weed Science in Reno, NV. All members are invited to submit a paper(s) and/or poster(s) to share results of their research next March 13-15, 2012, at the Peppermill Resort Spa Casino. Those of you in laboratories or in warmer regions where weeds grow all year around, pause a moment to catch your breath and put together a “Powerpoint” presentation or poster for Reno. The structure of WSWS is unique in that we have five projects where professionals and students can share their research and experience in Agronomic Crops, Horticultural Crops, Weeds of Range and Native Areas, Basic Biology and Ecology, and in Technology Transfer. Oral presentations in these project sessions are limited to the traditional 15 minutes - 12 to 15 minute presentations followed by 3-1 minutes of questions and answers. Authors of posters will have an opportunity to expose upon their data and posters during designated poster sessions. Graduate and undergraduate students are encouraged to submit presentations in the student paper and poster contest.

Again this year, WSWS will share with WSSA the electronic title and abstract submission procedures. The title and abstract submission process will begin on October 1, 2011 by entering the WSWS website to register for the meeting. The deadline for submitting titles will be December 1. Abstracts will have to be uploaded by February 1, 2012. The “cut and paste” method should be a simple procedure for most members and will enable the program committee and editors to formulate the conference agenda and it’s proceedings in a more rapid and efficient manner. All title and abstract submissions can be done through the website at www.wsweedscience.org.

In Reno, there will be two symposia that should draw interested attendees from neighboring populations. Tree fruit, nut, and vine growers and consultants should be attracted to a horticulture project symposium - Future Trends in Agroforestry and Vines. The Development of Glyphosate Resistant Weed Populations in Orchards and How to Manage Effective Weed Control Programs.

The second will be a special extended symposium - Ecolgy and Management of Oxeye Daisy (Bromus longus) in the West. What can we do to control it in the future? Should we be merely interested in the symposium from all sectors of the WSWS membership in addition to the Californians and local Nevadans.

We continue to ask WSWS members to consider submitting proposals for future meetings in San Diego in 2013 and Colorado Springs in 2014. Members are encouraged to creatively design any paper and poster display or oral presentation.

Call for Nominations Distinguished Achievement Awards WSWS Presented at the 2012 Annual Meeting of WSWS by Jill Schroeder, Awards Committee Chair

Everyone knows of some skilled and outstanding weed scientists in the western region who have contributed a great deal over the years and deserve our recognition and appreciation. One way to recognize such persons is to nominate them for a WSWS award. Please take the time and nominate an individual for one of awards listed below.

CRITERIA USED FOR EVALUATING NOMINATIONS

The award is based on merit and impact on weed science and weed management practices. Applicants MUST be a member of WSWS. Professional achievements and their impacts are the principal criteria for receiving these awards. There is no requirement that an award be given in any one or even a category. Past winners may be given each year in both the private and public sectors for Outstanding Weed Scientists and Outstanding Weed Scientists - Early Career. Only one award may be given each year over Weed Manager and Professional Staff. Within the guidelines for each category, there is flexibility to fit the nominee.

1. OUTSTANDING WEED SCIENTISTS

This award recognizes outstanding achievements in weed science from individuals in both the public and private sectors. Principle criteria for this award includes innovative or unique approaches that result in learning, ability to clearly communicate ideas, motivation of the intended audience, demonstrate excellence and creativity in research accomplishments, applying results to solve problems in weed science, the impact on weed management practices and principals of weed science, and recognition of accomplishments by peers and intended audiences.
The Weed Science Society of America (WSSA) has developed an Undergraduate Student Research Grant designed to encourage and involve exceptional undergraduate students in agricultural research. Interested faculty members are encouraged to identify potential award candidates and discuss the possibility of supporting a research project. Awards may be used as a stipend for research budget expenses (travel, supplies, etc.), to defray fees, to defray living expenses, and other related items. A copy of the student's academic transcripts must also be submitted as part of the nomination.

APPLICATION:
- The applicant is an undergraduate student with a strong interest in Weed Science. Students majoring in all related disciplines may apply.

TO APPLY:
- Applicants should prepare a 3-page research proposal including name, address, phone number, e-mail address, title, objective, experimental approach, discussion, and references. The discussion section of the proposal should describe the expected results and their possible significance to Weed Science. The student should provide a cover letter in which general academic and career goals are discussed. A copy of the student’s academic transcripts must also be provided.

FACULTY SPONSOR:
- Any faculty member who is actively engaged in Weed Science research is qualified to be a sponsor. The faculty sponsor should review the research proposal with special attention to the budget; the distribution of funds should be approved by both the student and sponsor. In addition, the sponsor should provide a letter of reference including a statement of how her/his/their willingness to supervise the proposed research and to provide any needed space, equipment and supplies above those encumbered in the proposal. The sponsor is encouraged to assist the student in presenting his/her results at a national Weed Science Meeting.

HOW TO APPLY:
- The completed proposal, academic transcripts, cover letter and faculty letter of support should be forwarded to: Dr. John Johnson, Vice President, WSSA Scholarships, 9330

WSWA UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH AWARD – 2012

The Weed Science Society of America (WSWS) has developed an Undergraduate Student Research Grant designed to encourage and involve exceptional undergraduate students in agricultural research. Interested faculty members are encouraged to identify potential award candidates and discuss the possibility of supporting a research project. Awards may be used as a stipend for research budget expenses (travel, supplies, etc.), to defray fees, to defray living expenses, and other related items. A copy of the student’s academic transcripts must also be submitted as part of the nomination.

APPLICATION:
- The applicant is an undergraduate student with a strong interest in Weed Science. Students majoring in all related disciplines may apply.

TO APPLY:
- Applicants should prepare a 3-page research proposal including name, address, phone number, e-mail address, title, objective, experimental approach, discussion, and references. The discussion section of the proposal should describe the expected results and their possible significance to Weed Science. The student should provide a cover letter in which general academic and career goals are discussed. A copy of the student’s academic transcripts must also be provided.

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HOW TO APPLY:
- The completed proposal, academic transcripts, cover letter and faculty letter of support should be forwarded to: Dr. John Johnson, Vice President, WSSA Scholarships, 9330

The nominator must contact the person to be nominated and request them to prepare a concise (3–5 page) resume.
- a) The nominee must be involved in the process. The most pertinent information about the nominee can only be obtained from the nominee.
- b) The resume should be based on the WSSS guidelines approved by the Board of Directors (see below).
- c) Information from the resume will be used by the nominator in writing the letter of nomination.
- d) The nominator is also responsible for soliciting two letters of support for the nominee.
- e) The letters should be sent to the nominator and included in the nomination package sent to the committee.
- f) The nomination package should include the nominee’s vita, the nominator’s letter of nomination, and two support letters.

SERVICE TO WSWS – Please address the following points in the resume:
- 1. Officer: President; Vice-President; Secretary, Research Section Chair; Education & Regulatory Section Chair; Editor; Other.
- 2. Committees: Standing, Special, Ad Hoc.
- 4. Service to other Weed Science Societies: Weed Science Society of America; State Organizations.
- 5. Academic Weed Science Endeavors: Teacher; Graduate Students; Refereed Publications; Extension Publications, Books; Popular Publications; Academic Weed Science Pursuits; Other.
- 6. Industry Weed Science Endeavors: Sales and Marketing; Research and Development; Regional Manager; Product Manager.
- 7. Other Meritorious Weed Science Service

NOMINATIONS FOR FELLOW AND HONORARY MEMBER AWARD AWARDS – 2012

The Weed Science Society of America (WSSA) has developed a Fellowship designed to encourage and involve exceptional undergraduate students in agricultural research. Interested faculty members are encouraged to identify potential award candidates and discuss the possibility of supporting a research project. Awards may be used as a stipend for research budget expenses (travel, supplies, etc.), to defray fees, to defray living expenses, and other related items. A copy of the student’s academic transcripts must also be submitted as part of the nomination.

APPLICATION:
- The applicant is an undergraduate student with a strong interest in Weed Science. Students majoring in all related disciplines may apply.

TO APPLY:
- Applicants should prepare a 3-page research proposal including name, address, phone number, e-mail address, title, objective, experimental approach, discussion, and references. The discussion section of the proposal should describe the expected results and their possible significance to Weed Science. The student should provide a cover letter in which general academic and career goals are discussed. A copy of the student’s academic transcripts must also be provided.

FACULTY SPONSOR:
- Any faculty member who is actively engaged in Weed Science research is qualified to be a sponsor. The faculty sponsor should review the research proposal with special attention to the budget; the distribution of funds should be approved by both the student and sponsor. In addition, the sponsor should provide a letter of reference including a statement of how her/his/their willingness to supervise the proposed research and to provide any needed space, equipment and supplies above those encumbered in the proposal. The sponsor is encouraged to assist the student in presenting his/her results at a regional Weed Science Meeting.

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A Note from the Business Office
If you did not attend the past meeting and have not done so already, you should renew your WSSS membership for 2011. You can do this by going to your contact page at the website (www.wsweedscience.org) and scrolling to the bottom of the page. You can also renew by just sending me a check for $30.00 along with your current contact information. If you have changed address, job, phone number, or e-mail address, please take the time to update your information. Let me know if you have any questions on this or need additional information.

Our next annual meeting will be at the Pepperell Hotel and Casino in Reno, NV March 12-15, 2012. The summer Board meeting was held there and the hotel is magnificent with lots of room.

WSWS Newsletter 3

Spring 2011
The Western Society of Weed Science Noxious Weed Short Course is an intensive three-day study of current technologies and best management practices associated with the noxious and invasive weeds in the Western United States. It is designed for professionals interested in current advances in noxious weed management.

The WSWS 2012 Noxious Weed Short Course will target local, state, federal, and experienced professionals seeking a comprehensive update in western invasive weeds and their management.

The short course is limited to 48 participants. Enrollment will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. Participants who are not able to enroll in the current course will be placed on a waiting list and will be given first priority for enrollment in the 2013 Short Course. A weed can be defined as any plant growing where it is not wanted. The first step to successful weed management is proper identification, which is the primary focus of this book, a supplement to the highly successful Color Atlas of Turfgrass Weeds (2nd edition). This guide, which includes 1,118 color photographs, covers species which may be locally common but are not as widespread as those in the Color Atlas. Both this text and the Color Atlas cover most major weeds in fine and rough turfgrasses, plant nurseries, ornamentals, plant nurseries, ornamentals, plant nurseries, ornamentals, landscapes, pastures, roadsides, gardens, crops, and waste areas. $25.00

Order copies on-line at http://www.clemson.edu/paspublishing or send check or money order (payable to Clemson University) to: Clemson University Public Service Publishing Room 96, Poole Agricultural Center Clemson University Clemson, SC 29634-0129

This regional wildflower book is 819 pages, and features full color photographs throughout. The plants are arranged by color, and each plant species featured contains at least one photograph of the plant and a concise description of the season of flower, geographic range, leaf shape and type. Scientific names are listed along with the most frequently used common names known to the authors. The text was written by Dr. David W. Hall, an internationally known botanist, and is the culmination of a life effort by Dr. William Weber, a well known wildlife photogapher, to show his collection of wildflower photos. This book is an invaluable resource to gain knowledge of many species of plants found throughout the southeastern United States. Ordering Information: Make checks payable to: D W Hall Mail payment to: Wildflower Book 8135 Meadowlark Court Melrose, FL. 32666 Price: $40.00 Shipping and Handling: $8.00 USPS Media Mail. Or $12.95 USPS Priority Mail. Credit Card Payments can be made via www.amazon.com by searching for the ISBN/EAN number: 978-0-615-39952-9

Calendar of Events


New Mexico Vegetation Management Association Annual Conference November 16-17, 2011 Route 66 Casino-Hotel 14500 Central Albuquerque, NM 87121 Pre-registration deadline October 31, 2011 http://www.nmvm.org

2012 Noxious Weed Short Course April 16 - 19, 2012 at the Sylvan Dale Guest Ranch in Loveland, Colorado

The Western Society of Weed Science Noxious Weed Short Course is an intensive three-day study of current technologies and best management practices associated with the noxious and invasive weeds in the Western United States. It is designed for professionals interested in current advances in noxious weed management.

The WSWS 2012 Noxious Weed Short Course will target local, state, federal government, and other land managers throughout the western region who desires a better understanding of noxious weed management. The Short Course is designed to benefit those new to invasive plant management and experienced professionals seeking a comprehensive update in western invasive weeds and their management.

The short course is limited to 48 participants. Enrollment will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. Participants who are not able to enroll in the current course will be placed on a waiting list and will be given first priority for enrollment in the 2013 Short Course. A weed can be defined as any plant growing where it is not wanted. The first step to Successful weed management is proper identification, which is the primary focus of this book, a supplement to the highly successful Color Atlas of Turfgrass Weeds (2nd edition). This guide, which includes 1,118 color photographs, covers species which may be locally common but are not as widespread as those in the Color Atlas. Both this text and the Color Atlas cover most major weeds in fine and rough turfgrasses, plant nurseries, ornamentals, plant nurseries, ornamentals, landscapes, pastures, roadsides, gardens, crops, and waste areas. $25.00

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The registration fee ($650.00) provides each attendee the educational program, refreshment breaks. Lodging and meals are separate. Participants who are not able to enroll in the current course will be placed on a waiting list and will be given first priority for enrollment in the 2013 Short Course. A weed can be defined as any plant growing where it is not wanted. The first step to Successful weed management is proper identification, which is the primary focus of this book, a supplement to the highly successful Color Atlas of Turfgrass Weeds (2nd edition). This guide, which includes 1,118 color photographs, covers species which may be locally common but are not as widespread as those in the Color Atlas. Both this text and the Color Atlas cover most major weeds in fine and rough turfgrasses, plant nurseries, ornamentals, plant nurseries, ornamentals, landscapes, pastures, roadsides, gardens, crops, and waste areas. $25.00

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For our meeting activities. . Besides an affordable room rate, the hotel also offers free parking, stemmed service and shuttle service from the airport. Registration for the meeting will open at the website on October 1. If you need to contact the office, please give us a call at 375-527-3888 or e-mail at wsws@marathonag.com.