

WSWS Newsletter



SEPTEMBER 2006

Report from the President

I hope by now, summer research has started to slow down and most of you are spending more time in office and have the opportunity read through this newsletter. The Executive Board meeting was held in Portland, Oregon on July 28-29. It was very successful and productive. Our WSWS society is functioning very well and remains in a very good financial situation, however, the Board had extensive discussion to further strengthen the society and serve the membership. During the meeting, Executive Committee reviews the facilities for the 2007 Annual Meeting. The Hilton Portland & Executive Tower will be an excellent place for our meeting. There is ample meeting room space, sleeping rooms are spacious, food is great with reasonable prices, hotel is in walking distance from several great sites, and hotel staff easy to work with and willing to help in any way possible. The local arrangement committee, lead by Carol Mallory-Smith, is doing an outstanding job to have a successful meeting in Portland. Below are highlights of our summer Executive Board meeting:

The program committee chaired by Ron Crockett is developing outstanding topics for the meeting. There will be a symposium on

knotweed that will feature presentations by some of the world's leading researchers of four invasive knotweed species. Some of the symposium topics will be genetics of invasive knotweed species, ecology of Japanese and other knotweeds, vegetative reproductive abilities of invasive knotweeds, and current status of herbicides for controlling invasive knotweeds. This knotweed symposium will be on March 14-15. DO NOT miss it!

The Board reviewed the transition of the society business management from Wanda Graves to our new Business Manager, Marathon Agric. Consulting. The transition went smoothly and all records moved from California to New Mexico. The Board of Directors thanked both Wanda Graves and Phil Banks for their efforts in making a smooth transition. For the first time, our new Business Manager Phil Banks will provide an orientation session at the Portland meeting for new members of WSWS followed by orientation session for newly elected Board members. He will coordinate this with Program Chair Ron Crockett. The orientation will be Tuesday morning, prior to the Poster Session.

The WSWS Board has approved selling 'Weeds of the

West' hand book directly through the WSWS headquarters either by on-line order or through the WSWS office. The order needs to be less than 10 books. Additional educational materials such as Research Progress Report and the Proceedings items will also be advertised and sold over the WSWS website. WSWS will contract the publishers and editors of other educational materials to be advertised and ordered through our website. Marketing and selling of educational materials on the WSWS website will bring additional financial resources to the society.

WSWS is starting to look for a site for 2010 Annual Meeting. After the Portland meeting March 13-15, the 2008 meeting will be held in Anaheim, California. The Board voted to approve Albuquerque Embassy Suit Hotel for 2009 meeting.

Finally, please consider nominating a deserving person for one of the available awards. Please contact Don Morishita, Chair of the Award Committee, about the nomination. As always, if you need to contact me with any questions or suggestions, please feel free to do so (785-532-5155 or khatib@ksu.edu).

Kassim Al-Khatib, President

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Call for Papers

Call for Research Progress Reports

*Nomination Requests:
Fellows
Honorary Member*

Student Contest Criteria

Portland Hosts WSWS Annual Meeting

The 2007 WSWS meeting will be held at the Hilton Portland and Executive Tower located in Portland, Oregon, The Rose City. Portland is the largest city in Oregon with a population over 500,000 and nearly 2 million in the metro area.

The downtown area is served by free public transportation including trains, buses and streetcars. Those members flying into the Portland International Airport can take the MAX Light Rail from the airport to within one block of the hotel for less than \$2.00. More information on travel and parking will be provided in future newsletters.

Portland has several botanical

attractions including The Grotto, International Rose Test Garden, The Japanese Garden and the Classical Chinese Garden. Portland attractions that children will enjoy include The Oregon Zoo, Portland Children's Museum, and the Oregon Museum of Science and Technology. In addition to the Portland Art Museum, there are many galleries located near the hotel. The Hilton is within walking distance to the downtown shopping district including the famous Powell's Book Store, the largest independent bookstore in the country.

Portland is known for its excellent and varied restaurants. In the area near the Hilton, there are many different restaurants rang-

ing from fast foods to high end dining. Oregon claims more microbrews per capita than any other state. Many of those breweries are located in Portland. Oregon also has a large wine industry with more than 130 wineries and tasting rooms in the Willamette Valley near Portland. Portland is home to the Trail Blazers NBA team and to the Winter Hawks Hockey team. Mt. Hood Meadows ski area is located 70 miles from Portland.

The venue promises to be one of the best we have had. Start making your plans to attend the 2007 meeting. Portland has something for everyone.

Carol Mallory-Smith,

Three Symposia Highlight Annual Meeting

In addition to the widely anticipated and featured two-day Japanese knotweed symposium being held during the 2007 WSWS Portland, OR meeting, two other very timely, and interesting half-day symposia will also be held. Dr. Bob Wolf, Kansas State University will lead a symposia entitled, "*What a Weed Scientist Should Know about Application Technology - Now and in the Future*". Bob notes that many changes have occurred with spray systems in recent years (last 20) that are dramatically influencing the application of crop, pasture, and rangeland protection products. These changes have been driven by the chemical industry, drift issues, and emphasis on droplet spectra. As a result sprayers have become more advanced in design and are more electronic oriented. The drift issues have strongly influenced the nozzle designs in recent years with a major research attention on maintaining efficacy while minimizing drift. Spray droplet standards are in place that the EPA recommends and regulators are being trained to use in complaint driven situations. Chemical manufactures are also expected to incorporate droplet strategies on labels to guide the application industry in setting sprayers to maximize efficacy while minimizing drift. One intent of this symposia will be to provide the latest information on these issues from the perspective of a weed scientist. Another important part of the seminar will focus on the current and future technologies that are and will influence the application of chemical products. A part of the symposia will include the use of a spray demonstration table to illustrate nozzle designs and other technologies critical to this discussion.

The third symposia will be led by Dr. Jeff Tichota of Monsanto. Jeff will lead the discussion on the issues surrounding seeds derived from biotechnology. The advent of biotechnology-derived seed changes how farmers manage seeds in their cropping systems, and this symposia covers: volunteer plant control options, impact on management options, and commercial acceptance issues.

Ron P. Crockett, Program Chair

Knotweed Symposium Planned for Portland

The Western Society of Weed Science is sponsoring a Knotweed Symposium to be held in conjunction with the 2007 Annual Meeting in Portland. The Symposium will be conducted March 14 and 15 and will feature presentations by some of the world's leading researchers on four invasive knotweed species: Japanese (*Polygonum cuspidatum*), giant or Sakhalin (*P. sachalinense*), Himalayan (*P. polystachyum*), and Bohemian (*P. x bohemicum*, a hybrid of Japanese and giant). These knotweeds are very aggressive and capable of forming dense stands that inhibit growth of other vegetation and prevent regeneration of native plants. They are considered a significant threat to riparian habitats since they can survive severe floods and rapidly colonize scoured shores and islands. Invasive knotweed species spread primarily along river banks, but also grow in wetlands, waste places, along roadways, and in other disturbed areas. Adequate control of these knotweed species is a prerequisite for successful re-vegetation of salmon-bearing streams in the western US and Canada with native woody species. The final schedule for the symposium including registration information and cost will be announced as the planning proceeds. Save the dates and plan to attend!

Tim Miller, Knotweed Symposium Chairman
WSU Northwestern Washington Research and Extension Center
Mount Vernon, WA 98273
(360) 848-6138
twmiller@wsu.edu

Call for Fellows and Honorary Member Nominations

Calling all WSWS Members! Nominations are due now through December 1 for Fellows and Honorary members. This process is not hard and is a great way to recognize members for their contributions to WSWS over the years or to honor others who have contributed to Weed Science. Details on the nomination process are enclosed with this newsletter. Please take some time to think of people that deserve recognition and gather the necessary information for a nomination.

Vanelle Carrithers, chair Fellows and Honorary Members committee

Call for Nominations—Society Awards

Each year WSWS members have the opportunity to nominate fellow members in several award categories. Outstanding Weed Scientist award recognizes achievements in weed science from individuals in the public and private sectors. Outstanding Weed Scientist Early Career award is given to members in the private and public sector with no more than 10 years experience after completing their terminal degree. Weed Manager award is given to those in positions paid by taxpayers and are working in the public sector, such as employees of state and federal agencies, weed boards, public land managers, and vegetation management personnel. The Professional Staff award recognizes outstanding and sustained contributions in support of weed science activities under the direction of university, federal, or industry scientists. Nominations for these awards must be received by December 1, 2006. More detailed information can be found on the WSWS website under Recent News and Information.

Don Morishita, chair Awards Committee

WSWS Student Contest Reminder

Undergraduate and graduate students are invited to enter the Student Paper and Poster Contest at the WSWS Annual Meeting. Please refer to the guidelines/criteria attached to this issue or on the website (<http://www.wsweedscience.org>). Please contact Brad Ramsdale, California State University, Fresno, at 559-278-5115 (bramsdale@csufresno.edu) if you have questions regarding the contest criteria.

News From Around the West

ROBERT PARKER, extension weed scientist, was awarded the Extension in Excellence award within the College of Human, Agricultural, and Natural Resource Sciences at Washington State University. The presentation was made at the annual awards banquet on April 8, 2006.

"Bob is a respected professional and a national leader in the world of weed science, particularly as an extension educator," said retired Extension educator Gary Pelter. "For example, he recently received the Distinguished Service Award from the Oregon Society of Weed Science".

Parker, a member of the faculty at the WSU Prosser Irrigated Agriculture Research and Extension Center for 27 years, is a former president of the Western Society of Weed Science and currently a member of the board of directors of the Oregon Weed Society. He was an original contributor and has served as associate editor for *Weeds of the West*, which has sold more than 160,000 copies.

JOSEPH P. YENISH, extension weed specialist in the Department of Crop and Soil Sciences at Washington State University, is this year's recipient of the Kenneth J. Morrison Extension Award in Crop and Soil Sciences. The award recognizes WSU Extension faculty for significant contributions made to agronomic crop production and soil management. Yenish was presented with the award at the Palouse Conservation Field Day on June 22, 2006.

"Joe provides our state's growers with vital weed management strategies and information," said Whitman County wheat producer Eric Zakarison. "His knowledge of applied weed control makes him the 'go to' guy for farmers needing guidance about integrated management of weeds on their farms, covering an area from the Washington-Idaho border to the Cascade Crest and beyond."

Frank Young, a research agronomist with USDA's Agricultural Research Service, agreed. "Joe has been the most active and sought after specialist on the Pullman campus," he said. "He has a remarkable abil-

ity to conduct research, publish and carry out all his extension activities without sacrificing the quality of work in any area."

With a Ph.D. from North Carolina State University, Yenish joined the WSU faculty in 1996. He has served as president of the Washington State Weed Association and as chair of the Western Society of Weed Science. In 2005 alone, he gave 61 different presentations to government, producer and Extension groups.

Position Available Extension Educator

The University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension and the Department of Agronomy and Horticulture invite applications for an Extension Educator position with an emphasis on Weed Science. The position is a non-tenure track, 12-month appointment, located on the campus of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, in Lincoln, NE. The focus of this position will be on conducting integrated weed management educational programs and developing extension publications in collaboration with other faculty, with the aim of increasing grower profitability and environmental stewardship. The incumbent will work closely with faculty in Agronomy and Horticulture, Entomology, and Plant Pathology on program development.

Review of applications will begin on October 1, 2006. The position will remain open until a suitable candidate is found or the search is closed.

For a detailed job description and instructions on how to apply for the position, please go to <http://employment.unl.edu> and search for requisition #060657

Call For Papers

Don't Forget - See the Call for Papers for the WSWS 2007 Annual Meeting in Portland attached

WSSA UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH AWARD – 2007

The Weed Science Society of America has developed an Undergraduate Student Research Grant designed to encourage and involve exceptional undergraduates in agricultural research. Interested faculty members are encouraged to identify potential award candidates and discuss the possibility of sponsoring a research project. Awards may be used as a stipend, for research budget expenses (travel, supplies, etc.), to defer fees, to defray living expenses for summer research, or any combination of these items.

Award: Up to \$1000 for support of undergraduate research to be conducted over a minimum of one quarter/semester during 2007. This award may be used to defray the cost of research supplies or as a stipend. Support of a faculty sponsor is required. Awards will be made to the student, to be administered by the faculty sponsor's department.

Applicant: 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 2-3 page research proposal including name, address, phone number, title, objective, experimental approach, discussion, budget 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 his/her willingness to supervise the proposed research and to provide needed space, equipment and supplies above those requested in the proposal. The sponsor is encouraged to assist the student in presenting his/her results at a regional Weed Science Meeting.

How to Apply: The completed proposal, academic transcripts, cover letter and faculty letter of support should be forwarded to: Dr. John Jachetta, Dow AgroSciences, 9330 Zionsville Road, Indianapolis, IN 46268-1054; Phone: (317) 337-4686, Fax (317) 337-4649, E-mail: jjjachetta@dow.com. Proposals should be received no later than November 10, 2006. Funding decisions will be made by January 26, 2007 and presented at the 2007 WSSA National Meeting General Session.

Noxious Weed Management Short Course

The annual Noxious Weed Management Short Course for public and private land managers will be held April 23rd through April 26th, 2007 at Chico Hot Springs Resorts in Pray, Montana. The course teaches ecologically sound management practices for invasive plants by utilizing various teaching formats including hands-on workshops and field exercises. Information presented includes weed identification (live plants), biological management methods, herbicides in the environment, weed inventory and planning, noxious weed management, and safe use of pesticides and application equipment. Enrollment for the course is limited to 40 individuals. Registration is \$500 per person and includes a course notebook, materials, and four meals. For additional information contact Celestine Duncan, course coordinator at 406-443-1469, weeds1@ixi.net, or visit the WSWS web site.

Call for Research Progress Reports

Please consider submitting preliminary results from ongoing laboratory, physiological, and other research in the WSWS Research Progress Report. It is a good opportunity for staff and graduate students to initiate the process for journal submission and improve their technical writing skills. Also, it is an excellent place for publishing results that will not be submitted for journal publication.

For instructions, see the Call for Research Progress Reports included in the Newsletter mailing. Reports must be postmarked by December 4, 2006

WASHINGTON REPORT, AUGUST 2006

The following report has been condensed for mailing of the WSWS newsletter. For the full report please visit the WSWS Home Page (<http://www.wsweedsociety.org/>) under Recent News and Information.

Weed Science Research Funding- House Agriculture Appropriations

The House of Representatives (House) passed their FY2007 Agriculture Appropriations Bill on May 24. The House budget for USDA has a lot of good news and a little bad news for weed science compared to the Administration's budget proposal. Given the extremely tight budgetary conditions here in DC, weed science has a lot to be thankful about. It's now up to the Senate to pass their version of the Agriculture Appropriations bill which should happen a week or two after the Memorial Day recess.

THE GOOD NEWS: In the House Agriculture Appropriations Bill, the FY2007 USDA Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service (CSREES) budget for the **National Research Initiative (NRI)** competitive grants program is \$190 million, an **increase of \$8,830,000** above the amount available for FY2006. The Administration's budget proposed to move the USDA CSREES Section 406 Programs into the NRI, but the House Ag Appropriators wanted to keep the Section 406 Programs where they are. Section 406 Programs include the Regional Pest Management Centers, Crops at Risk from the Food Quality Protection Act (FQPA) Implementation; FQPA Risk Mitigation Program for Major Food Crop Systems; and the Methyl Bromide Transition Program.

THE BAD NEWS: President Bush's budget proposed a new USDA program for invasive species that included \$9.9 million for competitive grants to private groups for eradication and control of invasive species through the use of new and innovative methodologies. Unfortunately, the House Agriculture Appropriators did not include any money in the USDA budget for this initiative nor did they include the \$15 million appropriation authorized in the 2004 Noxious Weed Control and Eradication Act. The House Agriculture Appropriations bill also directs the USDA ARS to terminate the Poisonous Plant Research Laboratory in Logan, UT, for a savings of \$1,400,757. However, I'm sure Senator Bennett (R-UT), Agriculture Appropriations Chair, will have something to say about this.

The 2007 Farm Bill

There is a possibility that the 2002 Farm Bill may be extended another year into 2008 or even extended indefinitely without reauthorization next year. Many people feel the 2002 Farm Bill is as good as it gets for agriculture. There are many factors at play including World Trade Organization (WTO) negotiations and politics.

Maxwell and Gopinath Speak on Capitol Hill and at USDA about Economic Impact of Invasive Weeds

On May 5, the WSSA along with the Council on Food, Agricultural and Resource Economics (C-FARE) co-hosted 2 one hour briefings on Capitol Hill and USDA to highlight federally funded research for invasive weeds. The title of the seminar was "Researching Invasive Weeds: Tools for Policy Makers". Dr. Bruce Maxwell (WSSA) and Dr. Munisamy Gopinath (C-FARE) presented preliminary work from research funded by the USDA Economic Research Service (ERS) Program of Research on the Economics of Invasive Species Management (PREISM) program, and other federally funded competitive grants.

Derr Visits DC for CoFARM/BESC Congressional Visits Day

On March 14 and 15, 2006, WSSA Vice President Jeff Derr represented the WSSA at the Coalition on Funding Agricultural Research Missions (CoFARM) - Biological and Ecological Sciences Coalition (BESC) program in Washington D.C organized to generate congressional support for the agricultural and biological sciences. Over 50 scientists from other scientific societies including the American Institute of Biological Sciences (AIBS), the Tri-Societies (ASA-CSSA-SSSA), and the Ecological Society of America (ESA) participated in this two day event.

Lee Van Wychen, Ph.D.
Director of Science Policy
The National and Regional Weed Science Societies

Western Society of Weed Science
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E-mail: wsws@marathonag.com.

Visit the web site at
www.wsweedscience.org

WSWS Objectives

- To foster and encourage education and research in weed science.
- To foster cooperation among state, federal and private agencies in matters of weed science.
- To aid and support commercial, private and public agencies in the solution of weed problems.
- To support legislation governing weed control programs and weed research and education programs.
- To support the Weed Science Society of America and foster state and regional organizations and agencies interested in weed control.

Online Herbicide Physiology Course

PSPP 546 Herbicide Physiology is a new, online, distance delivery graduate course to be offered in Fall semester, 2006. The course is taught by Profs. William Dyer (Montana State University), Tracy Sterling (New Mexico State University), and Scott Nissen (Colorado State University). We will cover topics in herbicide classification, herbicide mode of action, and resistance mechanisms. Prerequisites include upper division courses in biochemistry (BCHM 340 General Biochemistry or equivalent) and plant physiology (PS 450 Plant Physiology or equivalent), or consent of the instructors. The course is designed for students without traditional access to this course material, and is not designed to replace existing, on-campus courses at other institutions.

Target Audience

Students from Weed Science, Plant Physiology, Plant Biology, Land Reclamation, Ecology, Range Science, Agronomy, Integrated Pest Management, and Conservation Biology will be served by this course. In addition to providing basic information about herbicide physiology and plant responses, we will challenge students with applied problems that may be encountered in field situations. Students will thus be able to hone their diagnostic and problem-solving skills that will be required in a number of employment situations.

Please see <http://eu.montana.edu/credit/courses/PSPP546.htm> or contact Dr. William E. Dyer at wdyer@montana.edu for more information

Calendar of Events

October 2006

WSWS Online Paper Submission and Annual Meeting Registration Opens.

<http://www.wsweedscience.org/>

October 3-4, 2006

2006 Tamarisk Research Conference: Current Status and Future Directions. Fort Collins, CO.

For more information visit <http://www.tamarisk.colostate.edu/>

October 22-27, 2006

Herbicide Action Course, Purdue University. For more information visit <http://www.hort.purdue.edu/hort/ext/herbicideaction/herbaction.shtml> or contact Ed Keller at: ebkeller@purdue.edu - phone at: 800-320-6291

November 1-3, 2006

Invasive Weeds in the Urban Interface: An Economic & Environmental Dilemma. Southwest Vegetation Management Association Annual

Conference: Casa Grande, AZ. For more information visit <http://www.swvma.org>

December 1, 2006.

WSWS Awards Nominations Due

December 4, 2006.

WSWS Annual Meeting Title and Summary Submission Deadline

Research Progress Report Submission Deadline.

February 25—March 2, 2007

Eight Annual National Invasive Weeds Awareness Week. Washington, DC. For more information visit http://www.nawma.org/niwaw/niwaw_index.htm

March 13-15, 2007

WSWS Annual Meeting. Hilton Portland & Executive Tower, Portland, Oregon