

Western Society of Weed Science

Founded in 1938



Historical Facts

- H. L. "Harry" Spence, Jr. was foremost among a small group of men instrumental in starting the Western Weed Control Conference. In a speech at the 1936 meeting of the Western Plant Quarantine Board, he called for an annual symposium, "whereby you could bring together the men working on weed problems from the various western states. It would aid materially in coordinating the various programs and furnishing a valuable opportunity to interchange suggestions in regards to our many weed problems".
- Proceedings of the first two-day WWCC in 1938 read as though state reports and discussion were recorded by a stenographer. H. L. Spence chaired the session and was elected chairman for the 1939 meeting.
- Perennial weed control and regulatory issues were the major topics of discussion in the early years.
- Except in 1943, the WWCC met annually until 1950, then met every other year in even-numbered years. After meeting in consecutive years in 1962 and 1963, meetings were held in odd-numbered years to avoid meeting during the same year as the Weed Science Society of America. Meeting annually resumed in 1967.
- In 1968, the Western Weed Control Conference was renamed the Western Society of Weed Science.
- The WSWs has had only two Business Managers: Lamar Anderson 1967-1989 and Wanda Graves 1989-2006.
- Fellow Awards were first given in 1968. The first Fellows were Robert B. Balcom, Walter S. Ball, Alden S. Crafts, F. Leonard Timmons, and Delmar C. Tingey.
- The first student paper contest was held in 1983 with 13 contestants: 1st David L. Zamora, Univ. of Idaho; 2nd Stott Howard, Utah State Univ.; 3rd K. George Beck, Univ. of Idaho.
- Jean H. Dawson received the first Outstanding Weed Scientist Award in 1989.
- Three women have served as President and seven have been named Fellows of the WSWs in the past 10 years.
- Senator Larry Craig - ID was named an Honorary Member in 2002, for his tireless voice for greater national action and legislation to deal with the onslaught of invasive weeds in the Western United States.

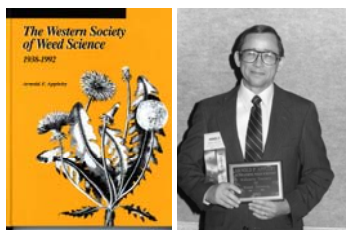
Objective in 1938: To foster regional organizations and a national organization of agencies to act as regional and national clearing houses in connection with weed problems.

Current Purpose

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



H. L. Spence - 1929
Father of the WWCC



History of the WSWs was compiled by Arnold Appleby, who served as President in 1972, was named Fellow in 1973, and Outstanding Weed Scientist in 1990.



1998 Fellows - Harvey Tripple, (l) and Stanley Heathman (r)

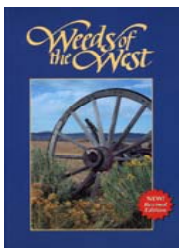


1987-88 Executive Committee

Seated, l to r: Gaylan Schroeder, Secretary; Larry Mitich, President; Donn Thill, President-Elect; Stephen Miller, Research Section Chair; Standing, l to r: Rodney Lym, Member-at-Large; Lowell Jordan, CAST Representative; Lamar Anderson, Business Manager; Peter Fay, WSSA Representative; John Evans, Immediate Past President

"There is a definite need for coordinating and correlating the weed ordinances in the Western states, yet we are still working as individuals."

H. L. Spence, Western Area Weed Conference, Denver, CO - 1938



9th Edition, 130,000 copies sold



Charlotte Eberlein - First woman elected President (1997) and Fellow (1999)



Wanda Graves, Business Manager - Retiring in 2006 after 17 years of service



Official member states in 1938



Member states and provinces in 2006

Past Presidents and Meeting Locations

1938/		
1939	H. L. "Harry" Spence, Jr.	Berkley, CA
1940	George R. Hyslop	Seattle, WA
1941	Clifford L. Corkins	Salt Lake City, UT
1942	Wilfred W. Robbins	Salem, OR
1944	Earl Hutchings	Salt Lake City, UT
1945	Lee M. Burge	Boise, ID
1946	Buford E. Kuhns	Reno, NV
1947	H. Elwood Morris	Portland, OR
1948	Virgil H. Freed	Sacramento, CA
1949	Bruce J. Thornton	Bozeman, MT
1950	Eugene W. Whitman	Denver, CO
1952	Wilfred W. Robbins	Reno, NV
1954	Clarence I. Seely	Tucson, AZ
1956	Walter S. Ball	Sacramento, CA
1958	Henry Wolfe	Spokane, WA
1960	Richard A. Fosse	Denver, CO
1962	William R. Furtick	Las Vegas, NV
1963	P. Eugene Heikes	Portland, OR
1965	Jesse M. Hodgson	Albuquerque, NM
1967	Louis A. Jensen	Phoenix, AZ
1968	Stanley W. Strew	Boise, ID
1969	Keith C. Hamilton	Las Vegas, NV
1970	Harold P. Alley	Sacramento, CA
1971	Kenneth W. Dunster	Denver, CO
1972	Arnold P. Appleby	Salt Lake City, UT
1973	David E. Bayer	Spokane, WA
1974	Don L. Burgoyne	Kaanapi, HI
1975	Gary A. Lee	Phoenix, AZ
1976	William L. Anliker	Portland, OR
1977	Clyde L. Elmore	Sacramento, CA
1978	Lowell S. Jordan	Sparks, NV
1979	Richard D. Comes	Boise, ID
1980	Larry C. Burrill	Salt Lake City, UT
1981	L. E. "Jack" Warren	San Diego, CA
1982	Alex G. Ogg, Jr.	Denver, CO
1983	J. Wayne Whitworth	Las Vegas, NV
1984	Gary Massey	Spokane, WA
1985	E. Stanley Heathman	Phoenix, AZ
1986	Harvey D. Triplee	San Diego, CA
1987	John O. Evans	Boise, ID
1988	Larry W. Mitich	Fresno, CA
1989	Donn C. Thill	Honolulu, HI
1990	Sheldon E. Blank	Sparks, NV
1991	Peter K. Fay	Seattle, WA
1992	Paul J. Ogg	Salt Lake City, UT
1993	Stephen D. Miller	Tucson, AZ
1994	Douglas K. Ryerson	Coeur d'Alene, ID
1995	Tom D. Whitson	Sacramento, CA
1996	Gus Foster	Albuquerque, NM
1997	Charlotte V. Eberlein	Portland, OR
1998	Barbra H. Mullin	Waikoloa, HI
1999	Rodney G. Lym	Colorado Springs, CO
2000	Jeffrey M. Tichota	Tucson, AZ
2001	Don W. Morishita	Coeur d'Alene, ID
2002	Robert Parker	Salt Lake City, UT
2003	Jill Schroeder	Kauai, HI
2004	Gilbert E. Cook	Colorado Springs, CO
2005	Phillip W. Stahlman	Vancouver, BC
2006	Philip A. Banks	Sparks, NV



2005 - Phil Stahlman passing the symbolic hoe to current President Phil Banks (right)