



WSWS Officer and Committee Report (Portland Summer Meeting 2009)

Office or Committee Name: Public Relations Committee

Officer or Chairperson Name and Committee Members: Erin Taylor (Chair), Brad Hanson, Mark Ferrell, Bill Cobb, Dennis Scott, Brian Olson, Deb Shatley

Date of Preparation (include year): July 8, 2009

Activities during the Year:

- a post (2009) meeting press release dated May 14, 2009 (see attachment) was distributed via email to:
 - AgOnline (Successful Farming)
 - Agronomy Society of America
 - AgWeb.com (Farm Journal)
 - American Society of Horticultural Science
 - American Vegetable Grower
 - Associated Press
 - California Farm Bureau Federation
 - Capital Press
 - Farm Progress Publishing (California Farmer; Western Farmer – Stockman)
 - Progressive Farmer
 - Metrofarm radio
 - Southwest Trees and Turf
 - Turf Magazine
 - Weed Science Society of America
 - Western Farm Press
 - Western Farm, Ranch, and Dairy Magazine
 - Wildland Weeds
 - Yuma Daily Sun
- Continuing education credits to meet state licensing requirements were obtained for the 2009 meeting from: Oregon, Montana, Washington, California, Kansas, Oklahoma, Utah, Idaho, Wyoming, Nevada, Arizona, and New Mexico. Credits for the Certified Crop Advisor (CCA) and Society for Range Management certification programs were also obtained.
 - No credits were obtained from Colorado and Nebraska for the 2009 meeting.
- Brad Hanson stepped down as chair and Erin Taylor from the University of Arizona accepted the position.

Recommendations for Board Action: None

Budget Needs: None

Suggestions for the Future: None

Suggested Changes in Operating Guide: None

Name of Person Preparing This Report: Erin Taylor

For Immediate Release
May 1, 2008

**Western Society of Weed Science
61st Annual Conference
March 11-14, 2008
Hyatt Regency Orange County Hotel
Anaheim, California**

The 61st annual meeting of the Western Society of Weed Science was held in Anaheim, CA at the Hyatt Regency Orange County Hotel on March 11-14, 2008. The meeting, with 347 registered members and guests, featured 53 research posters presented in two sessions and 105 scientific presentations. Graduate and undergraduate students combined to present 10 posters and 16 oral papers during the meeting. In addition to the regular program, two special symposia were held during the meeting to foster discussion on important weed science issues. The symposium on the biology, ecology, and impact of giant reed and common reed was highly successful and increased meeting attendance by at least 50 weed researchers, students, and land managers interested in these invasive riparian weed species.

Each year, the WSWS presents several awards for outstanding contributions to the Society and to the discipline of weed science. George Beck from Colorado State University and Rick Boydston from the USDA-ARS were named as WSWS Fellows and Robert Zemetra from the University of Idaho was named as Honorary Member. Patrick Clay from Valent, Robert Wilson from the University of Nebraska, and Leo Charvet from BASF were recognized as Outstanding Weed Scientists. The Professional Staff award was presented to Lori Howlett from the University of Nebraska and the Outstanding Weed Manager was Lars Baker from Fremont Co, Wyoming. Seven awards were presented for outstanding student presentations and posters in basic and applied research. Student presentation awardees included: Lydia Clayton from the University of Idaho, Dilpreet Riar from Washington State University, Amy Blair from Colorado State University, Travis Almquist from North Dakota State University, Jordana LaFantasie from the University of Wyoming. Student poster awards were given to Jordana LaFantasie from the University of Wyoming, Randall Stephens from Washington State University, and Jessica Ebler from New Mexico State University.

At the conclusion of the Societies business meeting, outgoing president Ron Crocket from Monsanto passed the ceremonial hoe to the incoming president Dan Ball from Oregon State University. Pictures of award recipients, fellows, graduate student contest winners, and the WSWS board of directors can be viewed at the website:
<http://www.wsweedscience.org/Meeting/photos-2008.asp> .

The 62nd Annual Meeting of the Western Society of Weed Science will be held in Albuquerque, New Mexico during March 9-12, 2009. Contact Phil Banks, WSWS Business Manager at 505-527-1888 or visit the WSWS website at: <http://www.wsweedscience.org/> for more information.