



# WSWS Newsletter

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wsws@marathonag.com

Vote online ([www.wsweedscience.org](http://www.wsweedscience.org)) for 2010 Officers-Dec. 2 deadline

November 2009

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## Report from the President by Jesse Richardson



For some of us, the fall season represents a much-appreciated slow-down in the pace of field work. If you fall into that category, I hope you are making opportunities to take a deep breath and doing the things that give meaning to life. And I hope that you can look back on this past year's efforts with satisfaction, knowing that you have made a difference. With our next WSWS annual meeting only four months away, it's time to focus our attentions on this important event. The meeting will be held March 8-11, 2010 in Waikoloa, Hawaii at the Waikoloa Beach Marriott, on the Big Island. If you scoured the nineteen US states and three

Canadian provinces that make up the WSWS, you would have a difficult time finding a meeting venue that is more remarkable. The Marriott has recently undergone extensive remodeling, which will make our stay even more enjoyable than the last time that we met at this property (if that's possible). Phil Motooka and his local arrangements committee have already done an excellent job in coordinating many of our activities for the upcoming meeting. Our President-elect and 2010 Program Chair, Joe DiTomaso, has been hard at work coordinating the program, which will include two special symposia on Perennial Grass Invasions and Kochia. Several prominent invited speakers will be participating in these special symposia. I'd like to recognize the leadership of Phil Stahlman and Joe DiTomaso and their committees for the organization of these special symposia.

Please consider presenting a poster and/or an oral presentation to share highlights of your weed science research. We certainly appreciate the contributions of the graduate students and undergraduates who energize our meetings with their enthusiasm, so please encourage your students to also prepare a presentation. Presenters will need to submit their titles on-line at the WSWS website ([www.wsweedscience.org](http://www.wsweedscience.org)) by Wednesday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>. You can also submit an abstract for your presentation at that time to complete the entire process, or submit on-line abstract and indexing information before February 3, 2010.

On-line registration for the meeting is currently available at the WSWS website. You can also access hotel reservation information and book a room through the WSWS website. We need your support by planning to stay at the Marriott Resort during the meeting and by identifying yourself as a member of WSWS when you make your hotel reservation. The society must reserve a certain number of rooms at the Marriott in order to get the meeting rooms without additional cost.

The future of the WSWS looks bright, notwithstanding economic challenges facing many of the companies, universities and agencies which employ us. One of our greatest strengths is the willingness of our individual members to contribute their talent and valuable time to the society. In addition, we are fortunate to continue to have Phil Banks as our business manager. Phil is highly engaged in seeing that our society functions well and meets the needs of its members. He brings very valuable institutional memory to WSWS and is an excellent mentor and coach. I am grateful to have had the opportunity to work closely with him. I am delighted to report that WSWS is doing well, membership is stable, and we have a very active and dedicated Board of Directors.

It has been an honor to serve you as president of the Western Society of Weed Science. I look forward to seeing you in Waikoloa, Hawaii! And don't forget – the meeting will be a NO TIE ZONE. That applies to the Board of Directors as well!

Regards, Jesse Richardson

## Sidebar highlights

- Contact us
- WSWs Officers
- Executive Committee
- Standing and Ad Hoc Committees
- 2009 Deadlines
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### Contact us

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### WSWS Officers and Executive Committee

#### President

Jesse Richardson  
**Awards, Site Selection**  
DOW AGROSCIENCES  
9330 10TH AVE  
HESPERIA, CA 92345  
jmrichardson@dow.com  
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#### President-Elect Joe DiTomaso

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### Program, Poster, Publications, Student Paper Judging, Local Arrangements

#### Immediate Past President

Dan Ball  
Oregon State University  
Columbia Ag Res,  
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Pendleton OR 97801  
Daniel.ball@oregonstate.edu  
541-278-4394

## Harvey-Jordan Graduate Student Fellowship

The Jordan College of Agricultural Sciences & Technology (JCAST) of California State University, Fresno is pleased to announce the offering of four prestigious Harvey-Jordan Graduate Student Fellowships to highly qualified students entering Master of Science (M.S.) programs in the College. These competitive awards provide \$18,500 per year for two years. Harvey Scholars are expected to attend the college seminar series on a weekly basis and provide teaching and/or research support to their major adviser.

### Eligibility

Applicants must be beginning their first fall semester in M.S. programs in any of the departments currently offering graduate study (Plant Science, Food Science & Nutrition, Viticulture & Enology, Animal Science, and Industrial Technology). This includes students beginning in Fall 2010, or those who began in Spring 2009.

### Qualifications

- Agricultural major
- GPA 3.0 or above
- Research experience
- Have identified a faculty member and potential area of research
- Completed the university's graduate admission process (domestic or international).  
Visit <http://www.csufresno.edu/gradstudies/admission/criteria.shtml> for information and <http://www.csumentor.edu/> to apply.

**Application Materials-** *Submit to the Department a packet containing the following Materials*

- Cover letter indicating your interest and reason for applying for this fellowship
- Official GRE scores (and TOEFL, if required)
- All college transcripts
- Curriculum vitae (CV) or resume
- Statement of proposed research (maximum 2 pages)
- 2 letters of recommendation, preferably from individuals who can comment on research or independent work skills, and academics
- Letter of support from faculty member with whom applicant will conduct thesis research

### Application deadline

*To be given full consideration, materials must be submitted to the respective department by **December 1, 2009**. Graduate Coordinators must forward application packages for eligible students with a memo of support to the CAST selection committee by **January 25, 2010**. Awards will be announced no later than **February 13, 2010**.*

### Contact Information

*For students applying in the area of Plant Science, e.g. with interests in agronomy, soil & water, vegetable crops, pomology and ornamental horticulture (including tissue culture & propagation), plant health (entomology, pathology, weed management), or mechanized agriculture, please send application materials to:*

*Dr. Sharon Benes, Graduate Coordinator*

*Department of Plant Science, California State University, Fresno*

*2415 E. San Ramon Ave., M/S AS72, Fresno, California, 93740-8033*

*Tel: (559) 278-2255*

*Email: [sbenes@csufresno.edu](mailto:sbenes@csufresno.edu)*

**Honorary Members,  
Sustaining Members,  
Nominations**

Secretary

Ian Burke

Washington State

University

201 Johnson Hall

Pullman, WA 99164

icburke@wsu.edu

**Necrology**

WSSA Representative

Tim Miller

Washington State

University

16650 SR 536

Mt. Vernon, WA 98273

twmiller@wsu.edu

360-848-6138

WSWS Research

Project Title and Chairs

**Weeds of Range and  
Natural Areas**

Co-chaired by

J. Harbour and C. Gray

Send presentation files to:

Cody Gray

cody.gray@uniphos.com

United Phosphorus Inc

11417 Cranston Drive

Peyton, CO 80831

(954) 562-0254

**Weeds of Horticultural  
Crops**

Curtis Rainbolt

Tech Service Rep

4763 N Pacific Ave

Fresno, CA 93705

559-430-4418

curtis.rainbolt@basf.com

**Weeds of Agronomic  
Crops**

Brian Olson

Kansas State University

Northwest Research and

Extension Center

P.O. Box 786

Colby, KS 67701

(785) 462-6281

bolson@ksu.edu

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**Online!** by Tony White, WSWS Webmaster



webmasater@wsweedsience.org

573-822-4412 (office/mobile)

Title and abstract submission pages are open! Submit new or view previously submitted title and abstract information on your account page. Title submission will be open through December 2, 2009. Log on to your member account page to submit title information.

Don't forget to register for the tours! Space for each tour is available on a first come, first served basis

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**Local Arrangements Report: Big Island Environments** by Philip Motooka

The climate of the Hawaiian Islands is defined by its tropical location, land mass, the ocean and winds, including storms. Its location in the tropic zone means day lengths in Hawaii vary by no more than 2.5 hours. (Hence, no daylight savings time). The Pacific moderates the Hawaiian climate. It cools warm air and warms Arctic air blowing across the vast Pacific towards Hawaii. Air masses also pick up moisture as it flows over the ocean. Even so, rainfall is only about 10-20 inches per year on the open ocean, about what it is at the Marriott. However the prevailing "trade winds" blowing in from the north east and laden with moisture are forced upward when it collides with land where it cools and releases its moisture. Rainfall is thus higher on the windward sides of the island and dryer on the lee.

While this is true of all the major islands, the effect of land mass is pronounced on the Big Island with its young, high, and broad (shield) volcanoes: Mauna Loa, Mauna Kea and Hualalal, all over 10,000 ft high. The Island (and County) of Hawaii, at 4038 square miles and growing, is larger than the rest of the Hawaiian Islands combined. After the winds clear the high volcanoes, there is little moisture left to fall on the Kona coast. However, another effect of the island land mass is orographic rainfall. As the land absorbs heat from the sun, it warms the air which then rises, sucking in moist air from the sea. This creates afternoon clouds and showers, an almost daily occurrence in the summer and the reason coffee can be grown without tree cover. The result of all these interacting factors is a myriad of climatic zones and plant communities.

Windward Big Island which faces the trade winds, is lush with annual rainfall of 80 inches or more, most falling in the winter months (moldy shoes are common problem). Tour 3 (March 13) will visit pastures and forests of high rainfall zones where guava is a big problem.

Tour 1 (March 8) will climb from sea level to Humuula at the 5,000 ft level where frost sometimes occur. It will feature both dry and humid ecozones; dry on the Kona side, wet on the windward side. Several temperate zone weeds will be encountered, including gorse.

Kona, shielded by the large volcanoes, is dry during the winter months while the rest of the state suffers its rainy season. However, orographic rainfall is pronounced during the summer months resulting in a summer rainy season. Mid-elevation rainfall is about 45 inches. The clouds typically pass over the coastal area of Kona which accounts for the great beach weather. Finally, the low rainfall on the Kona coast means slow weathering of lava rock and ash, which means poor water holding capacity and exacerbates the effect of drought. Tour 2 (March 12) will visit coastal and lower upland sites that are arid with unweathered substrates and infested with dryland weeds, purple fountain grass in particular.

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**WSWS Outstanding Student Scholarship Reminder**

by Tanya Skurski

- Three \$1,000 student scholarships available to encourage new weed research and participation at the WSWS Annual Meeting.
- Deadline for application is **December 14, 2009**.
- Details, application instructions and materials available at:
- [http://www.wsweedsience.org/Students/Student\\_Portal.asp](http://www.wsweedsience.org/Students/Student_Portal.asp)
- Please share this opportunity with any eligible WSWS students you know!

**Teaching & Technology  
Transfer**

Andrew R. Kniss  
Department of Plant  
Sciences  
Agriculture C 1011  
University of Wyoming  
Laramie, WY 82071  
(307) 766-3949  
akniss@uwyo.edu

**Basic Sciences: Ecology,  
Biology, Physiology,  
Genetics**

Kassim Al-Khatib  
2004A Throckmorton Hall  
Agronomy Department  
Kansas State University  
Manhattan, KS 66506  
(785)532-5155  
khatib@ksu.edu

**Director of Science Policy  
Summer Report by Lee  
Van Wychen, Ph.D. can  
be found at:**

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

The National and Regional  
Weed Science Societies  
900 2nd St. NE, Suite 205,  
Washington, DC 20002  
Lee.VanWychen@WSSA.net  
Phone: 202-746-4686

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**Graduate Student Paper/Poster Contest Reminder** by Andy Hulting.

A successful Student Paper Contest was held during the 2009 meeting and preparations are underway for the 2010 Contest in Waikoloa. I encourage all graduate students who will be attending the annual meeting to participate in the paper and/or the poster contest. It is great experience and a good way to get feedback from WSWs membership on your graduate projects. The judging criteria are included in this newsletter so you can begin to think about how to develop your presentations and posters. In January I will put out a general call to those attending the meeting for volunteer judges to help with each division of the contest. Thanks in advance to all who contribute to this important part of our annual meeting.

Andy Hulting, Chair, Student Paper Judging Committee

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**WSWS 2010 Symposium**

**“Ecology, Impacts and Management of Perennial Grass Invasions”  
March 11, 2009-Thursaday of annual meeting.**

by James Leary

Perennial grass invasions are not only competitors in managed and natural ecosystems, but also carry the tangible threats of fire, particularly in the western region of the US including Hawaii. Weed scientists have an important role for developing solutions to this growing problem. This year the Western Society of Weed Science will be hosting a symposium titled “The Ecology, Impacts and Management of Perennial Grass Invasions” with the unique opportunity to bring together scientific experts and managers from the Southwest to Hawaii for lively discussions on the biology and ecology of C4 grass invasions, the impacts of fire to dryland ecosystems and the wide diversity of management techniques developed and implemented by our colleagues. This symposium will encompass a vision for adaptive weed management strategies with universal attributes in fuel suppression, fire mitigation and ecosystem restoration, while at the same time recognizing uniqueness of regional conditions based on our new found understandings learned from this session. We hope you will join us in this day-long symposium.

*Topic and speaker list updated September 5, 2009:*

**Introduction** *Hannah Springer, Kona opening introductions (pule)*

Evolution of the dryland ecosystem in Hawaii- *Jonathon Price, UHH, Geography Department*

Evolution of the dryland ecosystem in the Southwest - *Travis Bean, USGS*

**Topic 1: Biological and ecological characteristics and consequences of invasion of arid perennial grasses**

Physiological mechanisms of perennial grass invasions- *Jennifer Funk, Chapman University*

Carbon pool fluctuations of a perennial grass invasion - *Creighton Litton, University of Hawaii*

Environmental drivers of a perennial grass invasion- *Curt Daehler, University of Hawaii*

**Topic 2: Fire frequency and fuels regeneration**

Remote sensing landscape fuel loads a perennial grass invasion - *Jim Kellner, Carnegie Institution*

Finite temporal field monitoring of a perennial grass invasion - *Lisa Ellsworth, University of Hawaii*

Post fire regeneration and adaptability of arid invasive perennial grasses- *Matt Brooks, USGS*

Fuel trait comparison of native and non-native grasses- *Erin Questad, USDA Forest Service*

**Topic 3: Management of invasive arid perennial grasses**

Manual control, timing and success- *Travis Bean, USGS*

Grazing management of arid perennial grasses *Mark Thorne, University of Hawaii*

Herbicide control strategies in Hawaii- *James Leary, University of Hawaii*

Herbicide control strategies in the Southwest- *Curt Deuser, NPS Lake Meade EPM Team*

Restoration of ecosystems invaded by arid perennial grasses- *Susan Cordell, IPIF USFS*

Fire mitigation for protecting federally listed species- *Dawn Greenlee, USFWS*

## Deadlines

WSWS Nomination for Distinguished Achievement Awards  
December 1, 2009

WSWS Title Submission  
December 2, 2009

Research Progress Reports  
December 7, 2009

WSSA Undergraduate Research Proposal  
January 10, 2010

WSWS Abstract Submission  
February 3, 2010

## Online Store!

The WSWS has recently become affiliated with the John Wiley and Sons Publishing company. This joint venture allows the WSWS to offer an expanded variety of books found on the Online Store "Other Items" section of the site. A portion of the proceeds from purchases through this affiliation go directly to the WSWS.

Please contact Tony White if you know of books available through Wiley that are not posted, but would be beneficial to do so.

## Notes from the Business Office by Phil Banks



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Ph: 575-527-1888 Fax: 575-527-8853 wsws@marathonag.com

### Information about Meeting Preregistration and Hotel reservations:

Registration for the 2010 Hawaii meeting opened at the website on October 1, 2009 and we have received a number of pre-registrations for the meeting, symposium and the various tours that are being offered. In this Newsletter is a registration form for those that want to pay by check. We encourage everyone to pre-register for the meeting since it makes our planning more efficient and saves you money. **To make room reservations** at the Waikoloa Beach Marriott you can call Marriott Central Reservations at 1-800-922-5533 (any time) or the Waikoloa Marriott directly at 1-808-886-6789 (9:00 a.m. to 5 p.m.(MST) M-F). Tell them you are with the Western Society of Weed Science and use one of the codes below for the room rate you want. Or, go online at [www.waikoloabeachmarriott.com](http://www.waikoloabeachmarriott.com). On the right of the page you will see "Check Rates & Availability". Enter the dates you want and click on "Special Rates and Awards". Where you see "Group Code", enter the room rate code you want. Room rates are \$ 209.00 per night (code WS1WS1A) for Run of the House and \$ 239.00 per night (code WS1WS1C) for Ocean View. Click "Check Availability" and you will get our group rate. You will note that when you make the reservations, a resort fee has been tacked on to the total. You will have the option upon check-in to decline this. The fee gives you several perks (internet service, daily Mai Tai, snorkeling, etc.) so make sure to ask for the details before you decline. The group rate is good anytime between check-in on March 5 through check out on March 13, 2010. If you have questions about the final program for the meeting, it will be posted at the website in mid-January. If you need to contact our office, please give us a call at 575-527-1888 or e-mail at [wsws@marathonag.com](mailto:wsws@marathonag.com). Phil Banks, WSWS Business Manager/Treasurer

## Washington Report by Lee Van Wychen, Ph.D.

Director of Science Policy The National and Regional Weed Science Societies  
900 2nd St. NE, Suite 205, Washington, DC 20002  
[Lee.VanWychen@WSSA.net](mailto:Lee.VanWychen@WSSA.net) cell: 202-746-4686



### Sign up to Attend NISAW by December 10, 2009!

Yes, you are reading that correctly.... NIWAW has expanded to NISAW. The first ever National Invasive Species Awareness Week (NISAW) will replace and expand upon the successes of 10 years of National Invasive Weeds Awareness Week. NISAW will be held earlier too. PLEASE mark your calendars for **January 10-14, 2010** in Washington, DC. The all-taxa event will be organized around three themes: Climate Change, Energy, and the 'Green' Economy.

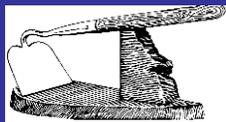
NISAW is being organized by a national, bi-partisan coalition of groups representing private citizens, local and state natural resource and agricultural agencies, academia, professional scientific societies, environmental organizations, and businesses such as nurseries and the pet industry that are affected by invasive species.

The headquarters hotel for NISAW is the Four Points by Sheraton Hotel, 1201 K Street NW, Washington, DC. **Room reservations** for \$159 per night are available until **December 10, 2009**. Please make your room reservations for the NISAW room block via the web at: <http://www.starwoodmeeting.com/StarGroupsWeb/booking/reservation?id=0907293577&key=E9630>

Early registration for NISAW is \$150. The cut-off date for **early registration** is **December 10, 2009**. Registration after that date will be \$200. Please register via the **NISAW website** at: [www.nisaw.org](http://www.nisaw.org)

**NISAW Facebook page (become a fan!):**

**Calendar of Events**  
[www.wsweedscience.org](http://www.wsweedscience.org)



**The California Weed**

**Science Society**

[www.cwss.org](http://www.cwss.org)

**62<sup>nd</sup> Annual Conference**  
**"Looking Into the Future  
of Weed control"**

**January 11-13, 2003**  
**Visalia Convention Center**  
**303 E. Acequia Avenue**  
**Visalia, California**

**Featured Sessions:**

- Advances in herbicide development, herbicide resistance, organic weed control & transgenic crops
- New research on weed biology and management in CA crops, forests, rangelands, turf & ornamentals, wildlands, & aquatic sites
- Weed management issues in "Trees & Vines"
- What's new in weed control from Industry

**Something NEW: Don't miss the expanded Trade Show Exhibits featuring Equipment and the Latest in Weed Control Technology!**

**DPR continuing education units requested**  
**18 total hours (including 2.0 hours Laws & Regs)**

To register for the conference visit our website [www.cwss.org](http://www.cwss.org) or call CWSS at (831) 442-0883 to obtain a program agenda and registration form. Payments by check or VISA/MasterCard are accepted.

To make hotel reservations contact Visalia Marriott at (800) 798-6506 or online [www.marriott.com/vivsmc](http://www.marriott.com/vivsmc) with group code **cwscwsa**.

<http://www.facebook.com/search/?q=NISAW&init=quick#/pages/National-Invasive-Species-Awareness-Week/144139698606>

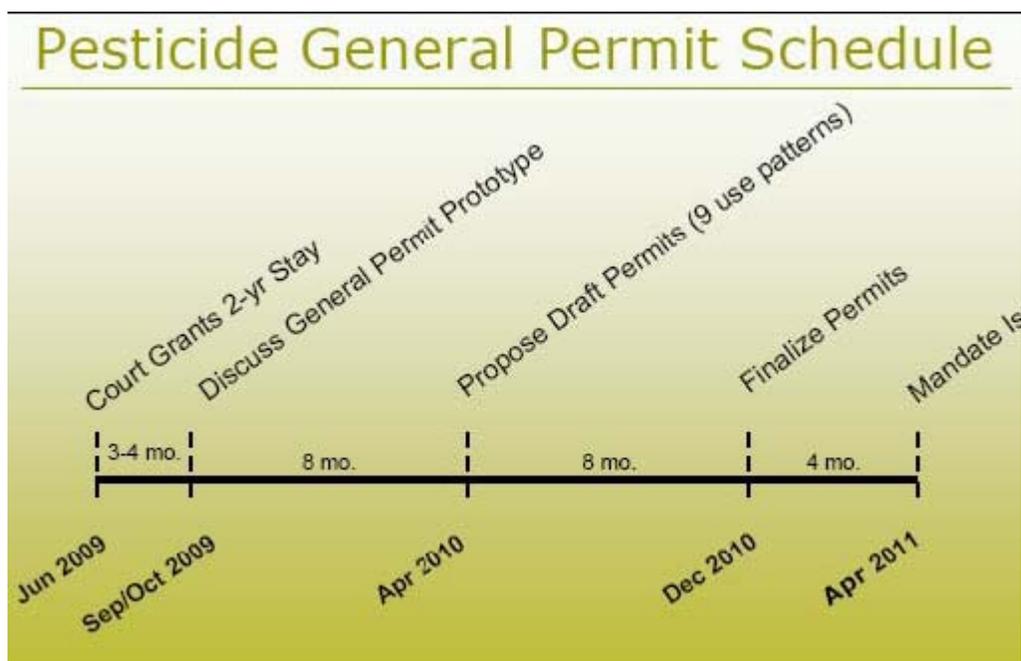
### Status of National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permits

Since the passage of the Clean Water Act (CWA) in 1972, EPA has not required a NPDES permit to apply pesticides in, over, or near water as long as these applications comply with the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (**FIFRA**). In the past decade however, that boundary has been challenged by environmentalists in the 9<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court in San Francisco. In 2006, EPA issued a final rule to codify its interpretation of the CWA as not requiring NPDES permits for application of pesticides to, over, or near waters of the United States, if the applications are consistent with FIFRA requirements. However, in January of this year the 6<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court vacated (i.e. rescinded, revoked, threw out) EPA's 2006 rule. Going forward, **pesticide applicators** will need to obtain an **NPDES permit** for any application in, over, or NEAR water starting in 2011.

After **April 9, 2011**, ALL **biological pesticide applications** and **chemical pesticide applications** that leave a residue in water when such applications are made **in, over, or near** waters of the US will require a **NPDES permit**. April 2011 seems like a long way away, but the time to act is NOW.

During the next several months, we will have a number of opportunities to provide input to EPA and State permit writers. EPA estimates up to **5.6 million applications** performed annually by **365,000 applicators** using 500 different active ingredients will be potentially affected by this ruling and could require an NPDES permit.

EPA expects to propose its general permit by April 2010 and issue a final permit by December 2010. The remaining four months until the Court's mandate takes effect will be used to provide outreach and education to the regulated community. (See chart below)



### YOUR Input is Needed on NPDES General Permits

Below are a few of the issues that you, as a WSSA member, should give consideration to as EPA works with States to develop **general NPDES permits** for pesticide applications in, over, or near waters of the U.S. Our science and expertise is needed more than ever and the WSSA Science Policy Committee would appreciate your comments and feedback on the following topics ASAP:

1. **Making a "showing that an application is needed"** -- Some existing mosquitoicide NPDES permits require a permittee to demonstrate the presence of above a threshold number of insects before spraying. State's may opt to be more restrictive, e.g., California has a 6-step pollution prevention approach in which the first step is to

## Calendar of Events

December 7-10 2009  
**64<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the  
North Central Weed Science  
Society (NCWSS)**  
Hyatt Regency Crown Center  
Kansas City, Missouri  
Chris Boerboom, Program Chair  
608-262-1392  
boerboom@wisc.edu

January 4-7, 2010  
**64<sup>th</sup> NEWSS Annual Meeting**  
Cambridge, Marriot  
Cambridge, MA  
www.newss.org

February 7-11, 2010  
**SWSS Annual Meeting**  
Peabody Hotel  
Little Rock, Arkansas  
www.weedscience.msstate.edu  
/swss/  
Tom Hold, ASF  
Thomas.holt@basf.com

determine whether an application is necessary, but EPA doesn't have the authority to require such a showing. The WSSA has consistently supported the use of economic threshold and IPM principles for weed management. **Should herbicide applicators be denied a NPDES permit if they cannot demonstrate their weed population is above a certain threshold?** What factors do you consider on whether or not a herbicide application is needed?

2. **Pollution Prevention planning** -- It is common for general NPDES permits to include a requirement for permittees to develop a pollution prevention plan that demonstrates to regulators that the applicator knows what he/she's doing, reveals to the regulator the locations, products and methods he/she plans to use, and could become a criteria for enforcing a NPDES permit? What have been your experiences with such plans?
3. **"What's in an NOI"** -- the role of the Notice of Intent (NOI) to be covered by the general NPDES permit is critically important. Issues include: (a) are applicators below a threshold size automatically covered like in the aquatic vessel permit? (b) how long a period would the NOI cover? (c) How big is the area to be treated? (d) What products are to be used? (e) What "waters of the U.S." might be affected?

I think it's critical that we avoid requiring herbicide applicators to obtain an NOI for every single herbicide application in, over, or near waters of the U.S. If you file an NOI to obtain an NPDES permit to spray your weeds, how long should that NOI be good for? A single herbicide application? Any herbicide application to that site for a year? Three years? Five years? Do you need to file an NOI for a spot application? A field? A farm? What factors should be considered, beyond the label requirements already enforced under FIFRA, to obtain an NOI?

4. **How much "public notice" or "public approval"?** – If your herbicide application is consistent with the FIFRA-approved label and established general NPDES permit, what type of public approval should be further required? What are your experiences with public notification for pesticide applications and what suggestions do you have regarding this issue?
5. **Post application monitoring and reporting** -- Some FIFRA labels currently require ambient water quality monitoring shortly after pesticide application to make sure that no unexpected adverse effects occurred. Ambient pesticide monitoring also is required in some circumstances in certain State-issued NPDES permits; for example, some aquatic invasive weed control permits require either chemical or biological monitoring. The costs and problems associated with ambient water quality monitoring and reporting could overwhelm small applicator businesses, and could generate data that hamstrings later applications by both small and large applicators. We should evaluate the extent to which post-application ambient monitoring currently exists under pesticide permits, and document any burden this has added. Who should pay for post application monitoring? Requirements for reporting detections or adverse effects could pose other, legal and policy problems. Experiences from California, Washington and other states with aquatic pesticide permits would be helpful – what observations and cautions can you provide?
6. **"Who is the permittee"** -- this dramatically affects the economics of the rule. For aquatic weed control, almost every private pesticide application company is very small, less than 15 people and the two largest application companies in the country have about 125 employees. Thus, costs of the rulemaking will be a critical consideration. Permittees could be individual applicators, the companies they work for or own, the farmer or landowner, states or state agencies (health agency, roadside and rights of way maintenance, water boards responsible for aquatic invasive weed control), or federal agencies (USDA Forest Service for treatment of national forests for insects). The challenge will be in demonstrating how our preferred class(es) of permittees satisfies the federal requirement that all "operators" (i.e., those in control) hold permits. Given that EPA intends to issue general permit(s) for many different types of applications, what input can you provide on this issue?

Please think through these points and consider possible approaches and ideas. If you have or can get specific anecdotes or economic impact data on any of these, that would be very helpful. Please call me at 202-746-4686 or send me an email at [Lee.VanWychen@wssa.net](mailto:Lee.VanWychen@wssa.net)

### **USDA-ARS Selects John Lydon as Weed Science NPL**



In September, the USDA-Agricultural Research Service (ARS) selected Dr. John Lydon as the new National Program Leader (NPL) for Weed Science. John's main work will occur in USDA-ARS Crop Protection and Quarantine (NP 304), which represents about 10% of ARS's total net research budget of about \$1.1 billion. The goal of NP 304 is to conduct fundamental and applied research that will result in improved strategies for the cost-effective management and control of native and invasive insect, mite, and weed pests, while minimizing impacts on the environment and human health.

Dr. Lydon has degrees from the University of Massachusetts, University of Hawaii and the University of Maryland. He joined ARS in 1986 as Research Associate at the Southern Weed Science Laboratory in Stoneville, Mississippi. He continued his career at ARS as a plant pathologist in the Crop Science Research Laboratory in Mississippi State, Mississippi, and the Tropical Plants Research Laboratory and the Weed Science Laboratory in Beltsville, Maryland.

John can be reached at 301-504-6470 or [john.lydon@ars.usda.gov](mailto:john.lydon@ars.usda.gov). The WSSA is pleased to hear of John's selection and looks forward to working with him.

### **Greek Shipping Company Fined \$2.7 Million for Invasive Species Violation**

On October 1, Polembros Shipping LTD., a ship management company headquartered in Greece, pleaded guilty to one count of violating the Nonindigenous Aquatic Nuisance Prevention and Control Act of 1990 (NANPCA) in a New Orleans federal court. This is the first prosecution ever under NANPCA. The company's fleet of 20 ships has been barred from trading in US waters for three years and has paid a \$2.7 million fine. The company will pay another \$100,000 to fund invasive species research at the Smithsonian Research Centre.

The Nonindigenous Aquatic Nuisance Prevention and Control Act of 1990 (P.L. 101-646) established a Federal program to prevent introduction of and to control the spread of introduced aquatic nuisance species and the brown tree snake. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the U.S. Coast Guard, the EPA, the Army Corps of Engineers, and NOAA all were assigned responsibilities, including membership on an Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force established to develop a program of prevention, monitoring, control, and study.

### **Apply for a AAAS Fellowship at USDA, EPA**

For 35 years, the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) **Science & Technology Policy Fellowships** have provided scientists and engineers with a unique opportunity to apply their knowledge and skills to national and international issues in the federal policy realm, while learning first-hand about establishing and implementing policy.

There will be 30-40 Fellows selected for the Energy, Environment, Agriculture and Natural Resources area and they will work at USDA, EPA, Dept. of Energy, NOAA or NSF. Fellows will engage in projects, policies, risk assessment, evaluation, and outreach initiatives to:

- \*Protect animal, plant and environmental health
- \*Address ecosystem degradation, pollution, and biological threats
- \*Tackle challenges and opportunities in agriculture, fisheries, climate change, and energy
- \*Safeguard air, water, land, wildlife, and natural resources

This is a year-long opportunity, beginning September 1 and ending August 31. Fellows have ranged in age from late 20s to early 70s. They represent a spectrum of career stages, from recent PhD graduates to faculty on sabbatical to retired scientists and engineers. Fellows also come from a range of sectors, including academia, industry, non-profit organizations, and government labs. AAAS also serves as the "umbrella" organization for other scientific societies that sponsor a Fellow, such as the American Society of Agronomy.

Fellows receive a stipend up to \$92,000 for the year. Relocation expenses of up to \$4,000 are also provided. The deadline for applications for the 2010-2011 Fellowship class is December 15, 2009. Full details at <http://fellowships.aaas.org>



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## WESTERN SOCIETY OF WEED SCIENCE

### Student Paper and Poster Contest Criteria

The Student Paper and Poster contest at the Western Society of Weed Science Annual Meeting offers students an opportunity to improve their presentation skills and increase their visibility within the Society. The top students in each division of the contest will be recognized with a plaque and receive a cash award to honor their achievement.

All graduate students are encouraged to enter one paper and/or one poster in the contest. Undergraduate students may enter one poster in the contest. Other papers or posters may be submitted in the project sessions outside the context of the contest. Information presented in the WSWS Student Paper and Poster Contest is to be original and unique. If a topic has been used by the author in another presentation, additional data must be included to constitute a unique presentation.

Paper Contest*	Points	Criteria
Abstract	10	Format, grammar, and content
Introductions	10	Rational, hypothesis, and objectives
Methods	15	Experimental design, treatments, measurements, and statistical analysis
Results and Discussion	25	Results, interpretation, conclusions, future directions, and implications
Visual Aids	15	Easily read; uncluttered; in focus; balance to text, tables, figures, and photographs
Oration	20	Voice, confidence, enthusiasm, enunciations, and response to questions
Time	5	Allowed 2 to 4 minutes for questions (all-or-nothing points)
Total	100	

\*Previous first place winners in the paper contest are ineligible for the paper contest, but may enter the poster contest.

Poster Contest*	Points	Criteria
Abstract	10	Format, grammar, and content
Content and Mechanics	15	Grammar, style, and quantity of information
Development	20	Rationale, hypothesis, objectives, organization, and methods
Analysis of Results	20	Results, interpretation, conclusions, future directions, and implications
Appearance	20	Easily read, uncluttered, well-designed tables and figures, clear and relevant photographs, and balanced layout
Oration	10	Voice, confidence, enthusiasm, enunciations, and response to questions
Physical Presence	5	Interaction with audience and mannerisms
Total	100	

\*Previous first place winners in the poster contest are ineligible for the poster contest, but may enter the paper contest.

The student paper and poster have traditionally set the standard for excellence at WSWS annual meetings. Do your part to maintain these high standards by preparing exceptional scientific papers and posters for this year's meeting



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