

2007 WSSA Committee Report to Members Summary for 2007 and Action Plan for 2008

Committee Code and Name: P2 – Weed Science

Committee Chair: R. E. Blackshaw

Board Coordinator: M. E. Foley

Committee Members Rotating Off:

James Anderson
Albert Ayeni
Kent Harrison
Scott Nissen
James Westwood

Appropriate Replacements:

Vijay Nandula
Additional AEs will be recruited

Committee Goals for 2007: Review and publish submitted manuscripts in a competent and timely manner.

Summary of Progress for 2007:

In 2007, 204 manuscripts were submitted to Weed Science. An additional 3 manuscripts were redirected to Weed Technology because their subject matter was more suitable to that journal. For comparison, 179, 180, 166, 199, 178, and 210 manuscripts were submitted to Weed Science in 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, and 2006, respectively. The average time to reach an initial decision on a manuscript was 60 days in 2006. The average time for a manuscript to be in the review process (final acceptance or rejection) was 94 days (117 days in 2006).

Weed Science continues to increase in international stature and interest. Manuscripts were submitted from 23 countries in 2007. The subject matter of manuscripts was Weed Biology and Ecology (46%), Physiology/Chemistry/Biochemistry (22%), Weed Management (21%), Symposium (6%), Special Topics (3%), and Soil/Air/Water (2%).

The manuscript rejection rate in 2007 was 36%. This compares with 35% in 2003, 41% in 2004, 37% in 2005, and 32% in 2006. The previous 5-year (1992-2002) average rejection rate was approximately 30%.

The impact factor for Weed Science has been increasing in recent years. It was 1.23, 1.29, 1.54, and 1.48 for 2003, 2004, 2005, and 2006, respectively. In the Agronomy Grouping, Weed Science ranked 10th of 49 journals in 2006. The total number of citations was 3451, 3532, and 4044 in 2004, 2005, and 2006, respectively.

Tracy Candelaria was appointed the Managing Editor of Weed Science in 2006 and she continued to do an excellent job in 2007. It is a pleasure working with her.

Recommendations for Board/Society Action: Continue to recognize the dedicated work of the Associate Editors and Reviewers of our journals.

Committee Goals for 2008: Make Weed Science the journal of first choice for weed scientists throughout the world to publish in.

Plan of Action for 2008: Promote Weed Science as a high quality journal to the international science community. Review and publish submitted manuscripts in a timely manner. Recruit new Associate Editors as needed.

Resources needed for 2008:

Finances: None beyond the Editor's stipend.

Membership involvement (person-hours): Many hours are spent by Associate Editors and Reviewers and I thank them for their dedicated work.

Weed Science Associate Editors:

NEWSS

Eric Gallandt (2009)
Bijay Singh (2009)

SWSS

Martin Locke (2009)
Franck Dayan (2009)
Greg MacDonald (2010)
William Vencill (2011)
Vijay Nandula (2011)

NCWSS

John Cardina (2009)
Adam Davis (2010)
John Lindquist (2011)
Pat Tranel (2011)
Sharon Clay (2011)

WSWS

Bill Dyer (2010)
Jim Story (2009)
Roger Sheley (2009)
Fabian Menalled (2010)
Sarah Ward (2010)

CWSS

Gary Peng (2009)
Stephen Murphy (2009)
Paul Watson (2010)
Steven Shirtliffe (2010)

Other Countries

Chris Preston (2009)

*The year in brackets denotes the year that they are due to rotate off this committee.