

2008 WSSA Committee Report to Members Summary for 2008 and Action Plan for 2009

Committee Code and Name:

Herbicides for Minor Uses (E10)

Committee Chair:

Russell W. Wallace, Texas AgriLife Extension Service (rwwallace@ag.tamu.edu)

Board Coordinator:

Vanelle Peterson

Committee Members Rotating Off:

I will be rotating off as Chairperson, but am still willing to serve as a committee member.

Appropriate Replacements:

Committee Goals for 2009:

- To discuss and coordinate important issues related to minor crops and herbicide registration issues, as well as potential sustainable production.

Summary of Progress for 2008:

- The members of the HMUC met and discussed current and selective needs for herbicides in vegetable and other minor crops at the WSSA meeting in February as well as at the IR-4 Food Use Workshop in September. Topics of discussion included the following:
- The potential use and support for a registration of bentazon on direct-seeded onions (Zandstra, MI), and linuron low-rate preemergence use in spinach. Multiple states coordinated efforts to evaluate.
- Discussed the need to more carefully evaluate use rates, and that often the rates used for residue projects are inadequately defined, or just apply to one region.
- Discussed sample labels for third party registrations, though some companies are already doing it in-house.
- Discussed the lack of available herbicides for future registrations, much of the current minor crop research is limited to new uses with older chemistries.
- Discussed IR-4 Project funding issues for crop tolerance and efficacy research.
- Committee meeting at IR-4 Food Use Workshop is large (80 attendees) and can be difficult to get organized.

Recommendations for Board/Society Action:

- None at this time.

Committee Goals for 2009:

- No committee goals were discussed at the previous meeting; however, goals for 2009 will be requested and discussed at the meeting in February.

Plan of Action for 2009:

- Continue to press for needs of herbicide registrations for minor use crops including leafy greens, herbs and lettuce crops.
- Continue to create a network of collaborating university and agri-industry researchers and development reps to conduct trials throughout the US to improve potential for herbicide registrations.

Resources needed for 2008:

Finances: None

Membership involvement (person-hours):