

WSSA Liaison to EPA-OPP (Office of Pesticide Programs)

Interim Report to the WSSA Board of Directors

Quarter 2, 2016

April 19-21

I visited the offices of EPA-OPP in Arlington, VA from April 19 to 21. The timing of this visit was originally to attend a Scientific Advisory Panel on chlorpyrifos but instead I was involved in discussions with RD and BEAD. I also presented another installment of my Herbicide 101 series on glyphosate.

May 31 – June 1

I visited the offices of EPA-OPP in Arlington, VA from May 31 to June 1. The major focus of this visit was to organize and attend a seminar on Herbicide Interactions given by Bryan Young of Purdue University. In addition to the seminar, Bryan, Jill Schroeder, and I met with representatives of the Environmental Fate and Effect Division (EFED) and BEAD to discuss Agency concerns and potential policies regarding off-target effects and synergy in herbicide mixtures. These discussions will help guide Bryan as he works on a literature review on herbicide interactions for publication in Weed Science and a symposium proposal for the 2017 WSSA meeting.

Other activities

In addition to my visits to EPA, I have been heavily involved working with a subset of the Herbicide Resistance Education Committee led by David Shaw on a plan to hold regional listening sessions in the fall of 2016 and winter of 2017. I also helped, along with several others, Bryan Young prepare a symposium proposal on application-drift reduction technologies together with herbicide interactions. I have spoken to Greg Krueger about presenting a seminar on application technology at the Agency this fall and he has agreed. I have also been asked about organizing a seminar on agriculture equipment in general, in particular the types and range of equipment actually being used by farmers today.

After consulting with weed scientists in the appropriate areas, I also supplied EPA-OPP with information regarding weed management needs, challenges and practices in rice and winter wheat that is also used for grazing.

One suggestion for the BOD, I believe we need a group to work on a response to the preliminary triazine registration review ecological risk assessment. Lee would have more background on this but comments are due by October 4, 2016.