

2009 WSSA Committee Report to Members

Committee Code and Name:

Herbicides for Minor Uses (E10)

Committee Chair:

Roger Batts, North Carolina State University (roger_batts@ncsu.edu)

Board Coordinator:

Vanelle Peterson

Committee Members Rotating Off:

Appropriate Replacements:

We nominated Roger Batts to serve as chairman of the committee at the February meeting and he agreed to serve.

Committee Goal for 2009:

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

Summary of HMUC Meeting:

- The HMUC met and discussed current and selective needs for herbicides in vegetable and other minor crops at the WSSA meeting in February. Topics of discussion included the following:
 - The potential use and support for a registration of bentazon on direct-seeded onions (proposed by Zandstra, MI) was dropped due to excessive crop injury from most university researchers.
 - Addressed the need to identify herbicide use rates, as too often crop residue projects with IR-4 have been conducted on use-patterns that were either inadequately defined or too narrowly focused. Often this will necessitate repeating trials and delaying registrations.
 - Discussed the fact that there are fewer herbicides coming out for new registrations and much work is done with older chemistries. There is a need to develop a master list of uses that can be submitted to IR-4 for consideration. HMUC should collect a list of possible uses (not done).
 - Jill Schroeder discussed her new role as WSSA liaison to the EPA. Her role will be to help EPA find answers to practical questions relating to weed science. This will be a good opportunity to assist minor crops since she has interest and experience in this area. She would like input on what works and doesn't work with the current 24c registration processes.
 - Discussed the need to put together a list of researchers working on specific crops and get that to Jill Schroeder.
 - Discussed need to select for more tolerant lines of minor crops as a way to work with current registered and potentially registered products for the future.