



# WSSA

WEED SCIENCE SOCIETY OF AMERICA

Volume 40, No. 1  
January, 2012

# Newsletter



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Well, holiday season preparations are in full swing as I sit writing my President's Message for the January Newsletter. I am certainly hearing plenty of reminders about how many shopping days there are left to go. But, more importantly, I'm also thinking about how many days there are until the 52nd WSSA Annual Meeting February 6 to 9, 2012 in Waikoloa, Hawaii at the Hilton Waikoloa Village Hotel. I suspect if you are planning to

attend you have already made your arrangements and I look forward to seeing many WSSA members at the meeting. I am anticipating great attendance at the meeting; we have increased our room block several times in order to accommodate everyone wishing to attend. We are at over 120% of the contracted block of rooms! Program Chair, Rod Lym, and Program Vice-Chair, Jim Kells, have put together a great meeting, with some new twists, where you will hear and discuss the latest weed science research results, network with research, teaching, extension and industry weed scientists from around the world, and enjoy the fellowship of our Society. Rod and Jim were helped by having a record number of papers and posters plus three excellent symposia submitted for presentation at the meeting. The Local Arrangements Committee, chaired by Phil Motooka with assistance from Don Kirby and his wife Pam, also organized an excellent group of tours for Wednesday afternoon. One new twist this year, in place of a second social function, is that the WSSA Business Meeting will be moved to Thursday morning in conjunction with a hosted breakfast for those attending. I promise none of the business discussed will spoil your breakfast! One unplanned outcome of the business meeting moving from Wednesday afternoon to Thursday morning is that my term as president will be extended for half a day. This may make me the longest serving WSSA President in history! The entire program will be posted on the WSSA web site ([www.wssa.net](http://www.wssa.net)) in advance of the meeting. Printed programs will be mailed to those U.S. attendees pre-registered before January 7, 2012; please be sure to bring those programs with you to the meeting. Only international attendees and on-site registrants will receive programs at the meeting registration desk. One additional feature for the 2012 meeting will be the ability to

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# WEED TECHNOLOGY EDITORIAL CHANGE

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develop a personal schedule. David Krueger of AgRenaissance is creating the software for WSSA to let you do that.

As this is the last President's Message of my term and the WSSA "year," I think it is appropriate to look back and place some of the WSSA activities and accomplishments of the year in context with the society's goals. John Jachetta, in his January 2010 President's Message, outlined the new Declaration of the WSSA 2015 which lists WSSA's goals and the means to achieve them for 2015. I have taken the bulleted goals and activities from the Declaration together with selected examples of accomplishments to illustrate our progress.

- *By 2015, the WSSA will have expanded its membership base by attracting younger members across a more diverse spectrum of disciplines.*

This remains a challenge but our membership has leveled off at 1370 members, 155 of whom are students, as of December 2011. One change we made was to incorporate the WSSA membership fee into the registration for students attending the annual meeting. Students attending the meeting automatically become WSSA members. A second change under discussion is the merging of the Membership Committee with the Professional Development Committee to allow the combined group to focus on both serving present members better and attracting new members.

- *By 2015, the WSSA will expand the use of our science throughout the Americas.*

We have incorporated Spanish versions of all the abstracts in Weed Technology and are exploring the addition of Spanish abstracts to Weed Science and Integrated Plant Science and Management. You should have seen a call for input about this initiative from James Anderson, Director of Publications. The Herbicide Resistance Training Modules have been translated into Spanish too. I want to thank Dr. Enrique Rosales Robles of INIFAP Mexico for working on these translations. We are also working to reach out to the many South and Central American Weed Science Societies by establishing an ambassadors program to them. We hope to enlist some of the WSSA members from Latin America to attend these meetings and explore partnership opportunities with their memberships.

- *By 2015, the WSSA will have partnered with other organizations and affiliates to strengthen the impact of its collective voice.*

There is so much to talk about here. We have partnered with APHIS in producing two manuscripts detailing the development of herbicide resistant weeds and recommendations for minimizing further development of this problem. This has led to our partnering with the National Academy of Sciences to host a "National Summit on Strategies to Combat Herbicide-Resistant Weeds" expected to be held in early 2012. We were at the table with the American Society for Plant Biology and many other plant science organizations in September to help draft a plan for plant science research needs for the future. Further, we have invited the North American Weed Management Society (NAWMA) to join our Board of Directors as a non-voting member, this is discussed further below. Very importantly, we continue to effectively partner with the regional weed science societies and the Aquatic Plant Management Society (APMS) to impact legislative and regulatory issues of importance to us.

- *By 2015, the WSSA will have helped to increase funding resources for Weed Science in critical areas of public relevance such as herbicide resistance, climate change and integrated weed management.*

One of the accomplishments I am most proud of is the successful effort to reinstitute an USDA-NIFA program for weed science. The effort began with the

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## WSSA FUTURE MEETING SITES AND DATES

**2012**

**Hilton Hotel**

**Waikoloa Village, Hawaii**

**February 6-9, 2012**

**52nd Annual Meeting**

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**2013**

**Baltimore, Maryland**

**February, 2013**

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**WSSA HOME PAGE  
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**THINK NEWSLETTER**  
**Deadline for April issue**  
**March 1, 2012**

## WSSA NEWSLETTER

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introduction of the new NIFA director, Dr. Robert Beachy, to the society through the efforts of Lee VanWychen. Lee, along with many others, was critical to the whole effort to restore funding targeted to weed science. We will report on the results of the program at the annual meeting. I am no less proud of the successful effort to restore funding for the US Army Corps of Engineers Aquatic Plant Control Research Program (based in Vicksburg, MS). This program was zeroed out for funding but we, again through Lee VanWychen's efforts and working closely with APMS, were able to restore \$3,000,000 in support for next year for this critical unit. While these examples may not be "increased funding," they certainly are major achievements in this federal budget climate.

- *By 2015, the WSSA will have established strong relationships with Federal Agencies, with members routinely sought to sit on panels for public policy and oversight.*

Jill Schroeder has continued her exemplary work as WSSA Weed Science Subject Matter Expert to EPA. Other disciplines were so impressed with the positive impact Jill is having on the agency's understanding of weed science that both entomology and plant pathology have also established EPA subject matter experts based on the WSSA model. The herbicide resistance tour organized this past summer for EPA is an obvious example of the relationship we have developed with the agency. But, you should read Jill's reports on the WSSA website to get a fuller appreciation for the help she is providing to EPA. I cannot mention the herbicide resistance tour without thanking Bryan Young, Kevin Bradley, Jason Norsworthy and Ken Smith for their help in organizing the tour and the United Soybean Board and the Illinois Soybean Association for their financial support of the tour.

Making sure that weed science is

represented on science policy committees and panels remains a goal. I have asked the Science Policy and Public Awareness Committees to track, with the aid of Lee VanWychen, calls for nominations to these committees through the Federal Register and to approach suitable weed science candidates to be nominated for service. Please consider being nominated if you are asked.

- *By 2015, the WSSA will have raised public awareness of the contribution and impact of Weed Science in managing land.*

The Public Awareness Committee lead by Carol Somody continues to do an excellent job in this area. Many of the efforts to deal with critical issues, such as funding for the Aquatic Plant Control Research Program, included press releases generated and distributed by the Public Awareness Committee. I am confident that the resulting publicity contributed to the positive outcomes.

- *Become the central source linking to local expertise and resources.*

The model for the release of the Herbicide Resistance Training Modules, making them freely available and adaptable to specific purposes, is an effort by WSSA to make them as relevant and widely useful as possible. Translating them into Spanish, mentioned above, is a further attempt to make them more widely useful. I want to thank the S71 Herbicide Resistance Education Committee, chaired by David Shaw, and, especially, John Soteres for their work in developing these modules. However, we are not content with their availability through the WSSA website. WSSA is also developing a contract with Penton Ag Media to make the modules available for Continuing Education Units. This is being made possible through financial support from the North American Herbicide Resistance Action Committee.

- *The WSSA will achieve its 2015 goals by diversifying and enlarging the membership, reaching out to practicing weed managers and the professional community dealing with invasive plants.*

We continue conversations with leadership of the North American Weed Management Association (NAWMA) about developing a stronger relationship between it and the WSSA. Rod Lym attended their annual meeting and the WSSA Board of Directors extended an invitation to NAWMA to have a liaison attend the WSSA BOD meetings. One goal is to develop enough joint WSSA-NAWMA members to qualify NAWMA to become an affiliate society with WSSA.

- *The WSSA will achieve its 2015 goals through partnerships with affiliates and international weed science Societies.*

I feel we have developed closer working relationships with the regional weed science societies, APMS and the Canadian Weed Society. One example is the upcoming joint meetings with the Northeastern Weed Science Society (2013) and the Canadian Weed Science Society (2014). WSSA also is helping support graduate student awards to attend the International Weed Science Society meeting in 2012. Of course, many of our legislative efforts and, especially, successes came about through collective action with our partners.

- *The WSSA will achieve its 2015 goals by enhancing our web site and communications, and increasing outreach into the general public.*

I am pleased to inform you that we will unveil a new version of the WSSA website in the near future. A Website Redesign Committee, chaired by Sarah Ward, has worked closely with David Krueger to develop a new design for the site. Of

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE CONTINUED from pg 3

course, a website is most importantly about content. The Website Redesign Committee was also tasked with developing a job description for a Web Content Manager and the BOD will be discussing their proposal at our meeting.

The Education Committee is also in the early stages of developing an ambassadors program to take Weed Science out to schools.

- *The WSSA will achieve its 2015 goals by diversifying income streams.*

Well, I expect all of us understand that currently a lot more focus might be on preventing current funding streams from drying up! But, I think that WSSA is in good financial shape despite the challenging investment environment. Special thanks go to Anita Dille and her Finance Committee for their work, both handling our investments and helping the BOD assess funding for potential new society initiatives. I also need to thank our Sustaining Members. Many of our new initiatives like the EPA Subject Matter Expert and the Public Awareness Committee are made possible by extra contributions to WSSA from this group.

Looking to a rosier financial world in the future, I have asked the Finance and Endowment Committees to develop a different working model for them that will allow the Endowment Committee to really focus on ways to build that fund.

- *The WSSA will achieve its 2015 goals by making the results of all our journals available as Spanish abstracts.*

This may be the first item we can cross off the list!

Overall, I think we have made great progress to attaining our 2015 goals.

I am really looking forward to the annual meeting. I sense a lot of excitement about the meeting from the membership. I do hope a number of you will join me Tuesday morning for the first President's Uniform Fitness Forum walk/run. This may be the most challenging "leadership" role I will have as President.

My last President's message. It seems like both a long time since the WSSA Business Meeting in Portland and just yesterday at the same time. It has been a great year for the WSSA and for me, full of challenges and

learning opportunities. It has been a privilege and highlight of my career to serve you, WSSA, and the Weed Science discipline in this capacity. Thank you for that opportunity. It has been an extremely busy year and I am proud of all that WSSA has accomplished during it. I do not want to miss any opportunity to communicate to you that I am impressed by the progress in the society and all the impact it is having. I want to thank Joyce Lancaster and Kate Counter for their help, support and friendship over the past year. They help make this job fun. I also want to thank all the WSSA members, whether they serve as members of the Board of Directors, editors, associate editors, reviewers, committee chairs, and/or committee members, for all the time and effort they give to the society and discipline. WSSA is successful because of you. I am very proud to be a Weed Scientist, our discipline has helped feed the world and protect our environment.

Michael Barrett  
WSSA President

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**THINK NEWSLETTER**  
**Deadline for April issue**  
**March 1, 2012**



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## **Top Student Weed Scientists Recognized during First WeedOlympics**

**LAWRENCE, KANSAS** – August 29, 2011 – University students from Guelph, Ohio State, Purdue and Virginia Tech took top honors in the recent WeedOlympics, an event recognizing the best student weed scientists in North America.

The July 26-27 event on the campus of the University of Tennessee in Knoxville was open to student members of the Northeastern, North Central, Southern and Western Weed Science Societies. This is the first year all the regional societies have combined efforts to sponsor a competition.

About 150 individuals participated in a variety of events – from identifying weeds and calibrating sprayers to solving weed management problems likely to be encountered on the job.

“We had students from as far north as Ontario, as far south as Florida and as far west as Washington State and New Mexico,” said Jim Brosnan, Ph.D., assistant professor at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville and co-host of this year’s event.

The students competed both as individuals and as teams. **Purdue University** took top honors at the graduate school level with a team that included Chad Barbham, Paul Marquardt, Jared Roskamp and Ryan Terry. **Guelph University** won at the undergraduate level with team members Jessica Gal, Thomas Judd, Adam Parker and Michael Vanhie.

Individual winners were Jason Parrish, a graduate student at **Ohio State University**, and Dan Tekiela, an undergraduate student at **Virginia Tech**.

## TOP WEED SCIENCE STUDENTS RECOGNIZED CONTINUED from pg 5

Regional awards were also presented to individuals and teams from each of the four weed science societies.

- *Western Society of Weed Science*. A graduate-level team from **Washington State University** took top regional division honors (Jared Bell, Nevin Lawrence, Misha Manuchehri and Alan Raeder). First place at the undergraduate level went to a **New Mexico State University** team that included Heather Bedale, Joni Blount, Andy Dyer and Drew Garnett. Individual winners were J.D. Riffel of **Kansas State University** (graduate) and Joni Blount of **New Mexico State University** (undergraduate).
- *Northeastern Weed Science Society*. A team from **North Carolina State University** took top graduate-level honors for the division. Members were Bill Foote, Dustin Lewis and Stephen Meyers. Canada's **University of Guelph** took top undergraduate honors with a team that included Jessica Gal, Thomas Judd, Adam Parker and Michael Vanhie. Individual winners were Dan Tekiela of **Virginia Tech** (undergraduate) and Dustin Lewis of **North Carolina State University** (graduate).
- *North Central Weed Science Society*. A team from **Ohio State** took top honors at the undergraduate level (Samantha Konkle, Beverly Lennartz, Jason Rethman and Christine Shannon), while **Purdue University** took top honors at the graduate level (Chad Brabham, Paul Marquardt, Jared Roskamp and Ryan Terry). Individual winners with the best overall scores were Jason Parrish of **Ohio State University** (graduate level) and Michelle Shepherd (undergraduate level), also of **Ohio State**.
- *Southern Weed Science Society*. A team from the **University of Arkansas** took top honors for the region (Brent Johnson, Sandeep Rana, Reiofeli Salas and Josh Wilson). Sandeep Rana of the **University of Arkansas** also took first place at the individual level.

### About the Weed Science Society of America

The Weed Science Society of America, a nonprofit scientific society, was founded in 1956 to encourage and promote the development of knowledge concerning weeds and their impact on the environment. The Weed Science Society of America promotes research, education and extension outreach activities related to weeds, provides science-based information to the public and policy makers, fosters awareness of weeds and their impact on managed and natural ecosystems, and promotes cooperation among weed science organizations across the nation and around the world. For more information, visit [www.wssa.net](http://www.wssa.net).

# WASHINGTON REPORT

by Lee Van Wychen, Director of Science Policy

## FY 2012 AG APPROPRIATIONS BILL SIGNED INTO LAW

Three of the twelve federal appropriations bills were passed by both the House and Senate and signed into law on the Friday before Thanksgiving. The agriculture appropriations bill was one of them (H.R. 2112 – H. Report 112-284). It's only the second time in 10 years that USDA will know its fiscal year appropriations before Thanksgiving, meaning Congress was only two months late. The remaining nine appropriations bills were signed into law on December 23, 2011.

Given the current fiscal climate, federal programs were facing double digit reductions in many areas. It was considered a victory to get the same amount appropriated in 2012 as in 2011 (i.e. 0% change), and this was the case for three of our highest priority

programs: the AFRI competitive grants program, Hatch Act, and Smith-Lever Act. The Regional IPM Centers, which were on the chopping block in FY 2011, got their funding almost back to where it was in FY 2010 at \$4.1 million. The IR-4 program, which is vital for researching minor crop weed control, took a 2% cut from FY 2011. We will work to make sure that number does not decrease any further. Other program areas that support weed science that took big cuts for FY 2012 are APHIS and ARS. We will need to provide stronger support for those programs as well.

## NPDES PERMITS NOW REQUIRED FOR AQUATIC APPLICATIONS

Despite having a 2/3's majority

support in both the House and Senate, Sen. Barbara Boxer (CA) managed to block H.R. 872 from coming to the Senate floor for a vote. H.R. 872 ensures that pesticide applications over or near water are regulated through the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) and fixes some misguided court decisions that have resulted in a duplicative and costly National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit.

On October 31, 2011, NPDES permits are now required for point source discharges from applications of pesticides. Some examples of pesticide applications that now require NPDES permit coverage are applications made to control aquatic weeds or fish, flying insects above U.S. waters, or pests

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(In thousands of dollars)

USDA Program Description	FY 2011	FY 2012	% Change
APHIS	\$863,270	\$816,534	-5.4
ARS	1,133,230	1,094,647	-3.4
ERS	81,814	77,723	-5.0
NASS	156,447	158,616	1.4
NIFA	1,214,798	1,202,264	-1.0
RESEARCH & EDUCATION ACTIVITIES	698,740	705,599	1.0
- Hatch Act	236,334	236,334	0.0
- Cooperative Forestry Research	32,934	32,934	0.0
- Improved Pest Management and Biocontrol	16,153	15,830	-2.0
Expert IPM Decision Support System	156	153	-2.0
IPM	2,410	2362	-2.0
IR-4	12,156	11,913	-2.0
Pest Management Alternatives (PMAP)	1,431	1402	-2.0
- AFRI	264,470	264,470	0.0
- Sustainable Ag Res. and Ed. (SARE)	14,970	14,471	-3.3
EXTENSION ACTIVITIES	479,132	475,183	-0.8
- Smith Lever	293,911	294,000	0.0
INTEGRATED ACTIVITIES	36,926	21,482	-41.8
- Section 406	29,000	14,496	-50.0
- Regional IPM Centers	3,000	4,000	33.3
- FQPA Risk Mitigation (RAMP)	\$0	\$0	n/a
- Crops affected by FQPA (CAR)	\$0	\$0	n/a
- Methyl Bromide Transition	2,000	1,996	-0.2
- Organic Transitions	4,000	4,000	0.0

present near these waters, such that it is unavoidable that pesticides will be deposited to these waters during application. NPDES permits establish conditions under which discharges may legally occur. Provided that an operator meets the conditions of their permit, the operator may be shielded from Clean Water Act-related citizen lawsuits.

Agricultural water runoff and irrigation return flow, both of which may contain pesticides, are exempt from NPDES permit requirements. Also, pesticide applications to land that do not result in point source discharges of pesticides to waters of the U.S., such as for controlling pests on agricultural crops, forest floors, or range lands, do not require NPDES permit coverage.

EPA is the NPDES permitting authority for six states (Alaska, Idaho, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Mexico, and Oklahoma), Washington, D.C., all U.S. territories except the Virgin Islands, most Indian Country lands, and federal facilities in Colorado, Delaware, Vermont, and Washington. The remaining 44 states and the Virgin Islands are authorized to develop and issue their own NPDES pesticide permits.

Please check the WSSA website or contact me for the most recent information about each state's requirements for obtaining an NPDES permit.

### **THE CORPS' AQUATIC PLANT CONTROL RESEARCH PROGRAM GETS \$3 MILLION**

The Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works, Jo-Ellen Darcy, made the poorly informed decision to eliminate funding the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Aquatic Plant Control Research Program (APCRP) in the FY 2012 budget. This is the nation's only federally authorized program for research and development of science-based management strategies for invasive aquatic weeds. There is no question that the work conducted by APCRPs' 18 research staff has been effective, efficient, and invaluable in our nation's fight against foreign aquatic invaders. It would be a grave mistake by the Corps' to eliminate the

expertise and institutional knowledge encompassed by APCRPs.

We asked the Army Corps of Engineers and Congress to restore funding to \$4 million for FY 2012. While our efforts to get the funding restored by the House fell on deaf ears, the Senate Appropriations Committee included that amount in their mark-up of the FY 2012 Energy and Water appropriations bill. I am happy to report that the final conference agreement on the FY 2012 Energy and Water Appropriations bill provided \$3 million for APCRPs.



National Invasive Species Awareness Week (NISAW) will be held February 26 to March 3, 2012 in Washington, DC. The week of activities will focus on strategizing solutions to address invasive species prevention, detection, monitoring, control and management issues at all levels of government from local to international scales.

WSSA is among the many public and private stakeholders working with the National Invasive Species Council (NISC) to organize education and awareness events. WSSA will host a seminar at the House Agriculture Committee featuring Dr. Rod Lym from North Dakota State University. Dr. Lym will present research data on the success of the TEAM Leafy Spurge Project in a talk titled "INVASION PERSUASION" TEAM Leafy Spurge: the successful program for defeating a wide-spread invader." TEAM Leafy Spurge was a USDA-ARS 6-year research and demonstration program that was highly effective at developing and demonstrating ecologically based integrated pest management (IPM) strategies that landowners and land managers could use to achieve effective, affordable and sustainable leafy spurge control.

#### **EVENTS DURING NISAW INCLUDE:**

2/26: Kid's Day at the U.S. Botanic Garden

- 2/28: Kickoff Session & NISC meeting: Department of Interior
- 2/28: Invasive Species & the Green Economy: Department of Interior
- 2/29: Prevention Day: Hamilton Crowne Plaza Hotel
- 2/29: FWS Invasive Species Branch Strategic Direction Listening Session: Hamilton Crowne Plaza Hotel
- 2/29: Capitol Hill Reception: Rayburn House Office Building
- 3/1: National Invasive Species Award Ceremony: USDA
- 3/1: State & Local Issues Session: Hamilton Crowne Plaza Hotel
- 3/1: Urban Invasive Species Workshop: Hamilton Crowne Plaza Hotel
- 3/2: Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force Strategic Direction: NISC office

For information about registration and hotel reservations, please check the NISAW website at [www.nisaw.org](http://www.nisaw.org)

### **NATIONAL SUMMIT ON STRATEGIES TO MANAGE HERBICIDE RESISTANCE WEEDS**

Presented by the National Academy of Sciences.

**Save the Date:** May 10, 2012 at the Jack Morton Auditorium, George Washington University, Washington, DC. For more information, visit: [nas-sites.org/hr-weeds-summit/](http://nas-sites.org/hr-weeds-summit/)

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# Is It Feasible To Use Mycoherbicides For the Control of Illicit Drug Crops?

That was the overarching question posed to a National Academy of Sciences Committee on Mycoherbicides for Eradicating Illicit Drug Crops. The Congress directed the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy to commission a study of the scientific feasibility of developing mycoherbicides for use against illicit drug crops and ONDCP commissioned the Academy's National Research Council for this study. On November 29, 2011, the report was presented to its sponsor in Washington, D.C.

The committee was chaired by Raghavan "Charu" Charudattan, Department of Plant Pathology, University of Florida. Others on the committee included Joan Bennett, Rutgers University; Jerome Cura, The Woods Hole Group, MA; William Fry, Cornell University; Guy Kundsén, University of Idaho; John Leslie, Kansas State University; Nu-May Ruby Reed, California Environmental Protection Agency; Judith Rhodes, University of Cincinnati; John Taylor, UC Berkeley; David TeBeest, University of Arkansas; Ariena van Bruggen, University of Florida; Maurizio Vurro, National Research Council, Italy; Alan Watson, McGill University, Canada; and Charles Woloshuk, Purdue University. The Academy staff assigned to the study were Susan Martel, Camilla Yandoc Ables, and Janet Mulligan. Areas of expertise represented included plant pathology, medical mycology, fungal genetics and evolution, microbial ecology, toxicology, environmental risk analysis, and weed science.

Mycoherbicides, which are developed from plant pathogenic fungi that infect specific host plants, have been proposed as a targeted means of preventing or reducing the cultivation of illicit drug crops of cannabis, coca,

and opium poppy. The committee's charge was to examine scientific issues associated with the feasibility of developing and implementing naturally occurring strains of fungi to control the illicit cultivation of the drug crops; ethical or political considerations were outside the committee's purview.

Specifically, the committee was asked to examine questions about the efficacy of mycoherbicides, their persistence in the environment, the feasibility of their large-scale manufacture and delivery, the potential for mutation, the potential to have detrimental effects on nontarget plants, animals, or humans, and the need for additional research and development. The following pathogens proposed as mycoherbicides were studied in detail: *Fusarium oxysporum* f. sp. *cannabis* for cannabis, *F. oxysporum* f. sp. *erythroxyl* for coca and *Crivellia papaveracea* (formerly known as *Pleospora papaveracea*) and *Brachycladium papaveris* for opium poppy. The committee concluded that the research done on these pathogens was not adequate to draw conclusions about the feasibility of developing and using them to control illicit drug crops.

The committee found that the degrees of control that might be provided by the proposed mycoherbicides and the mechanisms by which they cause disease have not been established. It is likely that the mycoherbicide strains would persist at some level when introduced into the environment, but no data are available on whether they could persist at densities that provide continuous control. There are insufficient data to draw conclusions about whether the proposed mycoherbicides would pose a risk to nontarget plants, other microorganisms, animals, or humans.

Therefore, additional research is needed to assess the efficacy and safety of the proposed mycoherbicide strains as well as to develop data for their registration as biopesticides. As an initial step, the report recommends research to study several candidate strains of each fungus to identify the most efficacious under a broad array of environmental conditions. The resulting information would guide formulation development, the appropriate delivery methods, and the scale required to generate enough mycoherbicide products to achieve significant control.

However, conducting the research is not a guarantee that a feasible mycoherbicide product will result. Multiple regulatory requirements must also be met before a mycoherbicide could be deployed and additional regulations and agreements might also be needed before mycoherbicides can be used internationally. The committee also foresaw some key obstacles to the use of mycoherbicides including likely attempts by drug crop producers to mount countermeasures against the fungal pathogens, difficulties in application, and inability to assess the effectiveness of the mycoherbicides.

The full report is available at: [http://www.nap.edu/catalog.php?record\\_id=13278](http://www.nap.edu/catalog.php?record_id=13278).

**THINK NEWSLETTER**  
**Deadline for April issue**  
**March 1, 2012**

# A Change in Editorial Leadership for Weed Technology

The 2012 WSSA Annual Meeting on the Big Island of Hawaii promises to be an exciting venue but will also mark a transition in Editorial Leadership for the journal *Weed Technology*. Dr. Neil Harker has decided to step down as Editor for the journal. The WSSA Board of Directors and I especially want to thank Neil for his service to the society and for his professional manner in handling the Editorial responsibilities. Typical of Neil, he went the extra mile in helping to identify potential replacements for him and traveling to Lawrence, Kansas to work with the new Editor and Allen Press to insure a smooth transition. He deserves our further thanks for these efforts. I am pleased to announce that, with the approval of the WSSA BOD, Dr. Jason Norsworthy has been appointed to a three year term as Editor for *Weed Technology*. Dr. Norsworthy is an Associate Professor in the Department of Crops, Soils and Environmental Sciences at the University of Arkansas and he has a rich history with the WSSA. Jason has served on the *Weed Technology* Editorial Board as an Associate Editor since 2004 and he served as a member of the BOD from 2008 to 2011. He received the Outstanding Reviewer Award in 2011 and the WSSA Early Career Weed Scientist Award in 2010. Please join me in thanking Dr. Harker for his service to the society and in welcoming Dr. Norsworthy to this important Editorial Position.

James V. Anderson  
Director of Publication-WSSA

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## CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

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DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	CONTACT
January 23–25, 2012	Southern Weed Science Society (SWSS) Annual Meeting	Charleston, South Carolina	<a href="http://www.swss.ws">www.swss.ws</a>
February 6–9, 2012	Weed Science Society of America (WSSA) Annual Meeting	Hilton Hotel Waikoloa Village, Hawaii	Rod Lym, Program Chair Tel: 701-231-8996 <a href="mailto:Rod.Lym@ndsu.edu">Rod.Lym@ndsu.edu</a>
March 12–15, 2012	Western Society of Weed Science (WSWS) Annual Meeting	Reno, Nevada	<a href="http://www.wsweedscience.org">www.wsweedscience.org</a>
March 27–29, 2012	7th International IPM Symposium, “IPM on the World Stage”	Memphis Cook Convention Center Memphis, Tennessee, USA	Symposium Website: <a href="http://www.ipmcenters.org/ipmsymposium12/">http://www.ipmcenters.org/ipmsymposium12/</a>
July 22–25, 2012	Aquatic Plant Management Society (APMS) Annual Meeting	Salt Lake City, Utah	<a href="http://www.apms.org">www.apms.org</a>
December 10–13, 2012	North Central Weed Science Society (NCWSS) Annual Meeting	St. Louis, Missouri	<a href="http://www.ncwss.org">www.ncwss.org</a>

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