

## **2010 WSSA Committee Progress Report February 2011**

**Committee Code and Name: S-71 Herbicide Resistance Education**

**Committee Chair: David Shaw**

**Committee Members, 2010:** Greg MacDonald, Wes Everman, Mike Owen, John Soteres, Jill Schroeder, Sarah Ward, William Vencill

**Board Coordinator: John Jachetta**

**Committee Members Rotating Off:           Appropriate Replacements:**

### **2010 Summary of Activities:**

- See attached.

### **2011 Plan for Committee Activities**

- See attached.

### **Recommendations for Board/Society Action:**

- See attached.

## **Herbicide Resistance Education Committee Weed Science Society of America**

This committee is developing a comprehensive education strategy on herbicide resistance. The primary goal is to have WSSA seen as the go-to organization for science-based information on herbicide resistant weeds.

A critical element of the committee's activities will be the development of the report, funded by USDA-APHIS, entitled "Herbicide-Resistant Weeds Management Report". In part the justification for this report notes that "there exists a need for a systematic understanding of the most contemporary publically available information on the extent to which weed resistance management programs are being utilized in various managed ecosystems and an understanding of how successful they are at achieving their goals."

The sections of the report will include:

- Introduction
- Most effective best management practices (BMPs) for managing the development and spread of herbicide resistance in weeds
- Degree of adoption of these BMPs
- Factors impacting adoption, or the lack thereof
- Recommendations for how to increase adoption

A writing team has been developed and includes Ted Webster, Mike Barrett, Bill Witt, Nilda Burgos, Bob Nichols, Steve Powles, Rick Llewellyn, Jason Norsworthy, Sarah Ward, and David Shaw. The writing team has met in Memphis, held telecons, and is working toward report completion by mid-2011; sooner if possible.

A wide range of materials are planned for development and posting on the WSSA website. These will include:

- Training modules – particularly videos
  - Certified Crop Advisors program
  - Grower organizations
  - Extension specialists
- Fact sheets
- Powerpoint presentations

A sub-committee has been established to begin developing the training modules. The National Cotton Council and the National Corn Growers Association have pledged to provide materials from previous modules they have sponsored, and have also offered to support revisions or development of new modules.

Materials will be developed in a wide range of formats, and will be at a number of levels, including:

- Foundational information
- Region-specific
- Commodity-specific
- Weed-specific

Organizations engaged to this point include:

- National Research Council
- National Cotton Council
- National Corn Growers Association
- American Soybean Association
- National Association of Conservation Districts
- Herbicide Resistance Action Committee
- CropLife America
- USDA-APHIS
- USDA-NRCS
- USDA-NIFA
- EPA

Other organizations will be contacted as they are identified and at the appropriate time. In particular, NRC has suggested involvement of key environmental NGOs. Others have suggested crop consulting organizations, and American Farm Bureau. NRC also suggested that we engage the USDA-Economic Research Service, since so much of adoption is tied to economic viability. David Shaw and Mike Owen have met with ERS, and have received a commitment for assistance in economic analyses and report development.

Plans are being initiated to have a national symposium that is a roll-out for the APHIS report, as well as a demonstration of the materials developed at the WSSA website. NRC has invited us to hold the symposium at the National Academy of Science in Washington, DC. Plans are coming together for this to occur in March 2011.

In addition to funding from the USDA-APHIS grant, HRAC and the commodity organizations have indicated funding is available to support these efforts.