



For Immediate Release

WSSA Recognizes Outstanding Student Weed Scientists

WESTMINSTER, Colorado - March 15, 2018 - Today the Weed Science Society of America (WSSA) announced it has recognized nearly three dozen students from 19 universities for outstanding research-related presentations and proposals.

During the Society's recent annual meeting, 27 students in Master's and Ph.D. programs were honored for posters and oral presentations summarizing their weed science research. The topics ranged from basic weed biology and ecology to the evolution of herbicide resistance.

WSSA also has honored nine undergraduate students with research awards designed to nurture their interest in weed science.

"It is clear from the quality of the posters, presentations and research proposals we reviewed this year that the next generation of weed scientists is well prepared and already making its mark," says Marty Schraer, a research scientist at Syngenta and co-chair of the WSSA awards committee. "We can't wait to see what they will accomplish in years to come."

Both graduate and undergraduate award winners are listed below.

GRADUATE STUDENT AWARDS

Cash awards of \$100 to \$300 were presented to up to four groups of first, second and third place winners at both the Masters and Ph.D. level. Those honored include:

- **Colorado State University**
 - **Anita Kupper**, second place, Ph.D. oral presentation. "Investigating the Population Genetic Structure of Glyphosate-Resistant and -Susceptible Palmer amaranth (*Amaranthus palmeri*) Populations."

- **Neeta Soni**, second place, Ph.D. oral presentation. “Integrated Weed Management and Herbicide Resistance Survey of Winter Annual Grasses in Colorado.”
- **Kansas State University**
 - **Marshall Hay**, first place, Ph.D. oral presentation. “Interactions of Tank-Mix Partners with Paraquat for Enhanced Grass Control.”
 - **Garrison J. Gundy**, third place, Master’s oral presentation. “Effectiveness of Pre-emergence Applied HPPD Herbicides on Controlling HPPD-Resistant Palmer Amaranth (*Amaranthus palmeri*).”
- **Michigan State University**
 - **Scott Bales**, first place, Master’s poster presentation. “Tank-Contamination of Dicamba Tank-Mixtures Impacts Dry Bean (*Phaseolus vulgaris*) Maturity and Yield.”
 - **Michael Probst**, first place, Master’s oral presentation. “Persistence of Dicamba and 2,4-D Herbicide Residues Following Low-Dose Applications in Sugarbeet (*Beta vulgaris*).”
 - **Aaron Brooker**, third place, Ph.D. oral presentation. “Interseeded Cover Crops Competitiveness in Grain Corn (*Zea mays*).”
- **Mississippi State University**
 - **John Buol**, first place, Ph.D. oral presentation. “Optimizing Chloracetamide Placement as a Component of Pigweed (*Amaranthus spcs.*) and Kochia (*Kochia scoparia*) control in Xtend Soybean (*Glycine max*) and Cotton (*Gossypium hirstutum*) Production Systems.”
 - **Zachary Carpenter**, first place, Ph.D. poster presentation. “Comparison of Various Tank Cleaners for Removal of Dicamba from Contaminated Sprayers.”
 - **Michael Plumblee**, second place, Ph.D. oral presentation. “Impact of Palmer Amaranth (*Amaranthus palmeri*) Size on Yield in LibertyLink® Cotton (*Gossypium hirstutum*).”
- **Montana State University**
 - **Ramawatar Yadav**, second place, Ph.D. poster presentation. “Management of Glyphosate- and Dicamba-Resistant Kochia (*Kochia scoparia*) in Roundup Ready® Xtend Soybean.”
- **Purdue University**

- **Cara McCauley**, second place, Ph.D. oral presentation. “Are all Auxin Herbicides Created Equal? A Transcriptome Analysis of the Auxin Herbicide Response in Horseweed (*Conyza canadensis*).”
- **Jodi Boe**, third place, Master’s oral presentation. “Effect of Soil- vs. Foliar-Applied ALS-Inhibiting Herbicides on Control of ALS-Resistant Horseweed (*Conyza canadensis*).”
- **University of Arkansas**
 - **Marlon Bastiani**, second place, Ph.D. poster presentation. “Competition Between the Exotic Grass *Eragrostis plana* and Forage Grass *Paspalum notatum* Under Drought Conditions.”
 - **Chris Meyer**, third place, Ph.D. oral presentation. “Reduced Uptake and Translocation: a Potential Mechanism for Antagonism Between Tank-Mixtures of Glyphosate, Glufosinate, and Dicamba in *Echinochloa crus-galli*.”
- **University of Georgia**
 - **Oliver Carter**, first place, Ph.D. oral presentation. “Time of Day Effects on Peanut (*Arachis hypogaea*) Herbicide Programs.”
- **University of Guelph**
 - **Brendan Metzger**, first place, Master’s oral presentation. “Biologically-Effective Dose of Tolpyralate Applied Post-Emergence for Annual Weed Control in Corn [*Zea mays* (L.)].”
 - **Meghan Grguric**, second place, Master’s oral presentation. “Efficacy of Chemical Control Methods on Giant Hogweed (*Heracleum mantegazzianum*).”
- **University of Maine**
 - **Margaret R. McCollough**, first place, Master’s oral presentation. “Band Sowing and Cultivation for Weed Management in Organic Grains.”
- **University of Missouri**
 - **Brian Dintelmann**, second place, Master’s oral presentation. “Investigations of the Sensitivity of Various Tree and Ornamental Species to Driftable Fractions of 2,4-D and Dicamba.”
 - **Shea Farrell**, second place, Master’s oral presentation. “Influence of Formulations and Application Time of Day on Dicamba Air Concentrations Following Treatment.”
 - **Eric Oseland**, second place, Master’s poster presentation. “Results from a 2015 and 2016 Survey to Determine the Distribution and Frequency of Herbicide-

Resistant Horseweed (*Conyza canadensis*) in Missouri.”

- **Derek Whalen**, third place, Master’s oral presentation. “Integration of Residual Herbicides and Cover Crops for Weed Control in a Soybean (*Glycine max*) Production System.”
- **University of Nebraska**
 - **Ethann Barnes**, third place, Ph.D. oral presentation. “Critical Time of Weed Removal in Popcorn (*Zea mays everta*) as Influence by Pre-Emergence Herbicides.”
- **University of Tennessee**
 - **J. Copeland**, first place, Ph.D. poster presentation. “Influence of Residual Herbicide Application Rate on PPO-Resistant and Susceptible Palmer Amaranth (*Amaranthus palmeri*) in Tennessee.”
- **University of Wisconsin-Madison**
 - **Niels A. Jorgensen**, first place, Ph.D. oral presentation. “Using Historical Data of *Miconia calvescens* to Optimize Management and Containment Across the East Maui Watershed.”
- **University of Wyoming**
 - **Elizabeth G. Mosqueda**, third place, Ph.D. oral presentation. “Evaluating the Relative Contributions of Crop Rotation, Tillage, and Herbicide Diversity for Proactive Herbicide Resistant Kochia (*Kochia scoparia*) Management.”

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH GRANTS

The nine students chosen for John Jachetta Undergraduate Research Awards will receive up to \$2,000 to fund their research. Each student will be guided by a member of their university’s faculty.

- **Cornell University**
 - **Margot Pitney** plans to investigate the impact of temperature variations and water availability on the efficacy of herbicides used to control burcucumber in corn crops. Sponsor: Antonio DiTommaso, Ph.D.
- **Kansas State University**
 - **Dakota Came** will investigate how atrazine-resistant Palmer amaranth responds to preemergence applications of the herbicide. Sponsor: Mithila Jugulam, Ph.D.
- **Mississippi State University**
 - **Giovanni Antoniaci Caputo** will explore sweet potato allelopathy as an aid for weed control. Sponsor: Te-Ming Paul Tseng, Ph.D.
- **Michigan State University**

- **Adam Constine** plans to explore how shading Influences the growth and photosynthesis of both weeds and cover crops. Sponsor: Karen Renner, Ph.D.
- **Justine Fisher** plans to use a PhotosynQ instrument to assess dry bean injury from dicamba tank-contamination. Sponsor: Christy Sprague, Ph.D.
- **Claire Sweeney** will explore whether *Solanaceae* family weed species serve as alternative hosts for *Phytophthora infestans*. Sponsor: Erin Burns, Ph.D.
- **University of Florida, Gainesville**
 - **Rachel Watson** will research the mass rearing of the psyllid *Calophya latiforceps* as a potential biological control agent for invasive Brazilian peppertree. Sponsor: James Cuda, Ph.D.
- **University of Illinois**
 - **Kip E. Jacobs** will explore the genetic linkage of metabolic resistances to atrazine and HPPD Inhibitors in multiple resistant waterhemp. Sponsor: Dean Edward Riechers, Ph.D.
- **University of Tennessee**
 - **Dallas Taylor** plans to model the regulation of ultradwarf Bermudagrass clipping yields following trinexapac-ethyl and prohexadione-calcium treatment. Sponsor: Jim Brosnan, Ph.D.

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 Society 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.

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EDITOR'S NOTE: Photos of Ph.D. and Master's winners are available on request.