

2011 WSSA Committee Progress Report February, 2012

Committee Code and Name: W16 – Biological Control of Weeds Committee

Committee Chair: John Lydon

Tentative Committee Members, 2011: William Bruckart, James Cuda, Raghavan Charudattan, Raj Prasad, Joe Neal

Board Coordinator: David Vitolo (?)

Committee Members Rotating Off: None **Suggested Replacements:**

2011 Summary of Activities (through January 2012)

- What are the committee's goals for 2012?
Compare Regulations of the U.S. and other countries pertaining to the release of biological control agents. The objective is to develop recommendations for APHIS to consider in granting biological control agent releases into the environment.
- List the committee's accomplishments (through January 2012):
Conducted a survey of the WSSA membership with interest in the biological control of weeds to determine if there is interest in continuing the committee, and if so, who is willing to serve on it. It was determined that difficulties in getting release permits for biological control agents of weeds need to be overcome in order for the biological control community to have effective agents to control invasive weeds.

Initiated the review process mentioned above. This was done via a teleconference on December 12, 2011.

- What information was posted on the WSSA website?
None. At the 2012 annual meeting, the committee will review the Biological Control page and consider what information needs to be revised and/or added.
- Were funds requested for 2011? No.
- What was the impact of the committee activities/accomplishments on the following: membership, publication, policy, legislation, and/or education?

No impact as yet.

- What is the current state of the committee's projects and activities?

The review process mentioned above was only recently initiated, consequently much remains to be done and the work will continue through 2012.

2012 Plan for Committee Activities

- Other Goals for 2012:
See above.
- Plan of Action:
Conduct teleconference meetings during the year to complete the review of agent release regulations across countries and develop, if determined what recommendations can be made to improve the permitting process.

Recommendations for Board/Society Action:

- Funds requested for 2012: None
- Other requests for the Board: Formally invited the tentative members (listed above) on this committee to become official members of the committee.