



Newsletter



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings!

Well, weeds are emerging in Minnesota. I expect they are making their presence known where you are. I hope you can "Start Clean and Stay Clean" this season. It is so hard to play catch up.

I write this message to you in a time of much transition. I recently retired from Winfield United, and there is no shortage of challenges our society needs to address. I am confident in you and your abilities to turn chal-

lenges into opportunities and fight the good fight. I am grateful to you for letting me serve as your WSSA President this year. I am pleased that we had a great joint annual meeting with the Southern Weed Science Society. I was pleased with the information and enthusiasm of the attendees. The joint WSSA/SWSS meeting had 506 presentations, including 226 posters, and four symposia. I would like to thank Carroll Moseley and Stanley Culpepper for their great leadership, advice, and service to the WSSA and WSSA members. I very much would like to thank the SWSS for being great hosts and sharing with us the greatness, style, and hospitality of the SWSS. Thanks to Todd Baughman, SWSS President Elect and Program Chair, for being great to work with and putting on a great meeting. I thank Eric Cantor for his leadership, advice, and service to the WSSA and SWSS.

Thanks to Gary Schwarzlose and Luke Ethridge for Co-Chairing the local arrangements committee. Their generosity, hospitality, leadership, and efforts were stellar. They arranged for several tours and events at the meeting. On Sunday morning, we were treated to a tour of the Natural Bridge Caverns nearby. It was wonderful to see this beautiful spectacle. Gary and Luke and the SWSS hosted a Student Mixer at Top Golf. It was a wonderful event. I was pleased that the turnout was large, and the students had a wonderful time. I am also grateful to Gary for the "Weed Ranger" Badges that we received for attending the meeting. I cherish mine! Thanks to Peter Dotray for hosting the Quiz Bowl event. Thanks to the planners and sponsors for putting on the Quiz Bowl. What a great event.

Thank you to the entire WSSA/SWSS Program Committee including Hilary Sandler, Eric Palmer, Peter Dotray and the many WSSA/SWSS Section Chairs and Moderators. Thanks to Pamela Carvalo-Moore and Mason Castner for helping, organizing and hosting all the student events. I was very impressed by the items donated to the silent auction. Thanks to the sponsors and everyone that

CONTINUED on pg 2 ➤➤

IN THIS ISSUE

Call for Symposia	3	Outstanding Paper Awards
2024 Student Contest Awards	4	WSSA Publication News
2024 WSSA Awards	5	Washington Report

WSSA Contacts 9	9
Important Contacts 10)
Calendar of Upcoming Events 13	L

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE CONTINUED from pg 1

helped. Thanks to Kelly Backscheider, Cara McCauley and everyone that hosted or sponsored the Women in Weed Science Event on Monday afternoon. I heard it was a great event. Thanks also to Eric Gustafson and Kelley Apodaca for everything they did to put on a great meeting. Thanks to Poster Session Chairs, Tom Mueller and Michael Lovelace, for providing great leadership and accommodation to place the 226 posters. Huge thanks to Marty Schraer and Pratap Devkota for organizing and conducting the WSSA and SWSS Student poster or presentation contests. Thanks to the many judges. Your service was much appreciated. Thank you to David Baltensperger for welcoming us to Texas. I hope you enjoyed the keynote presentation from Wyman Meinzer on "Evolution of a Photographer and Author." Thanks to WSSA President, Carroll Moseley, and SWSS President, Eric Castner, for their presidential addresses. Thanks to Lee Van Wychen for his Washington, D.C. Update. Thank you to Samunder Singh for updating us on the International Weed Science Society and inviting us to the IWSS meeting in Jerusalem in December 2024. Thanks to Scott Senseman and Krishna Reddy for presenting the WSSA and SWSS Awards. Congratulations to all the WSSA and SWSS Awardees. I also congratulate all the student winners. These awards acknowledge excellence, and for WSSA and the Regional Weed Societies it means best of the best.

Thank you to all the sponsors of the awards, events, and other functions of the meeting. Thanks to the Sustaining Members of the WSSA and SWSS for all your contributions.

Thank you to the sponsors, moderators, and speakers for the four great symposia at the WSSA/SWSS meeting. First, Zahoor Ganie and Vipan Kumar and speakers for the symposium "Pesticide Registration, Current Standards and Regulations for the Assessment of Environmental Impacts of Pesticide Use in the United States." Second, Stephen Duke and Franck Dayan and speakers for the symposium "New Approaches to Herbicide and Bioherbicide Discovery." Third, Matt Faletti and speakers for the symposium "Adjuvants Matter: How New Technology and a Changing Marketplace are Creating New Opportunities." Fourth, Craig Alford and speakers for the symposium "Herbicide Resistant Weeds: Identification, Documentation and Regulation." Thanks to Terry Kipley and CPDA for participating in the Adjuvant symposium.

I have always been proud of the WSSA and the Regional Weed Science Societies. It has been a real learning experience for me to experience all the great weed scientists and the many wonderful activities, efforts and achievements happening in the WSSA. I would like to thank the 2023 WSSA Board of Directors and welcome the 2024 Board of Directors. We have great people, such as Lee Van Wychen, Janis McFarland, Jim Kells, Mark Van Gessel, Jill Schroeder, Bill Chism, Stanley Culpepper, and many others. Thank you for all you do. I thank the Publications committees, Chris Willenborg and Sarah Ward, all the Editors, Reviewers, and the Authors of *Weed Science*, *Weed Technology*, and *Invasive Plant Science and Management*. Thanks to the public relations committee, the finance committee. Thanks to all the Committee Chairs, Committee Members, Section Chairs, and Vice Chairs for all you do.

2024 is and will continue to be a busy year for WSSA. I am pleased we have many great people working diligently on many urgent issues. There is much happening with Science Policy Issues, Organization, Programs, Funding, Endangered Species, Invasive Species, Genomics, Targeted Weed Control Technologies, and other issues. There is plenty of work that needs to be done and not enough people and resources to get it all done. I welcome your suggestions of how we can do things better. We want WSSA to be more inclusive, increase collaboration, increase, broaden and stabilize funding sources and help in controlling weeds for a better world.

Help make a better world. Go mess up some weeds!

Best Wishes,

Best Wishes, Greg Dahl WSSA President

WSSA FUTURE MEETING SITES AND DATES

February 24–27, 2025 WSSA-CWSS Joint Meeting Vancouver, British Columbia www.wssa.net and www.weedscience.ca

WSSA HOME PAGE ACCESSED AT:

www.wssa.net

THINK NEWSLETTER

Deadline for July issue June 1, 2024

SEND NEWSLETTER

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WSSA NEWSLETTER

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CALL FOR SYMPOSIA

2025 Annual Meeting of WSSA

The 65th Annual Meeting of the Weed Science Society of America (WSSA) meeting jointly with the Canadian Weed Science Society (CWSS)

Sheraton Vancouver Wall Centre • Vancouver, BC • February 24–27, 2025

WSSA/CWSS members are invited to submit proposals for symposia at our annual meeting. The proposal deadline is June 14, 2024. The board will evaluate the proposed symposia based on the justification, the target audience, publication plans, and the completeness of the proposal agenda and budget. Symposia organizers are strongly urged to consider publication of the symposium papers in one of the WSSA's journals and publication will be one of the factors considered in selecting symposia for the meeting. We also encourage symposia organizers to consider building in a discussion period to further increase audience participation.

Please see the guidelines below for symposia funding from the WSSA. Requests for travel support can be made for non-members only.

Symposium proposals should be emailed directly to the WSSA President Elect and Program Chair Hilary Sandler (hsandler@umass.edu) and to the CWSS Program Chair Robert Nurse (robert.nurse@agr.gc.ca) and copies to the Vice President Ian Burke (icburke@wsu.edu) by June 14, 2024. You will receive an email confirmation that your proposal has been received. If you have any questions, feel free to email Hilary.

SYMPOSIUM PROPOSAL FORM

Title:

Organizers:

Contact Person:

Phone:

Email:

Justification and Objectives (approximately 300 words):

Target Audience:

Publication or Outreach Plans associated with symposium presentations:

Associated Section(s):

Length of Proposed Program:

Proposed Titles and Speakers:

Budget Requested: (Please specify the expenditure of the funds as opposed to submitting an overall amount. The more detailed the budget, the better the WSSA Board of Directors can evaluate the proposal.)

GUIDELINES FOR DISPOSITION OF WSSA FUNDS FOR SYMPOSIA EXPENSES

Funds are available to support symposia approved by the WSSA Board of Directors for the upcoming meeting. These funds can be used by the symposium organizers, working in conjunction with the Program Chair, for expenses incurred in securing speakers. The intent of these funds is to support travel of non-member speakers.

The following guidelines are intended to help the symposia organizers and the Program Committee in allocating available funds. For a half-day symposium, the maximum allowable budget will be \$5,000 of which up to \$1,000 can be used for symposium publication costs. For full day symposia, the maximum allowable budget will be \$6,000 of which up to \$2,000 can be used for symposium publication costs. The funds will be allocated as necessary to partially cover non-member speaker travel expenses.

Members of the WSSA who agree to present symposia papers will not be offered travel funds except in extreme emergencies to be determined by the Program Chair. An example of such a circumstance would be a WSSA member who is a renowned expert in the field of the symposia topic, but who has no source of funds to attend the annual meeting.

No honoraria will be offered to any speaker. No more than three nights lodging will be offered to non-member symposium speakers. All symposium speakers who are not members of the WSSA will be offered free registration at the annual meeting and a free ticket to society events (other than tours) during that week. Funds for reimbursement of some, or all, travel expenses (travel, meals, and lodging) will be made available to non-member symposium speakers based on need, availability of funds, and the value of the speakers to the program.

Room rates at the Sheraton Wall Centre for the 2025 meeting will be \$169 per night plus taxes for students and start at \$219 per night plus taxes for regular members in CAD.

If less than the maximum allowable funds (\$5,000 for the half-day; \$6,000 for a full day) are used for speaker travel expenses, the difference cannot be used for other purposes. Chairs should contact their intended speakers and determine their financial needs for participation. This informa-

CONTINUED on pg 4 ➤➤

CALL FOR SYMPOSIA CONTINUED from pg 3

tion should be incorporated into the detailed budget for the proposed symposium.

Symposium proposals must be submitted to the WSSA President Elect and Program Chair (hsandler@umass.edu) and to the CWSS Program Chair (robert.nurse@agr.gc.ca) and copied to the WSSA Vice President (icburke@wsu.edu) by June 14, 2024. The WSSA Board will evaluate the submitted proposals and decide which smposia will be funded. The WSSA Program Chair will inform the orgaizers of the symposia selected for funding. Symposium organizers that receive funding can then proceed with offers of funding to non-member speakers. In no event should symposium organizers make commitments for more funding from

WSSA than what was approved by the board. Symposium orgaizers are free to seek additional or alternate funding sources if symposia budget limits are insufficient to cover travel expenses for non-member speakers. Symposia organizers should strongly consider publication of symposia papers in *Weed Science, Weed Technology,* or *Invasive Plant Science Management*.

Hilary Sandler, 2025 WSSA Program Chair Robert Nurse, 2025 CWSS Program Chair



WSSA 2024 Student Contest Awards

WSSA Single Slide Talk (SST) M.S. Contest

Winners

1st Place: Eduardo Rudell, Federal University of Rio Grande do

Sul-Brazi

2nd Place: Tanner King, University of Arkansas 3rd Place: Emmanuel Cooper, Purdue University

WSSA SST Ph.D. Contest

Finalists

- · Sarah Chu. Texas A&M University
- · Eric Yu, University of Minnesota
- Ryan Hamberg, Texas A&M University
- Srishti Gupta, Colorado State University
- · Annabelle McEachin, University of Georgia
- · Nicholas Shay, University of Georgia

Winners

1st Place: Srishti Gupta, Colorado State University 2nd Place: Sarah Chu, Texas A&M University 3rd Place: Ryan Hamberg, Texas A&M University

M.S. Poster Contest Winners - Sections 1, 2, 3, 4

Section 1

1st Place: Hannah Johnson, Michigan State University 2nd Place: Maria Souza, University of Arkansas 3rd Place: Jared Smith, University of Arkansas

Section 2

1st Place: Midhat Tugoo, Kansas State University 2nd Place: Grant Coe, University of Missouri 3rd Place: Ian Waldecker, Michigan State University

Section 3

1st Place: Caroline Backes, Texas A&M University 2nd Place: Trace Thompson, University of Missouri 3rd Place: Grady Rogers, University of Missouri

Section 4

1st Place, 2-way tie:

- Alyssa Twitty, Colorado State University
- Rishabh Singh, Kansas State University
 3rd Place: Milos Viric, Virginia Tech

Ph.D. Poster Contest Winners - Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

Section 1

1st Place: Sithin Mathew, University of Minnesota 2nd Place: Tamara Mundt, Texas A&M University

3rd Place: Cristiana Rankrape, Southern Illinois University

Section 2

1st Place: Navjot Singh, University of Minnesota 2nd Place: Ruby Tiwari, University of Florida 3rd Place: Navdeep Godara, Virginia Tech

Section 3

1st Place: Joe Johnson, Texas A&M University 2nd Place: Bholuran Gurjar, Texas A&M University 3rd Place: Swarnabha Roy, Texas A&M University

Section 4

1st Place, 3-way tie:

- · Bismark Anokye, Texas A&M University
- · Megan Schill, Texas A&M University
- · Kapil Chobhe, Texas A&M University

Section 5

1st Place: Isabel Werle, University of Illinois 2nd Place: Usha Pedireddi, Texas A&M University 3rd Place, 2-way tie:

- Andre Araujo, Colorado State University
- · William Kramer, Colorado State University



Dr. Franck E. Dayan WSSA Fellow



Dr. Kevin Bradley **WSSA Fellow**



Dr. Adusumilli Narayana Rao **Honorary WSSA Member**



Dr. Michael Flessner Outstanding Early Career Weed Science



Sachin Dhanda Ph.D. candidate **Outstanding Graduate Student**



Linda Edgerton Excellence in Journalism



Dr. Darrin Dodds **Outstanding Teacher**



Dr. Mayank Malik **Outstanding Industry**



Dr. Tom Barber **Outstanding Extension**



Dr. Peter Sikemma US-HRAC Herbicide Resistance Management



Dr. Lisa Rew **Outstanding Research**



Dr. Cameron Douglass Invasive Plant Science & Management



Dr. Greta Gramig Weed Science

----- Outstanding Reviewer Awards ------



Dr. Vijay Singh Weed Technology

April, 2024

OUTSTANDING PAPER AWARDS

Outstanding Paper: Invasive Plant Science and Management

Measuring the success of cross-tenure collaborative weed management:
insights codeveloped with practitioners

Authors:

Sonia Graham, Megan Wyllie, Mel Wilkerson, Angela Sharp, Hillary Cherry, Paul Martin, Rebecca Campbell, and Gina Hawkes



Sonia Graham

Outstanding Paper: Weed Science
Herbicide resistance in Bromus spp.: a global review.

Authors:

Victor H. V. Ribeiro, Judit Barroso, Caio A. C. G. Brunharo and Carol Mallory-Smith



Victor Robeiro

Outstanding Paper: Weed Technology

Performance of unoccupied aerial application systems for aquatic

weed management: Two novel case studies

Authors:

Andrew W. Howell, Ramon G. Leon, Wesley J. Everman, Helena Mitasova, Stacy A.C. Nelson and Robert J. Richardson



Andrew Howell



WSSA Publications News

Weed Science, Weed Technology and IPSM now have online templates with simplified formatting for faster and easier manuscript submission. Authors submitting new manuscripts are encouraged to use these: go to the journal home page and click on Author Instructions to download a template. The Author Instructions have also been revised to allow more flexibility

in replication requirements — this is especially important for research articles submitted to IPSM. Be sure to read the updated instructions before submitting your next manuscript.

The transition of *Weed Technology* to a fully open access and continuous publication model was completed smoothly in January, and we are on track to flip *Weed Science* and *IPSM* to

open access at the end of this year. The number of manuscripts submitted to WSSA journals increased significantly in the first quarter of 2024 compared to 2023, which is very encouraging. Keep them coming!

Sarah Ward Chris Willenborg WSSA Co-Directors of Publications

WASHINGTON REPORT by Lee Van Wychen, Director of Science Policy



Weed Scientists at the 2024 Global Minor Use Summit IV in Madrid, Spain L to R: Dan Kunkel, Lee Van Wychen, Wilfredo Robles, Dirk Drost, Jerry Baron, Michael Braverman

On February 5–9, 2024, the Minor Use Foundation brought together growers, regulators, researchers, and crop protection professionals in Madrid, Spain for the fourth Global Minor Use Summit (GMUS-4).

Dirk Drost, president and board chairman for the Minor Use Foundation, was very pleased to have such a diverse and experienced representation at the meeting with nearly 170 participants from 41 countries coming together to share ideas and strengthen our commitment to specialty crops and minor uses.

The Minor Use Foundation will be focused on the following key takeaways and will be hard at work on those "game changing" ideas:

- Technology: Understanding and learning to leverage new technologies for crop protection outcomes
- Engagement: Increasing connections and engagement with growers around the
- Strengthening Codex: Supporting CCPR/JMPR (particularly with regard to crop group work, JMPR support, and preserving access to key older chemistries)
- Importance of Minor Uses: Building political will and a toolkit for governments to support minor use programs around the world
- Increasing Impact: Incorporation of environmental and social/economic indicators/outcomes
- Creative and pragmatic solutions: Incorporation of biological solutions, residue mitigation projects, regional registrations, import tolerances, and others

FY 2024 **FEDERAL APPROPRIATIONS** FINALLY COMPLETED

All 12 of the FY 2024 appropriations bills were finally completed, albeit after four continuing resolutions and six months late. Overall research funding at the USDA will remain flat at \$3.5 billion. The Agriculture Research Service (ARS) will receive a small increase of 1.4 percent to \$1.84 billion, while the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) will get a 1.3 percent cut to \$1.7 billion. The Agriculture and Food Research Initiative will be funded at \$445 million, roughly \$10 million below the FY 2023 enacted level.

For more details on research and science programs across all the major federal agencies, please visit the Association of Public & Land-Grant Universities (APLU's) federal budget and appropriations website. They provide an excellent FY2024 Appropriations-Priorities Summary Chart, which includes an overview of APLU's annual requests, as well as current funding levels, and congressional action.

EPA PESTICIDE LABEL REFORM IS FINALLY HAPPENING

On November 15, EPA released a whitepaper: "Benefits of the Adoption CONTINUED on pg 8 ➤➤



Presidents Breakfast at the 2024 WSSA-SWSS Annual Meeting



First Meeting of the 2024–2025 WSSA Board of Directors

WASHINGTON REPORT CONTINUED from pg 7

of Structured Content and Digital Pesticide Labels" and requested feedback on its plan to adopt digital pesticide labels that will make labeling information clearer, more consistent, and more accessible to users.

EPA's plan for digital labels covers the creation of both a structured label —which would provide a framework for consistently placing and ordering label information—and a digital label, which would organize the label information as electronic data. Currently, the pesticide product label registration process is mostly manual, with EPA staff reading through long, detailed label submissions to pull out specific information, like application rate, to enter into the EPA's Pesticide Product and Label System. This has led to timeconsuming reviews and high cost to registrants and regulators. Further, the increasing complexity of pesticide labels and lack of standardized label format and language can create challenges for pesticide users and the public seeking information about which products to use and how to use them.

The National and Regional Weed Science Societies submitted the following comments. Many thanks to Bill Chism and Stanley Culpepper, in particular, for their work on this document!

EPA CREATES NEW OFFICE TO BETTER CONNECT WITH AGRICULTURAL COMMUNITIES

On March 1, 2024, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced that it is establishing a new office to expand engagement with agricultural and rural communities. The creation of the first-ever EPA Office of Agriculture and Rural Affairs "represents the Biden-Harris Administration's ongoing commitment to improving environmental stewardship and economic opportunity for America's farmers and ranchers, as well as strengthening the vitality of small

towns and rural communities," according to an EPA statement.

"Farmers and ranchers are crucial partners as we work together to deliver clean air, clear water and climate solutions, all while playing the critical role of ensuring an abundant fiber, fuel and food supply," said EPA Administrator Michael S. Regan. "With the launch of this new office, we are ensuring agricultural and rural stakeholders will continue to have a seat at the table for many years to come."

The new office will forge practical, science-based solutions that protect the environment while ensuring a vibrant and productive agricultural system. The new office will also collaborate with small, underserved towns and rural communities that are seeking federal investments in infrastructure upgrades and other community-improvement opportunities. EPA Press Release

U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY REVERSES COURSE AND WILL CONTINUE TO TRACK PESTICIDE USAGE

The U.S. Geological Survey is dropping plans to scale back reporting to a widely used database that tracks the use of approximately 400 agricultural chemicals in the United States.

USGS had decided to reduce the scope of its Agricultural Pesticide-use Estimates and Maps data, which since 1992 had provided county-level data on the use of chemicals to control fungi, weeds, insects and other pests. The agency first reduced the number of tracked chemicals to 72, then said it would stop releasing preliminary pesticide use data annually and instead release final data every 5 years.

More than 250 scientists and 120 agencies signed letters protesting the move, and in late February USGS quietly reversed course. A note on the agency's website says it will resume the annual publication of preliminary data for 400 compounds and that

2018–22 data will be published in 2025. More on this story at Science.org

BLM RECEIVES APPROVAL FOR USE OF SEVEN HERBICIDES IN 2024

The National and Regional Weed Science Societies have been working with the Department of the Interior (DOI) Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to get approval on final programmatic environmental impact statements (PEIS) for the use of the following seven herbicides on BLM land:

- 1) aminocyclopyrachlor
- 2) clethodim
- 3) fluazifop-p-butyl
- 4) flumioxazin
- 5) imazamox
- 6) indaziflam
- 7) oryzalin

These herbicides have already been approved by EPA (some for a long time!), in adjoining nonfederal land. In order for them to be considered as a management option on BLM lands, they had to be in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 and the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) of 1976.

These additional herbicide active ingredients will diversify BLM's weed management plan and help meet the purposes that were first identified in BLM's 2007 and 2016 PEISs related to vegetation treatments. A final record of decision is expected in spring 2024.

USDA-ARS WEED SCIENCE NEWS: Winter 2024 from Steve Young

The winter 2024 edition of the USDA Agricultural Research Service (ARS) Weed Science Newsletter is now available at: https://www.ars.usda.gov/people/steve-young-phd/weed-science-newsletter/weed-science-research-news-and-highlights/

The winter issue highlights ARS weed science research in the North-

CONTINUED on pg 9 ➤➤

WASHINGTON REPORT CONTINUED from pg 8

east, Midwest, Plains, Pacific West and the Southeast, highlights the work of Dr. Ali Wright at the ARS Sugarcane Research Unit in Houma, LA, and lists event and announcements including:

USDA ARS Weed Science Positions: Recent Hires

- Casey Barickman ARS Natural Products Utilization Research Unit, Oxford, MS
- Olivia Landau ARS Wheat Health, Genetics, and Quality Research Unit, Pullman, WA
- Jens Beets ARS Invasive Species and Pollinator Health Research Unit, Albany, CA
- Vijaya Varanasi ARS Crop Production Systems Unit, Stoneville, MS
- Allen Dray ARS Invasive Plant Research Unit, Fort Lauderdale, FL

Current Openings:

- Weed Ecologist ARS Columbia Plateau Conservation Research Center, Pendleton, Oregon (TBD)
- Weed Scientist ARS Northwest Sustainable Agroecosystems Research Unit, Pullman, Washington (TBD)

Lee Van Wychen, Ph.D.
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THINK NEWSLETTER

Deadline for July issue June 1, 2024

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Cambridge University Press Gabrielle Bauman Publishing Editor gabie.bauman@cambridge.org 2025 Annual Meeting Hilary Sandler President-Elect hsandler@umass.edu

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International Weed Science Society (IWSS)

Samunder Singh sam4884@gmail.com

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS DATE **EVENT** LOCATION CONTACT July 14-18, 2024 Aquatic Plant Management Society (APMS) St. Petersburg, Florida www.apms.org Annual Meeting November 2024 Canadian Weed Science Society (CWSS) Virtual Meeting www.weedscience.ca Anual Meeting December 1-4, 2024 International Weed Science Society (IWSS) Jerusalem, Israel www.iwss.info Annual Meeting December 8-12, 2024 North Central Weed Science Society (NCWSS) Kansas City, Missouri www.ncwss.org Annual Meeting February 24-27, 2025 Weed Science Society of America (WSSA) and Vancouver, BC, Canada www.wssa.net and Canadian Weed Science Society (CWSS) www.weedscience.ca Joint Annual Meeting March 10-13, 2025 Western Society of Weed Science (WSWS) Seattle, Washington www.wsweedscience.org Annual Meeting

Additional Weed Science Meetings and Events can be found at http://wssa.net/meeting/calendar-of-meetings/

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