

2008 WSSA Committee Report to Members Summary for 2008 and Action Plan for 2009

Committee Code and Name: P3 – Weed Technology

Committee Chair: K. Neil Harker

Board Coordinator: James Anderson (Director of Publications)

Committee Members Rotating Off:

David Johnson

Appropriate Replacements:

Jason Ferrell

- Pam Hutchinson (2010 W) is rotating off early (no replacement determined at this point)

Committee Members Serving Another 3-yr term:

Jeffrey Derr

Glenn Wehtje

Ted Webster

2008 Summary of Activities

What were the committee's goals for 2008?

- 1) Review and publish high quality manuscripts
- 2) Speed up manuscript throughput (final decision time)
 - a. Copy in Editor on all reminders to Associate Editors (AEs) re overdue AE tasks
 - b. Editor to follow-up with AEs and have alternate AE assigned if necessary
- 3) Increase communication within the WT Editorial group during the year
- 4) Improve manuscript quality by discussing with AEs common problems during the year

List the committee's accomplishments in 2008:

Two numbers increased substantially in 2008: rejection rate (44%) and impact factor (0.86). Both of these statistics suggest scientific rigor and journal quality. AEs were more discriminating in their review decisions in 2008 than in any previous year. In terms of speeding up manuscript throughput, I was copied in on all reminders to AEs re overdue AE tasks; I often corresponded with AEs directly to determine problems and possible solutions. However, there is still much room for improvement in this area. Communication within the WT Editorial group was fairly consistent throughout the year.

In 2008, 175 manuscripts were submitted to Weed Technology (AllenPress website: “**Journal Summary Report**”). Manuscript types submitted were: Research (159), Note (8), Extension/Outreach (6), Review (1), and Teaching/Education (1). Manuscript rejection rate in 2008 was 44% (see chart below). Days from manuscript receipt to First and Final decision were 79 and 106 days, respectively.

Year	# Submitted	% Rejection Rate*	1 st Decision	Final Decision
			_____ days _____	
2008	175	44	79	106
2007	177	34	78	108
2006	193	28	95	152
2005	179	25	105	183
2004	296	18	118	218
2003	255	19	112	227

* = # manuscripts rejected / (#manuscripts submitted – #manuscripts pending) x100
= 46 / (175-71)x100 = 44%

Although there was a slight improvement in the time required to render a final decision on manuscripts, there is still room for significant improvements in that regard. I will continue to encourage Associate Editors to decrease their decision times.

In 2007, there were 2352 *Weed Technology* paper citations; the journal impact factor was 0.86. In 2006, there were 2136 *Weed Technology* paper citations; the journal impact factor was 0.63.

What information was posted on the WSSA website?

This year, “Ahead of Print” articles were posted on the website. The posting allows authors to cite articles with a DOI reference number as soon as they are accepted for publication. It also allows WSSA members to access the full articles before they are in print (general public can access abstracts).

How much funds were requested? How much was spent?

No funds were requested.

What was the impact of the committee activities/accomplishments on the following: membership, publication, policy, legislation, and/or education?

N/A

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

On-going

2009 Plan for Committee Activities

Goals for 2009:

1. Review and publish high quality manuscripts
2. Speed up manuscript throughput (final decision time)
3. Continue communication within the WT Editorial group during the year

4. Improve manuscript quality by discussing with AEs common problems during the year

Next year (2010), most Associate Editors will have the option to rotate-off or to serve another term. It will be a significant challenge to retain and recruit sufficient Associate Editors.

Recommendations for Board/Society Action:

Funds requested for 2009: None

Other requests for the Board: Continue to recognize the valuable service that Associate Editors provide our society.

2010-2012 Associate Editors

Anderson, Randy 2010-NC

Askew, Shawn 2010-NE

Beckie, Hugh J. 2010-C

Burke, Ian 2010-W

Derr, Jeffrey 2012-NE

DiTommaso, Toni 2010-NE

Doohan, Doug 2010-NC

Fennimore, Steve 2010-W

Ferrell, Jason 2012 - S

Grichar, James 2010-S

Hamill, Al 2010-C

Johnson, Bill 2010-NC

Johnson, Carroll 2011-S

Koger, Trey 2010-S

Loux, Mark 2010-NC

Main, Chris 2010-S

Miller, Donnie 2010-S

Norsworthy, Jason 2010-S

Prather, Tim 2010-W

Reddy, Krishna 2011-S

Robinson, Darren 2011-C

Simmons, Bill 2011-NC

Sprague, Christy 2010-NC

Steckel, Larry 2010-S

Wehtje, Glenn 2012-S

Webster, Ted 2012-S

Wolf, Tom 2011-C

Young, Bryan 2010-NC