

2010 WSSA Committee Progress Report July, 2010

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 (through 07/09/10)

- See attached.

2010 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

This report is scheduled to be completed in mid-2011; sooner if possible. Mike Barrett has a group that is developing a USDA proposal; this group will serve as a writing team for this report. The Herbicide Resistance Education Committee will then serve as the critical review team.

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

- Training modules
 - 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
- USDA-APHIS
- USDA-NRCS
- USDA-NIFA
- EPA

Other organizations will be contacted as they are identified. In particular, NRC has suggested involvement of key environmental NGOs. They also suggested that we engage the USDA – Economic Research Service, since so much of adoption is tied to economic viability.

In addition, Bayer Crop Sciences has been developing a program entitled “Respect the Rotation”; discussions are ongoing with them on how they could be part of an industry-supported effort that uses information provided by WSSA, or supports WSSA efforts.

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.