

WSSA PUBLIC SERVICE AWARD

Deadline: October 31

Subcommittee Chair:

Jay Ferrell

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Eligibility and Description

- Awarded annually to a WSSA member for accomplishments in advancing Public understanding of the scientific principles of Weed Science (including but not limited to study of weeds, their place in the environment, and the means by which they may be controlled and/or managed).
- Honor public and private sector weed scientists who have distinguished themselves in voluntarily reaching out to regulators, legislators, government agencies, media reporters and editors, farm focused trade groups, non-farming/non-ag NGOs, and/or the non-farming / non-ag public (collectively called the "Public").
 - This award would be delineated from the current Extension Award because of different audiences. Generally speaking, the primary audience for the nominees considered for the Extension Award is the agricultural community of farmers and farm advisors. The focus for this award would be outreach to those who are not directly involved with farming operations.
 - While the emphasis will be on voluntary activities, a candidate would NOT be excluded because the outreach started as a request from any source.
- Typical areas of outreach could be on issues related to advancing and increasing understanding of generally accepted scientific principles of weed science and promoting the responsible and sustainable use of chemical, biological, mechanical and cultural methods of weed management. Other areas as deemed appropriate by the WSSA Awards Committee would also be considered.
 - Excluded from consideration are individuals whose outreach efforts are clearly focused on a specific product or specific company's products.
- The outreach to be considered for this award could be that which is performed on behalf of the WSSA, regional weed science societies, industry groups, universities, government agencies, etc. and would generally represent efforts beyond the recipients usual or direct work responsibilities.
 - In principle, nominees would be considered based upon their activities which are above and beyond what is considered their usual or direct work responsibilities.
- Examples of outreach could include but not limited to; advancing the understanding of weed science at non-extension Public meetings, internet activities, publishing in venues read by the non-farming non-weed science audiences, participation at public forums with government or trade officials, leading or making a significant contribution to the development of materials for Public outreach, organizing and leading workshops, symposiums in whole or large part focused on Public education and training.
 - A nominee for this award must be a member of WSSA. Any WSSA member who has won this award is not eligible to receive another one for the subsequent three years. The nominator is not required to be a member of WSSA.

Nomination Procedure

The nomination package should be emailed to the committee chair and must be complete and formatted as a single pdf file. A complete package consists of a nomination statement, supporting information in the format described below and letters of support. A resume from the nominee may be used in lieu of the supporting document if it contains all of the necessary information and is accompanied by a narrative supporting the nomination (1000 words or less) and the supporting letters. Additional supporting letters should be no longer than two pages. Unsuccessful nominations submitted will be reconsidered in subsequent years if updates of the nomination are submitted.

Nomination Package

I. Nomination Form

Nominee: Name, address, phone number and email address.

Nominator: Name, phone number and email address.

1. **Education.** Year, degree and institution.
2. **Work Experience.** Years, title and brief job description.
3. **Education programs.**
Distinguished voluntary outreach to regulators, legislators, government agencies, media reporters and editors, farm focused trade groups, non-farming/non-ag NGOs, and/or the non-farming / non-ag public (collectively called the "Public", i.e., those who are not directly involved with farming operations.)
4. **Outreach publications and communications.**
Describe types of outreach performed, examples include but not limited to:
 - a. advancing the understanding of weed science at non-extension Public meetings
 - b. internet activities
 - c. social media outlets (e.g., Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter, blogs, YouTube, RSS feed, etc.)
 - d. publishing in venues read by the non-farming non-weed science audiences
 - e. participation at public forums with government or trade officials
 - f. leading or making a significant contribution to the development of materials for Public outreach
 - g. organizing and leading workshops, symposiums in whole or large part focused on Public education and training
5. **Additional pertinent information.**

II. Supporting Statement by Nominator.

Describe the nominee's contribution to the Weed Science Discipline. 1000 words or less.

III. Letters of Support

Three letters with at least 2 letters from WSSA members. Each letter is limited to two pages.