



**WEED SCIENCE
SOCIETY of AMERICA**
RESEARCH - EDUCATION - INNOVATION
FOUNDED 1956

CALL FOR PAPERS

2026 WSSA ANNUAL MEETING

Raleigh, North Carolina

February 8 - 12, 2026

INVITATION

You are invited to submit titles and abstracts for papers and posters to be presented at the WSSA Meeting in Raleigh, North Carolina February 8- 12, 2026 - Sunday to Thursday. Volunteer papers may be presented orally in one of the meeting sections or as a poster. **An individual may personally present only one volunteer, non-poster paper.** This rule will be strictly followed. In addition to the volunteer paper, an individual may present a poster, may be co-author of papers presented by other authors, and may present an invited symposium paper. The abstract submission site will open October 30, 2025. The abstract submission website deadline is January 17, 2026.

DEADLINES for TITLES and AUTHOR, ABSTRACT and SLIDE PRESENTATION SUBMISSIONS

- Titles and Author Information must be submitted electronically **by December 1, 2025**, to be considered. Those not submitted by this deadline will not be accepted. This deadline applies to symposium papers, as well as to volunteer papers and posters.
- Abstract texts must be submitted by **January 17, 2026**.
- PowerPoint slide presentations must be submitted **by February 2, 2026**.

MEETING SCHEDULES

Volunteer papers will be presented within a **15-minute schedule**. Concurrent sessions dictate that the time schedule be strictly followed. To allow for introduction, transition of speakers, and questions, you should plan to complete your oral presentation in 12 or 13 minutes. Papers should report the results of completed research or other substantive information. Ideally, research reported at the WSSA Meeting should be publishable in *Invasive Plant Science and Management*, *Weed Science*, *Weed Technology*, or a similar scientific journal.

SYMPOSIUM PAPERS

Speakers participate in symposia by invitation. Deadlines and procedures for preparing and submitting abstracts of symposium papers are the same as for volunteer papers, except that the author must send a copy of the abstract to the symposium organizer.

COMPUTER AND PROJECTION EQUIPMENT

The WSSA has adopted LCD projection for PowerPoint presentations as the standard and will be used exclusively during the annual meeting. LCD projectors and Windows PC laptop computers will be supplied by WSSA members and coordinated by section chairs unless otherwise indicated. Presenters will **NOT** be allowed to use their own computers in the sessions. If possible, computers will be located on the podium in each session. If this is not possible, an infrared remote providing forward and backward control of the PowerPoint presentation will be provided in each session, by session chairs. Screens, microphones, carts, and extension cords will continue to be supplied by AV services and paid for by the Society. To make this process go as smoothly as possible, please follow the guidelines below.

PREPARATION OF ABSTRACT

Following are the guidelines for the preparation and submission of an abstract. Be alert to additional instructions that may appear on the site itself.

1. **Content** – The abstract should include a brief overview of essential aspects of experimental procedures and should highlight significant results and their interpretation. Write the abstract so it consists entirely of information. Do not include statements such as “The results of the experiments will be presented” or “The significance of these results will be discussed.”

2. **Formatting** – Typing and format instructions will be provided on the Title/Abstract Submission Page of the website.

Capitalize the first letter of all major words in the title and end the title with a period. Include both the common and scientific names of weeds and uncommon crop plants in the title (authorship of plants is not necessary), but only the common names of herbicides and well-known crop plants. **You do not need to type the title in bold-face**; the system will do that automatically. The site will provide a method for indicating the presenter, be sure to specify the presenting author.

Title Example. Role of Adjuvants on Sulfonylurea Herbicide Efficacy.

3. **E-mail Address** – For better communication among researchers, place the e-mail address of the senior author following the last sentence of abstract.

4. **Herbicide nomenclature** – A list of common and chemical names of herbicides approved by the WSSA is available at <http://wssa.net/Weeds/Tools/Herbicides> . When the common name refers to the parent acid, salt or ester forms used in the experiments should be identified at the first mention of the common name (e.g., methyl ester of diclofop). At the first mention of an herbicide application rate, list whether the weight is acid equivalent (ae) or active ingredient (ai) (e.g., kg ai ha⁻¹). If no common name is available, use its designation (trade name or code) followed by the full chemical name. If the chemistry is confidential, identify the source (company) in parentheses after designation.

5. **Adjuvant nomenclature** – Where possible, use the *WSSA Herbicide Handbook*, 10th edition (2014), p.479–481; *Weed Science* (1985) 33 (Suppl. 1): 22–23; or the *WSSA Monograph* (1982) *Adjuvants for Herbicides*. Otherwise, use the most complete available chemical description of the adjuvant.

6. **Weed nomenclature** – Identify weeds by common names. At first mention of a weed, whether in the title or text, follow the common name with the scientific name (underlined and in parentheses). Do not repeat the scientific name in the text if given in the title. A list of WSSA approved common and Latin names of common weed species can be found at <http://wssa.net/wssa/weed/composite-list-of-weeds/>. If there is no WSSA-designated common name, use common scientific names from another source such as Hortus Third Dictionary

7. **Crop nomenclature** – Scientific names for crop plants are optional. They are not needed for well-known crops but should be included for less common crops and whenever needed for clarity. Place scientific names, underlined and in parentheses, following first mention of the common name, whether in the title or text.

8. **Soil nomenclature** – Include the soil series with textural classification and the subgroup name using the terminology of the U.S. Dept. Agric. Natr. Res. Conserv. Serv. publication, *Soil Taxonomy*, U.S. Gov. Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 1988. For soils outside the U.S.A., use the local official terminology.

9. **Measurements** – Report all measurements in International System of units (SI). Abbreviate units of measure if preceded by a number. See *Weed Science* (2003) 51:1029–1033 for additional suggestions and *WSSA Herbicide Handbook*, 10th edition (2014), p. 488–491 for metric conversions.

10. **Abbreviations** – Use abbreviations as shown at <https://www.cambridge.org/core/services/aop-file-manager/file/620670584ea75bf1c628d10b/WSSA-APPROVED-ABBREVIATIONS-FOR-FREQUENTLY-USED-TERMS-Feb2022.pdf>

11. **Numbers** – Use Arabic numerals for all numbers with two or more digits and for all measurements such as time, weight-length, area, quantity, or degree except when the number is the first word in the sentence. Spell out numbers when they are the first word in a sentence or when they are less than 10 and not measurements.

SUBMISSION of ABSTRACT

Volunteer papers, posters, and symposium papers all require abstracts to be submitted electronically.

Deadline is by January 17th for submission of the abstract

Additional instructions will be provided on the Title/ Abstract Submission Page.

The Program will be printed exactly based on what was submitted, other than format and font changes for uniformity; therefore, proofread your submission very carefully. Primary contact authors will receive an email indicating their abstract was received and a later email confirming the section/day/time when and where the paper will be presented.

FORMAT of SLIDE PRESENTATIONS

All presentations **MUST** be in PowerPoint (any version) for MS Windows (PC compatible). **The section chairs have requested that ALL presentations be prepared and uploaded on the abstract submission site so that preloading prior to the meeting can be accomplished** (see Submission of Presentations). Please limit the size of presentations to less than 200 MB. If your presentation contains video clips or animation you must contact the section chair for approval one week **PRIOR** to sending your presentation to ensure compatibility with the equipment. Limit fonts used in the presentation to basic fonts, as not all machines may have the same choice of fonts. Examples of standard fonts are Times, Arial, Courier, Tahoma, or similar equivalents. Section chairs and computer operators are not responsible for changes in fonts, bullets, and other formatting at the time of presentation. Use up-to-date virus protection software to avoid infecting the computers provided by the section chairs.

SUBMISSION of SLIDE PRESENTATIONS

Presentations must be uploaded on the submission site prior to the meeting. Section chairs must receive the presentation at least one week in advance of the meeting **no later than February 2nd, 2026**. Please coordinate with your section chair if you want to preview your presentation at the meeting to ensure that the formats/fonts are all as you intended them to be. Due to the limited time and equipment, last-minute editing is highly discouraged. Submission of files at the time of the presentation or at any other time during the session will **NOT** be allowed.

Be alert to changes, modifications, and refinements to these guidelines between now and the meeting. This information will be published in the October and January issues of the WSSA Newsletter. For non-WSSA members, the WSSA Newsletter is available on the WSSA website (<http://www.wssa.net>).

POSTER PREPARATION, FORMAT, and SUBMISSION

The information presented as a poster is very similar to that presented as an oral paper, but it is presented physically on poster board rather than orally at the meeting. When submitting for a poster on the abstract system, in addition to specifying Poster Session, authors should indicate a category from Section 1 through 16. Poster presentations will be grouped by these categories.

1. Poster Boards. One space, 48 x 48 inches, will be provided for each poster. There will be no exceptions to the rule of one space per poster. Posters should be no larger than this size.

2. Content of Poster. Texts, graphs, and tables must be easily read from a distance of

6 feet (2 m). Titles and headings should be larger and readable from a greater distance.

3. Because of costs and logistics, it will not be possible to provide electrical connections, video equipment, or other special equipment for posters.
4. Groups of authors may present more than one poster but at least one author must be present at each poster during the time designated exclusively for viewing the poster.
5. Posters may be presented by personnel of the same sustaining member companies and may concern commercial products, but they must present results of completed research with these products rather than promotional material about them.

POSTER SESSION

There are two sessions for presentation of posters (sorted by odd and even numbers). Authors are expected to be at their poster during the period reserved for viewing the poster to answer questions and to discuss their research with interested parties.

Participants in Section 17, the Poster Session, will meet at a location designated in the program before the Poster Session begins to elect a vice-chair of the section and discuss recommendations for improvement of the Poster Session.

Commercial Exhibits. There are key differences between a poster and a commercial exhibit. The commercial exhibits are presented by Sustaining Members of WSSA and consist of educational information that may be of a promotional nature about products and/or services.

STUDENT CONTEST INFORMATION

A. ELIGIBILITY

1. Any student who is a WSSA member and has registered to attend the current annual meeting is eligible to compete in the poster or oral presentation contest. WSSA will offer the Single Slide Talk (SST) competition (the 15-minute oral option will NOT be available).
2. A Single Slide Talk (SST) competition is being offered to both WSSA students at the 2026 meeting. It provides students with the opportunity to profile their research and enhance communication skills. A separate document will be available describing this activity in more detail including how students will be judged and the rules for the competition.
3. **A student can only participate in ONE contest per annual meeting**, either the oral presentation contest or poster presentation contest during the same annual meeting. Students are eligible for participation in the Student Competition multiple times during a M.S. program and a Ph.D. program.
4. A student can only win 1st place in the poster or oral presentation contest once per degree

program. Once a student places 1st in a given contest (i.e., oral, SST, or poster presentation contest), they are no longer eligible to compete in said contest during the course of their current degree program. A student may win 1st place in the poster presentation contest and 1st place in the oral presentation contest while in a M.S. or Ph.D. program; however, a student may not enter both contests at the same annual meeting. A student may win 1st place in the poster or oral presentation contest in the M.S. degree program and then compete and win 1st place for an oral or poster presentation while in a Ph.D. degree program.

B. RULES AND PROCEDURES

1. Notice of the contests will be included with the Call for Papers.
2. A contestant may enter the poster or oral presentation contest multiple years per degree program. Persons who have graduated from a degree program (M.S. or Ph.D.) and are actively pursuing an additional degree may only enter the contest for that degree program during the first annual meeting following graduation.
3. Contestants will indicate in the title submission that they wish to enter either the poster or oral presentation contest. Title and contest declaration must be turned in by the deadline that title submissions are due. If a contestant does not turn in a title and contest declaration by the time that title submissions are due, they will be ineligible for the contest unless the Student Program Chairperson declares the student eligible based on student's situation. ABSTRACTS FOR CONTEST PRESENTATIONS must be submitted electronically by February 10, 2026. This allows the committee to prepare copies or e-mail abstracts to the appropriate judges prior to the contest.
4. Evaluation forms and rules will be posted to the WSSA website.

CALL for JUDGES!! WSSA STUDENT ORAL AND POSTER CONTEST

The Graduate Student Contest is an integral part of the 2026 joint meeting of the WSSA. Please consider serving the WSSA as an oral or poster competition judge and contributing to the development of young weed scientists. The opportunity to serve as a volunteer contest judge is open to all registered WSSA members. This includes government, university, private industry, and student members.

Please respond by December 1st with your ability to serve the WSSA to Darrin Dodds:

dmd76@msstate.edu

In responding as volunteer contest judge:

- Indicate your preference for **15-minute oral, SST, or poster** contest judging assignment.

“No preference” is also an acceptable indication.

- You are welcome to **judge in multiple contests** if your schedule permits. Multiple assignments will be made only as need dictates.
- When responding indicate whether or not you may have a particular **conflict of interest**. (i.e., advised student presenting in SST, my office mate is presenting in the PhD poster contest).

PROGRAM CHAIR CONTACT INFORMATION:

WSSA Program Chair: Ian Burke (icburke@ncsu.edu)

Ex-Officio: Eric Gustafson (info@wssa.net)

Section Chairs:

Section	WSSA Chair
Agronomic Crops	Laura Smith
Horticultural Crops	Jichul Bae
Turf and Ornamentals	Navdeep Godara
Pastures, Rangelands, Forests, and Rights of Way	David Russell
Wildland and Aquatic Invasives	David Clements
Regulatory Aspects	Leo Galindo-Gonzalez
Teaching and Extension	Sarah Hans
Formulation, Adjuvant, and Application Technology	Cody Chytk
Weed Biology and Ecology	Aniruddha Maity
Biocontrol of Weeds	Alida Janmaat
Physiology	David Belles, Neeta Soni
Soil and Environmental Aspects	Ankit Yadav
Integrated Weed Management	Dilshan Benaragama
Targeted and Autonomous Weed Control Technologies	Shaun Sharpe
Genomics	Martin LaForest
Poster Sessions	Vanessa Jones, Virginia Oeggerli
Student Contest	Breanne Tidemann