



**WEED SCIENCE  
SOCIETY of AMERICA**  
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## WSSA Committee Report

**COMMITTEE: E-9 (E-12b) Herbicide Resistance Education**

**Date: January 24, 2026**

**BOARD LIAISON: Christy Sprague**

**Include in Consent Agenda:**  Yes (no discussion needed, just informational update)

No (items in report require discussion or action)

**Members: including subcommittees**

- Amy Asmus
- Michael Barrett
- David Ervin
- George Frisvold
- Todd Gaines
- Andrew Kniss
- Ramon Leon
- Gray Turnage
- Jill Schroeder
- Francois Tardif
- Lee VanWychen
- Muthu Bagavathiannan
- David Shaw
- Katie Dentzmann
- Ian Burke
- Aaron Hager
- Bill Chism
- Amber Pelon (student representative)
- Clint Pilcher (ESA representative)
- Mark VanGessel (EPA liaison)
- Lindsay Haines (NRCS)
- Kelly Tindall (EPA)
- Cameron Douglass (USDA-OPMP)
- Craig Alford/David Belles (HRAC)
- Bart Clewis (Public Awareness)
- Lynn Sosnoskie (Extension)
- Caio Brunharo (Herbicide Resistance)
- Emily Unglesbee (Communications Specialist)
- Neil Hoffman and/or Rebecca Fletcher (APHIS - (Ex off))

Reviewed MOP for updates:   X  YES                    NO

Comments re: MOP: copied below with updates/discussion

needs noted

**4.10 Herbicide Resistance Education Committee (E9) The Herbicide Resistance Education Committee shall:**

**1. Consist of a Chair appointed to a renewable three-year term; the chairs of the Extension, Public Awareness, and Herbicide Resistant Plants Committees; the Executive Director of Science Policy, the WSSA-EPA Liaison, and members who are interested in the area of Herbicide Resistance Management and Education. The Chair also has the discretion to recruit additional members and form temporary subcommittees to meet the objectives of the committee. The Chair communicates the names and terms of any additional committee members to the VicePresident. The Board Liaison is Member-at-large B10A.**

**2. Develop and execute a comprehensive strategy on herbicide resistance education for the WSSA.**

**3. Develop educational materials for weed scientists, the scientific community, and all relevant stakeholders and end users regarding best management practices for preventing and mitigating herbicide resistance in plants.**

**4. Disseminate materials in a variety of media, including presentations for training modules, press releases, video training modules, reports, briefing documents, and web-based materials.**

~~**5. Monitor use of and maintain Herbicide Resistance Training Modules for self-paced accredited on-line Continuing Education Courses.**~~

**6. Sponsor symposia, workshops, and other tools for effectively promoting herbicide resistance education.**

**Committee Actions/Impacts/Activities:**

1. Cameron Douglass and colleagues organized a symposium for the 2026 annual meeting.  
**Title:** Re-framing the Discussion of Herbicide Resistance – Perspectives on Best Practices for Real-time Management in the Field  
**Organizers:** Charlie Cahoon (North Carolina State Univ.), Cameron Douglass (Compliance Services International), Sarah Lancaster (Kansas State Univ.)
2. Bill Chism has reached out to the APS to initiate discussions about their work on resistance management education and how we might cooperate on herbicide resistance as well as Endangered Species education.
3. Ian Burke chaired a subcommittee to develop a publication that follows up on the BMP 'Norsworthy' paper with a discussion on constraints and opportunities to adopting BMPs in different cropping systems. The work is in progress.
4. Schroeder organized a sub-committee meeting with David Shaw, Ian Burke, Katie Dentzman, George Frisvold, and Cameron Douglass to discuss the draft agenda for the annual meeting and potential needs in herbicide resistance education going forward.
5. Katie Dentzman sent an update including one survey and one publication.
  - a. A survey was completed of perennial crop stakeholders regarding their awareness and potential adoption of novel weed management technologies. This survey was part of an SCRI Planning grant.
  - b. Publication: Dentzman, K. & Mindes, S.C.H. (2026). Pesticide resistance and community collapse: The vicious cycle of rural disintegration and agricultural expansion. Journal of Rural Studies, 121, 103933.
6. Update from Emily Unglesbee on the GROW program:  
The GROW (Getting Rid of Weeds) Network and the USB-funded Take Action (Herbicide-Resistance Management) program had a productive first full year of partnership in 2025! Of the hundreds of resources we produced, nearly 50 specifically focused on herbicide management and herbicide-resistance education (that includes news stories, videos, factsheets, charts, educational webpages and social media posts). The rest focused on integrated weed management tactics and research, which also aim to have an impact on resistance management. We also distributed 26,000 Herbicide Classification posters (updated annually by Christy Sprague, MSU) to farmers, crop consultants, retailers, researchers and other ag industry stakeholders, showing a robust interest in herbicide-resistance management via rotating and mixing herbicide modes of action. The groups' outreach team hosted

**Commented [JS1]:** This is the topic of discussion at the annual meeting. See draft agenda

**Commented [JS2]:** Delete

educational booths and/or did presentations at four national ag-focused trade shows (Commodity Classic, Farm Progress Show, Ag Media Summit and NAICC) and six regional meetings/workshops/field days, all focused on promoting and distributing the team's herbicide-resistance and integrated weed management resources. Finally, the new combined GROW - Take Action website brought in a record 200,000 pageviews in the 2025 calendar year.

7. Jill Schroeder had a wide-ranging discussion with Aaron Hager (committee member who cannot attend the committee meeting at WSSA) about the changes and new challenges with resistance and messaging. He pointed out that previous messaging revolved mostly around how to manage target site resistance; however, many growers in the mid-west are dealing with increasing evolution of metabolic resistance, particularly in the Amaranth species (waterhemp). The approach to management and to messaging is changing as a result. Herbicides are still needed to manage other species in the field; however, his message is that the only way to address Amaranth sp. resistance is by eliminating seed return to the field. The solutions are likely different for each location/field, but the message of zero tolerance is important. He spoke of the differences in waterhemp and Palmer amaranth, which drove management changes because infestations resulted in zero yield in many cases. The messaging is challenging due to the complex social and economic challenges faced by growers. He felt that the entire industry must be involved in developing education and incentive strategies to assist growers, particularly in this economically challenging time.

**Committee Meeting Schedule\*:** (Include all planned meeting dates and times):

1. Pre-meeting for agenda development was held by Zoom on December 19, 2025. See above for information.

**2. Agenda for the 2026 full committee meeting February 9, 2026:**

1. Introductions
2. Updates from committee members
  - a. What are the successes in 2025?
3. Discussion about future direction for this committee – some thoughts for consideration follow to help start the discussion.
  - a. Weed science messages about herbicide resistance are largely unchanged, although the problem continues to expand, and our understanding of the biology/ecology of the situation is much deeper.
  - b. Where is the innovation in herbicide resistance management/education? What is the role of this committee in documenting new approaches?
  - c. Where is there effective collaboration within regions/across regions? If none, how can this committee facilitate collaboration/communication?
  - d. What are the challenges going forward for resistance management education?
  - e. Should this committee work more closely with the Endangered Species Committee? How does mitigation for ESA compliance impact growers' ability to manage herbicide resistance?
  - f. What is our path forward?
4. Discussion about committee membership and who needs to be involved to address future directions.
5. Volunteers to step in as Chair of this committee in 2026 are needed.

**Budget needs:**

**Areas for improvement/concerns:** The committee must have a robust discussion about the future needs and direction of the committee. Please see the draft agenda for the meeting at WSSA.

**Opportunities for future (symposia, speakers, communication, general):** This will be part of the committee meeting discussion.

\*This will be visible to all members for engagement.