

**WSSA Liaison to EPA-OPP (Office of Pesticide Programs)
Interim Report to the WSSA Board of Directors**

Submitted by: Dr. Michael Barrett

Quarter 3, 2014

Third quarter expenses to visit EPA-OPP offices were included in charges associated with costs of the 2nd Herbicide Summit.

August 4-5

Michael Barrett visited the offices of EPA-OPP in Arlington, VA on August 4 and on August 5 participated in a planning meeting for the 2nd Herbicide Summit. During the visit to EPA, he visited with personnel from the Biological and Economic Assessment Division (BEAD). During that meeting the effort to produce a listing of pesticide resistance terms across weed science, entomology and plant pathology that was begun by the three previous liaisons for the three disciplines was discussed. It was hoped that a liaison from the American Phytopathological Society would be named soon so the listing could be completed. We also discussed quarterly conference/video calls with the three liaisons. The subject of a symposium/webinar to present the resistance terms of the three disciplines was revisited with the intention to pursue this as the list came to completion. Finally, data showing changes in the most problematic weeds in the US was also discussed.

On August 5, the day was spent in a planning meeting for the 2nd Summit.

August 21- 22

During this period I participated in a meeting sponsored by Bayer that included a day to discuss the future of the "Respect the Rotation" program and the "Take Action" program of the United Soybean Board. I presented information about the 2nd Herbicide Summit to the group including an emphasis on its two main themes, the need to do something different than we have and also to involve the social sciences.

September 8-12

The primary purpose of this trip was to participate in the 2nd Herbicide Resistance Summit. However, on September 8, I participated in a meeting with Steve Powles, Director of the Australian Herbicide Resistance Initiative, Jill Schroeder of the USDA Office of Pest Management Policy (OPMP), and representatives from BEAD. We discussed the current industry strategy of using new transgenes to achieve selectivity to old herbicide chemistry. Also discussed was the issue of low herbicide rates promoting nontarget resistance. Looking at the Australian situation, Steve said it had been easy to get farmer acceptance for incorporating tillage and

delayed seeding for herbicide weed management. This was partly because there were no effective herbicide options. He also said the primary roles that the Australian government had played in herbicide resistance management were through extension education and by requiring mandatory herbicide mechanism of action labelling.

September 9 was spent in a final summit planning meeting and September 10 was the Summit. Michael Barrett made a presentation on “Carrots and Sticks: Incentives and Regulations for Herbicide Resistance Management and Changing Behavior”. His talk was followed by one given by Jack Housenger, Director of EPA-OPP, and they took questions of the two presentations together.

On September 11, I attended a National Research Council “Scoping Meeting” which brought together representatives from academic, industrial, non-profit, and government agency organizations across plant pathology, entomology, and weed science to discuss the broad issue of pesticide resistance. This is an initial step for NRC to consider future initiatives in this area.

September 12 was a final post-summit meeting and planning session for the next steps.