

2026 WSSA Committee Report

Summary for 2025 and Action Plan for 2026

Committee Code and Name: P3 – Weed Technology

Committee Chair: Jason K. Norsworthy

Committee Members - 2025: Thierry Besancon, Jason Bond, Kevin Bradley, Barry Brecke, Tommy Butts, Peter Dittmar, Katie Jennings, Prashant Jha, William Johnson, Amit Jhala, Vipin Kumar, Donnie Miller, Robert Nurse, Rafael Pedroso, Sandeep Rana, Larry Steckel, Michael Walsh, Eric Webster, Connor Webster, Rodrigo Werle, Joe Wuerffel

Board Coordinator: Chris Willenborg & Sarah Ward

Committee Members Rotating Off: Charles Geddes and Drew Lyon

New Committee Members: New members will be identified in the coming weeks

Summary of Activities

- What were the committee's goals for 2025?
 - Continue working with Cambridge to increase submissions.
 - Reduce the time to first decision.
- List the committee's accomplishments (since the last annual meeting):

There were 142 manuscripts submitted to *Weed Technology* in 2025, down from 189 submissions in 2024, but only slightly down from the 152 submissions in 2023. According to Cambridge, a decrease was expected, at least initially, after the journal switched to open access in January 2024.

The time to first decision was the lowest in some time, averaging 40.6 days. For instance, the time to first decision in both 2023 and 2024 averaged 45.6 days. As Editor, on average, a decision was rendered within 1.7 days of receipt of the manuscript from the Associate Editor.

The acceptance rate in 2025 was 61%, slightly lower than in 2024. The impact factor for *Weed Technology* is 1.7 based on citations from 2023 to 2024, ranking it 62nd out of 129 journals in the Agronomy category, which is an improvement over the previous year. It currently ranks 132 out of 273 journals in the Plant Science category, placing it in quartile 2 in both categories.

- What information was posted on the WSSA website?

Featured articles and blog posts were made available on the WSSA website.
- What amount of funds were requested? How much was spent?

Editor's stipend.
- What was the impact of the committee activities/accomplishments on the following: membership, publication, policy, legislation, and/or education?

Publication of scientific research is critical to the success of our society and its members.

- What is the current state of the committee's projects and activities?

2026 Plan for Committee Activities

- Goals for 2026: Dr. Amit Jhala accepted the role of Associate Editor for review articles in 2025 and has worked with the Editor to solicit invited reviews. A notable goal for 2026 is to increase the number of review articles published in the journal, especially given that these are often more highly cited than standard research articles. Increasing the number of review articles should eventually improve the journal's impact factor, albeit this will take a few years.

The Editor will also work with Cambridge to identify ways to increase submissions in 2026, and there will be continued efforts to further reduce the time to first decision, even though it was a record low in 2025.

- Plan of Action:
Continue encouraging Associate Editors to submit their research to the journal and have them urge other weed science colleagues to do the same. Associate Editors are encouraged to help generate ideas for review articles and to improve the time to first decision, especially for those that averaged more than 20 days after receipt of completed reviews.

Recommendations for Board/Society Action:

- Funds requested for 2026:
Editor's stipend.
- Other requests for the Board:
None