



WSSA

WEED SCIENCE SOCIETY OF AMERICA

Volume 42, No. 1
January, 2014

Newsletter



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It doesn't seem like nearly a year since I began my term as WSSA President in Baltimore. It has been an exciting year with many activities, most of which were described in previous newsletters. I will be presenting a brief summary of major developments within the Society during the WSSA Business Meeting in Van-

couver. I encourage you to attend.

One recent development that I am pleased to report is that Sarah Ward has agreed to serve as the next WSSA Director of Publications. Sarah's appointment has been approved by the WSSA Board of Directors and she has been working with Jim Anderson to assure a smooth transition. I am very pleased that Sarah has agreed to take on this important role within the Society. On behalf of WSSA, I wish to express our appreciation to Jim Anderson for his 6 years of service in this role. Jim has provided outstanding leadership for our publications and has made several significant improvements over this period. Most notably, he was instrumental in the establishment of our newest journal, *Invasive Plant Science and Management*. Jim's efforts, along with those of Editor Joe DiTomaso, were critical to the successful launch of this journal, which is gaining momentum and has received a Thomas Reuters Impact Factor.

It is my pleasure to welcome two newly elected members to the WSSA Board of Directors. Kevin Bradley has been elected Vice President and Larry Steckel has been elected Secretary. Both new members will begin their terms on the Board at the Thursday meeting in Vancouver. Congratulations to both Kevin and Larry.

I would like to thank all the members of the WSSA Board of Directors, Committee Chairs, and Journal Editors, Associate Editors, and Reviewers for their contributions to the Society. Much of the work of the Society is done by members who are volunteering their time. In addition, the financial contributions of WSSA Individual Members and Sustaining Members make it possible for the Society to

CONTINUED on pg 2 >>

**FUTURE MEETING
DATES AND SIGHTS**
(details inside on page 2)

IN THIS ISSUE

Washington Report 3

Important Addresses 5

Calendar of Events 6

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE CONTINUED from pg 1

publish three journals, have a Director of Science Policy and an EPA Liaison, and to have high quality annual meetings. It's been an honor and a pleasure to serve as WSSA President for this past year. The next President's Message will be written by incoming WSSA President Joe DiTomaso. Best wishes to Joe as he begins his year as WSSA President. I look forward to seeing many of you at the joint WSSA/CWSS Meeting in Vancouver.

Jim Kells
President, WSSA

2014 WSSA Committee Report Template Summary for 2013 and Action Plan for 2014

Committee Code and Name:

Committee Chair:

Committee Members – 2013:

Board Coordinator:

Committee Members Rotating Off:

Summary of Activities

- What were the committee's goals for 2013?
- List the committee's accomplishments (since the last annual meeting):
- What information was posted on the WSSA website?
- What amount of funds were requested? How much was spent?
- What was the impact of the committee activities/accomplishments on the following: membership, publication, policy, legislation, and/or education?
- What is the current state of the committee's projects and activities?

2014 Plan for Committee Activities

- Goals for 2014:
- Plan of Action:

Recommendations for Board/Society Action:

- Funds requested for 2014:
- Other requests for the Board:

WSSA FUTURE MEETING SITES AND DATES

2014

Vancouver, BC, Canada

February 3–6, 2014

Hyatt Regency

**Joint meeting of WSSA and
Canadian Weed Science Society**

2015

Lexington, Kentucky

2016

San Juan, Puerto Rico

2017

Tucson, Arizona

**WSSA HOME PAGE
ACCESSED AT:**

www.wssa.net

THINK NEWSLETTER

Deadline for April issue

March 1, 2014

WSSA NEWSLETTER

VOL. 42, NO. 1

JANUARY, 2014

Published quarterly by the Weed Science Society of America. Subscription included in the annual dues paid by members of the Society. Address correspondence and information to:

**NEW EDITOR INFORMATION
TO BE ANNOUNCED**

WASHINGTON REPORT

by Lee Van Wychen, Director of Science Policy

GOOD NEWS FOR FY 2014 USDA BUDGET

House and Senate appropriators are on the verge of passing an actual omnibus appropriations package. It's been pretty dismal over the past couple of years with continuing resolutions, sequestration, and no clear policy guidance. The conference agreement numbers released on Jan. 13 for USDA's research, education and extension initiatives were all quite positive.

The National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) is slated for \$1.277 billion, which is over \$100 million more than last year's sequester levels and the highest since 2010. The Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI) will receive its highest appropriation ever of \$316.4 million. The funding for federal land-grant capacity programs for research and extension will also receive some of the largest appropriations in recent memory. Smith-Lever 3b & c programs will get \$300 million, the highest level in at least a decade. The same can be said for the Hatch Act which will be funded at \$243.7 million in FY 2014. The Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE) program will also receive its highest-ever funding of \$22.6 million.

There is a new line item under the Integrated Activities section of the USDA NIFA budget called "Crop Protection/Pest Management Program." This line item combines the following five programs: Extension IPM Coordinators (Smith-Lever 3d), Regional IPM Centers, the Expert IPM System, the IPM Grants program, and the Pest Management Alternatives Program (PMAP). The Crop Protection program is funded at \$17.1 million in FY 2014. Congressional appropriators accepted USDA's Crop Protection proposal the second time around since, much to our relief, it did not include

the IR-4 program. Last year, the House and Senate appropriators rejected USDA's proposal because IR-4 would have incurred indirect cost recovery of approximately 30 percent if they were moved from the Research activities account to the Integrated activities account. Under the USDA NIFA budget for FY 2014, IR-4 will receive \$11.9 million, which is over \$1 million more than last year's sequester amount.

Other USDA agencies also fared pretty well. The USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), Agricultural Research Service (ARS), and Economic Research Service (ERS) all received their largest appropriation since 2011. In FY 2014, APHIS will receive \$821.7 million, ARS will receive \$1.122 billion, and ERS will receive \$78.05 million. The House and Senate did reject ARS's proposal to reallocate funds and it's proposal to close six more research locations in FY 2014.

APPROPRIATORS INCLUDE \$4 MILLION FOR AQUATIC PLANT CONTROL RESEARCH

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Aquatic Plant Control Research Program (APCRP) is the nation's only federally authorized program for research and development of science-based management strategies for invasive aquatic weeds. For three years in a row now, the Administration has not requested any funding for APCRP. However, the Senate Energy and Water appropriators have understood the true value of APCRP and have recommended funding the program each year. It would be a grave mistake by the Corps' to eliminate the expertise and institutional knowledge encompassed by APCRP. Thankfully, the FY 2014 omnibus appropriations bill includes \$4 million for APCRP.

FARM BILL FATE "UDDERLY" UNCERTAIN

Having grown up on a dairy farm near Green Bay, Wisconsin, I couldn't resist using some cow humor in these trying times. There have been a number of contentious issues delaying Farm Bill negotiations like food stamps and commodity support programs, but the biggest sticking point has been dairy policy. There are two entrenched camps of thought surrounding the dairy farm safety net. One is supply management and the other is margin insurance. Both have their good points and not-so-good points, but it appears that a new margin insurance plan could be the compromise. For USDA to hold down the cost of the margin insurance, the program's rates would be scaled back so that they do not provide an incentive to overproduce when market prices are low and costs are high. Let's just hope the negotiations keep "Moooving".

2,4-D RESISTANT CROPS DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

On Jan. 3, USDA-APHIS released its Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) as part of its review to determine whether to deregulate genetically engineered corn and soybean plants that are resistant 2,4-D. APHIS is holding a virtual public meeting on Jan. 29, 2014, from 5:00 – 8:00 p.m. EST to receive comments on the DEIS, which analyzes the potential environmental impacts of one corn and two soybean varieties genetically engineered by Dow AgroSciences to be resistant to 2,4-D, and several other herbicides.

APHIS developed the DEIS after conducting a thorough scientific analysis and considering public comments received during a scoping

CONTINUED on pg 4 >>>

process that helped inform the development of the DEIS. APHIS will consider all public comments made during the virtual meeting and through www.Regulations.gov before finalizing the DEIS and preliminary plant pest risk assessment, and making its final regulatory decision on the Dow petitions. The public comment period is open from now through February 24, 2014.

For complete details and supporting documents, please go to:

http://www.aphis.usda.gov/biotechnology/meetings_24d_deis.shtml

SUPREME COURT DENIES HEARING ORGANIC SEED GROWERS HYPOTHETICAL LAWSUIT

In March 2011, seed and organic groups and farmers preemptively filed a lawsuit against Monsanto seeking a ruling that they could not be held liable for patent infringement should

their products or fields be found to be contaminated with Monsanto's GMO products.

The lawsuit is not based on an actual dispute over a farmer getting caught with Monsanto's licensed seed in a field (i.e. the Bowman case where he harvested his GMO beans and then replanted them next year), but rather an effort to bar such actions from being initiated by Monsanto. The district court dismissed the suit in February 2012, agreeing with an argument made by Monsanto that the plaintiffs lacked subject matter jurisdiction, finding "it is clear that these circumstances do not amount to a substantial controversy and that there has been no injury traceable to defendants." Later in 2012, the U.S. Court of Appeals also dismissed the case, thus the organic farmers and seed growers tried one last desperation attempt with the Supreme Court.

Monsanto has repeatedly told the plaintiffs that the company has no

desire or intent to sue if their patented seed or traits are found in a farmer's field as a result of inadvertent means. Both the constitution and the Declaratory Judgment Act "do not permit federal courts to exercise jurisdiction over such artificial and hypothetical disagreements, engineered solely to advance a political position." The Supreme Court's decision not to review the case brings closure on the matter.

Lee Van Wychen, Ph.D.
Science Policy Director
National and Regional Weed Science Societies
5720 Glenmullen Place
Alexandria, VA 22303
Lee.VanWychen@wssa.net
cell: 202-746-4686
www.wssa.net

Send Newsletter material to:

**NEW EDITOR INFORMATION
TO BE ANNOUNCED**

IMPORTANT ADDRESSES

PRESIDENT

Jim Kells
Telephone: (517) 355-0271, ext. 1103
e-mail: kells@msu.edu

PRESIDENT-ELECT

Joe DiTomaso
Telephone: (530) 754-8715
e-mail: jmditomaso@ucdavis.edu

VICE-PRESIDENT

Dallas Peterson
Telephone: (785) 532-0405
e-mail: dpeterso@ksu.edu

PAST-PRESIDENT

Rod Lym
North Dakota State University
Loftsgard Hall 474D
P. O. Box 6050
Fargo, ND 58108-6050
Telephone: (701) 231-8996
Fax: (701) 231-8474
e-mail: rod.lym@ndsu.edu

CONSTITUTION/MOPS

Peter Porpiglia
Telephone: (949) 221-6116
e-mail: peterp@amvac-chemical.com

SECRETARY

John Madsen
Mississippi State University
Mailstop 9627
2 Research Blvd.
Mississippi State, MS 39762
Telephone: (662) 325-2428
e-mail: jmadsen@gri.msstate.edu

TREASURER

Ian Burke
Washington State University
Telephone: (509) 335-2858
e-mail: icburke@wsu.edu

DIRECTOR OF PUBLICATIONS

James V. Anderson
USDA-ARS, PSR
1605 Albrecht Blvd.
Fargo, ND 58105-5674
Telephone: (701) 239-1263
Fax: (701) 239-1252
e-mail: james.anderson@ars.usda.gov

DIRECTOR OF SCIENCE POLICY

Lee Van Wychen
5720 Glenmullen Place
Alexandria, VA 22303
Telephone: (202) 746-4686
e-mail: Lee.VanWychen@wssa.net

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Joyce Lancaster
P. O. Box 1897
Lawrence, KS 66044
Telephone: (785) 843-1235, ext. 250
Fax: (785) 843-1274
e-mail: jlancaster@allenpress.com

IWSS

Albert J. Fischer
Vegetable Crops Dept
University of California
One Shields Ave.
Davis, CA 95616
Telephone: (530) 752-7386
Fax: (530) 752-4604
e-mail: ajfischer@ucdavis.edu

CAST

Jeff Derr
Virginia Tech
Telephone: (757) 363-3912
Fax: (757) 363-3950
e-mail: jderr@vt.edu

AIBS (Our Representative)

Lee Van Wychen
5720 Glenmullen Place
Alexandria, VA 22303
Telephone: (202) 746-4686
e-mail: Lee.VanWychen@wssa.net

GRAD STUDENT REP

Alexandra Knight
Telephone: (740) 491-0367
e-mail: amknigh4@ncsu.edu

NEWSLETTER EDITORS:

WSSA

Clifford (Trey) Koger
Syngenta
112 Meadowlark Lane
Indianola, MS 38751
Cell: (662) 207-1604
e-mail: trey.koger@syngenta.com

Aquatic Plant Mgmt. Society (APMS)

Cody Gray
Telephone: (719) 886-4708
e-mail: cody.gray@uniphos.com

NEWSS

Jacob Barney
Telephone: (814) 865-2242
e-mail: jnbarney@vt.edu

NCWSS

Mark Bernards
Telephone: (309) 298-1569
e-mail: ml-bernards@wiu.edu

SWSS

Darrin Dodds
Telephone: (662) 325-4072
e-mail: dmd76@pss.msstate.edu

WSWS

Pat Clay
Telephone: (602) 206-9261
e-mail: Pat.Clay@valent.com

CWSS-SCM

Hugh J. Beckie, PhD PAg
Research Scientist/Chercheur Scientifique
Herbicide-Resistant & Novel-Trait Plants/
Plantes résistantes aux herbicides et végétaux
à caractères nouveaux
Science & Technology Branch/Direction
générale des sciences et de la technologie
Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada/Agriculture
et Agroalimentaire Canada
107 Science Place
Saskatoon, SK S7N0X2
Telephone: 306-956-7251
Facsimile/Telecopier: 306-956-7247
e-mail: hugh.beckie@agr.gc.ca

IWSS

Dr. Samunder Singh
Department of Agronomy
CCS Haryana Agricultural University
Hisar 125 004, India
Voice: 91 94160 07242
e-mail: sam4884@gmail.com

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	CONTACT
February 3–6, 2014	Joint WSSA and Canadian Weed Science Society Annual Meeting	Vancouver, Canada	www.wssa.net
March 10–13, 2014	Western Society of Weed Science Annual Meeting	Colorado Springs, Colorado	www.wsweedscience.org
July 13–16, 2014	Aquatic Plant Management Society (APMS) Annual Meeting	Savannah, Georgia	www.apms.org
February, 2015	Weed Science Society of America Annual Meeting	Lexington, Kentucky	www.wssa.net
February 8–11, 2016	Joint WSSA and Southern Weed Science Society Annual Meeting	San Juan, Puerto Rico	www.wssa.net
2017	Weed Science Society of America Annual Meeting	Tucson, Arizona	www.wssa.net

Send Newsletter material to:

**NEW EDITOR INFORMATION
TO BE ANNOUNCED**