

WSSA Liaison to EPA (Office of Pesticide Programs – OPP)  
Interim Report to the WSSA Board of Directors – Quarter 1 2012  
April 9, 2012

First quarter activities: I spent time throughout the quarter on planning activities for the Herbicide Resistance Management Summit planned for May 10 in Washington <http://nas-sites.org/hr-weeds-summit/>.

**January 23-27, 2012:** I spent the week at the Office of Pesticide Programs. The primary goal for the week was to present a brown bag (lunch time) seminar. The topic of the seminar was the WSSA Herbicide Resistance Training Modules. The seminar and questions lasted about 1.5 hours and 47 people from throughout OPP attended the seminar. I gave a brief introduction to the modules including their purpose, the target audience, the review process, and current and planned distribution. I then presented highlights of the first three modules with the intention of concentrating on terminology used by weed scientists. The group discussed the topics including the process of selection for resistance as well as issues around management of the problem.

Gene Reagan (ESA-SME) was also present during the week and we attended discussions about pest resistance management (including attending the resistance workgroup meeting) and other topics. I spent time with staff from Environmental Fate and Effects Division (EFED) who provided me with an overview of how EFED derives risk quotient (RQ) values for herbicides based on the information provided by registrants and attended a Herbicide Branch meeting. I also met with members of the Risk Integration, Minor Use, & Emergency Response Branch to learn more about their procedures for evaluating section 18 requests. The week was very productive overall.

**February 6-10:** I attended the WSSA annual meeting. I participated in Science Policy, S71, and Herbicide Resistant Plants committee meetings and gave an oral presentation on liaison/SME activities in the Regulatory Aspects session.

**February 28-March 1:** I spent the week in DC and joined Rod Lym, David Shaw, Mike Barrett, John Jachetta, and Lee VanWychen at the NISAW opening session. In the afternoon of Feb 28, we met with NIFA administrators Deborah Sheely, Mike Fitzner, Michael Bowers, and Rob Hedberg at NIFA offices. We then traveled to Crystal City where we met with Steve Bradbury (OPP-Director) and other EPA-OPP staff. At both locations, WSSA members provided an update on the herbicide resistance summit in May and listened to updates on activities at the respective agencies.

Jim Gray, ND Dept of Agriculture, was at EPA for the week. Jim is going to be spending time at OPP over this next year to work on issues related to pesticide labeling, working with state regulators, and enforcement. We had an excellent discussion and plan to continue to visit over the coming year as issues arise. We will spend time discussing state concerns related to weed science.

I had an excellent discussion with Skee Jones (Biological and Economic Analysis Division) and Dan Kenny (Registration Division-Herbicide Branch) about future seminars that Gene Reagan and I could offer at the agency. I will work with them to offer seminars on topics in weed science during the remainder of this year.

**March 12-16:** I attended the WSWS annual meeting. I had informal discussions with a number of people about my activities at EPA.

Second quarter plans: I will be traveling to DC the week of April 16 when Gene Reagan will present a seminar on IPM principles in Entomology. I will also attend the NAS sponsored Summit on May 10. I have not made other plans for travel at this point.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jill Schroeder  
WSSA SME/liaison to EPA