

NCWSS • News

North Central Weed Science Society

Vol 22, Number 3, Fall 2006

www.ncwss.org

- ▶ *Are You Ready for Milwaukee?*
61st Annual NCWSS Meeting.... 1
- ▶ *A Word From Your President* 2
- ▶ *A Note From the Electronic*
Communications Committee 3
- ▶ *Enhancing Weed Control Through*
Adjuvant Technology 4
- ▶ *Mechanisms and Genetics of*
Glyphosate Resistance 5
- ▶ *Invasive Plants Symposium and*
Workshops..... 5
- ▶ *2006 NCWSS Weed Science*
Contest..... 6
- ▶ *CAST Report*..... 11
- ▶ *Science Policy Report* 12
- ▶ *Recent Changes in the USDA NRI*
Grant Program for Weedy and
Invasive Plants..... 13
- ▶ *People and Places*..... 14
- ▶ *Position Announcements*..... 15



Are You Ready for Milwaukee? 61st Annual NCWSS Meeting - Mike Holm (Local Arrangements Chair)

Milwaukee and your local arrangements committee are looking forward to hosting the 2006 NCWSS annual meeting at the Hyatt Regency. Adrian Moses is putting together an excellent program and the Hyatt is going to be an ideal location for the meeting. Located in the heart of downtown Milwaukee, it is connected by skywalks to many locations including the Shops of Grand Avenue. If you have time during the meeting, we suggest a tour of either Harley Davidson or the Miller Brewery. Also, for you sport fans, the Milwaukee Bucks will be hosting the Seattle Supersonics on Tuesday, December 12, at the nearby Bradley Center.

Plan now to attend the 61st annual meeting on December 11 – 14. Hyatt Regency Milwaukee, 333 West Kilbourn Avenue, Milwaukee, Wi. 53203

To reserve your room at the Hyatt; call 800-233-1234, mail in your reservation or go on-line via the link on the NCWSS web site. (corporate code g-LWEE) Please make your reservation prior to November 9 in order to receive our guaranteed single rate of \$92.00/night.

If you have questions concerning the meeting or if you need to arrange additional NCWSS committee meetings, contact the local arrangements chairman, Mick Holm (Mick.f.Holm@usa.dupont.com or 608-231-9961). If you would like to plan other meetings in conjunction with the NCWSS meeting, please contact Paul Larsen who is handling our meeting for the Hyatt. (plarsen@hyatt.com or 414-270-6037)

We look forward to seeing you in Milwaukee!

Please send your articles for the Newsletter to Harlene Hatterman-Valenti

Electronic Submission is preferred, send articles to h.hatterman.valenti@ndsu.edu

Continued on next page

Traveling to Milwaukee

Milwaukee is serviced by the General Mitchell International Airport. Transportation from the airport to the Hyatt is available through the Airport Connection. It is located outside of baggage claim #3 and the cost is \$11.00/person each way. Reservations should be made for the shuttle by calling 414-769-2451.

Cabs between the airport and the Hyatt will cost about \$25.00.

If You Are Driving

From the South; Take I-94 West/43 North towards downtown Milwaukee. In downtown, follow the center lane marked 43 – North/Green Bay. At the end of the ramp take the Kilbourn Ave./Civic Center exit. The exit is a tunnel. When you come out of the tunnel go straight for one long block. The Hyatt will be on your right at 4th St.

From the SW; From Rockford take I-90 North to Beloit and take I-43 north to 894-East/43-North Bypass. From the bypass take left lanes to 43-North towards downtown Milwaukee. In downtown take the center lane marked 43-North/Green Bay. At the

end of the ramp take the exit for Kilbourn Ave./Civic Center. The exit is a tunnel. At the end of the tunnel go straight for one long block. Hyatt is on your right at 4th St. and Kilbourn Ave.

From the West; Take I-94 east into downtown Milwaukee. In downtown the freeway will split. Follow the center lane for 794-East. From 794-East take the exit for Jackson and Van Buren St. At the end of the ramp go to the left. You will be going north on Van Buren. Take Van Buren north to Kilbourn Ave. Turn left on Kilbourn and follow it west for 9 blocks to 3rd St. The Hyatt will be on your left.

**** Disclaimer;*** Because of all the road construction near downtown Milwaukee, the above directions are subject to change. Please call the hotel for updated directions.

Parking

The Hyatt has indoor self parking attached to the hotel. The cost is \$15.00/day. Limited parking for large vehicles will be available in an open lot behind the parking garage. ●

A Word from Your President (Steve Miller)

Of all the seasons of the year I like it most when fall is here. The leaves have turned a golden brown and from the trees come tumbling down. Ducks and geese in southward flight pass overhead both day and night. As cool north winds begin to blow, they soon are followed by winter snow. However, the main reason I like fall is the fact it's football season. This is part of a poem I wrote many years ago in freshman English but it still reflects my feelings toward fall. As fall approaches it's time to start thinking about the North Central Weed Science Society annual meeting. We need to turn our attention to committee obligations and paper or poster presentations as well as our many other duties.

The NCWSS Executive Committee met prior to the NCWSS Weed Science contest at York, Nebraska in late July and had a very productive meeting. Much of the meeting dealt with the upcoming meeting in Milwaukee and the weed contest. Adrian Moses will cover the program in much greater detail but I cannot help but make a few comments regarding the excellent symposium proposed. The symposium includes invasive weeds, adjuvants, and glyphosate tolerance mechanisms as well as several workshops on invasive weeds. The NCWSS is again partnering with MIPN/IPAW to put on a strong program on invasive weeds.

Registration and payment can again be done electronically in advance of the meeting. Glenn Nice, chair of the Electronics Communication Committee, has done an excellent job on this and is making things as simple as possible.

The Summer Weed Contest was hosted by Midwest Research Incorporated at York, Nebraska. Congratulations are in order to Jess Spotanski and his family for doing such an outstanding job of hosting the contest. Quality of plots was outstanding and industry again provided excellent support for the contest.

Finally, I would like to reiterate that the NCWSS is your society and we need your input. Please provide comments and suggestions on how to improve the operations and functions of the society. Contact me or any board member with your suggestions.



Steve Miller

A Note From the Electronic Communications Committee — Glenn Nice

Online Payment:

As last year the ability to pay for your pre-registration through Pay Pal will continue. Pay Pal is an affiliate of Ebay. The process is a secured check out using a 128-bit encryption key to protect the information collected in the purchase process. You do NOT need a Pay Pal account to purchase registration or the items offered by the NCWSS through this service. Purchases can be made using a credit card; the NCWSS does not see or store your credit card information.

Instructions:

When selecting “On line”, next to the “Mail in Registration” link on the Annual Meeting web site or “Registration” on one of the symposia pages (www.ncwss.org), you will be taken to a Registration Information Page. This page is essentially the online equivalent of the early registration form you used to fill out and mail. Please take a moment to fill out this information for NCWSS records. You can not continue until this page is filled out. Once done press the “Submit” button once; you will receive an email confirming your submission. If you do not receive this please contact Bob Schmidt at the NCWSS. When the submission button is hit, you will be directed to a selection page. At this point please select on whether you are registering for the complete NCWSS annual meeting or if you are registering for one of the offered symposia. Your selection is important for it will take you to two different purchase pages.

On the purchase page, when you select “Member early registration” or “industry breakfast”, you will be sent to a shopping cart. This page gives you the option of either paying for what is in our shopping cart or continuing to shop. Each item added to your cart will show you your updated cart. Once you are ready to check out through Pay Pal.

For record keeping purposes, ONLY one individual registration per check out please.

Symposia:

There are three symposia offered this year. 1) Enhancing Weed Control Through Adjuvant Technology; 2) Invasive Plant Symposium and Workshop; 3) Mechanisms and Genetics of Glyphosate Resistance. Mechanisms and Genetics of Glyphosate Resistance is not being offered at a separate price. However, Enhancing Weed Control Through Adjuvant Technology and the Invasive Plant Symposium and Workshop is. Attendance for a single day is \$40.00, but attendance for two days, as in the case of the Invasive Symposia

and Workshop together is \$60.00.

Oral Paper Presenters:

This year, the multimedia room and the local arrangement’s room shall be in the same room (to be announced in the program). As a paper presenter, the NCWSS needs your assistance to facilitate the delivery of your presentation to the communications committee in a timely manner. In your last minute preparations, please keep the following points in mind:

1. All presentations must be in Microsoft Powerpoint (PC compatible). Macintosh/Apple formats will not be supported.
2. Please limit presentations to 25 MB or less. Video clips are discouraged. If you need to use a video clip please contact me.
3. All presentations must be stored on CD-R media (please no CD-RW). For a good tutorial on the differences of CD-R and CD-RW and some tips on burning CD’s the ASA has constructed a useful web page at the following address - http://www.asa-cssa-sssa.org/meetings/acs/present_tips_oral.html
4. Label CD with the paper number for your presentation, listed in the NCWSS program. The program will be posted on the Annual Meeting page closer to the meeting date.
5. Only 1 presentation per CD please. Multiple presentations allowed ONLY IF all have same section chairperson.
6. Deposit presentation CD into the drop box at the NCWSS Registration area on either the evening of Monday December 11th (preferred) or Tuesday December 12th morning before 10:00 am. Later drop offs are discouraged but may be delivered to the NCWSS Local arrangements/multimedia room.

On behalf of the Electronic Communications Committee, we thank you in advance for adhering to these instructions. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me. Have a safe trip to the meeting!!

**The NCWSS Newsletter is Edited by
Harlene Hatterman-Valenti
and
Designed by Glenn Nice**

If you are a member of the NCWSS and have content for the newsletter, please submit to the Editor (H.Hatterman.valenti@ndsu.edu)



through a financial contribution. Although the symposium is only one day in length, there are several expenses which we hope may be offset by financial support

We are pleased to inform you of a one day symposium entitled "Enhancing Weed Control Through Adjuvant Technology" to be held in conjunction with the annual meeting of the North Central Weed Science Society (NCWSS) in Milwaukee on Dec. 13, 2006. The meeting and symposium will be held at the Hyatt Regency Milwaukee. A copy of the scheduled program is included in this letter.

Attendees at the meeting will include individuals from industry, university, and government, and producers. Registration for the symposium will be \$40.00 and entitles you to attend all sessions of the NCWSS Annual Meeting on Wednesday, December 13th but does not include the cost of the banquet to be held on Wednesday evening. If you wish, you can register for the entire NCWSS meeting from Dec. 12-14th and your registration for the Adjuvant Symposium will be included as well as the conference banquet. Further information on the NCWSS annual meeting can be found at the NCWSS website (www.ncwss.org).

The first opportunity for you to participate is in the industry update section. We are inviting all of the major adjuvant suppliers, formulators, and distributors that supply adjuvant products in the states encompassing the NCWSS to provide technical information on their latest adjuvant technology. The length of time permitted for each company's presentation will be determined by the number of companies accepting this offer to participate in this session. We will supply you with a "model" presentation of the type of information we are hoping that would be presented to the symposium participants. We will require confirmation of your participation in this session by Oct. 18, 2006. Your confirmation can be made via email to Dr. Patrick McMullan at pmcmullan@agrotechnologyresearch.com.

Opportunity for participation in the symposium, but perhaps most important for success of the symposium, is

from the adjuvant industry. This symposium has been designed to give the adjuvant industry the opportunity to present their technology to their active audience - the pesticide industry. We hope that you will consider sponsoring the symposium at level of Gold sponsorship (\$500.00), Silver sponsorship (\$250.00), or Bronze sponsorship (\$100.00). Gold sponsorship includes 2 complimentary registrations (an \$80.00 value or the equivalent discount for complete NCWSS registrations) and 2 copies of the proceedings of the NCWSS annual meeting, which will include much of the information presented at the symposium (a \$40.00 value). In addition, Gold sponsors will be acknowledged as (co)-sponsors of one of the four sessions of the symposium. Silver sponsorship includes 1 complimentary registration (a \$40.00 value or the equivalent discount for a complete NCWSS registration) and 1 copy of the proceedings of the NCWSS annual meeting (a \$20.00 value). All sponsors will be included or displayed during the various breaks. For further information on becoming a symposium sponsor, please contact Dr. Patrick McMullan at (901) 757-2730 or via email.

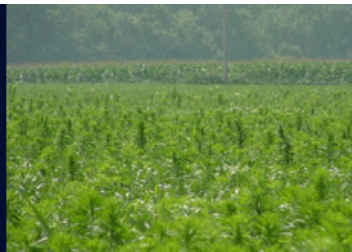
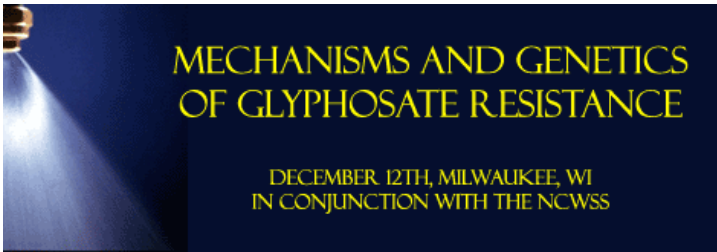
If you have any questions on the Adjuvant symposium or for further information, please feel free to contact either of us. We look forward to your participating in this upcoming symposium.

Dr. Patrick McMullan
 Manager, Agronomic
 Research
 agroTECHNOLOGY
 Research, Inc.

Co-chair, Organizing
 Committee

Dr. Richard Zollinger
 Professor, Dept. of Plant
 Sciences
 North Dakota State Univer-
 sity

Co-chair, Organizing
 Committee



three additional weeds which have been confirmed resistant to glyphosate, common ragweed, common waterhemp, and Palmer amaranth.

The herbicide physiology division of the North Central Weed Science Society would like to invite you to attend a very important symposium titled “Mechanisms and genetics of glyphosate resistance” during the annual meeting in Milwaukee, WI. The symposium will take place on December 12th from 1 pm to 5 pm. A group of outstanding speakers specializing in this area will present their research on glyphosate resistance. In 2002, the society had a symposium on this very same topic, but over the last four years many things have changed. Many of the concerns in 2002 dealt with the newest weed, horseweed (marestail), being confirmed resistant to glyphosate in Delaware with additional weeds such as velvetleaf, ivyleaf morninggory, and common lambsquarters having marginal control with glyphosate. Since the 2002 meeting there has been

will be two presentations outlining glyphosate resistance from a historical perspective to current day issues and future challenges. These presentations will be followed up by five presentations dealing with specific weeds that have been confirmed or suspected resistant to glyphosate. The focus of this symposium will go into the molecular, genetic, and physiological aspects of glyphosate resistance and the concern of additional weeds becoming resistant to glyphosate in the future. If you have ever wondered why some weeds are resistant and others are not this will be a great symposium to learn about the resistant mechanisms. With the current market place moving towards the use of more glyphosate resistant crops, it will be important to understand and develop management tools to keep this technology sustainable.



tion among researchers and land managers, herbicide use and safety, and several other topics. This meeting will give land managers and landowners the opportunity to meet with researchers, extension

Please mark your calendars for an important meeting on Invasive Plants in the Midwest. The North Central Weed Science Society (NCWSS), Midwest Invasive Plant Network (MIPN) and the Invasive Plants Association of Wisconsin (IPAW) will cosponsor a two-day program (Dec. 13 and 14) on invasive plants in the Midwest. The program will be held during the NCWSS Annual Meeting at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Milwaukee, Dec. 12-14, 2006. IPAW and MIPN will also hold their annual meetings at the conference. The program includes a symposium on Wednesday morning followed by submitted papers on invasive plants in the afternoon. On Thursday, two concurrent sessions will be offered.

The Invasive Plants program is designed to meet the needs of and encourage interaction among researchers, land managers, and anyone interested in managing invasive plants. It will include invited presentations, contributed papers and posters, and a series of workshops on the management of garlic mustard, buckthorn, and multiflora rose, collabora-

agents, and herbicide and restoration company representatives to discuss the need for further research and products for invasive plant control.

We encourage everyone interested in invasive plants in the Midwest to attend the MIPN meeting. We will provide updates on MIPN activities, elect a board of directors, and conduct other MIPN business. We will also discuss the potential for further collaboration between MIPN and the NCWSS.

For Further Information Contact:

Kevin Gibson, Purdue University, (765) 496-2161, kgibson@purdue.edu

Kate Howe, Midwest Invasive Plant Network Coordinator, The Nature Conservancy of Indiana, (317) 951- 8818, khowe@tnc.org

Kelly Kearns, WI DNR, 608-267-5066, kearns@dnr.state.wi.us

Jerry Doll, Professor Emeritus, University of Wisconsin – Madison, jddoll@wisc.edu

2006 NCWSS Weed Science Contest



Thanks goes out to Jess Spotanski and Midwest Research Inc. for hosting the 2006 NCWSS Weed Science Contest in York Nebraska, to all the volunteers and contestants that made it an success!



Written Calibration



Calibration



Weed Identification



Herbicide Identification



Judges trailer. . . Air conditioning!



Farm Problem

2006 NCWSS Weed Science Contest

Overall Graduate Teams



1st Place Purdue University: Andy Westhoven, Valerie Mock, Greg Kruger, and Janelle Donahue

Overall Undergraduate Teams



1st Place Ohio State University: Coach Jeff Stachler, Jason Parrish, Austin George, Nicholas Miller, and Aaron Tournoux



2nd Place University of Missouri: Johnathan Dierking, Nick Monnig, and Travis Legleiter, Carl Woodard [missing]



2nd Place Ohio State University: Coach Jeff Stachler, Kar-Lyn Lambert, Ryan Edwards, Amy Lambert, and John MacMillan



3rd Place Kansas State Univeristy: Micheal Duff, Kellan Kershner, Molly Marple, and John Frihauf



3rd Place Parkland College: Chris Rudisil, Dane Kief, Travis Rust, and Dylan VanWynen

2006 NCWSS Weed Science Contest



**1st Overall Graduate Individual
and Unknown Herbicide
Nick Monnig
University of Missouri**



**1st Overall Undergraduate
Individual, Unknown Herbicide,
Written Sprayer Calibration,
and Weed Identification
Jason Parrish
The Ohio State University**



**Graduate Written Sprayer
Calibration
Sara Krippner**



**2nd Overall Graduate Individual
and Weed Identification
Andy Westhoven
Purdue University**



**2nd Overall Undergraduate
Individual, and Problem Solving
John MacMillan
Purdue University**



**3rd Overall Graduate Individual
Michael Duff
Kansas State University**



**3rd Overall Undergraduate
Individual
Valerie Mock
Purdue University**



**Problem Solving
Greg Kruger
Purdue University**

2006 NCWSS Weed Science Contest



Graduate Field Sprayer Calibration
L to R: Johnathan Dierking, Nick Monnig, and Travis Legleiter, Carl Woodard [missing]
University of Missouri



Undergraduate Field Sprayer Calibration
L to R: Jeff Stachler (Coach), Jason Parrish, Austin George, Nicholas Miller, and Aaron Tournoux
The Ohio State University

2006 Participating Teams



Iowa State University
L to R: Wade Kent, Jason Haegele, Erik Christian, and Landon Ries



Kansas State University
L to R: John Frihauf, Molly Marple, Micheal Duff, Haydee Ramires, and Kellan Kershner



University of Missouri
L to R: Carl Woodard, Johnathan Dierking, Nick Monnig, and Travis Legleiter



North Dakota State University
L to R: Arielle Ehli, Sara Krippner, Angela Kazmierczak-Holthusen, Jason Stafslie

2006 NCWSS Weed Science Contest



Ohio State University

L to R: Amy Domer, Ryan Edwards, and Kar-Lyn Lambert



Ohio State University

L to R: Austin George, Jason Parrish, Nicholas Miller, Aaron Tournoux



Parkland College

L to R: Amber Sheering, Abby Deters, Jessie Yearsley, and Betsy James



Parkland College

L to R: Trenton Carley, Kyle Morris, Adam Slaughter, and Charlie Mitsdarfer



Parkland College

L to R: Chris Rudisil, Dane Kief, Travis Rust, and Dylan VanWynen



Purdue University

L to R: Andy Westhoven, Janelle Donahue, Greg Kruger, Valerie Mock, and John MacMillan

CAST Report (Kassim Al-Khatib)

The 2006 CAST Spring Board meeting was held in Washington D. C. on April 19-23. The highlight of the meeting was the speech of the Secretary of Agriculture Mike Johanns to the members of the CAST Board of Directors. The Secretary's remarks included thanking CAST for helping to "get the word out" about the importance of agricultural science. Secretary Johanns expressed his hope that one day the public will understand what agriculture accomplishes for them. Farmers do face pressures, he said, because diseases and pathogens do not respect global borders. In the last few years, the U.S. Department of Agriculture took immediate steps to identify and eliminate security vulnerabilities throughout the food chain, ensuring the safety of meat and other foods from the farm to the dinner table. When asked what he found most surprising about the 52 Farm Bill Forums recently conducted around the country, Johanns replied, "The diversity of opinion on farm programs." He stated that 60% of farmers are not subsidized and that of those who are subsidized, 92% of subsidies go to 5 crops: corn, wheat, rice, cotton, and soybeans. In response to a comment that CAST is considering a publication on the topic of ethanol, the secretary suggested that President Bush's State of the Union Address sparked interest in biomass, switchgrass, and other alternate energy sources. The more efficient ethanol plants can be, he said, the better position for agriculture in the energy future of the United States. He concluded his remarks by encouraging those present to make their views known. In the discussions on agriculture, he said, "We need to hear from the experts."

During the meeting, the board members devoted much of their time to focus on strategically planning that involved the stakeholders. Stakeholders Input Forum was organized with a full day of presentations and meetings. The Stakeholders Input Forum started with seven invited guests addressing the CAST Board to give their perspective on CAST's role in presenting science to society. The speakers included Martin Massengale, Distinguished Professor at the University of Nebraska; Gary Weber, Executive Director of Regulatory Affairs, National Cattlemen's Beef Association; Mike Taylor, Professor at the University of Maryland School of Medicine; Jay Vroom, President of CropLife America; Sean Darragh, Executive Vice President of Food and Agriculture; Ferd Hoefner, Policy Director, Sustainable Agriculture Coalition; and Mark Halverson, Democratic Staff Director and Chief Counsel, Senate Committee on Agriculture. The forum was followed by discussion sessions within each CAST workgroup to develop plan of action to address the need of the stakeholders.

Another highlight of the 3-day event was the presentation of the Charles A. Black Award to renowned agricultural economist Stanley R. Johnson, recently retired Vice Provost for Extension at Iowa State University.

Special CAST publications were released including the

publication entitled, "**Avian Influenza's Impact on International Trade**". The paper examines potential impacts of high-pathogenic avian influenza on international poultry trade. The second publication was "**Avian Influenza: Human Pandemic Concerns**". The publication addresses the current situation, evaluates the structure and function of avian influenza viruses, outlines pandemic risk assessment, and provides references for further information. The third publication was "**Adventitious Presence**". The paper addresses the unintended commingling of trace amount of one type of seed, or seed production, with another. Another recent CAST publication is "**Crop Biotechnology and Future of Food**". The purpose of the publication is to weigh hypothetical hazards against available scientific evidence and experience with transgenic crops and to provide the public and policymakers with valid information on which to base current and future decisions on the use of crop biotechnology in food production. In addition, CAST released Spanish translation of all these publications. "**Global Risks of Infectious Animal Diseases**" and "**Metabolic Modifiers for Use in Animal Science**" are another two recent CAST publications.

One of the challenges that continue to face CAST is the declined in the individual membership. *I would like to encourage all NCWSS members to also be a member of CAST.* Your CAST membership enhances the opportunities to represent agricultural and scientific research and knowledge in the public policy arena. CAST assembles, interprets, and communicates credible, science-based information regionally, nationally, and internationally to legislators, regulators, policymakers, the media, the private sector, and the public. You can gain membership at CAST for only \$60/year, \$30/year for retirees, and \$25/year for students. Individual CAST members receive issue papers, interpretive summaries of task force reports, *NewsCAST*, and "Friday Notes" (a weekly e-mail update on current events in agriculture at Washington, DC). You may order any publication within one year of its publication date and pay only shipping. To join CAST, please visit http://www.cast-science.org/cast/src/cast_top.htm. On the positive note, the petition of American Bar Association, Section on Environment Energy and Natural Resources-Agriculture Management Committee to join CAST was approved by the board of directors.

Dr. Donald Beitz, Professor of Animal Science and Biochemistry at Iowa State University, began his term as CAST President following the September meeting. Dr. Beitz replaced Dr. Stanley Fletcher.

The next CAST Board of Directors meeting will be held on October 4-6 in St. Louis, Missouri.

Kassim Al-Khatib
CAST Representative

SCIENCE POLICY REPORT

September 2006 (Lee Van Wychen)

Beginning, Mid-Career, and Retired Weed Scientists: Apply for AAAS Fellowship

The American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) solicits candidates from a broad array of disciplinary backgrounds to apply for a year-long Science and Technology Policy Fellowship in Washington DC. Fellows come from a range of sectors, including academia, industry, and non-profits, representing a spectrum of career stages, from recent PhD graduates to faculty on sabbatical, to retired scientists and engineers. The age span in the past five classes of Fellows has been from the late twenties to early seventies. The AAAS also serves as the “umbrella” organization for other scientific societies that sponsor a Fellow, such as the Agronomy, Crop and Soil Science Societies.

The Fellowship is a great opportunity to work closely with federal decision-makers in agencies such as the USDA, EPA and the National Science Foundation among others. Fellows receive a stipend of up to \$87,000 for the year, which is based on years of professional experience. Relocation expenses of up to \$3500 are also provided. The deadline for applications for the 2007-2008 Fellowship class is December 20, 2006. For more information, please visit: <http://fellowships.aaas.org>

Applying for Federal Job Related to Weed Science

In June, the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) rejected the proposal for a federal job series classification of weed science. In fact, OPM rejected every one of the job series classifications requested by USDA and combined or eliminated some other job series. There are several factors for this, but if you look at the newest federal job series created, they are in the technology sector like “Information Technology Specialist”. OPM has been working to “simplify” jobs to cater to the “re-toolable generalist” approach. This is OPM’s final decision in a project that began in 1997 to develop a Job Family Position Classification Standard (JFS) for professional work in the Biological Sciences Group, 0400. The new GS-400 classification standard can be viewed at: <http://www.opm.gov/fedclass/gso400p.pdf>. This 99 page document describes OPM’s decisions in detail.

Not to panic weed scientists. The upside of this is anyone graduating with a degree related to weed science or invasive plant management will qualify for just about any job listed under the “GS-401: General Natural Resources and Biological Sciences” job series. In addition, many weed science graduates qualify for other GS-400 series jobs such as agronomy, horticulture, botany, plant physiology, forestry, rangeland, and ecology positions. To search all Federal jobs, please visit USA jobs at: <http://www.usajobs.gov>

I will continue to work with the Federal Agencies that hire and employ individuals required to have more specialized training in weed science and invasive plant management in order to help them include more specific language that defines the knowledge, skills, and abilities necessary in our discipline.

WSSA Submits Comments on APHIS Plant Protection and Quarantine Rule

In June, I worked with the WSSA’s Federal Noxious and Invasive Weeds Committee (E4) to gather comments on how the USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) can improve their Plant Protection and Quarantine (PPQ) Regulations. Thanks to Jen Vollmer for her extensive remarks. Under the Plant Protection Act, states cannot enact more stringent regulations governing a pest or weed than the rules that APHIS has imposed. However, when APHIS is silent, states may act. The Plant Protection Act provides that States may obtain an exemption from the Secretary of Agriculture if that State faces a particularly severe threat - but no State has yet been granted such an exemption.

The overall goal of this rule was to better define the process that States would pursue to petition APHIS. The WSSA urged APHIS to delete proposed language requiring that subdivisions of State act only through the State, and instead implement the Plant Protection Act’s broader exemption that extends to allow political subdivisions to make requests to APHIS directly. We also urged APHIS to add language to articulate the agency’s process in circumstances where insufficient evidence may be present, and to provide additional guidance regarding the quantity and quality of data required by APHIS to support a Special Needs Request.

USDA-ARS Software Available for Site-Specific Weed Management

Scientists in the USDA-ARS Water Management Research Unit at Fort Collins, CO have developed a software program to assist farmers in determining the best site-specific weed management (SSWM) strategy for their fields. The software, called “WeedSite” was co-developed by WSSA member Lori Wiles and can be downloaded for free at: <http://arsagsoftware.ars.usda.gov>

Growers draw weed maps of their fields based on a simple low-cost method that uses a digital camera and a GPS unit. The software identifies weeds within the photographs, then constructs a weed map with links to the photos. WeedSite then uses that information to calculate the effects of various SSWM practices.

EPA Publishes New Pesticide Container and Containment Rule

In August, the EPA published its final rule establishing standards for pesticide containers and containment. The rule, which will be implemented over the next 3 to 5 years, establishes standards for refillable and non-refillable

containers, including design specifications for rinsing, durability, and standardized closures. Triple rinsing or pressure rinsing to the 99.99 percent removal standard was considered an important adoption in the final regulations. The rule also requires pesticide labels to provide instructions on how to properly clean containers before disposal or recycling.

The regulations affect registrants, distributors, dealers, commercial applicators, and custom blenders, but do not extend to containment at individual farms. The rule is intended to promote the safe refill and reuse of refillable containers and to ensure that pesticides will be stored and transferred under conditions that prevent spills and releases of pesticides into the environment. Additional information about the rule and who is affected can be found at: <http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/regulating/containers.htm>

USDA Awards \$4.1 Million in Grants to Manage Invasive Species Affecting Grazing Lands

On July 28, USDA Under Secretary for Natural Resources and Environment Mark Rey awarded \$4.1 million to fund

projects to manage and control invasive plants, animals or insects that adversely affect private and tribal grazing lands. Twenty-seven projects in 20 states received grants ranging from \$50,000 to \$300,000. This is the first year for this grant program.

All of the 27 projects involved some aspect of invasive weed management. Grant awardees ranged from county weed control and management districts to non-profit groups, universities, and state departments of agriculture. The funds are administered through the NRCS Grazing Lands Conservation Initiative (GLCI). To view the full listing of grants and to get more information about the GLCI, please visit: <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/glci> •

Lee Van Wychen, Ph.D.
Director of Science Policy
The National and Regional Weed Science Societies
900 2nd St. NE, Suite 205
Washington, DC 20002
Lee.VanWychen@WeedScienceOrgs.com
work: 202-408-5388

RECENT CHANGES IN THE USDA NRI GRANT PROGRAM FOR WEEDY AND INVASIVE PLANTS (Michael Bowers)

In the last newsletter I described, in general terms, how government granting agencies define program priorities, goals and objectives. In this column I discuss in more detail the 2006 priorities for the Biology of Weedy and Invasive Species in Agroecosystems Program, and how they came about. In the next newsletter I will discuss the use of logic models to guide program priorities and monitor progress.

The reality is Federal Programs need to evolve or they die. Within the National Research Initiative (NRI) programs have been under increased pressure to make the funded research relevant to US Agriculture, to assure that impacts of that research are measurable and, at the programmatic level, to bring up the funding rate to 25% or better, and to coordinate activities with other Federal programs/agencies. There were two major pushes in 2006 that moved the Biology of Weedy and Invasive Plant Program focus a bit from where it had been in previous years. First, there was pressure both from stakeholders and from Federal interagency working groups to make the program inclusive of plant and animal species, so as to better align it with the emerging science of “Invasion Biology” and the US Invasive Species Management Plan. The intent was to “mainstream” the program not to take the program away from funding weed research; weeds, in fact, remain a primary focus of the program. Second, there was a push to

make the funded activities more relevant to the USDA.

The program which, in the past, would consider almost any plant in almost any habitat became, in 2006, focused on the biology of weedy and invasive plant and animal species of “economic importance to agriculture”, a qualifier that was added to increase the relevancy of the research funded. Moreover, the program now specifies that the activities proposed should have direct and obvious relevance to the elimination, management, or control of invasive species in “agroecosystems” broadly defined as cropping systems, managed forests, or rangeland. Finally, there was an emphasis on funding research that examines phenomena and processes at the scale at which management and control programs operate. That is not to say that the program will not consider small-scale or sub-organismal research; it will, but only if a case can be made that the results of that research can be scaled-up to address management-scale issues like different land-use practices, cultivation and nutrient management regimes, disturbance (including fire, pests and grazing), and other landscape-level features and processes.

As a result of these various changes, the formerly taxonomically narrow “Biology of Weedy and Invasive Plant Program” became a more inclusive but more focused “Biology of Weedy and Invasive Species in Agroecosystems Program”.

The hope was that the new program restrictions to assure relevancy would more than offset the more liberal inclusion of plants and animals as topics for study and the number of proposals would go down and the funding rate would go up. But just to make certain we required letters of intent to screen proposals for relevancy.

The program received 132 letters of intent in 2006 and encouraged the submission of 92 full proposals. Of those, 79 proposals were submitted for the program. The review panel recommended that 14 proposals be funded, a funding percentage of 18 percent, which was markedly better than in previous years (in one year the funding rate was down as low as 9%). Of the 79 full proposals submitted in 2006, only 9 were focused on animal-related studies, of which only one was funded. This indicates the “Biology of Weedy and Invasive Species program is, for all intents and purposes, still largely a weed and invasive plant research program. •

Michael A. Bowers
National Program Leader-Ecology
Cooperative State Research, Education & Extension
Service (CSREES)
USDA

Telephone: 202-401-4510
Fax: 202-401-1706
Email: mbowers@csrees.usda.gov

People and Places

Graduations:

Eric Ott - Purdue University
M.S. under Bill Johnson, presently working for
Michigan State University

Vince Davis - Purdue University
M.S. under Bill Johnson, pursuing a PhD under
Bill Johnson, Purdue University

Carrie Schumacher - North Dakota State Uni-
versity
M.S. under Harlene Hatterman-Valenti, presently
working for NDSU Extension Service



North Central Weed Science Society Future Annual Meeting Locations

2007 St. Louis
December 10-13

2008 Indianapolis
December 8-11



Position Announcements

Extension Educator - Weed Science The University of Nebraska-Lincoln

POSITION DESCRIPTION: The University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension and the Department of Agronomy and Horticulture invite applications for an Extension Educator position with an emphasis on Weed Science. The position is a non-tenure track, 12-month appointment, located on the campus of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, in Lincoln, NE. The focus of this position will be on conducting integrated weed management educational programs and developing extension publications in collaboration with other faculty, with the aim of increasing grower profitability and environmental stewardship. The incumbent will work closely with faculty in Agronomy and Horticulture, Entomology, and Plant Pathology on program development. Specific duties include:

1. develop, market, teach, conduct, and evaluate educational programs, such as field days, workshops and meetings
2. write extension publications and newsletters
3. serve in the UNL Plant Diagnostic Laboratory to identify plant specimens, diagnose the cause of plant injury samples, and provide short and long-term management recommendations
4. respond to clientele questions by phone, e-mail, or post
5. conduct field, greenhouse, and laboratory investigations in conjunction with senior faculty
6. actively participate in student recruitment
7. develop grant proposals and solicit external funding for partial support of programming
8. assess the impact of the extension weed science program and reporting these impacts to the public, government and university officials, and to peers at conferences and meetings

Additional duties include:

- working effectively with colleagues, educational partners, and clientele for program prioritization and delivery; providing service to the department of Agronomy and Horticulture
- participating on the extension Food Production and Natural Resource Systems Action Team
- pursuing a professional development plan to increase teaching, leadership, and communication skills, and knowledge of weed science
- Some travel is required

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Master's degree in Agronomy & Horticulture, Weed Science or closely related field
- outstanding teaching skills
- excellent oral & written communication skills
- experience with computer and information technologies

PREFERRED QUALIFICATION:

- outstanding organizational, interpersonal and leadership skills
- ability to work effectively as a member of interdisciplinary team
- ability to generate grant and other outside funds

Review of applications will begin on October 1, 2006. The position will remain open until a suitable candidate is found or the search is closed.

For a detailed job description and instructions on how to apply for the position, please go to <http://employment.unl.edu> and search for requisition #060657

The University of Nebraska is committed to a pluralistic campus community through affirmative action and equal opportunity. We assure reasonable accommodation under the Americans with Disabilities Act. Please contact Trisha Dezort at 402-472-5730 for assistance.

Position Announcements

Purdue University - Research Associate in Weed Science

REFERENCE NUMBER: 1155.224.0607

POSITION DESCRIPTION: The primary responsibilities of the position require the candidate to manage a weed science field research program under the direction of Dr. Bill Johnson. In addition, the candidate will provide leadership and assistance to graduate students with field and greenhouse research. Research duties primarily involve establishment, maintenance and harvest of studies to determine the sensitivity of weeds and crops to weed management practices.

QUALIFICATIONS: This position requires M.S. degree in Weed Science, Agronomy, or a related area. Minimum of two years experience in conducting field and greenhouse research, data analysis and field plot operations is highly desired. Consideration will be given to candidates with an equivalent combination of related education and required work experience. Candidates must possess: ability to obtain pesticide applicators license; ability to perform or learn techniques involved with field, greenhouse, and lab research; ability to operate farm equipment; ability to use computer spreadsheet, graphics, and word processing software; knowledge of plant growth and development; and the ability to lift and carry 25 to 50 pounds frequently and up to 60 pounds occasionally.

COMPENSATION: Occasional overtime will be required during the growing season. A check of criminal conviction records will be made for employment in this position. This is a 12-month, salaried position. Starting salary will be around \$40,000 and the successful candidate is eligible for the Purdue University TIAA-CREF contribution after the required waiting period.

SUBMIT: Interested candidates, please apply online at www.purdue.edu/jobs. Reference posting number 1155.224.0607. Please include a cover letter stating your qualifications and interests, a resume and the names and contact information of 5 references. Additional questions may be directed to Dr. Bill Johnson at wgj@purdue.edu or 765 494-4656. Purdue University is an equal opportunity, equal access, affirmative action employer fully committed to achieving a diverse workforce.

University of Oregon

Corvallis, OR

JOB TITLE: Faculty Research Assistant in Weed Science

RESPONSIBILITIES: Contact for more information.

QUALIFICATIONS: BS in biological or agricultural science required, MS preferred. Experience in applied weed science research, field crop production, field and greenhouse research methods, operation of small equipment, management of greenhouse and growth chambers, computer-assisted data analysis and presentation of research at grower and industry meetings is required.

COMPENSATION: Fixed-term, 12-month, 1.0 FTE appointment.

CONTACT: Refer to <http://cropandsoil.oregonstate.edu> or <http://oregonstate.edu/jobs> or call Carol Mallory-Smith 541-737-5883 or Andy Hulting 737-5098 for details about the position requirements and application procedures.

CLOSING DATE: For full consideration apply before November 17th, 2006

Position Announcements

Weed Science Post-Doctoral Research Assistant - Southern Illinois University, Carbondale Campus

POSITION DESCRIPTION: The successful candidate will work in the weed science group and interact with peers from other universities and industry. The focus of the research includes evaluating the effect of cropping systems and herbicide use on weed diversity and the soil seed bank. Responsibilities will include planning and implementing data collection at multiple field sites in Illinois, managing and evaluating greenhouse experiments, analyzing and summarizing data, and communicating effectively with growers, university peers and industry professionals. The candidate will be expected to summarize data and publish results from previous and ongoing studies. If interested, the candidate will be provided opportunities to gain significant experience in teaching and outreach activities.

QUALIFICATIONS: This position requires a Ph.D. in Weed Science, Agronomy, or a related area. The candidate must be able to work independently and have excellent time management, planning, and organizational skills. The position requires a person with training in data analysis (preferably SAS) and data entry. The candidate must possess good interpersonal skills and the ability to communicate effectively. An exceptional record of publishing in refereed journals must be demonstrated. The candidate must be willing and able to work with pesticides, work in adverse environmental conditions, and carry or lift heavy materials.

COMPENSATION: Salary will be commensurate with experience. Minimum of \$36,000 per year.

CLOSING DATE: Open until filled

POSITION AVAILABILITY: Immediately

SUBMIT:

1. CV
2. Names and contact information for 3 references

Direct submissions (electronic or hard copy) or inquiries to:

Dr. Bryan Young
Southern Illinois University
Dept. of Plant, Soil, and Agricultural Systems
1205 Lincoln Dr., MC-4415
Carbondale, IL 62901
Phone: 618-453-7679
Email: bgyoung@siu.edu

SIUC is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer that strives to enhance its ability to develop a diverse faculty and staff and to increase its potential to serve a diverse student population. All applications are welcomed and encouraged and will receive consideration.

Position Announcements

M.S. and PhD Graduate Research Assistantships - University of Nebraska

Seven Graduate Research Assistantships (GRAs) leading to an MS or PhD at the University of Nebraska in weed ecology/management and invasive species biology. Annual stipend is \$18,500 and \$20,000 per year for MS and PhD students, respectively. The GRA also provides a tuition waiver for up to 12 credit hours per semester valued at \$7,182 or \$19,350 for resident or non-resident students, respectively. Health insurance benefits are also provided. Numerous fellowships are available in addition to the GRA for outstanding students. Visit <http://agronomy.unl.edu/agro-gradpro/index.htm> to submit resume, letter of application, transcripts, etc. For more information contact Drs. Mark Bernards (mbernards2@unl.edu), Stevan Knezevic (sknezevic2@unl.edu), or John Lindquist (jlindquist1@unl.edu). Projects available include, but are not limited to:

1. Determine effect of transgenes (improved digestibility) from sorghum on fitness of shattercane \times sorghum hybrids.
2. Evaluate the contribution of soil pathogenic fungi to the biological control of weedy and invasive plant species: quantify their effects on weed growth and population biology.
3. Non-chemical weed control options with emphasis on weed flaming: develop dose response curves and identify the biologically effective dose of propane needed for weed flaming on selected crop and weed species in organic crop production systems.
4. Determine the interaction between soil nutrients, soil pH, and herbicides in the long-term control of invasive plant species on sandbars in the wetlands of Lewis and Clark Lake in northeast Nebraska.
5. Determine the effects of variable soil water supply on corn and weed water use and interspecific competition.
6. Determine water use efficiencies of common winter annual weeds and identify the critical period of winter annual weed control in cropping systems with limited precipitation.
7. Monitor Nebraska fields for the development of glyphosate resistant weeds and generate data from field and greenhouse trials that can be used to model the occurrence of herbicide resistant weeds and the effectiveness of strategies used to mitigate their development.

If you are a highly motivated individual and have the ability to work independently and cooperatively with others, come to join our team.

John Lindquist, Ph. D.
Associate Professor of Agronomy
Crop/Weed Ecophysicologist
Department of Agronomy and Horticulture
University of Nebraska
105C KCR
Lincoln NE 68583-0817
Phone: 402-472-2771
Fax: 402-472-3654
jlindquist1@unl.edu