

NCWSS • News

North Central Weed Science Society

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If you are a member of the NCWSS and have material you would like to submit to the Newsletter, please send it to:

Vince Davis at
Vince.davis@basf.com



Indianapolis Welcomes the NCWSS December 7-10

The city of Indianapolis and the local arrangements committee welcome you to the NCWSS annual meeting. This year’s meeting will take place at the Hyatt Regency in downtown Indianapolis. The Hyatt staff is eager to make this an outstanding venue for our meeting and the Executive Committee is developing an exciting program. If you want to break out of the meetings or extend your stay, www.visitindy.com has a variety of suggestions for you including Pacer’s games, tours of the Eiteljorg Art Museum, strolling Massachusetts Avenue art district, concerts and shopping at the near-by Circle Center Mall. In addition, there are a variety of restaurants near the hotel. If you have questions about the meeting please contact the Local Arrangements Committee Chair, Ryan Lee RMLee@dow.com. We look forward to seeing you in December.

**To start booking your accommodation, go to:
<https://aws.passkey.com/event/10851684/owner/1663/home>.**

Presidents Message - John Hinz



As the days get shorter and leaves change, it reminds us that fall is here. It is also time to start thinking about the 70th annual North Central Weed Science Society meeting. This year the meeting will be held in Indianapolis on December 7 -10. There is still time

to register for the meeting, if you have not do so. President-Elect Anita Dille is hard at work organizing the program. Ryan Lee and the Local Arrangements Committee are working hard to making sure all things go smoothly at our meeting. This year our meeting will be a joint meeting with the Midwest Invasive Plant Network. The Midwest Invasive Plant Network will have sessions on Wednesday and Thursday. North Central members can attend the Midwest Invasive Plant Network sessions also. Please check the program and attend sessions of interest to you. The Graduate Student Symposium this year will be 'Molecular Techniques in Weed Science' on Wednesday morning. Thanks to Daniel Smith and the graduate students for organizing this symposium.

The highlight of the summer was the National Weed Science Contest that was hosted by Bruce Ackley and Mark Loux at the Ohio State University. This

was the second time that a National Weed Science Contest has been held. Sixty five teams from 25 universities participated in the contest. There were 140 graduate students and 73 undergraduate students that competed. There was a lot of organization that went into making this event such a success. Purdue University was the top overall graduate team and University of Nebraska was the top overall undergraduate team. Congratulations to all the winners and thank you to Bruce, Mark and The Ohio State University for hosting and all the volunteers who made this such a wonderful event. At the summer board meeting, the Board of Directors instituted travel grants for graduate students to attend their first North Central Weed Science Society meeting. The goal of the program is to get graduate students to attend and get involved in the meeting early in their careers. Another goal is to get students who are not in traditional weed science programs to apply for these grants. The Society will provide \$500 awards for six students to attend this year's meeting.

Phil Banks our Executive Secretary has announced that he will retire from this position after the 2016 meeting. We are in the process of looking for a new Executive Secretary. Anita Dille will represent the North Central Weed Science Society in searching in conjunction with the SWSS, WSWs and WSSA for a new Executive Secretary. Thank you Phil for all your years of service to the North Central Weed Science Society. It has been a pleasure working with you. I wish you all the best in the future.

I hope to see you all in Indianapolis.

2015 Annual Meeting Information from the Program Chair Anita Dille

The 70th annual meeting of the NCWSS is approaching soon! The meeting will be held December 7 to 10, 2015 at the Hyatt Regency in Indianapolis, IN. This year we are hosting the Midwest Invasive Plant Network (MIPN) and looking forward to a great symposium on the issues of invasive plants. Ryan Lee and his local arrangements team are working with hotel staff to get things ready. The paper and poster titles are in and organized into an interesting and valuable program for our NCWSS members and MIPN guests.

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Traveling to Indianapolis

Driving Directions

- **From Indianapolis International Airport (IND)** to Hyatt Regency Indianapolis: Take I-70 East to downtown. Exit at Illinois St. North (79B). Proceed to Washington St. Turn left. Go one block to Capitol Ave. Turn left. Hotel is on left. Distance to hotel is just 8 miles.
- **From Chicago, IL** to Hyatt Regency Indianapolis: Take I-65 South to the West Street exit (#114). Continue straight off of the exit ramp to New York Street (5 blocks). Turn left on New York Street and continue to Capitol Avenue (roughly 3 blocks). Turn right on Capitol Avenue. Continue for 3 blocks -- Hyatt Regency Indianapolis is on the left-hand side of the street between Washington Street and Maryland Street. Total distance is 180 miles.
- **From Ft. Wayne, IN** to Hyatt Regency Indianapolis: Travel South on I-69 to Indianapolis. At the I-465 interchange, take I-465 South. Continue South on I-465 to I-70 West. Continue on I-70 to Downtown Indianapolis and exit on Ohio Street. Continue on Ohio Street for approximately 11 blocks to Capitol Avenue. Turn left on Capitol Avenue. Continue for 2 blocks -- Hyatt Regency Indianapolis is on the left-hand side of the street between Washington Street and Maryland Street. Distance is roughly 120 miles.
- **From Columbus, OH** to Hyatt Regency Indianapolis: Travel on I-70 West to Indianapolis. Continue on I-70 to Downtown Indianapolis and exit on Ohio Street. Continue on Ohio Street to Capitol Avenue. Turn left on Capitol Avenue. Continue for 2 blocks -- Hyatt Regency Indianapolis is on the left-hand side of the street between Washington Street and Maryland Street. The trip is about 175 miles.
- **From Cincinnati, OH** to Hyatt Regency Indianapolis: Take I-74 to I-465 South. At the I-465 interchange, take I-465 South. Continue on I-465 South until you reach I-65 North. Take I-65 North to Exit 111 Washington Street. Take a slight left to take the Washington Street West ramp. Turn left onto Washington Street/US-40 W. Turn left on Capitol Avenue. The entrance to the hotel will be on your left. Distance to hotel is 115 miles.
- **From Louisville, KY** to Hyatt Regency Indianapolis: Travel North on I-65 into Indianapolis. Take I-65 North to Exit 111 Washington Street. Take a slight left to take the Washington Street West ramp. Turn left onto

Washington Street/US-40 W. Turn left on Capitol Avenue. The entrance to the hotel will be on your left. Distance is about 115 miles.

- **From St. Louis, MO** to Hyatt Regency Indianapolis: Travel East on I-70 into Downtown Indianapolis. Exit I-70 at the Illinois Street exit. Turn left off the exit ramp and continue North on Illinois Street to Washington Street. Turn left on Washington and go 1 block to Capitol Avenue. Turn left on Capitol. The entrance to the hotel will be on your left. Total trip is 240 miles.

Car Service from Indianapolis International Airport

- **Shared Ride Service** - Approximate cost is \$16.00 each way. Reservations suggested. On demand service available at Ground Transportation Center across from baggage claim.
- **Yellow/Checker Cab Co.** - Approximate cost is \$35 each way for airport transportation.
- **Town car/Limo Service** - Approximate cost is \$45 (one way, dependent upon company and number of passengers).

Bus Service

There is a nonstop bus service from Indianapolis International Airport to downtown. Buses will run twice an hour on the half-hour. Fare is \$10 per person each way. Cash only.

Hotel Information

Hyatt Regency Indianapolis
One South Capitol Avenue
Indianapolis, Indiana, USA, 46204
Tel: +1 317 632 1234 , Fax: +1 317 616 6299
<http://indianapolis.hyatt.com/en/hotel/home.html>

Parking

The Hyatt offers valet (\$30/day) or self parking (\$24/overnight). There are additional overnight parking options listed at <http://indianapolis.hyatt.com/en/hotel/our-hotel/parking.html>.

Area Attractions: <http://www.visitindy.com/#> or <https://visitindiana.com/>

2015 Annual Meeting - Continued

General Session

The general session will feature David V. Vail, an Assistant Professor and Public Services Archivist in the Richard L.D. and Marjorie J. Morse Department of Special Collections, at Kansas State University. He will open our meeting with a presentation on “How the North Central Weed Control Conference Shaped Agricultural Aviation in the Grasslands.” John Hinz will give the annual NCWSS Presidential Address followed by a necrology report by Aaron Hager.

Awards Luncheon and Social

Join us as we recognize and celebrate with our new NCWSS Fellows, Distinguished Achievement Award winners, and student contest winners at our annual NCWSS Awards Luncheon on Wednesday, December 9. An all-Society Social event, sponsored by our sustaining members and open to all NCWSS and MIPN participants will be on Wednesday evening.

Symposia

This year, we are excited to share our space with MIPN and host an “Invasive Plants” symposium organized by Mark Renz and other MIPN Board members. The symposium will open with a Plenary Session on Wednesday, December 9 at 10:00 am in the morning and go through Thursday afternoon at 5:00 pm. All NCWSS members are invited to fully participate in this symposium. The other symposium is organized by Daniel Smith and hosted by the Graduate Student committee entitled “Molecular Techniques in Weed Science”. We are excited to have these leading scientists come to our meeting and provide an overview of newest techniques on Wednesday morning and open to all participants. Additionally, Stott Howard is coordinating the popular “What’s New in Industry?” session for Wednesday afternoon December 9, and organizing the Industry breakfast and meeting for Thursday, December 10.

Student Activities

There will again be the BASF-sponsored Student Mixer event on Monday evening, December 7. This year it will feature a trivia game sure to be fun for all.

We are also looking forward to excellent poster and paper presentations by the undergraduate and graduate students at the conference. A Graduate Student luncheon and business meeting are scheduled for Tuesday, December 8 and it is sponsored by Dow AgroSciences. These activities will provide opportunities for fun and professional development at the conference.

Committee Meetings

Several committee meetings are scheduled throughout the conference, and we welcome your participation and input. These meetings are open to all NCWSS members, and your help and ideas are very important to help guide future meetings, and to highlight our society’s role in the scientific community as educators and weed managers. If you have an interest in serving on a particular committee, please contact the committee chair (listed in program), and let the NCWSS President know.

Titles, Abstracts, and Presentation Loading

The Titles are in and the program is organized. This same web-based submission system will be used to upload all abstracts and for oral PowerPoint presentations. Complete directions for submission of abstracts are in the NCWSS Summer newsletter (available online) and are to be uploaded by November 13, 2015. PowerPoint presentation files for all oral papers need to be uploaded to the same web site approximately 7 days prior to the conference (November 30, 2015). This is critical for the section chairs to ensure that your presentation will work on their equipment prior to the conference and to facilitate a smooth program! Authors have the option of voluntarily having their presentation recorded and posted for viewing by members-only at a later date on the NCWSS web site. The recording and posting of presentations is strictly voluntary. We ask that meeting attendees DO NOT take photographs or video record presentations, unless they have explicit permission from the presenter to do so.

Plan on attending the 2015 NCWSS annual meeting in Indianapolis, IN. Please register for the meeting and make your hotel reservations by the early-bird deadline of November 12, 2015. See you there! ♦

“Women in Weed Science” Networking Breakfast Anita Dille, NCWSS President-Elect

To all NCWSS members:

Our second “Women in Weed Science” networking breakfast will be on Wednesday, December 9 from 6:30 to 8:00 am in the Vision room at the 2015 NCWSS meeting in Indianapolis, IN. All female attendees, including graduate and undergraduate students, spouses, and all academic and industry professionals, are invited to participate in this networking opportunity. We are looking forward to having Susanne Wasson, Commercial Leader, US Crop Protection at Dow AgroSciences, as our guest speaker. Please register on the NCWSS web site at the Annual Meeting link so we can be sure to have a seat and food (no charge) for you.

Sincerely,

Anita Dille, NCWSS President-Elect



Court Stops Nationwide Implementation of WOTUS Expansion Rule

An Ohio federal appeals court ordered a nationwide hold on the Waters of the United States (WOTUS) rule on October 9, amid disparate rulings by courts around the country on the EPA’s ability to define which waters fall under the Clean Water Act.

The stay was granted so the court may determine jurisdiction on the several pending WOTUS lawsuits challenging the rule, and sort out confusion about its requirements. A North Dakota federal district court had blocked enforcement of the rule in 13 states in August. The EPA said after the August ruling that it would still enforce the rule in the rest of the nation even though numerous lawsuits to overturn it were still pending in other federal courts.

The EPA and Army Corps of Engineers first proposed the WOTUS rule in April 2014 and finalized it in May 2015. The rule has been controversial from the start because it greatly expands the jurisdiction of the Clean Water Act by adding some two million acres of streams and 20 million acres of wetlands.

The Ohio federal appeals court decision, [available here](#), was agreed upon 2 – 1 by the three-judge panel. “A stay allows for a more deliberate determination whether this exercise of executive power, enabled by Congress and explicated by the Supreme Court, is proper under the dictates of federal law. A stay temporarily silences the whirlwind of confusion that springs from uncertainty about the requirements of the new rule and whether they will survive legal testing,” the opinion states. “A stay honors the policy of cooperative federalism that informs the Clean Water Act and must attend the shared responsibility for safeguarding the nation’s waters.”

The stay in implementation will only last until the judges determine whether the law gives them authority over the measure or the case must be remanded to a district court. Whatever the court decides will have to be in line with a ruling from the 11th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, which is considering the same issue. If the circuit courts don't agree, the jurisdictional issue will have to be decided by the Supreme Court, which could take several years.

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A better fix to all of this would be for Congress to pass the bipartisan Federal Water Quality Protection Act (H.R. 1732, S. 1140). This legislation would repeal the WOTUS rule and require the administration to develop an alternative rule in consultation with state and local governments. In May, the House voted 261-155 to pass H.R. 1732. In the Senate, S. 1140 was passed by the Environment and Public Works Committee in June, but is awaiting a vote from the full Senate. The Administration said it would likely veto the House and Senate bills, so a two-thirds majority would be needed in both chambers.

Weed Science Societies Comment on EPA Milkweed and Monarch Plan

Earlier this year, the White House's Office of Science and Technology Policy issued the Pollinator Research Action Plan. The plan focuses on increasing honeybee and monarch butterfly numbers through the creation and maintenance of pollinator habitat.

Following that, EPA published a white paper for comment titled "**Risk Management Approach to Identifying Options for Protecting the Monarch Butterfly**". The National and Regional Weed Science Societies (WSSA, APMS, NCWSS, NEWSS, SWSS, and WSSWS) submitted the following comments:

Our scientific societies are nonprofit professional associations of academic research, extension, government, and industry scientists committed to improving the knowledge and management of weeds in managed and natural ecosystems. We appreciate the opportunity to comment on EPA's white paper titled "Risk Management Approach to Identifying Options for Protecting the Monarch Butterfly."

As stated in the white paper, this is the start of a process of stakeholder input and collaboration that will balance weed management needs with the conservation of milkweed for protecting the monarch butterfly. We are happy to be part of that process and would like to emphasize the following points:

- 1. More research is needed on milkweed species (*Asclepias* spp.).*
- 2. Consideration for the management of*

herbicide resistant weeds.

- 3. Utilizing noncropped areas for milkweed habitat.*
- 4. A complex issue without a "one size fits all" answer.*

More research is needed on milkweed species (*Asclepias* spp.)

*There are 100 plus species of *Asclepias* across the United States. While some research has been done on common milkweed (*Asclepias syriaca*), there is a paucity of scientific information on the *Asclepiadaceae* family, whose members are the main food source for monarch butterfly larvae. Because common milkweed typically does not drive weed management decisions, there has been little public or private investment on researching this perennial weed's long term growth and reproduction, population dynamics, response to herbicides, impact on crop yield, and distribution. We agree with the white paper that this type of scientific information will be crucial in developing options to conserve monarch butterfly habitat.*

Consideration for the management of herbicide resistant weeds

We believe it is critical for the Agency to balance weed management needs, especially the management of herbicide resistant weeds, with efforts to assist the monarch butterfly. Programs for herbicide-resistance management should employ the following best management practices:

- 1. Understand the biology of the weeds present.*
- 2. Use a diversified approach toward weed management focused on preventing weed seed production and reducing the number of weed seed in the soil seedbank.*
- 3. Plant into weed-free fields and then keep fields as weed free as possible.*
- 4. Plant weed-free crop seed.*
- 5. Scout fields routinely.*
- 6. Use multiple herbicide mechanisms of action (MOAs) that are effective against the most troublesome weeds or those most prone to herbicide resistance.*

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7. Apply the labeled herbicide rate at recommended weed sizes.
8. Emphasize cultural practices that suppress weeds by using crop competitiveness.
9. Use mechanical and biological management practices where appropriate.
10. Prevent field-to-field and within-field movement of weed seed or vegetative propagules.
11. Manage weed seed at harvest and after harvest to prevent a buildup of the weed seedbank.
12. Prevent an influx of weeds into the field by managing field borders.

Some of the above best management practices counter what is outlined in the white paper's "Analysis and Actions" section that discusses the possibility of lowering herbicide rates, modifying application timing, or establishing field buffers. These are all critical areas of concern to agricultural producers and should not be considered without a thorough discussion with producers and registrants to gauge their impact.

Utilizing noncropped areas for milkweed habitat

The utilization of noncropped lands to develop perennial milkweed habitat makes good biological sense. In general, higher infestations of perennial plants are expected in undisturbed areas. In addition, transportation rights-of-ways and utility corridors are uniformly distributed across the landscape which may aid monarch butterfly migration.

Weed scientists can advocate steps to promote habitats where pollinators and other iconic insects such as the monarch butterfly can flourish, beginning with the adoption of a prudent approach to weed management. While it is crucial that we control invasive, noxious, and herbicide-resistant weeds that can overtake crops and native plants, other weeds such as common milkweed might be left to grow in areas where it is likely to do no harm. The key is to exercise good judgment about which weeds to control, when and where.

A complex issue without a "one size fits all" answer

Initiatives like the Monarch Butterfly Conservation Fund, the Iowa Monarch Conservation Consortium, and other science-based conservation initiatives will allow private and public landowners to develop local knowledge of milkweed species for their area.

Milkweed conservation efforts will vary according to the management of other weed species present in their area and there will not be a "one size fits all" solution. For example, recommending reduced mowing or herbicide use on weeds in ditches where kochia (i.e. tumbleweed) is prevalent could create a public safety hazard due to the buildup of kochia carcasses.

We hope that EPA's actions are consistent with the Interagency Pollinator Health Task Force Report that recognized the importance of evidence-based decision making, collaborative public private partnerships, and expanded research that will balance local weed management needs with the conservation of the monarch butterfly.

We appreciate this opportunity to make initial comments on the white paper "Risk Management Approach to Identifying Options for Protecting the Monarch Butterfly" and look forward to working with the Agency on this important topic.

Congress Passes a Continuing Resolution Funding Government Through Dec. 11

On Sept. 30, both the House and Senate passed a continuing resolution (CR) funding the federal government at FY 2015 levels through Dec. 11. It was a "clean" CR in that it contained no policy riders, but it did include \$700 million in emergency funding to fight wildfires in the West. Since 1977, there have been only four Congresses that have not needed a CR – the most recent was almost two decades ago, in 1997 – and lawmakers have sent the president an average of six CRs per year to avoid shutdowns. Before Congress can decide on how to fund the remainder of FY 2016, they need to pass a federal highway bill that expires on Oct. 29 (it has already received 34 short-term extensions over the past six years) and pass a debt limit increase so the U.S. doesn't default on its \$18.1 trillion debt in early November.

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Weed Risk Assessment Models Prove Unreliable at Predicting Which Biofuel Crops Are Likely to Become Invasive Weeds

The following WSSA press release highlighted a paper published in the latest issue of *Invasive Plant Science and Management* by L. Smith, D. Tekiela, and J. Barney titled: “Predicting Biofuel Invasiveness: A Relative Comparison to Crops and Weeds”. I am redistributing this release because this paper represents a shift in policy on how we might “weed out” biofuel candidate species. Past biofuel policy recommendations have relied heavily on the outcomes of weed risk assessments conducted by APHIS.

WSSA Press Release: Several of the plants grown as biofuel crops have proved to be invaders in some environments – spreading rapidly and overwhelming surrounding natural ecosystems. Concerns about these weedy tendencies have led many to contend that risk assessments should be conducted before any bioenergy crop becomes widely cultivated. A new study featured in the journal *Invasive Plant Science and Management*, though, shows that current “gold-standard” weed risk assessment techniques simply aren’t up to the task.

Scientists at Virginia Tech used two of the best-respected and most widely used weed risk assessment models to develop invasive species risk scores for three categories of plants. They assessed 16 bioenergy crops, 14 agronomic crops and 10 known invasive weeds introduced for agronomic purposes.

Both models failed to reliably distinguish weeds from crops. For example, cereal rye received a higher risk score than kudzu, which is a widespread and damaging invader across the Southeast.

“We found the majority of all the species we evaluated had high weed risk assessment scores, including crops that we predicted would score low,” said Jacob Barney Ph.D., assistant professor of Invasive Plant Ecology at Virginia Tech. “It is clear we should be cautious about using current risk assessment models in setting biofuels policy.”

In the absence of effective risk models, the Virginia Tech research team stressed the importance of field evaluations to determine whether crops are

escaping field borders.

NAS GE Crops Study to be Released in Spring of 2016

Many people around the world have a wide range of questions and opinions about the agronomic, environmental, socioeconomic, and health impacts of genetically engineered (GE) crops, and claims and research that extol both the benefits and the risks of these crops have created a confusing landscape for the public and for policy makers.

An ongoing study by the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (NAS) seeks to address the confusion. The goal is to bring an independent, objective voice to the sometimes contentious debate around genetic engineering of crop plants. The study is reviewing current understanding of the socioeconomic, agronomic, environmental, and health effects of GE crops. In addition to assessing whether initial concerns and promises have been realized since the introduction of GE crops, it is also focused on the opportunities and challenges related to genetic-engineering technologies coming down the pike such as RNA-interference (RNAi) technology. WSSA member Carol Mallory-Smith from Oregon State is one of the twenty scientists serving on the committee that is conducting the study. The committee plans to complete the study and publish its report in the spring of 2016.

Since the launch of the study last year, the committee has heard from 80 presenters at a series of public meetings and webinars on a wide range of topics. All the presentations were recorded. Weed



Click the image to view the video in Youtube.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2jloahvLgWo>

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Washington Report - Continued

scientists may be particularly interested in: 1) Pest Management Practices Workshop, which included a panel on Contemporary Practices for Suppressing Weeds; 2) a webinar on US Agricultural Extension, which included a presentation by Dallas Peterson, Professor and Extension Weed Specialist, Kansas State University; 3) a presentation by Andreas Weber, Head of the Institute of Plant Biochemistry, University of Dusseldorf, on converting C3 plants to C4 plants; and 4) an introduction to RNAi technology and a discussion of strategies for using plant mediated RNAi in crop protection.

More about the NAS study, including all the meeting and webinar recordings, can be found at the study website, <http://nas-sites.org/ge-crops>. If you have comments for the committee, they can be sent through the website, and you can stay informed about the study by subscribing to the email newsletter or following the study on Twitter, [@NASciences](https://twitter.com/NASciences) Ag, #GECropStudy.

The Next Great GMO Debate – RNAi?

A good article in the *MIT Technology Review* on the various issues surrounding the advancement of RNA interference technology for pest management: <http://www.technologyreview.com/featuredstory/540136/the-next-great-gmo-debate/>

Update on *Bromus tectorum* Biocontrol Agent

Management of *Bromus tectorum* (downy brome, cheatgrass) remains a hot topic on several fronts as it fuels wildfires in the West and destroys sage grouse habitat. The New York Times recently published the following article: “Researcher Finds Way to Fight Cheatgrass, a Western Scourge”. The article provides a nice update on the progress being made for a couple strains of *Pseudomonas fluorescens*, a native soil bacterium that inhibit normal root growth in *Bromus tectorum*, *Taeniatherum caput-medusae*, and *Aegilops cylindrica*. EPA approved the use of *Pseudomonas fluorescens* strain D7 as a biopesticide in August 2014. Dr. Ann Kennedy with USDA-ARS discovered and developed an application method for the bacterial strains. While the bacterium isn’t a silver bullet for eradicating cheatgrass, the biocontrol agent can be a critical component in an area-wide cheatgrass management program that should be modeled after the successful TEAM Leafy Spurge area wide management program. ◇

Committee chair Fred Gould, Professor of Entomology at North Carolina State University, outlines the study’s objectives in this short video.

<http://nas-sites.org/ge-crops/2015/02/19/study-objectives-video/>

What’s New With The Council for Agricultural Science and Technology

NCWSS and other weed science societies have taken an active role in CAST assist the communication of credible science to decision makers and the public. Although it’s a daunting task, we continue to make strides in several areas. The latest issue paper came out October 2015 is titled “Process Labeling of Food: Consumer Behavior, the Agricultural Sector, and Policy Recommendations”. Whether you are a member of CAST or not, you can access this issue paper at no cost at the following website: <http://www.cast-science.org/publications/>. Labeling can be a volatile issue however this paper addresses different sides to the issue. I’d challenge all members to use this paper as a platform for discussion in your classes, student clubs, and among your colleagues. This can be a great way to use this and any CAST paper and educate students and colleagues in the process.

CAST is your organization and NCWSS has been an active part. If you are not a member, I would encourage you to become a member of CAST. This nonprofit organization is dependent upon private donations and memberships. Memberships are the backbone of this organization. Be sure to visit the CAST website for membership information. Also, if you have ideas or suggestions for a CAST paper topic, please let your CAST Representative know. This is my third and final year to serve NCWSS as your CAST Rep. I thank you for giving me this opportunity.

Curtis Thompson

To contact Curtis Thompson, email: cthompso@ksu.edu, phone: 785-532-5776.
CAST Website: <http://www.cast-science.org>

People and Places

Are you a ‘people’ in need of a new ‘place’?

The University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL) invites applications for a graduate research assistantship with specialization in Crop and Weed Genetics. The candidate is expected to lead a project to study the genetics of johnsongrass × ALS-inhibiting herbicide-resistant sorghum hybrids. Interested applicants should contact Dr. Amit Jhala, amit.jhala@unl.edu, 402-840-2259, Dr. John Lindquist, jlindquist1@unl.edu, 402-472-2771, or Dr. Ismail Dweikat, idweikat2@unl.edu, 402-472-5328 for more information.

But, you already have all the degrees you can earn, maybe you’re interested in a 12 month tenure-accruing position that will be 40% research (Florida Agricultural Experiment Station) and 60% extension (Florida Cooperative Extension Service), available in the Southwest Florida Research and Education Center, Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences at the University of Florida.

Or, perhaps jobs like these are more in your interests:

FMD Specialist for North Central US with Valent USA in North Dakota, South Dakota, Minnesota is more your interest

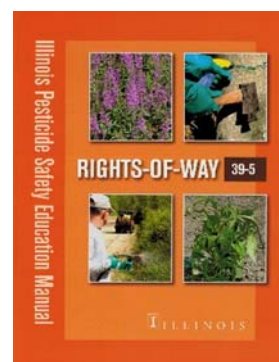
Research Station Manager – Marysville, OH with The Scotts Miracle Gro Company in North America, – Ohio

Botanist with USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Services (APHIS) in Beltsville, MD

All of these positions and more are posted on the Careers link on the Weed Science Society of America website. <http://wssa.net/category/jobs/>

Right-of-Way Manual Revised

The Illinois Pesticide Safety Education Rights-of-Way Manual has been revised and is now available at the University of Illinois Pesticide Safety Education Program web site, www.pesticidesafety.illinois.edu or from pubsplus.illinois.edu. The cost is \$15 each plus shipping and handling for this 71 page manual. All of the chapters have been revised, with extensive revisions to the Application Equipment and Calibration chapter. Color photos have been added throughout the manual, replacing many line drawings in the previous version. A brief section on Natural Areas has been included as well as updated lists of species declared as noxious and exotic.



This manual was designed to provide information for vegetation managers using pesticides in the maintenance of noncrop areas, such as driveways, sidewalks, public paths, storage yards, public roads, natural areas, electric powerlines, pipelines, and railway rights-of-way. It also serves as a study manual for persons wishing to become certified in Illinois as Commercial or Public Rights-of-Way Pest Control Applicators.

This manual contains management suggestions for controlling unwanted vegetation (weeds). Also included are the types of pesticide application equipment used in right-of-way areas and the methods of calibrating this equipment. If you have any questions, contact **Michelle Wiesbrook** buesinge@illinois.edu with the Illinois Pesticide Safety and Education program.

2015 National Weed Contest



The Ohio State University hosted a National weed contest on July 21 at the OARDC Western Agricultural Research Station near South Charleston, OH. There were a total of 25 schools that participated with a total of 65 teams comprised from 140 Graduate students and 73 undergraduate students. With a total of 213 total students, there was a tremendous need for many contest volunteers from other universities and many crop protection companies, and everyone's help was much appreciated. The contest was challenging and educational for all participants, and the competition was tough. Congratulations to all students that participated. Results in the NCWSS included:



1st Graduate Team
Purdue University



2nd Graduate Team
University of Nebraska



3rd Graduate Team
Purdue University



**1st
Undergraduate
Team**

**University
Wisconsin**



**2nd
Undergraduate
Team**

**Western
Illinois**

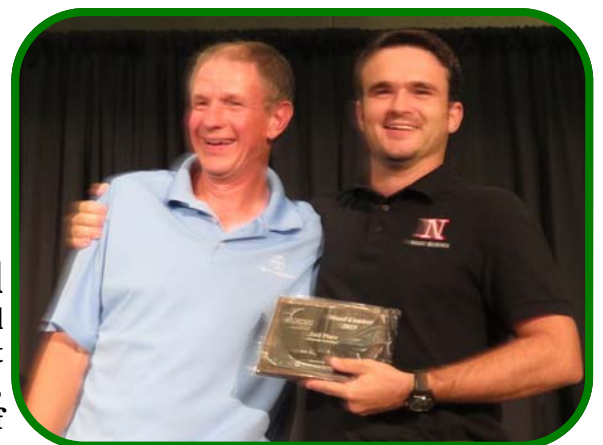


**3rd
Undergraduate
Team**

**University of
Wisconsin**



**1st
Individual
Grad Student
Preetap Devkota
Purdue**



**2nd
Individual
Grad Student
Rodrigo Werle,
University of
Nebraska**



3rd
Individual
Grad Student
Nick Harre
Purdue



1st
Individual
Undergrad
Student
Katelyn Von
Treec, Wisconsin



2nd
Individual
Undergrad
Student
Nicholas Maurer
Wisconsin

National Results



3rd
Individual
Undergrad
Student
Krissy Simmons
Western Illinois

Team Results

Graduate

1. Purdue, Grad 1
2. Arkansas, Grad 1
3. Nebraska, Grad 1

Undergrad

1. Nebraska, UG 1
2. Guelph, UG 2
3. Guelph, UG 4

Individual

Graduate

1. Zachary Lancaster, University of Arkansas
2. John Brewer, Virginia Tech
3. Preetap Devkota, Purdue

Undergrad

1. Katelyn Von Treec, Wisconsin
2. Steven Boersma, Guelph
3. Brad Meusch, Nebraska