From Your 2008 President - Bill Johnson

It is an honor and privilege to serve the North Central Weed Science Society as your president. Despite declining membership and meeting attendance in the early part of this decade, our society continues to function and appears to be in a slight growth mode in the midst of profound changes in industry, government and academia. Our Society has had to adjust along the way and we have become more creative in how we conduct business, run our meeting, and promote our discipline. The most notable changes I have observed during the past decade are the following

1) an increased emphasis on incorporating other types of plant scientists into our annual meeting through symposia or meetings on gene flow and invasive weeds and
2) an increased emphasis on undergraduate participation in our annual meeting and activities and programs to foster graduate student development.

However, despite the fact that our annual meeting attendance is on the rise, we must not be content with our success and our challenge is to continue to respond to changes and challenges we will face in the future. The new board of directors and I welcome all input and suggestions from you our members to shape and continue to make the NCWSS a premier regional scientific organization.

My Reflections of our 2007 Conference

Our 2007 meeting in St. Louis was a success despite some challenges posed by icy weather in the western part of our region. Our attendance of 403 included 299 NCWSS members, 58 students and 46 individuals who registered for the Gene Flow meeting. Greg Elmore and the local arrangements committee did an excellent job of ensuring that everything went off without a hitch. The general session speakers addressed the biofuel topic from the perspective of CAST and USDA. Lee Van Wychen provided an update of his activities on the Hill and provided some insight on how the new administration could influence our discipline.

Continued on next page
In addition to 8 volunteer paper sessions and two poster sessions, our meeting featured four symposia this year. The symposia included the following:

1) What’s New in Industry - organized by Terry Carmody.
2) The Science and Art of Wildlife Habitat Restoration - organized by Bob Masters and Mark Renz
3) The 3rd Biennal Gene Flow Meeting - organized by Michael Horak
4) Communication Development: Message Delivery to Weed Science Colleagues and Clientele - organized by Vince Davis.

There were over 80 posters and 150 oral papers presented at the meeting. The symposia papers comprised approximately 50 of the 150 oral presentations. Our students also continue to play a large role in our meeting as they were responsible for 29 posters in the student poster contest and 21 oral presentations in the paper sessions. I would like to congratulate our students for the quality of their posters and presentations. You can see who the contest winners are in this issue of the newsletter.

Where is the Society Headed?
Over the next year the Board of Directors will address a number of issues, but those of highest importance will include the following:

1. The structure and efficiency of our society and board of directors. We have incorporated a number of changes over the last 10 years. However, it is important to continue to evaluate our process for doing business and be able to change directions quickly if needed to maintain or enhance our society. I have asked Bryan Young to lead this process and we will be discussing the recommendations from his committee at our summer board meeting in August.
2. The long-term feasibility of the summer weed contest. The summer weed science contest is arguably the most important event we host for undergraduate and graduate students. However, it is a major effort for the host to conduct a contest and the cost to NCWSS and volunteer time requirement is quite significant. In recent years, our graduate student participation in the contest has been quite variable from year to year, while undergraduate participation has remained stable. There have been opportunities to co-sponsor contests with other regional weed science societies, but the logistics can be a challenge to overcome. As a society, we need to continue to evaluate the value of this event and look for ways to make it more cost effective and enhance the educational value of the event.
3. Student membership and meeting attendance. The demand for employees with weed science backgrounds in the private sector and availability of weed science graduate assistantships at universities appears to be as high as it has been in the last 20 years. However, graduate student enrollment at universities has been in decline over the last 8 years. Industry consolidation has reduced the funding available for graduate assistantships, and the cost of training graduate students at universities continues to increase. However, the current situation is that there are fewer applicants for graduate school, and not enough weed science graduate students to supply quality applicants for all of the positions available! So it appears to be a good time to recruit new students into our discipline and one of the best ways to do this is to encourage them to attend our annual meeting and meet other students and members. I would encourage all to think about this for our next meeting in Indianapolis in December of 2008.

New Committee Assignments for 2008
The new committee assignments can be found in this newsletter and on our website. The duties of each committee can be found in our manual of operating procedures (also available at ncwss.org). Please review the assignments and contact the committee chair if you have questions about your committee or duties that are not addressed in the MOP.

In closing, I would like to thank Dr. Adrian Moses for his leadership over the past year as President of NCWSS. Adrian has been a dedicated NCWSS member for over 25 years and served the society in a number of roles before his election to the presidential rotation. Over the years, Adrian has encouraged his undergraduate student interns to participate in the summer weed science contest and attend the annual meeting. As a result, 5 of his interns are now members of our discipline and society. I am sure this is truly rewarding to Adrian and others who have had a similar impact on students. Finally, I would reiterate that our society is comprised of dedicated volunteers who see the value of the annual meeting, student contests, and our discipline as a whole. Our board welcomes all input and suggestions from our members to help shape and continue to make the NCWSS a premier regional scientific organization and sincerely appreciate the willingness of volunteers to get involved in the society. Have a good spring. The 2008 meeting will be upon us before we know it. ♦
I have had the pleasure to serve as your 2007 NCWSS President and the opportunity to work with an incredible group of people. Thanks goes out to our 2007 Program Chair, Bill Johnson and his committee, for doing an outstanding job. They put together a great program with the help of the symposium organizers, Micheal Horak – Gene Flow Symposium; Bob Masters and Mark Renz - The Art and Science of Wildlife Habitat; and Vince Davis – “Communication Development : Message Delivery to Weed Science Clientele.” Greg Elmore and the Local Arrangements Committee did a wonderful job organizing and negotiating rooms with the Hyatt Regency. Greg and his committee were essential in providing a worry free, smooth running experience for the members, guests, and presenters of the NCWSS. I would also like to thank all the volunteers, Contest Judges, Section and Committee Chairs for all the effort they put into making the NCWSS the society that it is. Furthermore the support of NCWSS Sustaining members is deeply appreciated. We would like to thank our Sustaining members who have generously contributed to our society throughout the year. For a list of Sustaining Members please see below.

Our vision statement expands this first statement and consists of our values and the principles of our society. These are many and range from scientific interaction to educational outreach. One might ask “is NCWSS really meeting its vision goals?” However, the decline in weed science students is not isolated to the NCWSS, but in academia too. The message that, “it is hard to find students” has been evident this year though out academia.

What has induced this shortage? Like all things, the decline of students is probably not a cause of any one isolated factor, but several acting as a complex. One such cause could be a result of a declining student body exacerbated by a declining farmer base. Another is that for many of the students that attend or would attend, fall semester finals and the NCWSS meeting times conflict with final exam week. Some students have to reschedule finals and most of us know or remember how difficult that can be. Many entering college or grad school may not know that weed science as a discipline exists; how many times have you said to people, “I am a weed scientist,” only to be greeted with a questioning look? Potential students have to be made aware of weed science as a smart choice for a career where the salaries are good and careers
reflect a fun and rewarding future. I don’t pretend to know the answers to resolving this shortage, but I do want to bring it to the light of day so that it can be worked on.

Higher publicity in our schools throughout our region of what a career in agriculture and weed science can be a significant step in the recruiting process. The discipline of weed science has much to offer. Training in weed science includes biotechnology, ecology, biological control, applied technologies, molecular genetics, weed science extension, investigations in resistance, product development and sustainability, providing a large diversification of knowledge. It is important to get undergrads and grad students involved in the North Central Weed Science Contest. Contest organizers, volunteers, and coaches do a tremendous service in attracting future talent and instilling an interest in weed science. This contest is a scholarship in applied learning. We are pleased to see two year colleges attending the contest and providing an undergrad experience in the discipline of weed science.

The roll of Industry in attracting students and publicizing weed science careers is vital. Industry has a large part in sponsoring the Weed Science Contest. Intern training of undergrads in research and development and exposure to sales and technical service in the job market is important training. There are jobs and internships available in the seed, traits and crop protection research and development, basic research, resistance research, formulations technology, ecology of new traits, herbicide tolerant crop screening, new product screening, product development for growers, and technical services. These opportunities need to be brought to the attention and interest of the student at the undergraduate level and possibly even before entering college.

We know that there are not enough undergraduates, undergraduate interns and grad students to supply the present job market in the herbicide and seed industry. We have a job in front of us to promote, recruit and train this new generation of weed scientists. It is our responsibility as members of the NCWSS to encourage students in this path and show them what great work an Ag. career offers. Our career opportunities should be developed and distributed. The weeds contest committee and volunteers have set the publicity bar high. The success of the society depends on members like these. We have to make it fun, make it applied! Stand on your head if you need to. . . my Illinois advisor Marshal MacGlamery always did!

Introducing Our NCWSS Vice President Chris Boerboom.

Chris Boerboom was elected as the new NCWSS Vice President at the 2007 annual meeting. Chris grew up near Marshall, Minnesota on the family farm and obtained his B.S., M.S., and Ph.D. at the University of Minnesota. His graduate degrees were in Agronomy with a weed science emphasis. From 1989 to 1994, Chris was an extension weed scientist at Washington State University at Pullman. In 1994, Chris joined the faculty at the University of Wisconsin-Madison as an extension weed scientist where he has conducted research and provided extension on topics such as herbicide resistant weeds, weed competition, herbicide injury, and herbicide tolerance in sweet corn. Chris previously served the NCWSS as a state director and as secretary-treasurer from 1997 through 2002 and looks forward to this new position.
NCWSS 2008 Officers

**Top Left to Right:**
Chris Boerboom - Vice President
Mick Holm - President Elect
Bill Johnson - President
Adrian Moses - Past President
Bob Hartzler - Editor, Proceedings

**Bottom Left to Right:**
Christy Sprague - Secretary/Treasurer
Harlene Hatterman-Valenti - Editor, Communications

**Missing:**
Bob Schmidt - Executive Secretary
Lee Van Wyhen - Director of Science Policy

2008 Annual Meeting
Welcome Your New Board Members

Garly Powell - Michigan
Mark Bernards - Nebraska
Jed Calquhoun - Wisconsin
Valerie Mock - Graduate Students

Pat Geier - Kansas
Dain Bruns - Ohio
Michael Moechnig - Extension
Jess Spotanski - Resident Education

Distinguished Service Awards

**Education** recognizes outstanding educational achievements in weed science. Principal criteria include innovative or unique approaches that result in learning, ability to clearly communicate ideas, motivation of the intended audience and recognition of accomplishments by peers and the intended audience.

Douglas Doohan

Douglas Doohan was born in Picton, Nova Scotia, Canada and obtained his B.S. degree in Agriculture at the University of Guelph and his M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in Weed Science from North Carolina State University. Dr. Doohan became an Assistant Professor and Extension Weed Scientist responsible for vegetable and fruit crops at the Ohio State University in 1998. His appointment is 75% extension and 25% research. Dr. Doohan is the Ohio IR-4 liaison and meets with groups and other specialists on at least a monthly basis to identify pest management problems and to formulate appropriate research and regulatory responses. He has been extremely active in seeking new pesticide registrations for apples, strawberries, sweet corn, tomatoes, and onions. Dr. Doohan has prepared major chapters on weed management for inclusion in OSU Extension bulletins on vegetables, grapes, and berry crops. These bulletins have been adopted by Extension in many Midwest states. Dr. Doohan is a popular and sought after speaker at both conventional and organic grower meetings where he puts on over 17 presentations a year. Doug has been active in the NCWSS serving as chair of the sugarbeets, horticultural and ornamental sections, as a judge for graduate student presentations, and as a co-organizer of the 2003 symposium Beyond Thresholds: Applying Multiple Tactics within Integrated Weed Management Systems. Dr. Doohan is currently serving as Associate Editor for Weed Technology.

**Young Scientist Award** is given to members who fulfill the requirements to qualify for the education, research or service award categories and have received their terminal degree no more than ten years before receiving this award.

Kevin Gibson

Kevin Gibson obtained his B.S. degree in English and Biology from Indiana University, his M.S. degree in Biology from San Diego State University, and his Ph.D. degree in Weed Ecology from the University of California at Davis. Dr. Gibson became an Assistant Professor in Weed Science at Purdue University in 2001 with a research and teaching split. Dr. Gibson’s research has centered around two main questions: 1)
Can weed management systems be developed that minimize weed shifts, reduce the need for herbicide inputs, and provide sustainable weed control in agronomic and vegetable crops? 2) How do spatial factors affect the distribution, abundance, and management of weeds? Dr. Gibson has trained three M.S. and one Ph.D. student, served on 11 additional graduate student committees, received over $3.5 million in external grant support, and written over 20 refereed manuscripts during this period. In addition, Dr. Gibson has taught over 15 courses, three of which were newly developed during this period. Dr. Gibson was recognized with the Richard Kohls Outstanding Undergraduate Teacher Award at Purdue University in 2006. Dr. Gibson has been active in the NCWSS serving as chair of the Invasive Plants Section, developing a symposium on Invasive Plant Species, and developing strong ties for NCWSS with the Midwest Invasive Plant Network. In addition, Dr. Gibson was instrumental in establishing the new WSSA journal on invasive weeds.

**Martin M. Williams II**

*Martin M. Williams II* obtained his B.S. degree in Biology from Truman State University and his M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in Agronomy from the University of Nebraska at Lincoln. Dr. Williams began his career as an Assistant Professor of Weed Science at Washington State University but moved to the USDA ARS Invasive Weed Management Unit located on the campus of the University of Illinois in 2003 as lead scientist. Dr. Williams’ research program has focused on weed ecology and management in vegetable crops, arthropod herbivory in weed management, and the spatial aspects of weed population dynamics. Dr. Williams has authored or co-authored over 32 refereed manuscripts, given over 27 presentations of his research at national and international meetings, and received over $450,000 in external grant support from such agencies as the National Science Foundation and Environmental Protection Agency. Although Dr. Williams does not have a formal teaching or outreach component in his job assignment he routinely offers guest classes or lectures and participates regularly with extension personnel in field days. Dr. Williams has been an active participant in the Western Society of Weed Science, the NCWSS, and the Weed Science Society of America where he has moderated or chaired numerous sessions. ◇
NCWSS Fellows

Fellows - Recipients have made significant contributions to the North Central Weed Science Society and the Weed Science discipline.

Chris M. Boerboom
Dr. Boerboom has been a member of the NCWSS for over 20 years and has been active in numerous capacities throughout this tenure. Notably, Boerboom served the society as Treasurer from 1997 to 2002. Dr. Boerboom has made numerous presentations and posters at the NCWSS including several invited symposium presentations.

Boerboom also provides excellent service to the University of Wisconsin by serving on numerous Departmental, College and University committees. Dr. Boerboom is an effective and popular Extension Weed Scientist and impacts over 3,200 agri-professionals and growers annually. Boerboom embraces traditional extension formats for education, but also has developed and adopted novel and unique technologies such as the Turning Point Audience Response System. Boerboom has authored 12 single print extension publications, 4 series publications, and 5 educational programs in CD-rom since 1996. He has also been a prolific contributor to the Wisconsin Crop Newsletter and has provided 267 articles since 1996.

Boerboom is a strong proponent of integrated pest management and all of his weed science programs stress the need for integrated weed management as the core principle. These efforts have resulted in Dr. Boerboom being recognized as one of the most influential and knowledgeable weed scientists in the United States. His reputation reflects very positively upon the NCWSS.

Dr. Boerboom has authored or co-authored 21 papers published in refereed peer reviewed journals, 34 proceedings papers, 61 abstracts, and one book chapter since 1996.

While Dr. Boerboom does not have a teaching appointment, he has consistently contributed to on-campus teaching at the University of Wisconsin. Dr. Boerboom guest lectures in six courses and has served on 17 graduate student committees. Dr. Boerboom advised 2 Ph.D. students and 3 M.S. students.

Dr. Boerboom has been recognized professionally by seven regional and state honors and awards. Notably, Dr. Boerboom has been recognized twice by the NCWSS, first in 1999 when he was recognized for Distinguished Achievement in Weed Science, Young Scientist Award, and again in 2005 when the society awarded him the Distinguished Achievement Award in Weed Science, Education Award.

Dr. Boerboom has also demonstrated considerable concern for growers nationally and internationally. Dr. Boerboom organized the “National Glyphosate Stewardship Forum” in 2004 and followed this impressive effort up with a second forum in 2007, “National Glyphosate Stewardship Forum II: A Call
to Action”. This proactive effort to engage stakeholders, industry representatives, and governmental agencies and strive for action to affect changes in how important weed management technologies are being used is indicative of the dedication that Dr. Boerboom demonstrates to weed science extension and agriculture.

Dr. Boerboom has served the North Central Weed Science Society for many years and has made significant contributions to the benefit of the society. It is highly appropriate that he be selected for this high honor.

**Michael J. Horak**

Dr. Michael J. Horak is a native of southern California. He received his B.S. and M.S. degrees from the University of California, Riverside, and his Ph.D. degree from the University of Illinois, with both advanced degrees in weed science. Dr. Horak accepted a position as an Assistant Professor at Kansas State University in 1991 with a teaching and research appointment in weed ecology. He was promoted to Associate Professor in 1997. After a sabbatical as a visiting scientist, Michael made a career move to become a Plant Ecologist with Monsanto in 1999, where he currently serves as the Lead for the Environmental Assessment Team.

Michael has played a significant role in academia, industry, and the weed science discipline during his career. He was an important component in helping to build a strong and active weed science program while he was at Kansas State University. He developed a new course in weed ecology and invigorated the weed science graduate program. Dr. Horak was involved with the first confirmation of ALS resistant waterhemp and Palmer amaranth and was the lead author on a widely distributed and popular extension publication on Pigweed Identification, which has been utilized by both Extension and Industry throughout much of the United States.

Dr. Horak currently provides leadership in conducting plant ecological risk assessments on Monsanto’s biotech crops products. This topic is of utmost importance to the company and production agriculture to support the approval and adoption of novel new traits that benefit agriculture and society. Mike has organized and coordinated symposia at NCWSS regarding gene flow in the environment to help facilitate discussion and bring focus to the topic in the weed science community.

Dr. Horak has made many significant contributions to the North Central Weed Science Society. He has served the NCWSS in many different capacities, including numerous committees, session chairs, symposia organizer and chair, newsletter editor, and most significantly in the Presidential leadership sequence. These responsibilities require a great deal of time and devotion. Dr. Horak helped lead NCWSS through difficult times of decreased membership and participation due to downsizing in industry and academia. His positive attitude and creative ideas helped keep NCWSS a vibrant and active society. ☀
NCWSS—Student Paper Awards

Graduate Paper Contest
Group I:
Place
1 Influenee of Selectee Herbicide Treatmeents on Goldenrod Control, Total Forage Yield, and Total Forage Quality in Tall Fescue Pastures - Kristin K. Payne, Travis R. Legleiter, Jimmy D. Wait and Kevin W. Bradley, University of Missouri
2 Seed Ecology and Biomass Production of Poison Hemlock (Conium maculatum L.) - Carl A. Woodard and Reid J. Smeda, University of Missouri.

Graduate Paper Contest
Group 2:
Place
2 Implications of Soil Residual Herbicides on the Consistency of Glyphosate Efficacy in Glyphosate-Resistant Corn - Daniel D. Schnitker, Bryan G. Young, William G. Johnson, and Mark M. Loux, Southern Illinois University, Purdue University, and The Ohio State University.

Graduate Paper Contest
Group 3:
Place
1 Multiple Reduced Rate Herbicide Treatments for Weed Control in Onion (Allium cepa L.) - James R. Loken and Harlene Hatterman-Valenti, North Dakota State University.
2 Sweetcorn Hybrid Tolerance: From Field Evaluations to Grower Recommendations - Joseph D. Bollman and Chris M. Boerboom, Roger L. Becker, Mark J. VanGessel, Robin R. Bellinder, and Ed Peachey, University of Wisconsin, University of Minnesota, University of Delaware, Cornell University, and Oregon State University.
Graduate Poster Contest
Group I:
Place
1. Response of Soybean Cyst Nematode and Plant Growth to Combinations of Purple Deadnettle, Annual Ryegrass and Soybean - Valerie A. Mock, J. Earl Creech, William G. Johnson, Purdue University and University of Nevada.

Graduate Poster Contest
Group I:
Place
1. Response of Poison Hemlock (Conium maculatum L.) to Herbicides - Carl A. Woodard and Reid J. Smeda, University of Missouri.

Graduate Poster Contest
Group I:
Place
2. Biological Characteristics of Common Lambquarters Biotypes With Tolerance to Glyphosate - Andrew M. Westhoven, Jeff M. Stachler, Mark W. Loux and William G. Johnson, Purdue University and The Ohio State University.
NCWSS—Undergraduate Poster Awards

Undergraduate Poster Contest:


2. Corn and Velvetleaf Transpiration in Response to Drying Soil - Jared J. Schmidt and John L. Lindquist, University of Nebraska.

Announcing the Location For the 2008 Weed Science Contest

Alvey Agricultural Research will be hosting at our Carlyle, IL farm. The date of the contest is Thursday August 14, 2008. Volunteers will be needed and will go through responsibilities on Wednesday August 13, 2008.

Congratulations goes out to this year’s recipient of the Hyatt Scholarship - Nathaniel D. Miller

The Hyatt Scholarship is presented to the highest scoring undergraduate in the NCWSS Summer contest.
Tony White and myself. Over the past year, Carol Somody and Joyce Lancaster have become active members. The Public Awareness committee will become a full standing committee at the WSSA Annual Meeting in Chicago with representation from all the regional weed science societies and the APMS. The NCWSS will be represented by Dr. Chris Boerboom.

With 300+ hours of volunteer effort in 2007, the Public Awareness Steering Committee has developed a detailed public awareness strategy, prioritized our main outreach messages, and issued six press releases. The press releases [www.wssa.net/WSSA/PressRoom/] have covered a number of opportune invasive weed issues such as their influence on wildfires and their potential negative impacts if used as biofuels. The press releases have been distributed via PR Newswire [www.prnewswire.com] as well as invasive plant-related list serves and have been featured on other websites and accessed by various types of media. The WSSA’s relationship with the media is growing as a recent press release was accessed 942 times on the PR Newswire site. Reporters from major newspapers are starting to call us for expert opinion and commentary and more importantly, helping us expand our credibility and awareness to the public.

The Public Awareness Steering Committee is also working with the Website Committee to update and expand the WSSA Website, which now includes a section for press releases and detailed information and links concerning invasive plants.

IRREFUTABLE EVIDENCE PRESENTED AT EPA SHOWING ATRAZINE WILL NOT FEMINIZE KERMIT THE FROG

The Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) Scientific Advisory Panel (SAP) conducted a public peer review meeting on October 9-12 at EPA to review the data from recently concluded independent studies on the “Response of Larval Xenopus laevis (African clawed frogs) to Atrazine Exposure: Assessment of Metamorphosis and Gonadal Morphology”. The FIFRA SAP [http://www.epa.gov/scipoly/sap/pubs/about.htm] is a body of independent scientific experts that provide advice and recommendations to the EPA on important pesticide-related issues. After this meeting, EPA concluded that atrazine does not adversely affect amphibian gonadal development based on a thorough review of 19 laboratory and field studies, including studies submitted by the registrant and others in the public literature. At this time, EPA believes that no additional testing is warranted to address this issue. This meeting decisively finalized many years of debate and cleared atrazine of the bad science previously conducted by biased groups who used fear mongering tactics to promote their environmental agenda.

In June 2003, the EPA evaluated available literature on the potential effects of atrazine on amphibian gonadal development. The agency concluded that while there was sufficient information to formulate a hypothesis that atrazine exposure can affect amphibian gonadal development, there was insufficient information to refute or confirm that hypothesis due to limitations of the study designs and uncertainties in the data.

In a 2003 White Paper on the subject, EPA critically reviewed the data from 19 lab and field studies, discussed remaining uncertainties in determining the potential effects of atrazine on amphibian development, and outlined a tiered approach for future research that could address these uncertainties. A Scientific Advisory Panel reviewed EPA’s White Paper and agreed with its review and the need for future studies.

In response to a November 2004 Data Call-In (DCI) Notice from EPA, Syngenta, the primary atrazine registrant, developed an EPA-approved testing protocol for determining the effects of atrazine on amphibian gonadal development, and went on to
Results showed that exposure to atrazine in concentrations from 0.01 ppb to 100 ppb had no effect on the growth, development or sexual differentiation of the test species, Xenopus laevis. Frogs were tested over a period of time that included the sensitive window for sexual differentiation and metamorphosis. Therefore, no mode of action relative to the potential for atrazine to feminize amphibians is suggested by these results.

Atrazine has been one of the most commonly used and widely studied herbicides in the U.S. and around the world. Despite its widespread intensive use, atrazine has always been considered safe because of its short half-life and negligible bioaccumulation and biomagnification. It’s unfortunate that atrazine’s “image” over the past 10 years has been “muddled” by certain groups who had a pre-determined agenda to “link” atrazine to the endocrine-disruptor debate. However, the science of atrazine has prevailed and we can only hope that the results from these studies reflect positively on the incredible work that EPA does in implementing FIFRA, safe-guarding our environment, and protecting our natural resources.

DAVIS PRESENTS WSSA RESEARCH PRIORITIES AT USDA-CSREES STAKEHOLDERS MEETING IN DC

On November 20, 2007, the USDA Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service (CSREES) hosted a one day workshop on stakeholder priorities in the area of plant and pest biology. Over 20 different stakeholder groups provided comments and concerns during the workshop. Dr. Adam Davis, Ecologist with the USDA-ARS Invasive Weed Management Unit in Urbana, Illinois and incoming Chair of the WSSA Research and Competitive Grants Committee traveled to DC to present WSSA’s research priorities. Much of Dr. Davis’s written comments and presentation were based on a research priorities survey conducted this summer that he and Dr. Dean Riechers, the current WSSA Research Committee chair, developed as well as follow-up review from the WSSA Board of Directors. Many thanks to Adam and Dean for their efforts!

A couple of interesting points that came across during the meeting: 1) USDA CSREES is considering lengthening time of awards for some of its programs, possibly up to 10 years; this could open up many exciting opportunities for longer-term research projects; 2) CSREES staff and stakeholders continue to be very excited about the integrated programs (linking research to substantial outreach components within the project) but these grants are undercompeted => there’s a good opportunity here for weed scientists who want to link research and extension.

The following comments were submitted by Dr. Davis on behalf of WSSA:

The mission of the Weed Science Society of America (WSSA), a non-profit professional society, is to promote research, education, and extension outreach activities related to weeds; provide science-based information to the public and policy makers; and foster awareness of weeds and their impacts on managed and natural ecosystems." Member research on weedy and invasive plants covers a wide spectrum, from fundamental biology to applied management to environmental impacts of weeds and weed management systems. As such, our research priorities overlap with USDA-CSREES strategic goals 2 ("enhance the competitiveness and sustainability of rural and farm economies") and 6 ("protect and enhance the nation’s natural resource base and environment").

Weed science as a discipline has had many successes over the years, but its future is in some ways imperiled by its very success. A confluence of factors, including reduced farming system diversity, the widespread adoption of herbicide resistant crops grown in monoculture, a near cessation in herbicide discovery by industry, and lack of herbicide rotation has gradually undermined the foundations of weed management. Herbicide resistant weed biotypes are proliferating at the same time that producer knowledge of the fundamentals of weed management is eroding.

The NRI Competitive Grants Program continues to be an important source of research funding for U.S. weed scientists. Several aspects of program 51.9, "Biological of Weedy and Invasive Species in Agroecosystems", however, are of ongoing concern to the WSSA membership. The points raised by Dr. David Shaw, in his 2005 report to the CSREES Stakeholder Workshop are still pressing:

• "Program 51.9 now targets not only weedy and invasive plants, but all other invasive species without an increase in funding. The WSSA would like to point out that NRI Programs 51.2, 51.3 and 51.8 that deal with the biology of arthropods, nematodes, and microorganisms were not opened up to invasion biology for their representative organisms. The WSSA would like to see invasion biology for different species placed in their respective NRI Programs.

• The current request for application (RFA) for Program 51.9 appears to be focused on ecological studies on invasive species at the population level and above with no emphasis on
weed biology at the suborganisal level on physiology, biochemical, genetic, and molecular aspects. This is surprising with recent initiatives on weed genomics. The WSSA would like to see a balance in research priorities that consider both suborganisal and population level weed biology. Furthermore, this balance in research should address current problems using economically relevant species. There has been a recent trend towards funding NRI projects that seem to focus on model systems and invasive species with limited geographic range and little economic relevance in agroecosystems.

- Only the RFA for Program 51.9 now requires a letter of intent by December 6 after which a committee will decide on invitations by January 1, 2006. This process will not provide much flexibility to consider other programs and limits the grant preparation period to less than 1.5 months.”

Research areas of primary interest to the WSSA membership identified by a 2007 survey include, by category:

- Weed biology and ecology: herbicide resistance; invasion biology; cropping system ecology and crop-weed interactions; transgenic crop cultivars; crop tolerance; weed evolution; genomics; landscape ecology; site-specific management; seed biology; population dynamics; allelopathy

- Applied weed management: herbicide discovery and efficacy; decision support systems; non-chemical weed management methods; management thresholds; weed management system models; neutraceuticals; biocontrol

- Environmental impacts of weeds and weed management systems: herbicide fate and transport in soil, water and air; phytoremediation; drift management

**DITAMASO AND BARNEY PRESENT CAST ISSUE PAPER ON BIOFUELS AND INVASIVE WEEDS ON CAPITOL HILL**

The Council for Agricultural Science and Technology (CAST) released a new CAST Commentary titled, *Biofuel Feedstocks: The Risk of Future Invasions*. The paper was written by WSSA members Dr. Joseph DiTomaso, Dr. Jacob Barney, and Dr. Alison Fox, reviewed by Dr. Steven Dewey and Dr. Jodie Holt and facilitated by Dr. Kassim Al-Khatib, who is the current CAST President and WSSA Past-President. The WSSA is very fortunate to have such great talent and leadership within the National and Regional Weed Science Societies!

The objectives of the CAST Commentary paper were to describe the potential risk of dedicated lignocellulose biofuel species becoming weedy or invasive, and to provide a process to quantify and, subsequently, minimize this risk. Several of the candidate biofuel feedstock species being considered for commercial production in the United States are invasive weeds in other regions where they have been introduced. The critical questions addressed in the DiTomaso, Barney and Fox commentary paper include the following:

- What similarities exist between agronomic and invasive traits?
- How will genetic modification affect potential invasiveness?
- How can future invasions be mitigated?
- What are the policy implications with regard to economic or ecological damage?

The full text of *Biofuel Feedstocks: The Risk of Future Invasions* can be found at: [http://www.cast-science.org/websiteUploads/publicationPDFs/Biofuels%20Commentary%20Web%20version%20with%20color%202007%20.pdf](http://www.cast-science.org/websiteUploads/publicationPDFs/Biofuels%20Commentary%20Web%20version%20with%20color%202007%20.pdf)

**WATER RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT ACT BECOMES LAW**

The Senate dealt President Bush the first veto override of his presidency on November 8, with its 79-14 vote to adopt the $23.2 billion Water Resources Development Act (Public Law No: 110-114) authorizing a huge number of water resource projects across the nation. There is something in this bill for every Congressional district in the country. The Senate action occurred two days after the House voted 397-54 to override the veto of the WRDA legislation that supporters said would bring much-needed improvements to the nation’s water transportation infrastructure and help expand wildlife habitat programs. The new law authorizes funding for hundreds of projects and initiatives across the U.S. including 43 aquatic ecosystem restoration studies in 20 states that will address the spread of aquatic invasive species. Other major initiatives in the Act include continued restoration for the Florida Everglades and the coastal wetlands of Louisiana, prevention of further shoreline and streambank degradation, and improved shipping on the Mississippi River.

If you want to find out which water resources projects are authorized in your state, you can search the 250+ pages of the WRDA at: [http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=110_cong_bills&docid=f:h1495enr.txt.pdf](http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=110_cong_bills&docid=f:h1495enr.txt.pdf). Please keep in mind that “authorized” projects does not necessarily mean that they will be “appropriated” projects.

**PESTICIDE REGISTRATION IMPROVEMENT ACT RENEWED**

The House and Senate passed the Pesticide Registration Improvement Renewal Act, also known as PRIA 2, without hardly any fanfare this fall. The legislation renews the Pesticide Registration Improvement Act (PRIA 1) for five more years until 2012. PRIA 1 amended the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) in 2003 to allow EPA to collect pesticide registration service fees from registrants in return for a more predictable and typically shorter evaluation process. In addition, new reduced risk pesticides get “fast track”
review due to their perceived environmental benefits. PRIA 2 also provides new funding for a pesticide safety education program, to ensure that these products are applied safely.

NEW AGRICULTURE SECRETARY NOMINATED

In a surprise move on October 31, President Bush nominated former North Dakota Governor Ed Schafer (R) to be Secretary of Agriculture. If confirmed by the Senate, Schafer would replace Mike Johanns, who resigned from the post in September to run for the U.S. Senate seat held by retiring Republican Chuck Hagel of Nebraska. Bush’s nomination of Schafer surprised many Washington, DC-insiders who assumed Acting Secretary Charles F. Conner would continue to hold the post. In his capacity as Deputy Secretary under Johanns, Conner played an instrumental role in constructing the Administration’s farm bill proposal. The Senate confirmation hearing for Gov. Schafer is scheduled for Jan. 24, 2008.

FARM BILL FINALLY CLEARS SENATE...AWAITS CONFERENCE

The 2002 Farm Bill expired on September 30, 2007, but has since been extended to March 1, 2008. The House of Representatives passed their version of the 2007 Farm Bill (H.R. 2419) by a vote of 231-191 last July. Progress on the 2007 Farm Bill stalled in the Senate during November over partisan wrangling about which amendments could be offered. The Senate finally passed their version of the 2007 Farm Bill on December 14 by a vote of 79-14.

It is anticipated that the farm bill conference will convene in the week of January 28 or soon thereafter and push to complete its work as soon as practicable. Congressional leadership is looking to get the farm bill completed by the first of March. However, some of the differences between the House and Senate versions don’t look amenable to quick resolution (e.g., price support levels and payment limitation rules), and the Administration is strongly opposed to portions of both versions. So, the conference might take many weeks before completion. And even then, the President can still veto the conference report if he doesn’t like it and send the legislation back to Congress for additional work.

It is thought that a final “drop dead deadline” for final agreement on a new Farm Bill is March 15, 2008. If Congress and the Administration cannot overcome their differences by then, a 1 to 2 year extension of the 2002 Farm Bill is very likely.

As for the Research Title, the WSSA favors the House’s version of the Farm Bill that was passed in July. The House Farm Bill protects the $200 million in mandatory research funding for the Initiative for Future Agriculture and Food Systems (IFAFS) that is scheduled to become available in FY2010. The IFAFS program was created in 1998 to provide a source of mandatory funding for integrated competitive programs sponsored by the land-grant universities. Since its inception, however, IFAFS funds have been “stripped out for other uses” in all but two years by the Appropriations Committees, the Office of Management and Budget and Committees on Agriculture via the budget reconciliation process. Nonetheless, the land-grant system has worked hard to reverse this situation in light of the tremendous unfunded needs -- in areas as diverse as human nutrition and biofuels -- that must be addressed through programs where scientific research is directly linked to public outreach. The Senate version of the Farm Bill had the IFAFS funding stripped out entirely during the Ag Committee markup and the agricultural research coalitions that we are members of have been working hard to get that money restored. However, our backs are against the wall with the Senate version because any “new” money has to be offset by taking it away from another part of the Farm Bill.

Another reason the WSSA supports the House-passed Farm Bill Research Title is the way the National Institute for Food and Agriculture (NIFA) would be organized within the USDA Research, Extension, and Economic (REE) mission area. The Senate version would basically duplicate responsibilities between the USDA Under Secretary for REE and the NIFA Director, since the NIFA Director would report directly to the Secretary.

USDA CONCLUDES GENETICALLY ENGINEERED CREEPING BENTGRASS INVESTIGATION

On November 26, 2007, the USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) concluded its investigation into alleged compliance infractions by The Scotts Company, LLC. The investigation related to regulated genetically engineered glyphosate-tolerant creeping bentgrass. Under the settlement agreement, Scotts has agreed to pay a civil penalty of $500,000 which is the maximum penalty allowed by the Plant Protection Act of 2000. Read more: [http://www.usda.gov/wps/portal/usdahome?contentidonly=true&contentid=2007/11/0350.xml]

NEW E-LEARNING WEBSITE ON INVASIVE PLANT MANAGEMENT ISSUES

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Center for Invasive Plant Management announced a new e-learning website aimed at engaging volunteers and the public in invasive plant issues and management. Designed for National Wildlife Refuge volunteers and Friends groups, the website provides science-based, introductory information that is suitable for anyone interested in learning about invasive plants. The five self-study modules address the purpose and history of the Refuge System, how volunteers help in invasive plant management, how refuges manage invasive plants, and tips for community outreach. Each module contains a quiz and web-based resources that enable learners to explore topics more thoroughly.

The website is part of a larger program carried out by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service in conjunction with partners, such as the National Wildlife Refuge Association, to engage volunteers in managing invasive species on National
Wildlife Refuges. This program includes competitive grants and training in how to map invasive plant infestations using hand-held computers and GPS devices. More information at: [http://www.fws.gov/invasives/volunteersTrainingModule/index.html]

NIWAW 9 IS FEBRUARY 24-29, 2008

The 9th National Invasive Weed Awareness Week (NIWAW 9) will be held in Washington, D.C. the week of February 24 to February 29, 2008 to bring people and groups from across the country together to focus national attention on the severe impacts caused by invasive weeds. Individuals and organizations interested in this issue are invited to participate in this event and help build on the success of NIWAW activities in previous years. NIWAW 9 events are designed to focus on the important roles the Federal government must play to help the U.S. deal with invasive weed problems. We have also designed the schedule to provide ample time for attendees to meet with their Congressional delegations, individual federal agencies and each other.

The theme for NIWAW 9 is “Weeds won’t wait: Don’t hesitate”. The six invasive weeds that will be featured on this year’s poster are: beach vitex, cheatgrass, giant salvinia, Japanese stiltgrass, Russian olive, and yellow starthistle. This year will be the first year we will be setting up easels and 4’ X 4’ poster boards at the hotel for participants to display their research, case studies and other invasive weed related issues. The headquarters hotel for NIWAW 9 is the Four Points by Sheraton Hotel, 1201 K Street NW, Washington, DC.

An on-line version of the NIWAW 9 poster, a draft agenda and previous partners and sponsors can be found at: [http://www.wssa.net/Meetings/ Invasive/index.htm]

DERR AND SHAW PARTICIPATE IN AAAS LEADERSHIP TRAINING IN DC

During the week of November 12 -16, WSSA Vice President David Shaw attended the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) Leadership training program on Science and Technology policy. Dr. Derr was kind enough to write a report to the WSSA Board following the completion of their week here in Washington, DC. Below is most of his report. Thanks Jeff!

The week-long program contained AAAS presenters along with guest speakers on a wide variety of topics. Some of the topics discussed were the fit of science in public policy, nanotechnology, stem cell research, energy policy/climate change, the space program, strategic weapons, ethics, and evolution. There was a diverse set of attendees, including two from NASA, five international attendees including three connected to the British embassy, two from the USDA Forest Service, one from USGS, and one from the American Chemical Society, plus researchers and grants people from various universities, among others. There were about 35 attendees total. One common comment I received was “I didn’t know there was a Weed Science Society of America”. One attendee even googled us.

We had Judy Schneider address us on Congress – its structure and Policy. She probably was one of the best speakers of the week. If you ever have the opportunity to hear her speak, take advantage of the opportunity.

Francis Slakely from the American Physical Society gave an excellent presentation on how a scientist can interact with a congressional office. He mentioned 4 numbers in his presentation: $10,000 – the amount of money a member of the House of Representatives needs to raise each week for 2 years for his/her re-election; 110,000 – the average number of votes needed for a representative to get elected; 7 minutes – the average time a house staffer has to spend on each contact (phone call, email, etc.) a representative receives; and 8 months – the average length of time a house staffer is in their position.

We heard from 3 lobbyists, one from the University of Michigan, one from United Technologies, and one from a private firm. John Marburger, the Director of the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy spoke to us, along with the Executive Director of Research! America, and a former Representative, John Edward Porter. Kei Koizumi gave a good talk on the Federal budget.

While we were in DC, David, Lee Van Wychen and I were able to meet with Rob Hedberg and USDA Under Secretary Gale Buchanan. We discussed concerns we had about cutting of funds for the National Agricultural Statistics Survey (NASS) to do pesticide use surveys. If the use surveys are cut, government agencies would instead rely on surveys from private companies (Doane) which would not be publicly available like NASS data. We also discussed NRI funding for weed science research and our concerns about funds potentially being shifted to other invasive species. Dr. Buchanan discussed the need for societies to support the President’s budget. We also need to congratulate David Shaw for being named a Fellow in AAAS. Dr. Buchanan supported David’s nomination.

Overall, I feel the AAAS program was worthwhile, although it is more of an educational program than leadership training. However, to be able to speak in DC on issues, one does need to be knowledgeable on how Congress works, along with understanding the issues involved in the interaction between science and public policy.

Jeffrey F. Derr
WSSA President-Elect

VAN WYCHEN, JACKSON ATTEND 2007 ASSOCIATION OF FISH AND WILDLIFE AGENCIES (AFWA) MEETING

The Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (AFWA) annual meeting was held September 16-21 in Louisville, KY. AFWA represents all of North America’s fish and wildlife agencies promoting sound management and conservation, speaking with a unified voice on important fish and wildlife issues. Our primary goal was to build relationships and identify areas of
common interest shared by WSSA and AFWA regarding the impacts of weeds and invasive plants on wildlife habitat. AFWA considers invasive plants as one of the greatest challenges to wildlife and fisheries management in the 21st century.

In 2005, AFWA established an Invasive Species Committee to provide a national forum for coordinated action among state and federal agencies, and provide a foundation for development of a strategic AFWA invasive species plan. Federal land management agencies commit millions of dollars to fighting invasive species and strategic coordination among state and federal agencies is critical to the conservation and expansion of existing wildlife and fisheries habitat. During the past year, the AFWA Invasive Species committee completed coordination with the National Wildlife Federation on joint letter of support to Congress regarding reauthorization of comprehensive invasive species legislation and finished the review of an invasive species script for a new video being developed by the Wildlife Forever Foundation and the US Forest Service targeting hunters and anglers. The Committee will continue to work with Wildlife Forever Foundation and the US Forest Service to explore the concept of a jointly funded Inter-Agency Personnel Agreement (IPA) for a State Employee to collaborate with Wildlife Forever in the development and deployment of messages targeted at hunters, anglers and outdoors persons to join in the effort to stop invasive hitchhikers.

AFWA will again be represented at the National Invasive Weeds Awareness Week (NIWAW) activities in Washington, D.C. John Kennedy with the Wyoming Game and Fish Dept. and chair of the AFWA Invasive Species Committee is committed to continued partnership with NIWAW.

For more information about the AFWA Invasives Species Committee or to become a member, please contact Amber Pairis at 202-624-7890 or apairis@fishwildlife.org.

Lee Van Wychen, Ph.D.
Director of Science Policy
The National and Regional Weed Science Societies
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New Weed Publication Available
A new weed science publication, Practical Weed Science for the Field Scout (IPM 1007), is now available for purchase through MU Extension.

This publication contains 60 pages of information that will help field scouts diagnose herbicide injury problems and identify common weeds and weeds seedlings. Practical Weed Science for the Field Scout contains over 150 photographs of the most up-to-date herbicide injury symptoms encountered in today’s production systems as well as over 300 photographs of 98 weed species in different stages of growth. This publication is a great buy at a cost of $3 per copy, and can be purchased by calling 573-882-7216. More information about IPM 1007 as well as a PDF version of the publication can be found online at http://extension.missouri.edu/explore/agguides/

New Book Available
Plants Poisonous or Harmful to Horses in the North Central United States is now available.

Due to the severe drought that affected most of the upper Midwest in 2007, the number of equine poisonings from weeds is on the rise. To help horse owners identify and control poisonous weeds and plants, and understand treatment recommendations for their horses, the University of Minnesota Extension recently released a book titled "Plants Poisonous or Harmful to Horses in the North Central United States". The book was sponsored by a grant from the Minnesota Racing Commission.

This 44 page book presents researched based information on 18 plants or groups of plants that commonly cause poisoning or harm to horses in the North Central States. The book includes hoary alyssum, hemlock, white snakeroot, foxtail, chokecherry, buttercup, fescue, and more. For each plant or group of plants, weed identification, weed control, toxin, when toxic, signs and effects of toxicosis, and horse treatment options are discussed. A glossary and reference sections are also included. The book includes almost 70 color photos of poisonous or harmful plants at various growth stages and in different environments. Photographs in the book will assist horse owners in becoming familiar with plants that can cause problems. The book retails for $10 (+ S & H) and can be ordered (and viewed) from the following website: www.extension.umn.edu/horse.
1. **RESOLUTION ON:** The Hotel Meeting Facility for the 62nd Annual Meeting of the North Central Weed Science Society.

WHEREAS the North Central Weed Science Society requires adequate facilities and lodging in order to conduct the business and program of the Society at the Annual Meeting; and

WHEREAS the meeting rooms and facilities of the Hyatt Regency of St. Louis, MO provided an excellent and spacious meeting environment; and

WHEREAS the staff and management of the Hyatt Regency of St. Louis, MO were helpful and cooperative in fulfilling the needs of the Society for a successful Annual Meeting;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the North Central Weed Society in session at St. Louis, MO, December 10-13, 2007 for the 62nd Annual Meeting commends the Hyatt Regency management and staff team for their outstanding efforts in providing the Society with excellent meeting facilities and arrangements.

2. **RESOLUTION ON:** Local Arrangements Committee for the 62nd Annual Meeting of the North Central Weed Science Society.

WHEREAS the North Central Weed Science Society relies upon the effort and diligence of the Local Arrangements Committee for arranging suitable facilities for the Annual Meeting; and

WHEREAS a diligent and well organized Local Arrangements Committee is crucial to the conduct of a successful Annual meeting; and

WHEREAS Chair Greg Elmore and other members of the Local Arrangements Committee have fulfilled all their responsibilities in an exemplary manner;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the North Central Weed Society in session at St. Louis, MO, December 10-13, 2007 for the 62nd Annual Meeting commends Greg Elmore and the Local Arrangements Committee for their outstanding efforts in providing the Society with the excellent meeting facilities and arrangements.

3. **RESOLUTION ON:** Graduate Student Paper and Poster Contest and Undergraduate Student Poster Judges for the 62nd Annual Meeting of the North Central Weed Science Society.

WHEREAS the North Central Weed Science Society relies on voluntary contribution of time, effort, and expertise of its members selected to judge the Graduate Student Paper and Poster Contests, and Undergraduate Poster Contest; and

WHEREAS the judges selected for the Graduate Student Paper and Poster Contests, and Undergraduate Poster Contest for the 62nd Annual Meeting fulfilled their obligations and responsibilities with dedication and commitment;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the North Central Weed Society in session at St. Louis, MO, December 10-13, 2007 for the 62nd Annual Meeting commends the judges of the Graduate Student Paper and Poster Contests, and Undergraduate Poster Contest for their inputs of time, labor, and cooperation in providing the Society with well run, successful contests at this Annual Meeting.

4. **RESOLUTION ON:** The North Central Collegiate Weed Science Contest.

WHEREAS the North Central Collegiate Weed Science Contest requires adequate facilities in order to conduct the contest in an orderly and educational manner; and

WHEREAS the facilities at Bennett Agricultural Research Corp., Richland, IA provided an excellent environment; and

WHEREAS the Summer Contest Host David Bennett, Tate Castillo, and the staff of Bennett Agricultural Research Corp., met the needs of the Society and had dedication for a successful North Central Collegiate Weed Contest;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the North Central Weed Society in session at St. Louis, MO, December 10-13, 2007 for the 62nd Annual Meeting commends David Bennett, Tate Castillo, and Bennett Agricultural Research Corp. for their outstanding efforts and hard work in providing the Society with an excellent facility and a well run and educational Weed Science Contest.
New Faculty:

Shane Friesen
Shane Friesen joined the Plant Sciences Department at North Dakota State University as an Assistant Professor in Weed Science. He has a split teaching/research appointment with his research focused on perennial weed management in annual cropping systems. Dr. Friesen received his B.S.A. from the University of Manitoba, his M.S. from the University of Guelph and his Ph.D. from the University of Western Australia.

Wesley Everman
Wesley Everman joined the Department of Crop and Soil Sciences at Michigan State University as an Assistant Professor and Extension Weed Specialist. He will conduct research and extension activities on weed management in corn, forage, and potato crops. Dr. Everman received his B.S. and M.S. from Purdue University under the direction of Dr. Case Medlin and Dr. Tom Bauman and his Ph.D. from North Carolina State University under the direction of Dr. John Wilcut and Dr. Alan York.

Graduations:

Joseph D. Bollman
M.S. in Agronomy
Advisor: Chris Boerboom
Current Position: Jefferson County Agricultural Agent, Univ. of Wisconsin Extension

Conferences:

The Plant Protection Institute of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences and the European Weed Research Society are hosting two international conferences on ragweed: one in Budapest, Hungary, the other in Osijek, Croatia, in September 2008. The Osijek conference includes a broad array of invasive plant topics and is coordinated with the ragweed conference in Budapest. [http://www.nki.hu/ragweed-joint.html]

Miscellaneous:

At Iowa State University, Bob Hartzler has decided that he is a really great guy.
Position Announcements

Research Scientist
Bennett Ag. Research Corp
1109 Ivy Avenue
Richland, IA 52585

RESPONSIBILITIES: Assume position of Principal Investigator when assigned by the Director of Research. Responsibilities include: trial establishment and maintenance, data and sample collection, equipment maintenance and operation, pesticide application. Supervise physical labor as required.

QUALIFICATIONS: Minimum of a B.S. degree in an agriculturally related field with special training and experience. Additionally, experience in crop production and operation and maintenance of commercial and/or research equipment

CERTIFICATION: This individual must be certified or working on such certification by the State of Iowa, at a minimum, as a non-commercial pesticide applicator in the categories of Agricultural Weed Control (1a), Agricultural Insect Control (1b), and Demonstration and Research (10).

For detailed information regarding this opening, please contact David Bennett at office; 319-456-3516, cell; 641-919-5349 or email barc@iowatelecom.net.

Product Technology Specialist
US Product Technology
Various United States locations

JOB SUMMARY: The purpose of the Product Technology Specialist (PTS) job is to: (1) plan and implement field research and development programs to validate the field performance of new product concepts; (2) recognize future marketplace needs and influence the development of new product concepts; and (3) provide technical support to maximize sales of new and existing products. The PTS develops and maintains effective relationships with research cooperators, key customers, and other centers of influence; provides sales support; and characterizes new products through self-initiated field trials as well as contracted research.

PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. Plan and implement field research programs to validate the performance of new products in development.
2. Establish research relationships with university and consultant cooperators.
3. Identify new business opportunities for Dow AgroSciences, keep abreast of market trends, and influence development of new products.
4. Develop and maintain key contacts within the technical community (university, extension, federal and state agencies, natural resource non-governmental organizations, and industry associations).
5. Provide direct technical support to the Dow AgroSciences sales force.
6. Promote proper use of Dow AgroSciences products through development and delivery of product stewardship programs.

QUALIFICATIONS: Applicants should have an in-depth knowledge of the theories and practices of entomology and/or weed science and a demonstrated proficiency in conducting and publishing refereed research. A working knowledge of crop production practices and

Continued on next page
molecular/plant genetics would also be to the candidate’s advantage. Although not required, a Ph.D. degree in Entomology, Weed Science, Agronomy, or other crop production discipline is desired. Candidates must have a demonstrated ability to transfer technology through scientific presentation and publication. The job requires practical knowledge of education techniques and experience transferring technical information to diverse audiences.

CONTACT: Mark A. Peterson- Product Technology Business Partner,
Office Phone: (765) 463-7788
Cell Phone: (765) 479-1441
Email: mapeterson@dow.com

Dow AgroSciences is an equal opportunity employer

M.S. or Ph.D. GRADUATE RESEARCH ASSISTANTSHIP
DIVISION OF PLANT SCIENCES, UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI

SALARY: At least $14,500/yr plus tuition.

BENEFITS: Students who receive an assistantship are eligible for the university’s graduate student accident and sickness insurance plan.

DATE POSITION AVAILABLE: Until Filled

DESCRIPTION OF DUTIES: The specific research project will be decided after discussions with candidates, but several projects in the area of weed management in corn, soybean, pastures, and forages are possible. The student will be conducting applied weed science research through field, greenhouse, and (limited) laboratory experiments and will be expected to summarize and present results from this research at professional and grower meetings, as well as in a final thesis. The student will gain experience and will be expected to interact with other ongoing research projects in the area of weed management in corn, soybean, wheat, pastures and forages. The student must also complete a minimum of 30 credit hours from selected courses accepted for graduate credit in the Division of Plant Sciences and maintain a GPA of 3.0 or higher.

QUALIFICATIONS SOUGHT:
• B.S. degree in Agriculture, Agronomy, Biology, or other related discipline with a strong interest in plant sciences.
• Genuine interest in agricultural research, extension, and/or teaching and pursuing a career in agronomy or weed science
• Must be able to work with others and travel to various research sites located throughout the state.
• 3.0 GPA or higher
• Must demonstrate a proficiency of the English language (oral and written).

CONTACT FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:
Dr. Kevin W. Bradley
Division of Plant Sciences
University of Missouri
206A Waters Hall
Columbia, MO 65211
Tel: 573-882-4039
E-mail: BradleyKe@missouri.edu
Position Announcements

GRADUATE RESEARCH ASSISTANTSHIP
Crop Yield as Influenced by Flaming
University of Nebraska

POSITION DESCRIPTION: Half time research assistantship leading to an MS or PhD in Plant Ecology is available Spring 2008. Program focus is on developing Integrated Weed Management for various agro-eco systems, rangeland, pasture and wetlands in Nebraska. General area of our research and extension program includes weed ecology, crop-weed interactions as affected by cropping practices and nutrient management, herbicide technologies and systems simulation. Specific area of this research project includes studying various non-chemical weed control options and crop development as influenced by flaming. Specific goal is to study the relationship between the injury level by flaming, and corresponding crop yields and yield components in three agronomic crops (field corn, soybean, and sorghum). The overall goal is to aid in developing cost effective integrated weed management system for organic crop production. You will have a chance to be part of a larger flaming project that already has an MS and PhD student. There are also opportunities for participation in teaching an undergraduate weed science laboratory course. If you are a highly motivated individual, and have the ability to work independently and cooperatively with others, with good communication skills (written/oral), come to join our team.

QUALIFICATIONS: B.S. or M.S. degree with appropriate academic credentials. The qualifying degree must be completed before the GRA start date.

CURRENT STIPEND: Graduate Research Assistantship Stipend:
- M.S. Student: Annual Basis - $19,500  Monthly Basis - $1,625
- Ph.D. Student: Annual Basis - $21,000  Monthly Basis - $1,750

TUITION WAIVER: A tuition waiver of up to 12 credit hours per semester and 12 credit hours during summer sessions is provided with the GRA. The value of this tuition waiver to the student is $224.50 per credit hour for residents or $604.00 per credit hour for non-residents. In addition to the tuition benefit, your assistantship will provide basic individual student health insurance at a reduced rate. You and the University will share in the cost of the premium. You will be responsible for approximately 21% of the annual cost of your health insurance premium. Students must pay fees of $233.05 for six hours or less, and $405.00 for seven or more hours, and other special service fees.

GRA AVAILABILITY: May 1, 2008 or as soon as a suitable candidate is found. Please allow 2-3 months for application and selection process.

APPLICATION PROCESS: Visit http://agronomy.unl.edu/agro-gradpro/ to submit resume, letter of application, transcripts, etc. Send your letter of interest, and personal objective statement (via emails preferred) to: Dr. Stevan Knezevic, Integrated Weed Management Specialist, University of Nebraska, Haskell Agricultural Laboratory, 57905 866 Road, Concord, NE, 68728-2828, Phone: 402-584-2808, Fax: 402-584-2859, e-mail: sknezevic2@unl.edu, http://nerec.unl.edu/weed/knezevic.htm
## I. NCWSS Board of Directors

### Officers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Email</th>
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<td><a href="mailto:Lee.VanWychen@wssa.net">Lee.VanWychen@wssa.net</a></td>
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### State Directors

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<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Michael Edwards</td>
<td>Colorado</td>
<td>2009</td>
<td>303-280-3830</td>
<td><a href="mailto:michael.t.edwards@usa.dupont.com">michael.t.edwards@usa.dupont.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patrick Tranel</td>
<td>Illinois</td>
<td>2008</td>
<td>217-333-1531</td>
<td><a href="mailto:tranel@uiuc.edu">tranel@uiuc.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bruce Maddy</td>
<td>Indiana</td>
<td>2009</td>
<td>317-877-3510</td>
<td><a href="mailto:bernaddy@dow.com">bernaddy@dow.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leslie Lloyd</td>
<td>Iowa</td>
<td>2008</td>
<td>641-792-3009</td>
<td><a href="mailto:leslie.lloyd@monsanto.com">leslie.lloyd@monsanto.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patrick Geier</td>
<td>Kansas</td>
<td>2009</td>
<td>785-625-3425</td>
<td><a href="mailto:pgeier@ksu.edu">pgeier@ksu.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joseph Masabni</td>
<td>Kentucky</td>
<td>2009</td>
<td>270-365-7541</td>
<td><a href="mailto:joe.masabni@uky.edu">joe.masabni@uky.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gary Powell</td>
<td>Michigan</td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>812-856-4591</td>
<td><a href="mailto:powellg@msu.edu">powellg@msu.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brett Miller</td>
<td>Minnesota</td>
<td>2008</td>
<td>320-848-2034</td>
<td><a href="mailto:brett.miller@syngenta.com">brett.miller@syngenta.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reid Smeda</td>
<td>Missouri</td>
<td>2009</td>
<td>573-882-1329</td>
<td><a href="mailto:smedar@missouri.edu">smedar@missouri.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mark Bernards</td>
<td>Nebraska</td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>402-472-1534</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mbernards2@unl.edu">mbernards2@unl.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brian Kuehl</td>
<td>North Dakota</td>
<td>2008</td>
<td>701-271-0407</td>
<td><a href="mailto:bkuehl@westcentralinc.com">bkuehl@westcentralinc.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dain Bruns</td>
<td>Ohio</td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>614-767-0236</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dain.bruns@syngenta.com">dain.bruns@syngenta.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Darren Robinson</td>
<td>Ontario</td>
<td>2008</td>
<td>519-674-1604</td>
<td><a href="mailto:drobinso@ridgeviewc.nongelp.ca">drobinso@ridgeviewc.nongelp.ca</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Terence Carmody</td>
<td>South Dakota</td>
<td>2009</td>
<td>605-371-9683</td>
<td><a href="mailto:terence.carmody@syngenta.com">terence.carmody@syngenta.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Jed Colquhoun</td>
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<td>2010</td>
<td>608-890-0980</td>
<td><a href="mailto:colquhoun@wisc.edu">colquhoun@wisc.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andrew Kniss</td>
<td>Wyoming</td>
<td>2008</td>
<td>307-766-3949</td>
<td><a href="mailto:akmiss@uwyo.edu">akmiss@uwyo.edu</a></td>
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### Directors at Large

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Mike Moechnig</td>
<td>Extension</td>
<td>605-688-4591</td>
<td><a href="mailto:michael.moechnig@sdstate.edu">michael.moechnig@sdstate.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Valerie Mock</td>
<td>Graduate Students</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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### NCWSS Publication Representative

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<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Email</th>
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<tr>
<td>Michael Foley</td>
<td>WSSA Publication Board Rep.</td>
<td>701-239-1251</td>
<td><a href="mailto:michael.foley@ars.usda.gov">michael.foley@ars.usda.gov</a></td>
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## II. NCWSS Interest Group Committees

### Extension

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
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<th>Email</th>
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<tr>
<td>Mike Moechnig</td>
<td>Chair</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:michael.moechnig@sdstate.edu">michael.moechnig@sdstate.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<td><a href="mailto:bradleyke@missouri.edu">bradleyke@missouri.edu</a></td>
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### Graduate Students

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<th>Email</th>
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<tr>
<td>Valerie Mock</td>
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<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joe Armstrong</td>
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### Industry

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<tr>
<td>Mike Leetch</td>
<td>Chair</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
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<td>Mark Peterson</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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IV. Section Program Chairs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>General Program and Paper Session</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mick Holm</td>
<td>Program Chair</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stephen Sanborn</td>
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<td>608-235-3667</td>
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<td>Richard Proost</td>
<td>Vice Chair</td>
<td>608-262-7845</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jerry Hora</td>
<td></td>
<td>563-662-5013</td>
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<td>Fritz Koppatschek</td>
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<td>317-415-0553</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brian Canaday</td>
<td></td>
<td>573-522-4115</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jeff Stachler</td>
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<td>614-292-1393</td>
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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>John Hinz</td>
<td>Chair (1st Vice Chair Res. Ed.)</td>
<td>515-733-9250</td>
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<tr>
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<td>John Lindquist</td>
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<td>402-472-2771</td>
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<tr>
<th>Agronomic Crops I (Cereals, Sugar Beets, Dry Beans)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Patrick Geier</td>
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<td>785-625-3425</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rick Schmenk</td>
<td>Vice Chair</td>
<td>734-828-7048</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peter Forster</td>
<td></td>
<td>970-454-5478</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mike Edwards</td>
<td>Past Chair</td>
<td>303-280-3830</td>
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<tr>
<th>Aronomics Crops II (Corn, Sorghum)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Troy Klingaman</td>
<td>Chair</td>
<td>217-586-6498</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jeff Taylor</td>
<td>Vice-Chair</td>
<td>937-884-7435</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tony Dobbels</td>
<td>Past Chair</td>
<td>614-292-1393</td>
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<th>Agronomic Crops III (Soybeans, Legumes Forage and Range)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Kevin Bradley</td>
<td>Chair</td>
<td>573-882-4039</td>
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<tr>
<td>David Simpson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jeff Bunting</td>
<td>Past Chair</td>
<td>309-557-6246</td>
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<tr>
<td>Robert Klein</td>
<td>Chair</td>
<td>308-696-6705</td>
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<td>Gregory Dahl</td>
<td>Vice Chair</td>
<td>651-490-2446</td>
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<td>Teague Lottman</td>
<td>Past Chair</td>
<td>402-670-7287</td>
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<td>Mike Moechnig</td>
<td>Chair</td>
<td>605-688-4591</td>
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<td>Past Chair</td>
<td>573-882-4039</td>
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<th>Herbicide Physiology</th>
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<tr>
<td>Vince Davis</td>
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<td>Greg Kruger</td>
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<td>Dean Volenberg</td>
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