President Comments — Bryan Young

This time of year we commonly find ourselves hoping for that normal weather pattern so that our research will have commercial relevance in future years or at least allow us to repeat our field research in time. Alas, the elusive normal weather has not been seen in my geography and I would venture the same is true for your area.

Following a two-year absence the NCWSS Summer Weed Contest returns to normal and will be hosted by Doug Nord and his staff at Diamond Ag Research in Larned, KS on August 8 and 9, 2012. This contest has been a core element in our efforts as a society to provide our students with educational opportunities that foster the development of our future work force in weed science. I'm excited to learn that we may attract teams from universities outside of our traditional membership since the contest venue is on the western boundary of our region. The team at Diamond Ag Research and the Resident Education committee will no doubt have a quality event developed for participants and I encourage you to participate as a contestant, coach, or volunteer. More detail on the contest can be found on the NCWSS website (http://www.ncwss.org/weed-contest.php).

The 2012 NCWSS Annual Meeting will be held December 10-13 in St. Louis, MO at the Hyatt Regency. The NCWSS Executive committee recently held our summer board meeting at this site and the facilities will be excellent for accommodating our conference, especially with ample room space for our concurrent sessions. Dave Johnson has been working diligently with the Program committee and our Local Arrangements chair, Emilio Oyarzabal, to plan a superb conference program that caters to the expectations and desires of our entire membership. Please contact Dave, Emilio, or myself if you have any suggestions or comments for consideration in making the 2012 program a great success.

A new feature for the 2012 conference will be the opportunity to have the slides with corresponding audio recorded from your presentation and posted to our NCWSS website along with any volunteer poster presentations. A thorough discussion of this process is provided later in this newsletter. I applaud Brian Jenks, Bruce Ackley, and the rest of the Strategic Planning committee for their efforts in working out a mechanism to accomplish this while keeping in mind any concerns or other considerations from our NCWSS members. Adding this component to our conference was motivated by the NCWSS membership as a
means for individuals in attendance at the conference to view presentations that they could not attend due to conflicts with other concurrent presentations, paper judge duties in other sessions, committee meetings, or other society activity. We’ve had even greater support from some NCWSS members who cannot annually attend our conference due to other job responsibilities and this provides them a means to see some presentations of interest and get some value out of their membership in the NCWSS without attending the conference. The recorded presentations will be on a secure site with access only to NCWSS members. In addition, presenting authors will be required to “opt in” for the recording service and the default will be no recording or posting of the presentation. We recognize that some presentations, especially for our industry members, may not be able to have certain presentations with sensitive information recorded. However, we encourage as much of our membership as possible participate in this feature to create even more value of the conference to our members. We have committed to offer this service for the 2012 conference and will re-evaluate our future plans following the conference and website viewing of the presentations.

I appreciate your efforts in the NCWSS including any committee service or other activities which help strengthen our society. Please have a productive and safe summer and I look forward to seeing you at the summer contest in August or at St. Louis in December.

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**Message from the Program Chair — Dave Johnson**

This is the Call for Papers and Posters for the 2012 Annual Meeting of the North Central Weed Science Society. This is the only notice you will receive so mark your calendar and submit the titles of your presentations by Friday, September 7th. Submissions received after September 7th may be placed in alternate sections, switched to the poster session or rejected depending on the availability of space in the sections. The web-based title and abstract submission process that has been used by NCWSS the past couple of years will be used again in 2012. The Title/Abstract Submission website will be available around July 20, 2012 through the NCWSS website (www.ncwss.org) or by going directly to the submission website hosted through WSSA (wssaabstracts.com).

The program begins Tuesday morning, December 10th, 2012 and concludes Thursday afternoon, December 13th, 2012. The general session will feature the Presidential Address by Bryan Young plus a keynote speaker with information of interest to all NCWSS members. Potential half-day symposia being developed include “Potential Invasiveness of Biofuel Crops” and “Herbicide Application Technology”, plus the always popular “What’s New in Industry” section. The volunteer paper and poster sections are listed below and directions are included for submission of papers and posters into these sections.

Based on numerous NCWSS member requests over the past few years, the NCWSS Executive Board has approved a proposal from the Strategic Planning committee to record and post presentations and posters for future viewing by NCWSS members via the NCWSS website. This recording and posting will be strictly voluntary on the part of the paper and poster authors, and authors must “opt-in” to have their presentations and posters recorded. See the next article for more details on this new feature.

The 2012 program will feature the traditional graduate student paper and poster contests and an undergraduate poster contest. Guidelines for the contests are found later in this article and at our website under About NCWSS – NCWSS Manual of Operating Procedures. We again look forward to top-quality presentations by the students.

As in previous years, authors will upload their presentation to the Submission website about 7 days before the meeting. Using the Submission website helps to prevent clogging up e-mail accounts with large file attachments and allows the section chairs to bring the preloaded presentations to the meeting. If this is not possible, make sure you contact your section chair to make other arrangements.

Please consider giving one or more presentations at our annual meeting. We are interested in what you are working on. In addition to research, thought provoking or critical assessments of our discipline are also welcome. Also, please pass along any suggestions on ways to make the meeting even more valuable to you and others. I look forward to an interesting and exciting conference in December.

Dave Johnson, Program Chair
david.h.johnson@pioneer.com, 515-535-7234
NCWSS membership has expressed interest in having presentations and posters available for viewing by NCWSS members after the annual meeting. This will allow those who couldn’t make it to the meeting to see papers and posters of interest, and also allow the chance to see a paper in cases of conflict where two papers of interest were presented at the same time. The NCWSS Strategic Planning Committee, led by chair Brian Jenks and vice-chair Bruce Ackley, worked hard to develop a procedure to allow this to happen, details of which are in this article. The committee’s proposal was approved by the NCWSS Executive Committee during the summer 2012 board meeting.

The recording and posting of papers and posters presentations is **strictly voluntary**, and members must “opt-in” to have them recorded and posted to the NCWSS website. **No one will be required to have their presentations recorded or posted.** Presentations will be available to NCWSS members only (password protected) through the NCWSS website for a period of one year following the annual meeting, and are intended for personal learning by NCWSS members only. Posters will be submitted as PDF files for posting, and papers will have the Powerpoint and, optionally, voice recorded, plus a PDF version of the Powerpoint posted. There will be **no videotaping of the presenter**, just the slides. They can indicate their preference when submitting their title, and **have the opportunity to change their minds at any time**, including during their session, immediately after the presentation is made, or at any time during the one-year period of posting.

When the author enters the on-line submission website, he or she can choose the following options:

**Posters:** each poster presenter will choose whether or not to upload a PDF file of their poster (default is no). Uploading to the website will occur just prior to or after the meeting date.

**Papers:** Each paper presenter will choose one of the following:

1. Presentation will NOT be recorded or posted (default)
2. PPT and voice recorded (plus PDF of PPT can be posted also)
3. PDF version of PPT only (no voice)

Section chairs will be instructed as to which presentations are to be recorded, and only those to which the presenter consents will be recorded. Paper presenters who chose options 2 or 3 above may change their mind and choose not to be recorded at any time, including at the time or presentation by letting the section moderator know not to record it. Also, a presenter can choose not to have his or her recorded presentation posted to the website after the presentation or have it removed from the website at any time during the one year period of website posting. Posters that are posted to the website may also be removed by author instruction at any time.

Poster presenters choosing to allow their poster to be posted and paper presenters who choose options 2 or 3 above will be required to check a box indicating that he or she accepts the following conditions:

“It is the intent of the NCWSS that recorded presentations are provided solely for personal viewing by NCWSS members. If anyone wants to use the information for other purposes, they must request permission from the author. Presenters are responsible to make co-authors aware that the presentation will be recorded or posted on the NCWSS website. The presentations will be available for viewing for one year. Authors may request that their presentation be removed from the website at any time. The NCWSS agrees to not change any data or edit the presentation in any way that would change the interpretation of the data or presentation. The NCWSS agrees to not sell or market the presentation for monetary purposes or distribute it in any form.”

If they do not agree to these terms the presentation or poster will not be recorded and posted to the website.

Any questions regarding this process can be sent to me ([david.h.johnson@pioneer.com](mailto:david.h.johnson@pioneer.com), 515-535-7234).
Please follow the included directions, heed the deadlines and please contact me if there are any questions.

SIGN-IN: The sign-in section should be available starting approximately July 20, 2012. Go to the home page of the NCWSS website (www.ncwss.org) and connect to the site through the link found there or go directly to the submission website hosted through WSSA (wssaabstracts.com). You will need your login and password for your account or create your own new account if you have not done so previously.

SUBMIT TITLE (deadline September 7th): Simply follow the site’s instructions for submission. Select your preference for paper section (Horticulture and Ornamentals, etc.). Enter the title and authors’ names in the spaces provided. Be sure to use the pull-down menus at the right to indicate member status and to indicate if an author is the presenter or not. It is critical that we know which papers and posters will be competing in the student contests, so please be sure to indicate this for your title submission. Also, should you choose to allow your paper or poster to be recorded for posting to the NCWSS website for future viewing by NCWSS members, please indicate your preference and follow the instructions. Please be sure to get approval from your co-authors. Note: to have your paper or presentation recorded, you must “opt-in” by indicating your choice. The default is that the presentation NOT be recorded. You can change your mind later by contacting me (david.h.johnson@pioneer.com, 515-535-7234). See further details in the separate article in this newsletter. For the September 7th title deadline, fill in the title, authors and affiliations (type in as it would appear in the final abstract). Try to make sure you have everything as you want it before submitting. Click on the “Submit” button when you have entered all the information.

SUBMIT ABSTRACT (deadline November 16th): Sign in to your account as you did previously for the title submission. Click on the link to submit an abstract. Scroll down to the abstract part of the window and click anywhere in the area designated to hold the abstract. Cut and paste your abstract in the box provided. There is no need to include the title and authors in the “cut and paste” portion since the correct information has already been entered in the boxes at the top of the page. We recommend that you make all changes prior to pasting into the submission form. NOTE: If you have changed authors (added or deleted) or made a title change, please send an email to both your section chair and me (david.h.johnson@pioneer.com) to alert us about the change.

ACTION SUMMARY: Titles will be due on September 7th. At this time, we will ask you to enter the site and type in your title, authors’ info, section preference and submit. Abstracts will be due November 16th. At this time, we request you to enter the author information as indicated, cut and paste abstract, select keywords, and submit.

Preparing to Submit Titles
Please follow these instructions when preparing your title(s):

1. Decide whether the presentation is a poster, paper or invited symposia paper.

2. Select your first and alternate choices for the section in which you want to make your presentation. Any questions pertaining to the appropriateness of your presentation in these sections can be answered by contacting the Program Chair or the respective Section Chair.

3. Connect to the NCWSS website (www.ncwss.org) and use the link to connect to the Title/Abstract Submission website or go directly to the submission website (wssaabstracts.com). Follow the directions previously listed in this article.

4. Important Note: Type the title, authors, affiliation (institution, agency or company) and location exactly the way they are to be printed in the program. Capitalize major words in the title. Include the full first name and middle initial of the authors rather than just initials. Place a checkmark in the box next to the author’s name to designate who will present the paper or poster. Do not include departments or division, zip codes or the name of the state if it is a part of the institution’s name. Use the common names of weeds, herbicides and crops. Please follow the capitalization, punctuation and formatting as shown in these examples, especially the listing of affiliations.
Single institution or company


Multiple institutions or companies

Potential of Saflufenacil for Preharvest Desiccation of Sunflower. Kirk A. Howatt*, Brian M. Jenks, Phillip W. Stahlman, and Michael J. Moechnig, North Dakota State University, Fargo and Minot; Kansas State University, Hays; South Dakota State University, Brookings.

Paper and Poster Section Chairs

Agronomic Crops I (Cereals, Sugar Beets, Dry Beans)
Aaron Franssen, 402-643-9252
aaron.franssen@syngenta.com

Agronomic Crops II (Corn, Sorghum)
Walter Thomas, 919-547-2549
walter.e.thomas@basf.com

Agronomic Crops III (Soybeans, Legumes, Forage and Range)
Mike Weber, 515-962-9214
michael.weber@bayer.com

Equipment and Application Methods
Greg Kruger, 308-696-6715
gkruger2@unl.edu

Extension
Doug Shoup, 620-212-2399
dshoup@ksu.edu

Herbicide Physiology
Andy Robinson, 765-414-6615
arobins@purdue.edu

Invasive Weeds
Steve Young, 308-696-6712
syoung4@unl.edu

Forestry, Industrial, Turf, Aquatics, Forage and Range
Reid Smeda, 573-882-1329
smedar@missouri.edu

Horticulture and Ornamentals
Darren Robinson, 519-674-1604
drobinso@ridgetownc.uoguelph.ca

Weed Biology, Ecology and Management
Marty Williams, 217-244-5476
mmwillms@illinois.edu

Poster Session
Gordon Vail, 336-632-5596
gordon.vail@syngenta.com

Program Chair
Dave Johnson – 515-423-3810
david.h.johnson@pioneer.com

Paper Presentations and Presentation Format

All papers will be presented with PowerPoint files through an LCD projector. Electronic presentations will be limited to Power Point programs and need to be uploaded to the Submission website approximately 7 days prior to the meeting. Presentations are approximately 12 minutes long followed by one to two minutes for questions or comments to fit a 15 minute schedule. Contact the Program Chair if more time is needed. Abstracts of the paper and poster presentations will be published on the NCWSS website (www.ncwss.org). Abstracts should be submitted electronically via the Title/Abstract Submission website prior to the meeting (by November 16). A Call for Abstracts and Instructions for Submitting the Abstracts will be sent to the corresponding authors by the Proceedings Editor after titles are submitted.

Poster Presentations

All posters will be set up on Monday and available for viewing on both Tuesday and Wednesday. All posters should be removed by 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday. One poster mounting board, approximately 48 by 48 inches, supported on an easel will be provided by the NCWSS. Posters will be arranged according to subject, so please indicate your section preference in the Title/Abstract Submission system linked to the NCWSS website. Additional details will be mailed to each poster session participant following title submission.

Call for Sustaining Member and Sustaining Member Displays

Contact the chair of the Industry Committee, Dawn Refsell (816-206-3919, dawn.refsell@valent.com) for information on how to become a Sustaining Member of the NCWSS. Sustaining member displays can be set up Monday afternoon and should be removed by 4:00 p.m. Wednesday. ◊
The NCWSS has exceptional, dedicated and successful members and students who make significant contributions to our Society and discipline. Please take a few minutes to recognize the contributions of outstanding members by nominating them for a Distinguished Achievement Award. If you are unsure if a person has received an award already or not, just check the NCWSS website (www.ncwss.org) for a listing of past recipients under the tab “About NCWSS”. Nominations are a simple process and the NCWSS can present up to five awards each year from the following categories:

Nomination guidelines for all categories are similar and can be found on pages 23-24 of the NCWSS Manual of Operating Procedures which can be found at our website: www.ncwss.org/about.php. Nominators need to initiate the process early to procure letters of support prior to the application deadline. Submissions of nomination materials are due September 30, 2012.

In addition, we want to present the new award, the Outstanding Graduate Student Distinguished Achievement Award, for the second time in 2012. The eligibility and nomination information pertinent to this new student award are found on pages 25-26 of the Manual of Operating Procedures. The awards committee will review the applicants and the selected finalists will be interviewed at our annual meeting. This award will be given to a graduate student who is actively involved in the society and a contributor to the field of weed science through extension, research or teaching.

Remember, the deadline for submissions is September 30, 2012.

Email an electronic version (pdf preferred) of complete nomination packages for all awards to: mark.wrucke@bayer.com. Feel free to call me at 651-463-3365 with any questions.

Now is the time to nominate distinguished members of the North Central Weed Science Society for the Fellow award. This prestigious award is presented to those who have made significant contributions to our Society and the discipline of Weed Science. Each year the NCWSS can recognize up to 0.5 percent of its members as a Fellow. Eligible nominees must have been active in the NCWSS and should have made substantial contributions in more than one of the following areas: 1) Professional publications, 2) Educational contributions other than publications, 3) Development or improvement of Weed Science programs, practices, or products, 4) Service of NCWSS, 5) Service to Weed Science outside of NCWSS, and 6) Other professional contributions.

The NCWSS has several members worthy of recognition as Fellow. The nomination procedure is described in the Manual of Operating Procedures, Section III (Rules), Chapter 2 (page 26) on the NCWSS Website: http://www.ncwss.org/info/Operating-Guide-2010.pdf. Nominators need to start the process early to procure letters of support for the nomination. The deadline for receipt of nominations is September 30.

Electronic nominations (pdf files) should be sent to: Mike Owen
Fellow Committee Chair
mdowen@iastate.edu
515-294-5936
The 2012 North Central Weed Science Collegiate Contest will be hosted by Doug Nord at Diamond Ag. Research, Inc. in Larned KS on August 9. Registration for the contest is due by **July 11th**, and hotel arrangements need to be made by August 1st to guarantee rooms and group rate. The weed ID and Unknown Herbicide list can be found on the NCWSS website, and if anyone has any questions regarding the contest please feel free to contact Audrey (audreyallison@gbta.net or 620 285-3380)

**Volunteers are needed** for various contest events. Volunteer forms and information on volunteer duties can be found on the ncwss.org website under the weed contest link. Please return the volunteer forms to Diamond Ag Research Inc. by August 1st.

Invitations to the colleges were mailed several months ago. If you did not receive an invitation, and would like to send a team, please contact Audrey Allison.

Thanks in advance. We look forward to seeing you August 9th, 2012.

**Directions to Diamond Ag Research, Inc. Office and Contest Site**

The office is located 4 miles South of Larned, KS 67550. Take Broadway street, heading south leaving Larned. Broadway street turns into KS-19-SPUR. Do **NOT** turn left onto K-19; continue driving south on K-19. Once you have reached “I” Road, Diamond Ag Research, Inc. will be found on the right side of the road 1/4 of a mile South.

**KANSAS CITY, MO**


**WICHITA, KS**

After reaching **I-235/KS-96 W**, take **EXIT 13** toward **KS-96 W/Hutchinson/Valley Center**. Merge onto **KS-96 W** via the exit on the **left** towards **Hutchinson**. Merge onto **US-50 W/KS-61 S** via the exit on the **left** towards **Kinsley/Lyons**. **Keep left** at the fork to go on **US-50W**. Turn **right** onto **US-281**. **Turn left** onto **KS-19**. **Turn slight right** onto **KS-19-SPUR**. **KS-19-SPUR** becomes **US-56/Broadway St in Larned, KS**
Washington Report
June 1, 2012 - Lee Van Wyachen

FY 2013 Ag Research Appropriations

The Senate Appropriations committee passed its version of the FY 2013 Ag Appropriations (S. 2375) on April 26. The House Appropriations Committee has yet to act on the measure. Overall, the Senate numbers are better than the Administration’s numbers for APHIS, the Hatch Act, and Smith Lever 3(b) and (c) programs. The Administration proposed $325 million for the Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI) which is nearly a 23 percent increase over FY 2012, while the Senate proposed $298 million for AFRI. The National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA), which AFRI is part of, would receive $1.238 billion from both the Senate and Administration. This is a roughly a $37 million increase over FY 2012. Funding for the USDA-ARS would receive $1.101 billion, an increase of $7.2 million. The Senate Appropriations Committee rejected the Administration’s request to close six more ARS research facilities after closing twelve during the current fiscal year.

The Senate also rejected the Administration’s proposal for consolidating six pest management related programs (highlighted in gray) into a Crop Protection Program. This program would support projects that respond to pest management challenges with coordinated regionwide and national research, education, and extension programs, and would serve as a catalyst for promoting further development and use of integrated pest management approaches. The Administration proposed $29.056 million for the Crop Protection Program, which reflects combined pest management funding transferred from Research and Education and Extension Activities into the Integrated Activities account under Section 406 Authority. The Senate funded all six pest management related programs at their FY 2012 funding level, and kept them under their respective Research and Education, Extension, and Integrated Accounts within the NIFA budget. The Senate...
funding for the six programs totals $29,748 million or $690,000 more than the Administration’s proposal.

The WSSA Science Policy Committee has received a lot of feedback from members both in support and against the Administration’s proposed Crop Protection Program. The main point in support of the proposed Crop Protection program, in addition to those mentioned above, is that the consolidated budget number would help USDA protect the smaller IPM programs under this harsh fiscal climate. The main point against the new proposal is that IR-4 and the Extension IPM Coordinators programs would incur indirect cost recovery of approximately 30 percent if they were moved from their respective Research and Education and Extension Activities Account to the Integrated Activities Account. The WSSA has supported all six of the programs in the past and would like to see each of their budgets grow. The Science Policy Committee will continue to vet the new Crop Protection proposal.

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**National Summit on Strategies to Manage Herbicide Resistant Weeds A Success**

On May 10, 2012 more than 250 policymakers, producers, herbicide manufacturers, social scientists, agronomists and weed scientists participated in a National Summit on Strategies to Manage Herbicide Resistant Weeds at George Washington University in Washington, D.C. The Summit had excellent speakers and panelists throughout the day that provided the scientific underpinnings of the herbicide resistant weed problem which led to excellent discussions about the impediments and incentives needed to move forward in managing herbicide resistant weeds. Two common themes that emerged during the summit was the need for a diversity of weed management tactics and the woefully inadequate federal funding directed to weed science.

The nine member planning committee deserves a ton of credit for the excellent program and speakers. The Summit planning committee was chaired by Dr. Charles J. Arnzen, a member of National Academy of Sciences from Arizona State. WSSA members on the planning committee included Dr. Harold Coble, USDA-ARS; Dr. Jodie Holt, University of California – Riverside; Dr. Mike Owen, Iowa State; Dr. Jill Schroeder, New Mexico State; and Dr. David Shaw, Mississippi State. Other planning committee members included Dr. David Ervin, Dept. of Economics, Portland State; Dr. Terrance Hurley, Dept. of Applied Economics, University of Minnesota; and Dr. Raymond Jussaume Jr, Dept. of Sociology, Michigan State.

The Herbicide Resistant Weeds Summit was organized with generous support from the WSSA, USDA-NIFA, USDA-ERS, the Herbicide Resistant Action Committee, the Iowa Soybean Association, the National Cotton Council, and the United Soybean Board.

All sessions of the Herbicide Resistance Summit were video recorded and will be posted on the NAS website at: nas-sites.org/hr-weeds-summit/. Later this summer, the Summit Proceedings will be released and posted on the NAS website and disseminated to the press, meeting participants, and stakeholders.

**Senate Ag Passes Its Version of 2012 Farm Bill**

The Senate Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry Committee passed its version of the 2012 Farm Bill by a vote of 16-5 on April 26. Overall, the bill would cut the nation’s deficit by $23 billion. The legislation would consolidate and eliminate many USDA programs. Conservation programs are among the targets, with 23 existing programs proposed for consolidation into 13 programs.

In the research title, the bill would reauthorize AFRI at $700 million per year. The Specialty Crop Research Initiative would receive a total of $200 million over the life of the farm bill and its funding levels are made permanent into future farm bill cycles at $50 million per year. The Organic Agriculture Research and Extension Initiative would receive $80 million over the life of the farm bill, or $16 million per year plus an authorization for $25 million per year in appropriations. This is 20 percent decrease in current annual funding. Also included in the bill is a provision that requires USDA-NIFA to assess barriers faced by institutions with limited capacity to successfully apply and compete for research grants.

The House Ag Committee is still conducting Farm Bill hearings and plans to mark up its version later this spring. While it’s still a possibility that Congress could pass a Farm Bill and get it to the President before the November elections, the more likely scenario is a Farm Bill sometime during next year.

**Aquatic Plant Control Research Program Under Attack Again**

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers’ Aquatic Plant Control Research Program (APCRP) is the nation’s only federally authorized program for research and development of science-based management strategies for invasive aquatic weeds. The work
conducted by APCRP’s 18 research staff has been effective, efficient, and invaluable in our nation’s fight against foreign aquatic invaders. Like FY 2012, the Administration and the House Energy and Water Appropriations Committee have not provided any funding for FY 2013, but the Senate Energy and Water Appropriations Committee proposed $4 million in funding for APCRP during their April 26 mark-up. It would be a grave mistake by the Corps’ to eliminate the expertise and institutional knowledge encompassed by APCRP. We have once again asked the Army Corps of Engineers and Congress to restore funding to $4 million for FY 2013.

NISAW/Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies reception about the importance of preventing the introduction of invasive animals. The Defenders of Wildlife hosted a discussion of invasive species topic for the National Environmental Coalition on Invasive Species at their headquarters. More than 140 people attended the Grassroots Invasive Species Forum and Webinar via the internet; and prevention and international cooperation topics were extensively reviewed. In addition, the National Park Service hosted the first ever Urban Invasive Species Forum. Many states and localities hosted their own invasive species events.

WSSA is among the many public and private stakeholders working with NISC to organize the education and awareness events. WSSA hosted a seminar at the House Agriculture Committee featuring Dr. Rod Lym from North Dakota State University (See attached PHOTO). Dr. Lym presented research data on the success of the TEAM Leafy Spurge Project in a talk titled “Invasion Persuasion: TEAM Leafy Spurge, the successful program for defeating a wide-spread invader”. TEAM Leafy Spurge was a USDA-ARS 6-year research and demonstration program that was highly effective at developing and demonstrating ecologically based integrated pest management strategies that landowners and land managers could use to achieve effective, affordable and sustainable leafy spurge control. Thanks to the many people, agencies and organizations who made NISAW happen!

2012 NISAW A Success

National Invasive Species Awareness Week or NISAW was held from Feb. 26 to March 2, 2012. Over 800 people participated in Kids Invasive Species Day at the U.S. Botanic Garden. State, local, tribal and federal officials as well as representatives of business, environmental groups, and private citizens participated at events held at the Department of Interior, the Department of Agriculture and the Hamilton Crowne Plaza Hotel. Over 100 people from across the U.S. participated. Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy and International Affairs, Lori Faeth, Catherine Woteki, USDA Under Secretary for Research, Education and Economics, John Goss, White House Council on Environmental Quality’s Asian Carp Director, and Deputy Assistant Secretary of State Lawrence J. Gumbiner provided opening presentations.

The first ever National Invasive Species Awards were presented on behalf of the National Invasive Species Council (NISC), the Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force (ANSTF) and the Federal Interagency Committee for the Management of Noxious and Exotic Weeds (FICMNEW). The Chief of the USDA Forest Service also gave out invasive species awards. US Fish and Wildlife Service Director Dan Ashe addressed more than 300 people attending the

2,4-D Still Safe After 60 Years

The Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC) requested that EPA cancel all 2,4-D registrations and revoke all tolerances in a November 2008 petition. This is despite the fact that 2,4-D had just undergone an extensive review in 2005 during the FIFRA re-registration process. After considering new public comments and evaluating all science-based studies, EPA denied the NRDC petition on April 9, 2012.

For more information about the EPA review of 2,4-D and a press release on its decision please go to: http://www.epa.gov/oppfead1/cb/csb_page/updates/2012/2-4d-petition.html
National Bioeconomy Blueprint Issued by Obama Administration

The Obama Administration released its National Bioeconomy Blueprint in April. Describing the ‘bioeconomy’ as an economy based on the use of research and innovation in the biological sciences to create economic activity and public benefit, the White House emphasized its tremendous potential for growth and the many societal benefits it offers.

The Blueprint highlights five strategic objectives that need to be met. The first objective is to invest in R&D in areas that are foundational for the future bioeconomy. To ensure success of this objective, federal agencies will need to select R&D investments strategically for maximum effect, implement a cross-disciplinary approach to research problems, and create funding procedures that are more flexible.

The government will also strive to develop and reform regulations to reduce barriers, increase the speed and predictability of regulatory processes, and reduce costs while protecting human and environmental health. The report also calls for the identification and support of public-private partnerships and precompetitive collaborations. Potential areas of collaboration include biofuels, food security, and biotheaputics.

The Bioeconomy Blueprint gives many examples of federal projects already underway that contribute to the bioeconomy. For the full report, visit: http://www.whitehouse.gov/blog/2012/04/26/national-bioeconomy-blueprint-released

USDA Releases 2010 Pesticide Data Program Report

The USDA released its annual Pesticide Data Program (PDP) report on May 25th, available here at http://www.ams.usda.gov/AMSv1.0/pdp. In the report, USDA states that pesticide residues on food do not pose a safety concern. Of the 11,644 samples tested for pesticide residue, fresh and processed fruit and vegetables accounted for 85.0 percent of the total samples collected. Other samples collected in 2010 included water, 6.4 percent; catfish, 3.0 percent; eggs, 2.9 percent; and oats, 2.3 percent. Approximately 73.8 percent of samples were from U.S. sources, 23.8 percent were imports, 1.4 percent was of mixed origin and 1.0 percent was of unknown origin. Of the 11,644 samples tested, only 29 had residue levels above EPA-set tolerance levels. Only 12 of those samples were of U.S. origin and none were herbicides. 

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Rod Lym (WSSA President) presenting at the House Ag Committee during NISAW.
Flame Weeding in Agronomic Crops

Full day Workshop, August 15th, 2012, Haskell Ag Lab, University of Nebraska, Concord

(Concord is located in Northeast NE, 50 miles northeast from Norfolk, & 45 miles west of Sioux City, IO)

Propane fueled Flame Weeding is an acceptable method of weed (pest) control in organic farming, and is gaining interest among conventional producers due to increase in weed resistance and costs of GMO crop seeds.

We will present results from the 6-years of research conducted by the Team of Dr. Stevan Knezevic (Weed Science) and Dr. George Gogos (Mechanical Engineering). This work is also documented in about 20 scientific publications, 100 abstracts presented at many Regional, National and International meetings, and a patent for flaming equipment.

Propane doses for weed control and crop tolerance data will be presented. Four and 8-row commercial type flamers with patented hoods for broadcast and banded flaming will be demonstrated. Inter-row cultivation and intra-row flaming combined in a single operation will also be demonstrated. Several local organic farmers will share their experience.

We will teach you how to do proper flaming to control over 10 major Midwestern weeds in 7 agronomic crops (field corn, sweet corn, popcorn, soybean, sorghum, sunflower and wheat). Workshop is limited to 30 people, at the cost of $100 (lunch provided).

Partial scholarships available to certified organic farmers from Nebraska. For more information contact, Dr. Avishek Data (adatta2@unl.edu), Post Doctoral Research Associate

Tentative Program Agenda:

9:30 Registration
10:00 Introductions and overview of the program (Dr. Stevan Knezevic)
10:15 Basics of Flame Weeding and Equipment (Dr. Stevan Knezevic)
10:30 Propane dose response for control of various weed species (Dr. Avishek Datta)
10:45 Field Demonstration of Flame Weeding Equipment and Procedures (Grad Students: Chris Bruening and Stahinja Stepanovic)
12:00 Lunch (provided)
1:00 Development of Flaming Hoods and Torches (Dr. George Gogos)
2:00 Crop tolerance to Single and Multiple Flaming (Dr. Stevan Knezevic)
2:30 Break
2:45 Flame Weeding and Cultivation in Corn and Soybean (Strahinja Stepanovic)
3:15 Experience from Local Producers (Randy Fendrich, Larry Stanislav, Mike Ostry)
3:45 Field Tour of Flame Weeding Research and Pertinent Discussions
5:00 Adjourn

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

Harlene Hatterman-Valenti at H.Hatterman.Valenti@ndsu.edu
Positions Available

Integrated Weed Management Specialist
University of Nebraska, Haskell Agricultural Laboratory
Post-Doctoral Research and Extension Position in Weed Science

DURATION: Minimum 2 years, Maximum 4 years.

REQUIREMENTS: We are looking for an energetic and self-motivated PhD graduate to join our dynamic and diverse weed science program in Northeast Nebraska.

The candidate will have a chance to be involved in a variety of research and extension programs related to invasive weed species control in field crops, rangeland and wetlands. We routinely test herbicides in various field settings (corn, soybean, alfalfa, rangeland and wetland). We also evaluate corn varieties under irrigated and dry land conditions in northeast Nebraska.

The candidate will have a chance to work with a variety of academic and practical aspects in weed control including some of the following concepts: Critical period of weeds control, weed shifts and weed resistance in Roundup-Ready systems, invasive species control in rangeland and wetlands, weed control in organic cropping systems (eg. flaming), biologically effective dose and dose response curves for chemical and non-chemical weed control. Learn the newest software “R” and “drc” for handing non-linear regression analysis and dose response curves. One focus of the research includes both independent and ongoing studies related to weed shifts, and resistance to glyphosate and HPPD herbicides.

EDUATION

- PhD in Weed Science, Agronomy, or related applied life science.
- The candidate should possess knowledge of agronomic and/or rangeland production systems
- The candidate must demonstrate the ability to independently manage field trials with minimal technical assistance
- The position requires a person with training in data analysis (preferably SAS and R). Knowledge of ARM (Agricultural Research Manager) would be beneficial.
- Must possess good interpersonal skills and effective communication skills
- A demonstrated ability to publish research results
- A Nebraska Pesticide Applicator’s License is required within 6 months of hire.
- Some overnight travel to visit research sites may be required

RESPONSIBILITIES: will include assisting in all facets of these studies, including: planning, plot establishment, backpack spraying, data collection, and data analysis. The candidate will be expected to summarize results from previous and on-going studies, and to author and co-author various journal articles, help in writing research grants and in advising graduate students. Additionally, the candidate may also have opportunities to participate in delivering information to growers, ranchers and land-managers through our extension delivery system.

If you are an outdoors person you would love north-east and north-central Nebraska. Our team likes to have much fun along the way too. Our motivation is to work hard and play hard, as we are into water sports, hiking, hunting, fishing, biking, camping, and outdoors in general. Come and join our team, position available July 1st, 2012.

CONTACT: Responsibilities will include assisting in all facets of these studies, including: planning, plot establishment, backpack spraying, data collection, and data analysis. The candidate will be expected to summarize results from previous and on-going studies, and to author and co-author various journal articles, help in writing research grants and in advising graduate students. Additionally, the candidate may also have opportunities to participate in delivering information to growers, ranchers and land-managers through our extension delivery system.

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