



**NCWSS Executive Committee Meeting**  
**West Madison Agricultural Research Station**  
**8502 Mineral Point Road**  
**Verona, WI 53593**  
**July 29, 2010**  
**8:00 am to 3:00 pm**

1. Call to Order: 8:00 am President Chris Boerboom presiding.
2. Roll Call by Christy Sprague (Secretary-Treasurer): Executive Board Members – C. Boerboom, M. Wrucke, B. Young, C. Sprague, B. Hartzler, K. Bradley, M. Holm, and P. Banks. Additional attendees – Ryan Tichich (Industry)
3. President's Report: President Chris Boerboom thanked Mick Holm for hosting last evenings dinner at his house. Chris also welcomed Phil Banks to the Summer Board Meeting. Chris reported that the NCWSS sponsored letters supporting greater dedication of AFRI funding to weed science related research and extension projects (we lost the Invasive and Weed Biology NRI program) and the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES). Chris also reported that "Weeds of the Midwestern United States and Central Canada" is on sale through Amazon for \$29.67. There was some previous discussion of including purchase with annual meeting registration. The NCWSS Summer School for 2010 had a great program planned by Jed Colquhoun, Mick Holm, and others at the University of Wisconsin. Due to low enrollment, the school was cancelled. The Weed Olympics will be held in 2011 at the University of Tennessee. There was some discussion on the new title submission software. This software is owned by WSSA and was reviewed by Mark Wrucke, Bob Hartzler, Glenn Nice and Chris Boerboom and it was deemed worthy of a full trial for the 2010 annual meeting. The program is hosted through Ag Renaissance with David Krueger and was trialed by the NEWSS for their last meeting. It has title, abstract and ppt submission features along with program generation tools. The estimated cost will be about \$200/year plus a couple hundred dollars for some formatting changes for report generation to match NCWSS styles. Glenn was wondering if the software could be used as a membership database. David indicated that it may be possible with a few modifications. Glenn Nice announced that he intends to step down as the web administrator (new business). A process is also needed to fill the Long Range Planning committee chair position (old business).
4. Secretary-Treasurer Report: Christy Sprague asked for approval of December 2010 minutes. Mark Wrucke moved for *approval of minutes*, and Mick seconded the motion. The motion **passed**. Christy also reported that an email was sent out to the NCWSS Board on whether the NCWSS should commit to the on-line title/abstract submission software that will be used by WSSA and NEWSS. There were eight responses all of them were favorable. There has been some extensive work on the Manual of Operating Procedures. Christy would like to point out major changes that have not been voted on to ask for input from the Executive Board (old business). Once this task is completed the revised MOP will be sent out for a 30-day ballot for approval. After approval this document will be posted on the NCWSS website. This year as Secretary-Treasurer, Christy will ask the state directors to find their replacements this year. State and provincial directors that will expire in 2010 include: Kansas, Michigan, Nebraska, Ohio and Wisconsin. This responsibility will be switched to the chair of the Long Range Planning (Strategic Planning) Committee. Phil Banks (Executive Secretary) will report on the financial aspect of the society. Mick asked the question on the attendance at last year's NCWSS annual meeting at Kansas City. Phil Banks reported that at last year's Kansas City meeting the numbers of attendees were down last year (317 registered). During the time frame of last year's meeting there were several other professional meetings that conflicted and some members did not attend. There were also some issues with weather. Last year was the lowest attended NCWSS, by about 20 attendees.
5. Executive Secretary Report: Phil Banks reported that everything was successfully transferred from Bob Schmidt over to Phil Banks for the Executive Secretary's position. Phil also reported on the financial stability of the NCWSS (see financial report).

## Financial Report:

NCWSS Net Worth Report for Summer Board Meeting 2010		NCWSS Merrill Lynch Investment Status Summer 2010			
	7/21/2010	Date	Description	Memo	Amount
Account Balance		6/30/2010	Bank Of America	0.850% Matures Nov. 18, 2010	100,053.30
<b>ASSETS</b>					
Cash and Bank Accounts		6/30/2010	Ally Bank UT	3.75% Matures March 11, 2011	50,890.60
Checking	7,687.00	6/30/2010	Ally BK (GMAC BK)	1.15% Matures May 20, 2011	49,955.90
Merrill Lynch Money Market	88,794.41	6/30/2010	GE Money Bank	1.1% Matures May 20, 2011	69,907.67
Money Market	15,981.68	6/30/2010	Discover Bank	4.5% Matures Aug. 29, 2011	15,479.52
TOTAL Cash and Bank Accounts	112,463.09	6/30/2010	Estimated Accrued Interest		1,453.13
<b>Other Assets</b>					
Merrill Lynch	287,740.12				
TOTAL Other Assets	287,740.12				
TOTAL ASSETS	400,203.21		BALANCE 7/21/10		287,740.12
<b>LIABILITIES</b>					
	0		TOTAL INFLOWS		287,740.12
			TOTAL OUTFLOWS		0
OVERALL TOTAL	400,203.21				

Phil brought up to the Board that the current Merrill Lynch CD investments are not FDIC insured and there could be some potential issues. Phil is proposing once CDs mature transfer to FDIC insured CDs. There was some discussion that we really should write a Statement of Investment Policy. This should be brought up to the Finance Committee to write this policy. The NCWSS has usually been very conservative in investments. The NCWSS is very secure financially. Our operating expenses have been fairly stable over the last 13 years. Phil has followed the list of duties that Bob provided prior to his retirement and has not had any issues. Phil did not send an invoice to Bell Sprayers, because there was not a NCWSS Weeds Contest this year. Phil also wondered how we are going to handle the Hyatt plaque this year since there was no contest (old business). Curran Associates has been in contact with Phil for a print-on-demand service for the abstracts of the NCWSS Annual Meeting for those who would like print copies. *Registration forms:* Phil would like to do this electronically. The NCWSS has a PayPal account that we can use for annual meeting registrations. This account can also be used to sell items. There is a \$30/month site fee and 2.5% on expenditures. We would like to encourage preregistration and do everything online to save on copying, envelopes, and postage.

*Registration fees:* Preregistration = \$240, Registration at the meeting = \$290, Students preregistration = \$120, Students at the meeting = \$170, Honorary members and Fellows preregistration = \$180 and \$230 at the meeting. Phil indicated that he thought the walk-in registration was \$100; Chris thought it was \$75 for the Invasive portion in the past. Mark found that in the past it was \$75 preregistration and \$85 at the meeting. Phil indicated that for members it would be easier for people to do one day registrations at the meeting. There was discussion if registration fees need to be increased for 2010. *Christy Sprague moved to maintain the registration fees the same.* This was seconded by Mick Holm. There was discussion on a one-day fee and should this be publicized. There was a friendly amendment for a *non-member one-day registration fee of \$100 and for a member they would also need to pay the \$40 membership dues.* The motion **passed**. On the website all registration options will be listed. Mick Holm moved for a *complimentary registration for retired fellows at the annual NCWSS meeting* (this will include the banquet). Christy Sprague seconded. Motion **passed**.

Bryan Young had a question on if the hard copies of the proceedings are at the Iowa State Library for archives. This has not been done the last couple of years. We may be able to do this through Curran Associates. The Board discussed it would probably be a good idea for future. Bob Hartzler will make sure that this will be done.

6. President Elect Report: Mark Wrucke reported on the 2010 NCWSS annual meeting plans. There is a new process for title and abstract submission. People will need to establish an account to submit titles and abstracts. The site was opened for title submission on July 15 and will be opened for abstracts on August 1. Titles are due on September 3 and abstracts are due November 12. Power Points can be uploaded for

the section chairs, but this is not required. These Power Points will not be published. Section chairs will only have access to their section papers.

*Symposia:* There are five symposia that have been committed for 2010: 1) Application and Adjuvant Symposium moderated by Greg Dahl and Bill Bagley, 2) 2,4-D – Past, Present and Future being organized by Mark Peterson and David Simpson, 3) Ragweed Biology and Management organized by Emilie Regnier, 4) Cover Crops and Weed Management organized by Anita Dille, and 5) What's New in Industry organized by Terry Carmody. Mark has some concerns that none of the symposia are specifically aimed at graduate students. There was some discussion on maybe having something for the graduate students on types of positions that are available after graduation. Mark should walk through the location with Charlie and figure out how the session will go. We recommend a noon banquet if it is possible. The NCWSS may pick up some of the SWSS members for our meeting because their meeting is in Puerto Rico this year.

A *Key Note speaker* is still needed. A couple of suggestions: 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Atrazine – Janice McFarland or Leonard Geonessi. There is a crop breeder from Purdue that has worked on Sorghum resistant to Striga in Africa and one the World Food Prize.

Phil Banks had a question on who should get the paper program. Should it go out to all membership or just those who have registered? The consensus was to send it out to only those who have registered for the meeting.

7. Vice President Report: Bryan Young reported that his primary activity has been to serve as the NCWSS representative to the WSSA Public Awareness Committee. This is a very active committee with conference calls every two weeks and a goal of over 10 press releases per year. Currently, Janice McFarland and Carol Somody are responding to the New York Times article on Superweeds. They are responding to comments on glyphosate myths. This committee is also looking at a proactive approach for what applicators can do with the new drift regulations being proposed. There is the opportunity for NCWSS members to help in writing some material. Since this committee has some interests in a release on organics, we may be able to copromote our Cover Crops Symposium at this year's NCWSS meeting. Currently, the committee is trying to decide what to do with the video's that were taken at last year's WSSA meeting.
8. Past President Report: Mick Holm discussed the Distinguished Achievement Awards. He would like to change all dates to September 30 and a pdf file of the packages should be emailed to the chair. We should ask the state directors to find at least one candidate from each state. There are five nomination packages from past years, may try to get some forms on the web site or template. This is the first year for the Graduate Student award. Interviews will be Monday evening for the graduate student award. Mick has the goal to try to get more nominations than the past. The vice-chair is the president for the Distinguished Achievement Awards committee.
9. WSSA Representative Report: Kevin Bradley reported the 2013 WSSA meeting will be a joint meeting with the NEWSS and 2014 will be a joint meeting with the Canadian Weed Science Society. The WSSA would like to have a joint meeting with NCWSS in 2015. There was discussion about this particularly with differences in the meeting dates. Phil made some comments on how the joint meeting between the WSSA/SWSS was, financially it was ok. There was discussion on whether there were benefits to the membership as a whole. The NCWSS board is not in favor of a joint WSSA/NCWSS meeting. The Director of Science Policy fee has been reduced from \$16,000 to \$12,263 per year, because of an Escrow account that has not been used for this purpose in WSSA. The fee is now based on membership. WSSA is asking for a three-year commitment on our \$12,263 contribution per year. Kevin made the motion for the *NCWSS to contribute for three-years for \$12,263 per year for the Director of Science Policy*. Bryan Young seconded the motion. The motion **passed**.
10. CAST Representative Report: Duane Rathmann was not in attendance but sent a CAST report. Our fees for CAST are currently \$1,500 per year, which is an increase. We should promote individual memberships. Do we want CAST at the general session? We should ask Duane to give an update on CAST at the general session.

#### **CAST REPORT:**

A. Duane participated in three conference calls with CAST Plant Agriculture and Environmental Sciences Working Group. Publications in various stages of development are:

1. “Revisiting the Future of Bioenergy”
2. “Green Chemistry Bio-Feedstocks: The Next Challenge for U.S. Agriculture”
3. “Convergence of Conservation Tillage and Weed Resistance: Solutions for Sustainable Agriculture and Resource Conservation”

B. Election of Nathaniel Trabante as new president elect of CAST

Nathaniel L. Tablante, D.V.M., has been selected as President-Elect for 2010-2011. He will officially assume leadership responsibilities in October at the conclusion of CAST’s Fall Board Meeting in Sacramento, California. In 2011–2012, he will become the 39<sup>th</sup> President of the Council for Agricultural Science and Technology.

C. Approval of the new CAST organization and bylaws

In the fall of 2008, the CAST Board of Directors authorized the CAST Executive Committee to develop a proposal to restructure the organization with the following goals:

- to preserve and protect the high scientific quality and broad coverage of crucial topics and issues in food and agriculture for which CAST publications are known
- to introduce a more sustainable financial model to support the organization
- to implement practices that promote the CAST brand, impact, and national standing including improving the efficiency of operations, productivity, and timeliness of information delivery to policymakers and the public

The proposal was adopted by vote of the CAST Board of Directors in August 2009; the new organization contains the following:

Our Mission remains unchanged: CAST assembles, interprets, and communicates credible science-based information regionally, nationally, and internationally to legislators, regulators, policymakers, the media, the private sector, and the public.

Membership: CAST will continue to include a diverse mix of members from across the agricultural spectrum including a mixture of professional scientific societies, nonprofit organizations and trade groups, commercial companies, and individual members.

Organizational CAST members (e.g., societies, nonprofits, and corporate members) whose annual contribution meets or exceeds a defined level will have the opportunity to nominate a person to the Board of Representatives to serve on one of the CAST Work Groups. Initially, the levels required are:

Large scientific societies (>1000 members): \$ 3,000 per year

Small scientific societies (<1000 members): \$ 1,500 per year

Nonprofits and Trade Associations: \$ 5,000 per year

Corporate Members: \$25,000 per year

A category of Associate CAST membership is established for organizations that wish to support the mission of CAST but do not desire representation on a CAST Work Group. For organizations who wish to be Associate members, we suggest a contribution of ½ the amount of a full membership. Individual memberships are offered in a range of contribution levels; these amounts are detailed on the CAST website ([www.cast-science.org](http://www.cast-science.org)).

Function: We will continue to address the mission of CAST by conceiving, developing, refining, and submitting proposals for potential new publications and projects to meet the scientific information needs of our constituents. We will continue to accomplish this through topical CAST Work Groups made up of members of the *Board of Representatives*:

- Animal Science and the Environment
- Food Science and Safety
- Plant Science and the Environment

Much of the administrative function (personnel, budget, and day-to-day operations) will be governed by a 9-member *Board of Directors* (formerly known as the Executive Committee).

Finally, an 11-member *Board of Trustees* will be established with representation from academia, industry, and nonprofit organizations to prioritize and review new publication and project proposals and to identify potential sources of financial support. (Note: this function was previously served by the National Concerns Committee.)

D. Fall board meeting, Sacramento, Oct 4-8

11. Editor, NCWSS Proceedings: Robert Hartzler had a couple of questions. Do we still want the Abstract CDs sent out or do we just have them on-line? Bob Hartzler made the motion to *no longer send out the*

*proceedings on CD and to just have them online.* Bryan Young seconded the motion. Motion **passed**. Bob will make this year's proceeding just as one file. Individual members can contact Curran Associates if they want a hard copy and this can be used for libraries.

12. Editor, NCWSS Communications: No report.

13. Resident Education Committee Report: No report.

14. Industry Committee Report: Ryan Tichich and his committee are working on preparation for the annual meeting and the Industry breakfast. Potential topics: there was some discussion of including a session on what positions are available in industry that would be more focused for graduate students. But the question was asked on what would Industry members want to hear. In the past Ag Economists have always been good draws to the breakfast. Another option would be to possibly get someone out of EPA with some of the new drift regulations. Potential to use someone that may be in the Adjuvant symposium Jay Ellingberger (contact Greg Dahl). The committee is also working on the industry mixer. Ryan will be working on updating the industry contact list to and expand it. The solicitation for sustaining members is through the industry committee. The invoice is provided by Phil in November. Phil would like an updated copy of the industry contact list. This committee is looking forward to working with the greater society for the NCWSS contest.

15. Director of Science Policy Report: Lee VanWychen was not in attendance, but sent a report electronically (see report following minutes).

16. Old Business:

- a. *Discussion of summer contest/educational events.* The Weed Olympics will be held in 2011 (University of Tennessee). There are a couple of potential sites for the future. In 2011 Lenny Lueke (NDSU) had volunteered, in 2012 Jess Spotanski (NE) had some interest, and there has been some interest from the new manager at Monmouth, IL Station for Monsanto. There was some discussion on the 2011 Weed Olympics and funding. The WSSA will not contribute to the Weed Olympics. It looks like there will possibly be a \$100 participation fee for the Weed Olympics. Maybe we can offset costs for participants from our region. The board would like to get a proposal from the Resident Education Committee to work with Greg Armel and how the NCWSS will contribute. This proposal should be brought to the Wednesday evening NCWSS board meeting. **\*\*Chris Boerboom** will contact John Lindquist on developing proposals from the NCWSS Resident Education Committee for the Weed Olympics (funding) and contest plans for future locations (2012 and beyond). There was some more discussion on locations for the summer contest. It was brought to the attention of the Executive Committee that the administrative portion of the NCWSS Summer Contest seems to be the most challenging for Private Contractors. In the future the Resident Education may want to handle registration and other administrative tasks for the contest when working with Private Contractors.
- b. *Long Range Planning, Organizational Affairs and Membership Committee Chair.* Mike Owen will be the chair of this committee until December (Mike Owen was vice-chair). Bryan Young led discussion on this committee and on changes to the MOP. We will remove the industry/academic balance from the MOP, but there should be intent to have equal representative of Industry and Academics to the Board. Bryan made a motion that the Directors at Large have 3-year terms on the Board of Directors. If the state directors term expires on the LRP&OAM Committee, their Director at Large role continues until their 3-year Board term is completed. The Chair of the committee will be elected from the committee and would finish out their three year term as Chair of the committee. Bob Hartzler seconded this motion. There will need to be a 30-day ballot for this change. Motion passed for 30-day ballot.
- c. *Hyatt Plaque.* Because there was not a contest this year what do we do with the Hyatt Plaque? There was some thought to having an Undergraduate Essay contest. The Resident Education committee should handle this. The Plaque entitles the recipient for free lodging at the annual meeting and their name on the plaque.

16. New Business:

- a. *Electronic Registration Forms.* Phil Banks would like to have electronic registration forms, instead of paper copies. We should go forward with the electronic registration. Phil will check to see if the “Weeds of the Midwestern United States and Central Canada” can be bundled with the NCWSS Annual Meeting registration. There was some discussion on a membership database. It may be cumbersome to use the new software for abstract and title submission. Can we work with David Krueger’s help through Ag Renaissance? Phil will talk to David. Login is email address and password. As we move away from Glenn Nice as the webmaster, Phil will lead the way to find a new webmaster. He will send a request out for proposals. Phil will handle this for a web editor and host. Phil would like to have Glenn’s input on the new webmaster. The newsletter layout will be done through Phil’s office. Glenn will serve through the annual meeting.
- b. *Financial Audits.* Phil Banks indicated that in the past Bob Schmidt had the NCWSS account audited. Phil proposes that we do not need a formal CPA audit, because of the cost. At annual meeting we could do an internal audit with the Treasurer and possibly the finance committee. In the past it has cost the NCWSS \$4,000 to do the external audit; this is 4% of our annual income. For FY2010 we will no longer do an external audit but an internal audit at the December meeting by the Finance committee and chair.
- c. *Additional new business.* Steve Young at the University of Nebraska is looking for sponsorship to host a West Central Noxious and Invasive Short Course. The board decided that they could promote the short course, but has not historically sponsored these types of programs.
- d. *Manual of Operating Procedures.* Christy Sprague discussed the some of the changes that are taking place in the MOP. Her suggestion is to vote on the MOP as a whole at the annual meeting. The MOP will need to have a 30-day ballot. It was suggested that the record retention policy be reviewed by Phil Banks and what he does for backup. Suggestions were made for other changes in the MOP and things that we have discussed. The Executive Secretary will be dealing with the contracted role for electronic communications, so we have decided to remove the electronic communications committee and the roles should be under the Executive Secretary to deal with the contracted role. Bryan Young moved to abolish the Electronic Communications committee and place many of these responsibilities under the Executive Secretary’s roles. The motion was seconded by Kevin Bradley. Develop and maintain the NCWSS website through a contracted service for web. Motion passes for a 30-day ballot. Chris suggested two things for the Invasive Plant Committee. This has been included in the MOP for a vote. The Outstanding Graduate Student Award will be Chapter 2 and not the Distinguished Achievement Award and Chapter 3 will be the Fellow instructions. Submission dates should be standardized to September 30, and will only be electronic submission. Directors at Large should be Bylaw 6.  
It was clarified that the Summer Executive Committee Meeting is open to everyone.

17. Adjourned at 3:30 pm.

**Director of Science Policy Report**  
**Lee Van Wychen**  
**NCWSS Summer Board Report, July, 2010**

**Major weed science policy initiatives during 2010:**

1. Address Weed Science funding issues with the newly established USDA National Institute for Food and Agriculture (NIFA).
2. Submit Federal Register comments on Spray Drift Pesticide Registration Notice and bring in outside expertise to educate federal staff on the advances in herbicide application technologies
3. Continue to provide input to EPA on National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits and submit Federal Register comments on their draft NPDES Pesticide General Permit (PGP) due on July 19.
4. Work with APHIS/EPA and WSSA members on the two herbicide resistance white papers
5. Work with all herbicide resistant stakeholders to help develop a uniform herbicide resistance management strategy and move towards a resolution that can be approved by all the National and Regional Weed Science Societies
6. Work with federal invasive weed stakeholders, in particular the National Invasive Species Council to develop an agenda for National Invasive Species Awareness Week (NISAW)
7. Work with invasive weed related non-government organizations (NGO's) like the Healthy Habitats Coalition and APMS to coordinate a legislative fly-in to Washington DC during NISAW.
8. Maintain input and interaction with the Public Awareness Committee
9. Continue to provide weed science based information and resources to Federal agencies, Congress, and NGO's.

**USDA-NIFA** I met with numerous USDA staff and stakeholders about the Agricultural and Food Research Initiative (AFRI) grant program and coordinated the comments submitted jointly by the National and Regional Weed Science Societies. WSSA appealed to USDA to make three changes: **1)** Add a Foundational program within AFRI to address weedy plant biology, ecology and management, similar to those focused on phytopathology and entomology; **2)** Reconfigure larger AFRI research programs to encompass the full breadth of the agricultural sciences. Currently, program objectives are written so narrowly as to exclude not only weed science, but many other important areas of study; and **3)** Restore funding for integrated activities under the Section 406 Legislative Authority. Section 406 supports integrated weed management research through initiatives like the Regional IPM Centers, Risk Avoidance and Mitigation Program, Crops at Risk and Organic Transitions Program. Funding for these programs was zeroed out in the President's FY 2011 budget. I'd like to give special thanks to Dave Mortensen and Adam Davis on the WSSA Research and Competitive Grants Committee as well as Mike Barrett for substantial comments and editing. In addition, both Mortensen and Barrett traveled to Washington DC to represent the WSSA in separate USDA-NIFA stakeholder workshops. The NIFA response to the joint letter indicates that money will be directed to weed resistance issues and that more money will go to foundational programs rather than the 5 "pipeline" initiatives. The letter from Beachy also indicated that NIFA will not support separate funding lines for the Section 406 programs (which has been USDA position for 8 years), thus I will continue to lobby House and Senate appropriators to restore that funding through the appropriations process (which they have done for the past 8 years). The National Coalition for Food and Agricultural Research (NC-FAR) and I will meet with Dr. Beachy at the end of July to discuss their changes to the 2011 AFRI RFA's, which are currently scheduled to be announced in December.

**Spray Drift**- The regulation of spray drift remains problematic and the risk assessment tools that EPA employs are based on aging data and the application technology in current use has improved significantly. The WSSA, Entomological Society of America -Plant-Insect Ecosystems Section (ESA P-IE), and the American Phytopathological Society (APS) jointly submitted Federal Register comments on the EPA Spray Drift Pesticide Registration Notice in March. Our main recommendations included removing the word "could" from "could cause" (compared to "causes adverse observable effects"). "Could cause" is very subjective and could attract frivolous complaints, leading to difficult, confusing and uneven drift enforcement decisions. Obvious and off-label drift occurrences that might not have readily observable adverse effects are already enforceable as application violations (residues, species decline, etc). Another important recommendation was to only use down-wind buffers between target and sensitive sites instead of uniform buffers around all sides regardless of wind direction. USDA determined, with the previous EPA drift PR notice in 2000, that, if buffers were not

made wind-directional, the economic loss would be on the order of \$1-2 billion dollars due to the large amount of irreplaceable acreage removed from production. Finally, I am working with Jill Schroeder and John Jachetta to bring in Bob Wolf this fall to give a presentation on the progress made in spray drift reduction technologies to EPA and Capitol Hill.

**NPDES-** I am working to submit comments on behalf of the National and Regional Weed Science Societies by Thursday, July 15. In my humble opinion, there is no way that all 44 states will be ready issue NPDES Pesticide General Permits (PGP's) by April 9, 2011. The remaining states, U.S. and Indian territories have to use EPA's NPDES PGP that is currently in the comment period and will apparently be finalized by December. The National and Regional Weed Science Societies key comments will include:

- 1) EPA Should ask 6th Circuit Court for additional time (at least 2 more years)
- 2) Application rate objectives are best met by directing the applicator to follow the FIFRA prescriptive label, rather than requiring research-based judgments the applicator is unqualified to make in order to "minimize" application rates.
- 3) EPA is incorrect that reduced rates are effective for resistance prevention (note- EPA Office of Water staff assured me that this is not their objective, but that is not how the draft PGP currently reads!). Again, the PGP stresses "MINIMIZE" and makes it sound like you will be in violation of your permit if you DO NOT USE LESS than the labeled rate.
- 4) Increased jurisdictional clarity would help others determine if their pesticide use(s) warrant inclusion under this general NPDES permit. It's plausible that an applicator could be sued for applying a herbicide in their field where that field has a ditch with water in it at the time of application. While Agricultural Stormwater runoff and Irrigation Return Flow are exempt from Clean Water Act permitting, the application of pesticides for control of terrestrial pests associated with crop production is not covered under EPA's NPDES draft PGP. Farmers that apply pesticides in any of the four use patterns that discharge to U.S. waters may need permit coverage. Example: application of pesticides in or along the sides of irrigation canals or ditches to control vegetation.
- 5) Make Outstanding National Resources Water (Tier 3) eligible for PGP.
- 6) Pesticide R&D (such as that done at Land Grant colleges or Industry) should be automatically covered by this permit and not be required to submit an NOI and be subject to "citizen lawsuits"

**Herbicide Resistance-** I would like to especially thank John Jachetta, David Shaw, and Jill Schroeder for their outstanding work on this issue on behalf of the weed science societies. The WSSA created a special "Herbicide Resistance Education Committee" chaired by David Shaw to address emerging issues and develop a comprehensive education strategy. WSSA and its affiliated societies need to be the go-to organization for science-based information on herbicide resistant weeds. I cannot stress how important this for us as other groups and federal agencies look for answers. The committee is working with many stakeholders including industry and commodity groups to build on and develop new materials in a wide range of formats that will be used to educate growers about herbicide resistance management.

Related to this are 2 herbicide resistance white papers that are being developed by WSSA with financial support from USDA-APHIS and EPA. The first paper, led by Bill Vencill in coordination with Carol Mallory-Smith, Bill Johnson, Nilda Burgos, Ted Webster, Bob Nichols, John Soteres, and Mike Owen deals with the development of herbicide-resistant weeds and weed shifts that are linked to the introduction of GE herbicide-tolerant corn, soybeans, wheat, rice, cotton, alfalfa and switchgrass. The paper is scheduled for review in *Weed Science* by the end of August. The second white paper is being developed by the Herbicide Resistance Education committee led by Shaw and deals with the extent to which weed resistance management programs are being utilized in various cropping systems and an understanding of how successful they are at achieving their goals. Work on this paper is just getting started, but is expected to be completed by Sept. 2011.

**NISAW** is being planned for February 28 to March 4, 2011. I am working at this from two fronts. My goal is to have the National Invasive Species Council (NISC) coordinate invasive species education and awareness events and PR during that week. This is a departure from past NIWAWs in that 1) it is all-taxa, 2) NISC will put resources into coordinating this; and 3) individual invasive species coalitions will encourage their members to have legislative fly-ins that are independent of NISAW. Planning is underway for a Kid's Day event at the U.S. Botanic Garden, an invasive species briefing on Capitol Hill, and a joint reception between federal agency staff and NGO's such as the WSSA. While I am helping NISC move in this direction (and to hopefully lead the national invasive species education and awareness effort in the future), my main focus is on



coordinating a legislative fly-in during NISAW for the Healthy Habitats Coalition (HHC) and possibly the Aquatic Plant Management Society. Current members of the HHC Steering Committee are John Jachetta (Dow), John Cantlon (DuPont), Eric Lane (WWCC), George Beck (Colorado St), Fred Raish (NAWMA), and me. HHC has been working at the state, regional and national level to obtain new funding and more effective federal participation in invasive species management efforts. As a result of these efforts, the Western Governors Association (WGA) just passed a new Resolution on Combating Invasive Species in support of invasive species management that we intend to utilize as a lobbying platform. Our 3 main legislative goals are to 1) procure the funding Asks associated with the WGA invasive species resolution; 2) pass the Invasive Species Emergency Response Fund Act; and 3) insure that the 2012 Farm Bill adequately addresses invasive weed management. HHC members have visited DC in February and May where we have already met with over 20 different Representatives, Senators, NGO's and Federal Agencies. If you are interested in traveling to Washington DC during March 1-3, 2011 to lobby for invasive weed funding, please contact me.

**Public Awareness**- The WSSA Public Awareness committee continues to be very active and is an important committee in helping me disseminate key science policy messages. In particular, the press releases titled "WSSA Issues Strong Appeal to USDA for Restoration of Funding for Weed Science" and "New Application Technologies Keep Herbicides Where They Belong" were very effective at generating national attention to USDA and EPA. While this committee is still less than 5 years old, our consistent, timely press releases has given us a national platform and name recognition. Just in the past few months, I have fielded weed science information inquiries from media sources such as the Wall Street Journal, New York Times, Seed World Magazine, Iowa Farmer Today, Hobby Farm Home, and Western Farm Press. We are gaining national credibility!

**Educating NGO's, Feds, and Congress**- I coordinated a seminar on Capitol Hill on June 28 in conjunction with NC-FAR and CropLife America titled "Solving Africa's Weed Problem" presented by Leonard Gianessi. Over 90 congressional staffers attended this event at the House Agriculture Committee. The main purpose of the seminar was to spur USDA, NGO's, and international development agencies to help fund weed science work in Africa. The primary method of weed control by smallholder farmers in Africa is hand weeding with short handled tools. Herbicides have been tested for forty years in Africa and have been widely-adopted by large-scale commercial farmers but not by smallholders, who lack training and access. CropLife Foundation (CLF) and CNFA, Inc. have launched a pilot project in Kenya and Malawi and 4 WSSA scientists have been supported as volunteers to visit and aid in the weed research. We hope to continue to build support for this program, but face large opposition from anti-pesticide groups. I've also coordinated meetings for Jill Schroeder, Harold Coble, Kurt Getsinger and I to meet with the new USDA Director of the Office of Pest Management Policy, Sheryl Kunickis and CropLife America's new Vice President for Research, Barb Glenn, to discuss a wide array of weed science policy issues.