

**77th  
NORTH CENTRAL WEED  
SCIENCE SOCIETY  
AWARDS LUNCHEON**



North Central  
Weed Science Society

Wednesday, December 7, 2022  
Hyatt Regency St. Louis at the Arch,  
St. Louis, MO



## **2022 OFFICERS**

President – David Simpson  
President Elect – Reid Smeda  
Vice President – Dawn Refsell  
Secretary-Treasurer – Amit Jhala  
Newsletter Editor – Joseph Ikley  
Proceedings Editor – Joe Wuerffel  
WSSA Representative – Brett Miller  
CAST Representative – John Hinz  
Past President – Harlene Hatterman-Valenti  
Executive Secretary – Kelley Mazur

## **PROGRAM**

Master of Ceremonies.....Reid Smeda  
Undergraduate Scholarship.....Amey Veatch  
Distinguished Achievement Awards.....Harlene Hatterman-Valenti  
Fellows.....John Hinz

Presentation of New Officers.....David Simpson

Student Contest Awards will be given out at the  
Society Social.

# **DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS**

## **EDUCATION**

This award recognizes outstanding educational achievements in weed science. Individuals making outstanding contributions in areas such as resident, extension, industrial, and regulatory education are eligible. 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.

### **David Nicolai, University of Minnesota**



David Nicolai is an Extension Professor in Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources at the University of Minnesota Twin Cities. He earned his M.S. at North Dakota State University, and a B.S. degree at the University of Minnesota. Prior to joining the University of Minnesota in 2005, he worked as a technical agronomist in the

training department for Agrilience and Cenex/Land O' Lakes. While employed at the regional cooperatives, he taught and organized agronomic classroom and field workshops for local cooperative employees in a ten state Midwest area.

At the University of Minnesota, David has served as the coordinator for the Institute for Ag Professionals which provided agronomic and weed science education from the University of Minnesota Extension to the public via

Crop Pest Management Short Courses, Field Schools, and Research Updates for Ag Professionals. His current responsibilities include the design, development, and teaching of Extension crops educational materials and pesticide certification programs for Minnesota crop producers.

David has served as President of the Minnesota Association of Extension Ag Professionals. He also advises and mentors new local Extension educators in the areas of agronomic and weed science to assist them in the development of their educational programming and scholarship. David is a member of professional societies such as the NCWSS, and WSSA, and is on the Minnesota Certified Crop Advisor board. He has been an active member of the NCWSS over the years, most notably serving on the Board of Directors, Student Poster Chair, Resident Education Chair and Local Arrangements Committee.

David participates in applied statewide weed science projects in the areas of sprayer and herbicide technology with a team of University of Minnesota Regional and State Extension Specialists. David has published numerous statewide publications in the areas of crop growth and weed science which include soybean agronomics and herbicide drift management.

# **OUTSTANDING GRADUATE STUDENT** **AWARD**

The North Central Weed Science Society Outstanding Graduate Student Award recognizes one outstanding graduate student who is a NCWSS student member. This award will be given to a graduate student who is actively involved in the Society, as well as contributor to the field of weed science through extension, research, and teaching.

## **Nathan Haugrud , North Dakota State University**



Nathan Haugrud is a Ph.D. candidate in Plant Sciences at North Dakota State University under the advisement of Dr. Joe Ikley and works as a full-time Research Specialist within Dr. Ikley's research program. Nathan grew up on a wheat, soybean, and sugarbeet farm in Western Minnesota. He received his undergraduate

degree in Crop and Weed Sciences from NDSU in 2013 and worked as an agronomist on his family farm for four growing seasons following graduation. He enjoyed weed science courses as an undergraduate, but he fell in love with weed science as an applicator and agronomist for his farming operation. In 2017, Nathan decided to pursue a career in science and started graduate school at NDSU. He received his MS degree in Plant Sciences under the advisement of Dr. Tom Peters where studied the interaction of mechanical cultivation with residual herbicide programs in sugarbeet. In 2019, Nathan started working for Dr. Joe Ikley at NDSU as a Research Specialist

and shortly after began pursuing a Ph.D. in Plant Sciences where his dissertation focuses on the interaction of Goss's bacterial wilt and leaf blight with herbicide systems in corn. During his graduate career, Nathan has assisted teaching undergraduate students in Weed Identification, Sugarbeet Production, and Principles of Weed Science courses. He has been an active member of NCWSS and has presented at the annual meetings and competed in the student weed contest several times. Nathan was also a member of the team that planned and hosted the NCWSS Student Weed Contest in 2021 in Fargo, ND. He has authored a journal article in Weed Technology and is working on submitting a few more before graduation. Nathan also organizes the annual Wild World of Weeds Workshop at NDSU and has contributed to several other annual Extension events in both North Dakota and Minnesota. Nathan likes spending time outdoors and the greatest sources of joy in his life are his wife Amanda and his daughter Maria.

## **FELLOW AWARDS**

Fellow is the highest honor that the Society can confer to an individual member. Only individuals who have made outstanding contributions to weed science (no more than 0.5% of the membership) receive the award each year. Fellows are considered life-time members of the NCWSS.

### **Stevan Z. Knezevic , University of Nebraska-Lincoln**



Stevan Z. Knezevic grew up in Belgrade, Serbia (Former Yugoslavian republic). He received a B.Sc. degree in Plant Protection from University of Belgrade in 1987. In 1989 he moved to Canada where he received M.Sc. (Weed Science) in 1993 from University of Guelph. Then he moved to USA in 1994 to pursue doctoral studies at

Kansas State University where he received PhD (Weed Science) in 1997. Stevan joined the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in 1998 as an Assistant Professor. He was promoted to Associate Professor in 2004 and became a full Professor in 2010. He teaches an internet-based class on "Integrated Weed Management" to undergraduate and graduate students. During his career, Stevan has published over 200 peer-reviewed manuscripts, 11 book chapters, 1 training field manual, and was an author/co-author over 200 oral and 200 poster presentations at scientific conferences in USA and internationally. Stevan also authored and co-authored 29 extension publications, including an annual Guide for



Weed, Diseases and Insect Management in Nebraska, of which he is a senior editor. Stevan has supervised 4 postdoctoral fellows, 46 graduate and undergraduate students. He also hosted 34 international visiting scientists in his lab. He has served as a co-chair and chair of Weed Biology section of NCWSS. Stevan has received total of 24 awards for his research and publications. Just to name a few: Distinguish Research Award (in 2013) and Teaching Awards (in 2017) from NCWSS, "Outstanding Young Scientist in Crop Protection" from American Society of Agronomy; "The MOST READ and MOST CITED manuscript in 10 years" in Weed Technology Journal; "Top Cited article in 2009" for Weed Technology journal; "Internet Tool for Weed Control" (Web Version of Nebraska Weed Guide) from American Society of Agronomy; "Innovation Award for Designing Flame Weeding Machine" (shared with Dr. Gogos) from International Propane Association and Research Council; "Excellence in Team Programming" from UNL-IANR; and "Best Extension Publication" (Guide for Weed Management in Nebraska) from American Society of Agronomy.

## **FELLOW AWARDS**

### **Stott Howard, Syngenta Crop Protection**



Of Stott's 37 years in academia and private industry he is particularly fond of his 18-year association with the North Central Weed Science Society. A society that supports arguably the most important agricultural geography on the planet...a society comprised of many wonderful volunteers that

always deliver upon their commitments...a society that supports the future of agriculture through its profound commitment to students...a society whose personality can be described as dedicated, purposeful, and vital. Stott feels honored to have served as NCWSS president in 2020.

During his 32 years with Syngenta, Stott filled many roles ranging from a bench scientist working with chemists on the discovery of new herbicides to a global technical manager responsible for developing strategies for corn, cotton and soybean herbicides to the Heartland Region Head for Syngenta's Crop Protection Field Development organization. Prior to joining Syngenta, Stott spent five years as an extension weed scientist with Washington State University at the Western Washington Research and Extension Center in Mt. Vernon.

Stott received an undergraduate degree in horticulture from Utah State University and a Ph.D. in agronomy from Washington State University.

## **NCWSS Sustaining Members**

We are grateful for the support of the following  
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# 2022 Local Arrangements Committee

Karla Gage, Chair – Southern Illinois University  
Greg Elmore - Bayer CropScience  
Devin Hammer - Bayer CropScience  
Cody Evans - Bayer CropScience  
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Jared Roskamp - BASF Corporation  
Marshall Hay - Syngenta Crop Protection  
Scott Cully - Syngenta Crop Protection  
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Joe Bruce - AMVAC Chemical Corp  
Cristin Weber - Syngenta Crop Protection  
Seth Strom - Syngenta Crop Protection  
Michael Probst - BASF Corporation  
Richard Leitz - Bayer CropScience  
Eric Miller - Southern Illinois University  
Matt Geiger - Syngenta Crop Protection  
Christy Sprague, Past Chair – Michigan State University



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