

## **NCWSS Vice President Candidates**

### **Aaron Hager**



Aaron Hager, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign  
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hager.jpg

Aaron Hager is an associate professor of extension weed science in the Department of Crop Sciences at the University of Illinois. He attended Southern Illinois University, Carbondale and received a B.S. in Plant and Soil Science in 1991. He then went to Michigan State University and received his M.S. in weed science in May, 1993. Later that month, he joined the University of Illinois as a weed science extension specialist. In 2001, he completed his Ph.D. in weed science and joined the Department of Crop Sciences faculty ranks in 2002. As an associate professor of weed science at the University of Illinois, Dr. Hager is responsible for weed biology and management research in corn and soybean production systems. His research focuses on examining the biology and management of weed species that are common in Illinois agronomic crops.

## **Reid J. Smeda**



Dr. Smeda is a Professor of Weed Science in the Division of Plant Sciences at the University of Missouri. He received a B.S. degree in Crop and Soil Science from Michigan State University in 1982, an M.S. in Horticulture from Michigan State University in 1985, and a Ph.D. in Horticulture from Purdue University in 1990. He has been employed as a faculty member in the Division of Plant Sciences at the University of Missouri since 1996. His teaching appointment involves instruction of undergraduate and graduate courses in weed science. His research program encompasses: weed biology and management of problem species in agronomic

crops as well as non-crop areas (roadside and railroad right-of-way); physiology and mechanism(s) for weed species resistant to herbicides; and management of invasive species in pasture, roadside, and railroad habitats. Dr. Smeda has trained 4 Ph.D. students and over 24 M.S. students. He has published over 60 peer-reviewed papers. In addition, he has served the weed science societies in numerous board of director positions (WSSA representative, treasurer, Chair of Education committee, etc.) as well as poster/paper judges and Chair of different sections (Weed Biology, Invasive Weeds, etc.). He would be honored to serve in a leadership position with the North Central Weed Science Society.