

NCWSS 2021-22 Officer Election – Vice President

Dawn Refsell, Corteva Agriscience



Dawn Refsell was raised on a grain and livestock farm in Northwest Iowa. Dawn received her B.S. and M.S. degrees from Iowa State University with research focused on common milkweed and waterhemp. She then accepted a position with the University of Illinois as an Extension Specialist in Weed Science IPM in 2003. Dawn began her career with Valent as a Field Market Development Specialist in 2009. Her responsibilities include technical support for herbicides, insecticides, fungicides, seed treatment, and PGR's as well as development of new chemistries for each of these disciplines. Dawn served as a manager for the Midwest Field Development team and established the MidWest Ag Research Center for Valent prior to taking a role as the Product Development Manager for Seed Protection for North America. While employed with Valent, Dawn enrolled as a student at Kansas State University and completed her Ph.D. in Agronomy in 2013. This past year, she accepted a role as the Midwest Commercial Unit Field Sciences leader with Corteva Agriscience.

Dawn has represented Valent and Sumitomo Chemical Co. on US HRAC and Global HRAC, respectively. Within the NCWSS, she has served as Extension, Industry, Strategic Planning chair, Central Region Director, session moderator, poster judge, Weeds Contest volunteer and host. Dawn has also served on the professional development committee, helped coordinate the 2019 Weed Olympics, and is currently serving a term as member at large for WSSA.

Away from work, Dawn enjoys riding her Harley, cheering on the Cyclones, and watching baseball with her husband, Doug. They raise bees, chickens, donkeys, a llama, and cattle on a farm outside of Runnells, Iowa and continue to help with Dawn's family grain and livestock operation in NW Iowa. She also assists with the Honor Flight Network, other veteran focused organizations, and is supporter of local FFA and 4-H organizations.

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Eric Spandl, Winfield United



Dr. Eric Spandl is a Senior Manager with Winfield United a Land O'Lakes company. His 20+-year career includes working for Cenex Land O'Lakes Agronomy Company, Agrilience, Winfield Solutions, LLC and Winfield United. Previous roles included product and market development manager, technical marketing manager, and professional agronomist. His current responsibilities include business development, managing relationships with key partners, and managing the Spray Application Lab. Eric received a B.S. degree from the University of Minnesota and a M.S. and Ph.D. from Michigan State University and completed a post-doc at the University of Minnesota. He is a member of professional societies such as the ASA, NCWSS, ASABE, and WSSA, and the Minnesota CCA board. Eric has served on various committees for the NCWSS and WSSA including the Local Arrangements Committee which delivered the first ever online NCWSS meeting in 2020, Fellows, Strategic Planning, Electronic Communications, Finance and Steering Policy, Placement, Distinguished Achievement Award, and Summer Contest subcommittee of Resident Education. He also participated as a judge numerous times for the paper and poster contest. In addition, Dr. Spandl has authored and contributed to numerous professional and industry publications and has presented or co-authored many abstracts.