**CAST Report – August 2012**

Phil Westra, WSWS representative on the Board of CAST

1. Dr. John M. Bonner, who has served as the Executive Vice President and CEO of the Council for Agricultural Science and Technology (CAST) since July 2005, will be retiring effective January 31, 2013 to pursue other interests and spend more time with family. Dr. Phil Stahlman, KSU and WSWS and current President of CAST, has the responsibility to head up recruitment and selection efforts to replace Dr. Bonner. If people know of good candidates to consider for replacing Dr. Bonner, please contact Phil Stahlman.
2. A new CAST issue paper has been approved for development - *The Contributions of Pesticides to Meeting the Global Need for Food Production and Public Health by 2050.* It is anticipated that this paper will detail the many benefits of herbicides that are used globally for plant management.
3. Increasing attention is being drawn to the “[California Right to Know Genetically Engineered Food Act](http://wlflegalpulse.files.wordpress.com/2012/08/1343936210-readprop-37.pdf),” also known as Proposition 37 (“Prop 37″), which advances the deeply misguided aspirations of several powerful special interests, including the plaintiffs’ bar, environmentalists, and public health activists. Part of this ballot initiative would require all raw and processed foods whose production was impacted in any way by biotechnology to be labeled as such. Passage of this proposition could have wide ranging impacts on food labeling in the United States.
4. Dr. David Shaw, Mississippi State University, presents information on CAST Issue Paper 49.

This new presentation is available on [CAST's website](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?et=1109629798063&s=2838&e=001GtzCf8iWbFATy_VU9vgJO9dVLlIkDki_5_Ce5MqwGCJi7mGLfo9nXmcocUeBHWGFqEitiysTDtJNl4VwjRmcT5d_j4YXjAZNYuEndoCMmgC6NFOW2fZqg0Q4jZjF9295Y8ouFhkWnEEckXHu4IV7vRbw0SoueKodeHg5XFgrSqbLHD4qyuX8uQpKeKzJ0AX2GxXQ4bgtAEO0t7sh_7iQNhY44Xs6pxsnTngpPgsqvIEyRzXIGwjOj-vD44OcisdW9hIpQ7Ih7rCGQSx-ptxL4M-etc8iboVTZsfUiCCKmiNcq-FiUgMxFhxWy5bi7qHVklDoqCmq9PRhrtPFQzZKDg==) and [YouTube channel](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?et=1109629798063&s=2838&e=001GtzCf8iWbFA1GMXJJ6mgiFyTeS6h423sBDjOCECr_MHgT5PJaqGlv7l5PqgbR4z-AuUexT_86BG38WyZDFZmKTV-PVPygPqkMEsDukbhgq8ZEsX44znBWLA05oNyHSMqfa9HqD6h0iE=).

The full text of Issue Paper 49 may be accessed free of charge on the [CAST website](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?et=1109629798063&s=2838&e=001GtzCf8iWbFATy_VU9vgJO9dVLlIkDki_5_Ce5MqwGCJi7mGLfo9nXmcocUeBHWGFqEitiysTDtJNl4VwjRmcT5d_j4YXjAZNYuEndoCMmgC6NFOW2fZqg0Q4jZjF9295Y8ouFhkWnEEckXHu4IV7vRbw0SoueKodeHg5XFgrSqbLHD4qyuX8uQpKeKzJ0AX2GxXQ4bgtAEO0t7sh_7iQNhY44Xs6pxsnTngpPgsqvIEyRzXIGwjOj-vD44OcisdW9hIpQ7Ih7rCGQSx-ptxL4M-etc8iboVTZsfUiCCKmiNcq-FiUgMxFhxWy5bi7qHVklDoqCmq9PRhrtPFQzZKDg==) along with many of CAST's other scientific publications. The paper also is available in hard copy for a shipping/handling fee.

[www.cast-science.org](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?et=1109629798063&s=2838&e=001GtzCf8iWbFBtGKsn7u7xLPfsNkvtNZDJlFV_PxHejtIPGKJhl3jbYzOgeTuDVR3nWVQmDot0GCVzRtf62qMVUcJC28XIS6BsPI7JVYSnbOKJj03vjb4Fdg==)

1. Phil Westra plans to attend the Sept. 18 Washington DC CAST meeting as a representative of the WSWS. Anyone with WSWS issues they would like highlighted in CAST should bring these items to the attention of Phil Westra.