WSWS Officer and Committee Report
2019 Annual Meeting – Denver, CO

Office or Committee Name: WSWS representative to CAST

Officer or Chairperson Name: Brian Jenks

Date of Preparation (include year): March 2019

Purpose: CAST, through its network of experts, assembles, interprets, and communicates credible, balanced, science-based information to policymakers, the media, the private sector, and the public.

Committee Activities during the Year:

The Plant Working Group meets once per month via conference call.

In 2018, Drew Lyon served as Chair of the Plant Working Group on the CAST Board of Representatives. Other Weed Scientists in the group include Dallas Peterson (WSSA), Reid Smeda (NCWSS), and Hilary Sandler (NEWSS).

The 2018 Borlaug CAST Communication Award was given to Dr. Marty Matlock. Matlock received his Ph.D. in biosystems engineering from Oklahoma State University. Currently, he serves as the Executive Director of the University of Arkansas Resiliency Center and Professor of Ecological Engineering in the Department of Biological and Agricultural Engineering. He has made an impact through his development of specialized courses, his expert supervision of students, and his ability to conduct competitively funded research.

The following papers are expected to be released in 2019:

- March - Enabling Open Source Data Networks in Public Agricultural Research (CAST Commentary)
- April - Potential Reductions of Nutrient Loss Impacts on Water Quality (Issue Paper)
- Summer 2019 - GMO Free—The Impact on Consumers, Retailers, Farmers, and the Environment (Issue Paper)
- Summer 2019 - Interpreting Agricultural Chemical Residues Measured in Food or Milk (Issue Paper)

The following papers were released in the past year:

- Aquifer Depletion and Potential Impacts on Long-term Irrigated Agricultural Productivity. CAST Issue Paper 63. February 2019.
- Food Loss and Waste. CAST Issue Paper 62. September 2018.
- Impact of Free-range Poultry Production Systems on Animal Health, Human Health, Productivity, Environment, Food Safety, and Animal Welfare Issues. CAST Issue Paper 61. July 2018.
- Genome Editing in Agriculture. CAST Issue Paper 60. July 2018.
- Omega-3 Fatty Acids. Health Benefits and Dietary Recommendations. CAST Special Publication SP 32. May 2018.
- Scientific, Ethical, and Economic Aspects of Farm Animal Welfare. CAST Tank Force Report 143. April 2018.
- Regulatory Barriers to the Development of Innovative Agricultural Biotechnology by Small Business and Universities. CAST Issue Paper 59. March 2018.

Many other papers are in various stages of preparation.

The next CAST annual meeting will be October 29-31, 2019 in Fayetteville, AR.

Recommendations for Board Action: None

Budget Needs: None

Suggestions for the Future: Continue WSWS commitment to CAST and encourage individual memberships.

Current Committee Members: Brian Jenks

Name of Person Preparing This Report: Brian Jenks