

WSWS Newsletter

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September 2007

In This Issue

- President's Report
- Annual Meeting Preview
 - ONLINE Registration and Title Submission
 - Research Progress Report
 - Nominations
- New Publications
- Call for Student Awards
- Course Announcement
- US Forest Service News Release
- Job Postings
- Meeting Announcements
- Necrology n
- Report from Washington

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Deadline November 15,
2007

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2007 Event Calendar

Weed Science School 2007 September 24-26 UC Davis, CA

Report from the President by Ron P. Crockett

Coming on the heels of a very productive and busy summer board meeting at the Los Angeles, CA Hyatt Regency Hotel near Disneyland in Anaheim, CA, I'd like to thank the board members and officers for their commitment and energy, and ability to focus on the WSWS business covered in the meeting. We have made commitments to hotels on the big island in HI, and Spokane, WA for the 2010 and 2011 meetings. Details on these meetings will be featured in future newsletters. I'd like to thank those who provide their time, energy and dedication in helping to fill and carry-out duties within the Society. Their efforts make sure we can function and thrive as a society. There is always room for members of the WSWS to contribute. We all lead busy lives, and spare time is always at a premium. I would like to encourage all of you to consider stepping-up and volunteering for work on committees, or participation in other ways to move our Society forward. As always, Phil Banks provides outstanding service in his role as business manager.

Please work with an attitude of "Safety First" in all of your daily activities. Many of us put a lot of miles on our vehicles each summer season. Many of these miles are driven hauling equipment, and working long hours in the field. Please don't push the limits of your capacity, and be safe in each of the areas of work each day. Your most important responsibility is to those who await you when you return safely home.

Have a safe harvest and conclusion to your field and lab research season.

Annual Meeting Preview by Dan Ball, Program Chair

The 61st annual meeting in Anaheim, California promises an opportunity to meet with colleagues and old friends, and to gather important information about new topics in weed science and technology. The program will provide participants with an interesting perspective on invasive weed issues affecting Pacific coastal environments, as well as issues of specific interest to our diverse membership throughout the west. Included in the program are a special symposium on the reed grasses Arundo and Phragmites, two of the most widely distributed invasive reeds in coastal riparian and wetland ecosystems in North America. The symposium committee, headed by Carl Bell with the University of California, is planning a one and a half day program that will bring together the major experts on these important invasive species. This symposium will begin Thursday morning and extend until Friday noon, so begin making your plans, soon! Another, symposium on herbicide adjuvant use and applications is being organized for a half-day during the regular meeting by Patrick McMullan with agroTECHNOLOGY Research, Inc. and Richard Zollinger with North Dakota State University. This symposium will focus, not only on different types and on uses of adjuvants, but on topics and issues specific to weed managers in the western U.S. In addition, our Education and Regulatory Section Chair, Mike Edwards, with E. I. DuPont is planning a session on biotechnology-derived seed traits and issues surrounding use of this technology. These special symposia, along with two and a half days of weed science research presentations, discussions, and poster viewing, will offer a relevant array of information for those interested in weed issues in the west. We hope to see you there.

WSWS Newsletter 1 September 2007



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Annual Meeting Registration and Title Submission **ONLINE!** by Tony White, WSWS Webmaster

The time is near for online pre-registration to open for the 2008 WSWS annual meeting. The registration pages at www.wsweedscience.org will officially open on October 1, 2007. All important meeting dates and submission deadlines will be available on the homepage of the website.

If you plan to present at the meeting, you must register for the meeting before submitting a title and abstract. Titles must be submitted by December 3, 2007 and abstracts must be posted by February 4, 2008. Please carefully follow all online instructions to complete each section of the registration process.

A key feature will be added to the website this year to allow WSWS members to view all submitted abstracts online. This system should be fully functional by February 10, 2008. This feature will give each meeting participate the opportunity to learn more about each presentation before the meeting instead of waiting to see them later in the printed proceedings. More details about this system will be available soon. webmaster@wsweedscience.org 573-248-2909 (office)

Nominations WSWS Fellow and Honorary Member By Rod Lym Chair, Fellows and Honorary Members Committee

Call for Nominations for WSWS Fellow and WSWS Honorary Member Packets will be mailed soon. Please look for this mailing and make use of the Nomination Packet. These two awards are the highest the Society can bestow upon its members and non-members. However there is one problem, the committee does not get many nominations, which is a real tragedy for our membership. There are many members deserving of becoming a Fellow, but will never achieve that award because no one nominates them. I challenge you today to nominate one of your fellow members for this award. I want the committee to be over-worked and the Chair to be sleepless at night trying to decide which two of the many nominated people will become the 2008 Fellows for WSWS. Thanks!

Research Progress Report By Tracy Rauch

Please consider submitting preliminary results from ongoing laboratory, physiological, and other research in the WSWS Research Progress Report. It is a good opportunity for staff and graduate students to initiate the process for journal submission and improve their technical writing skills. Also, consider publishing results that will not be submitted for journal publication.

For instructions, see the Call for Research Progress Reports included in the next WSWS mailing. Reports must be postmarked by December 3, 2007.

New Publications

Just in time for fall quarter! The newly revised and updated classic reference, Ecology of Weeds and Invasive Plants: Relationship to Agriculture and Natural Resource Management, 3rd Edition, by S.R. Radosevich, J.S. Holt, and C.M. Ghersa, will be released in August 2007 and is now available for purchase from John Wiley for \$74.95. To link directly to the publisher, click here: http://www.wiley.com/WileyCDA/WileyTitle/productCd-0471767794.html

The Third Edition of the authoritative reference gives readers an in-depth understanding of how weeds and invasive plants develop and interact in the environment so they can manage and control them more effectively. The guide includes an introduction to weeds and invasive plants

Research Section

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CAST Representative

Phillip Stahlman Kansas State University Agric. Research Center 1232 240th Ave. Hays, KS 67601 785-625-3425 stahlman@ksu.edu in various environments and an overview of their ecology and evolution. With extensive examples, it:

- Focuses on the biological features of weeds and invasive plants, especially as they exist in agriculture, forests, rangelands, and natural ecosystems
- Includes coverage of exotic invasive plants
- Discusses a variety of methods and tools for managing weeds and invasive plants, including physical, cultural, biological, and chemical approaches
- Examines systems approaches for management, including modern Integrated Pest Management
- Addresses future challenges for scientists, farmers, and land managers

This is the definitive, hands-on reference for land managers and professionals in plant sciences, agronomy, weed science, and horticulture. It is also an excellent textbook for senior undergraduate or graduate students studying agriculture, ecology, natural resources management, environmental management, or related fields.

Call for Student Awards

WSSA UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH AWARD - 2008

The Weed Science Society of America has developed an Undergraduate Student Research Grant designed to encourage and involve exceptional undergraduates in agricultural research. Interested faculty members are encouraged to identify potential award candidates and discuss the possibility of sponsoring a research project. Awards may be used as a stipend, for research budget expenses (travel, supplies, etc.), to defer fees, to defray living expenses for summer research, or any combination of these items.

AWARD: Up to \$1000 for support of undergraduate research to be conducted over a minimum of one quarter/semester during 2008. This award may be used to defray the cost of research supplies or as a stipend. Support of a faculty sponsor is required. Awards will be made to the student, to be administered by the faculty sponsor's department.

APPLICANT: The applicant is an undergraduate student with a strong interest in Weed Science. Students majoring in all related disciplines may apply.

TO APPLY: Applicants should prepare a 2-3 page research proposal including name, address, phone number, title, objective, experimental approach, discussion, budget and references. The discussion section of the proposal should describe the expected results and their possible significance to Weed Science. The student should provide a cover letter in which general academic and career goals are discussed. A copy of the student's academic transcripts must also be provided.

FACULTY SPONSOR: Any faculty member who is actively engaged in Weed Science research is qualified to be a sponsor. The faculty sponsor should review the research proposal with special attention to the budget; the distribution of funds should be approved by both the student and sponsor. In addition, the sponsor should provide a letter of reference including a statement of his/her willingness to supervise the proposed research and to provide needed space, equipment and supplies above those requested in the proposal. The sponsor is encouraged to assist the student in presenting his/her results at a regional Weed Science Meeting.

HOW TO APPLY: The completed proposal, academic transcripts, cover letter and faculty letter of support should be forwarded to: Dr. John Jachetta, Dow AgroSciences, 9330 Zionsville Road, Indianapolis, IN 46268-1054; Phone: (317) 337-4686, Fax (317) 337-4649, E-mail: jjjachetta@dow.com. Proposals should be received no later than November 16, 2007. Funding decisions will be made by January 25, 2008 and presented at the 2008 WSSA National Meeting General Session.

Graduate Students and Young Scientists Awards A Competition Sponsored by EWRS, WSSA and IWSS

The International Weed Science Society (IWSS) has decided to encourage the participation of graduate students (M.Sc. and Ph.D.) and young scientists (up to five years after completion of Ph.D.) in the coming IWSC2008 in Vancouver, by providing a limited number of awards that will cover registration fees, accommodation, and part of the travel

WSSA Representative

Vanelle Peterson Dow AgroSciences 28884 S. Marshall Road Mulino, OR 97042 Ph: 503-829-4933 Fax: 503-829-6577 vfpeterson@dow.com

WSWS 2007-2008 Standing and Ad Hoc Committees

Awards

Don Morishita (2008) Roland Schirman, Chair (2009) Robert Wilson (2010)

Education-Ad Hoc Distance Education

Tracy Sterling, Chair Carol Mallory-Smith Scott Nissen Bill Dyer Kassim Al-Khatib **Noxious Weed Shortcourse** Celestine Duncan

Fellows and Honorary Members

Vanelle Peterson (2008) Rod Lym, Chair (2009) Phil Westra (2010)

Finance

Phil Munger, Chair (2008) Jesse Richardson (2009) John Fenderson, (2010)

Herbicide Resistant Plants

Steve Seefeldt (2008) Monte Anderson (2008) Steve King, Chair(2009) Craig Alford (2009) John Obarr, (2010)

Legislative

Sandra McDonald (2008) Case Medlin, Chair (2009) Dana Coggon (2010) Lee VanWychen, Standing Member, Ex-officio

Local Arrangements

Carol Mallory-Smith (2008) Carl Bell, (2009) Nelroy Jackson, Chair (2009) Keith Duncan (2010) April Fletcher (2010)

Necrology

Lisa Boggs (2008) Brad Hanson, Chair (2009) Laurel Baldwin (2010)

Nominations

Bob Parker (2008) Vent Hicks, Chair (2009) Jill Schroeder (2010) Kassim Al-Khatib (Past President) expenses. The student submitting the most outstanding paper as selected by the Graduate Students Awards Committee will receive the IWSS Larry Burrill Graduate Student Travel Award covering all the expenses to participate in the Congress. The awards have been made possible thanks to the financial contribution of the European Weed Research Society (EWRS), the Weed Science Society of America (WSSA) and IWSS. The Graduate Students Awards Committee will select the awardees according to the following criteria:

- The candidate must be enrolled as M.Sc. or Ph.D. student, pursuing a degree related to WEED SCIENCE as of December 20, 2007. Highly qualified young scientists can also apply for an award provided that they completed their graduate studies no more than five years before December 20, 2007.
- 2. Submission should be in the form of up to a 5-page manuscript including tables, figures and photos (PDF file font 12, 1.5 space and 3 cm margin throughout), with abstract, introduction, materials and methods, results, and discussion. Deadline for submission is December 20, 2007.
- 3. Submissions will be appraised based on the following merits: quality of research, novelty and contribution to the discipline of Weed Science.
- 4. Submissions should include a letter of commitment from the major professor, supervisor or institution to provide the required additional travel support if the student should receive the award from IWSS.

All material should be sent via email, no later than December 20, 2007 to: the Coordinator of the Graduate Students Awards Committee: Dr. Per Kudsk — University of Aarhus, Department of Integrated Pest Management, Forsogsvej 1, DK 4200 Slagelse, Denmark (Per.Kudsk@agrsci.dk)

Course Announcements

PSPP 546 Herbicide Physiology is an online graduate course to be offered in Fall Semester, 2007. The course is taught by Profs. William Dyer (Montana State University), Tracy Sterling (New Mexico State University), and Scott Nissen (Colorado State University). We will cover topics in herbicide classification, herbicide mode of action, and resistance mechanisms. Prerequisites include upper division courses in biochemistry and plant physiology, or consent of the instructors. The course is designed for students without traditional access to this course material, and is not designed to replace existing, on-campus courses at other institutions.

Please see http://btc.montana.edu/courses/aspx/descrip3.aspx?TheID=104 or contact Dr. William E. Dyer at wdyer@montana.edu for more information.

The Weed Science School 2007 is an intensive 2-1/2 day course focusing on the mode and mechanism of herbicide activity in plants and the fate of herbicides in the environment. The course covers herbicide selectivity, resistance and additives. Weed biology, ecology and seed bank dynamics are also covered. These topics are presented in a lecture format. Laboratory activities focus on recognition of herbicide symptoms and broadleaf and grass weed identification. Participants will also tour the UC Davis Center for Plant Diversity (formerly known as the UC Davis Herbarium.)

The **course fee is \$575** and includes all course materials and lunch each day. A comprehensive notebook will be provided with lecture summaries and additional information. Registration is accepted by postal mail, fax or online. Class size is limited, so early enrollment is suggested.

To register or for more information, visit http://wric.ucdavis.edu and click on "Weed Science School" or contact the UC Weed Research & Information Center at wric@ucdavis.edu or (530) 752-1748

Poste

Linda Wilson (2008) David Belles, Chair (2009) Carl Libbey (2010) Charles Hicks (2010)

Program

Dan Ball, Chair (2008) Rick Boydston (2008) Mike Edwards (2008)

Public Relations

Brian Olson, Chair Mark Ferrell Milt McGiffen Brad Hanson Bill Cobb Erin Taylor Dennis Scott

Publications

Dan Ball, Chair Joan Campbell, Proceedings Traci Rauch, Research Progress Report Cheryl Fiore, Newsletter Tony White, Web site, Webmaster

Site Selection

David Vitolo (2008) Brian Olson, Chair (2009) Bill Kral (2010)

Student Paper Judging

Brad Ramsdale (2008) Jim Harbour, Chair (2009) Paul Figueroa (2010)

Sustaining Membership

Neil Harker, (2008) Jeff Tichota, Chair (2009) Peter Forster (2010)

Membership Ad-Hoc

Phil Stahlman, Chair Phil Banks, ad hoc Dirk Baker John L. Baker Lisa Boggs Vanelle Peterson Eric Coombs Steve Fennimore Jeff Koscelny James Olivarez Dudley Smith Randy Smith Kai Umeda Brenda Waters Ralph Whitesides

Special Symposium/ Workshop Ad Hoc

Janet Clark
April Fletcher
Lincoln Smith
Matt Rinella
Tim Miller, Chair
Joe DiTomaso
Rita Beard
Celestine Duncan

News Release

US Forest Service Pacific, NW Region

Contact Nancy Phelps, 503-808-2914 or Glen Sachet, 503-808-2790

Weed-free Feed Required in Northwest Wilderness

PORTLAND, OR – As part of a larger effort to reduce invasive species on national forest lands, weed-free feed is being required of those using Wildernesses in the Pacific Northwest this year. A new requirement – part of a larger regional study on invasive species – says that all feed used on forests be weed-free by 2009.

For now, the new requirement applies to those Wildernesses in the Pacific Northwest which do not already require weed-free feed. Washington State Cascade Mountain Wildernesses have required weed-free feed for many years, and encouraged its use in the Eagle Cap and Hells Canyon Wilderness in Oregon.

Livestock owners and others will be required to use feed that is either commercially processed feed or crop products certified to be free of weed seeds. Officials will concentrate on education and compliance this year, until signage and outreach efforts are fully implemented with stricter enforcement to follow.

The new requirement says that all hay, cubed hay, straw, mulch, and other such products used or stored on national forest lands be state certified as weed free. Crop products often contain seeds of non-native weeds that germinate on public lands and damage their health and beauty. Non-native weeds such as leafy spurge, spotted knapweed, purple loosestrife, and others are alien to the United States and have no natural enemies to check their spread. The new requirement is specific to Wilderness because these areas often are free of invasive plants and introduction can be checked through efforts such as weed-free feed.

The Oregon, Idaho and Nevada Departments of Agriculture have developed certification processes for crop products. Hay fields are inspected to ensure that listed noxious weed seeds are absent. Once a field passes this inspection, hay and other crop products from the field are labeled as "certified weed-free." There is no comparable program in the state of Washington. Commercially processed feed (pellets and steamed, rolled grains) are not affected by the order and should be used in the affected national forest lands if certified hay products are not available.

For more information, visit www.fs.fed.us/r6/weeds

2008 Meeting Announcements

Weed Science Society of America Annual Meeting Chicago, IL

February 4-7

WSWS Meeting Annual Meeting

March 11-14

Hyatt Regency, Anaheim, CA

5th International Weed Science Congress

June 23-27

Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada

The 5th International Weed Science Congress will be held June 23-27, 2008 in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. The Weed Science Society of America and the Canadian Weed Science Society are co-sponsoring the Congress along with the International Weed Science Society. The Congress provides the opportunity for weed scientists from around the globe to meet and interact. The International Congresses are held only every four years so should not be missed. The scientific organizers are working hard to ensure a high quality program that will be stimulating and interesting. This is the first time that the Congress has been held in North America. Vancouver is a

August Job Postings http://www.wssa.net/ WSSA/Jobs/listing.htm

- Faculty Research Assistant
- Botany Invasive Species
 Team Internships
- Research Associate
- Area Extension Educator for Irrigated Vegetable and Seed Crop Systems
- Assistant or Associate Professor, Extension Water Quality
- Scientific Researcher (Weed Management, Mine Reclamation)
- R&D Field Station Technician
- Assistant/Associate
 Professor of Agronomy:
 Weed Science
- Coordinator The Institute for Invasive Species Research

Dr. Scott Nissen, Colorado State University, is actively recruiting a Ph. D. student interested in secondary invasions following tamarisk removal. For more information go to http://www.wssa.net

Goathead gold mine:
Noxious weed valued by
some as useful medicinal
herb: Article at
http://www.nmsu.edu/~ucomm/
Releases/2007/august/goathead
_pods.htm

CAST

Council for Agricultural Science and Technology

Become a member

http://www.castscience.org/ beautiful city and the organizers have included an all day tour as part of the meeting.

The final circular and the call for abstracts can be found on the WSSA web site http://www.wssa.net/. In addition, there is an opportunity for students and young scientists to receive partial support to attend the meeting. Please see the announcement elsewhere in this newsletter. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend: Carol Mallory-Smith, Host Organizing Committee

Job Postings

Faculty Research Assistant – Corvallis, OR. Oregon State University is recruiting for a faculty research assistant with the OSU Weed Science Project. Fixed-term, 12-month, 1.0 FTE appointment. BS in biological or agricultural science required, MS preferred. Refer to http://cropandsoil.oregonstate.edu or http://cropandsoil.oregonstate.edu or http://oregonstate.edu/jobs for details about the position requirements and application procedures. For full consideration, apply by September 4, 2007. Position will remain open until filled. OSU is an AA/EEO employer.



Tribute to Lives of Weed Scientists

W. Orvid Lee was born in Brigham City, Utah, on July 2, 1927, and passed away at his home in Corvallis, Oregon, on April 2, 2007, at age 79. He received the B.S. degree in 1950 and the M.S. degree in 1954 from Utah State University. He joined USDA-ARS as a research agronomist during that time and worked with F.L. Timmons at Utah State. Both he and Timmons transferred to the University of Wyoming and continued research on a variety

of weed situations, including control of dodder, perennial weeds, and aquatic weeds.

In 1956, Orvid was appointed to head up a new USDA project in Corvallis, Oregon, for controlling weeds in grass and legume seed crops. He spent the remainder of his professional career at Corvallis until his retirement in 1984. He completed the PhD degree from Oregon State University under Bill Furtick in 1965.

Orvid's work led to the introduction or refinement of most of the weed control methods in seed crops in the Pacific Northwest. This included, for example, diuron for perennial grasses and red clover, atrazine and simazine for perennial grasses, pronamide for legumes, ethofumesate for ryegrass, and many more. He developed two major procedures for the establishment of grass-seed crops that are still widely used today. One was the refinement of the use of paraquat or glyphosate in chemical seedbed preparation. The other was the application of a carbon band at seeding to allow application of diuron for selective weed control.

Orvid was highly respected and revered by the seed growers of the Pacific Northwest, and widely admired by fellow professionals. Growers recognized and appreciated that his work made possible the production of high-quality seed, making the Pacific Northwest one of the leading seed-producing areas of the world. He was a quiet and humble man, a productive scientist who had a significant impact on the agriculture of the area.

William R. Furtick, 80, died on May 16, 2007, after a lengthy illness. He was born in Salina, Kansas, on January 8, 1927, graduated from Kansas State University in 1949, and received the M.S. and Ph.D. degrees from Oregon State University in 1952 and 1958. He was professor of weed science at Oregon State until about 1972. In the late 1960s, he conceived of, established, and became director of the International Plant Protection Center at Oregon State University. In late 1971, he left OSU to join the United Nations in setting up an Agricultural Research Center in Taiwan. His next assignment was as director of the Plant Protection Division of the Food and



Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in Rome. At the University of Hawaii he became Dean of Agriculture, then moved to USAID in Washington, D.C., where he served as Agency Director for Food and Agriculture in the Bureau for Science and Technology. He lived in and developed programs in Cairo, Egypt; Amman, Jordan; and Tbilisi, Georgia. During his career, he worked in or visited all but five countries in the world. While at Oregon State, he was President and Fellow of both the Weed Science Society of America and the Western Society of Weed

Weed Technology Volumes 3-18

Still available

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org

Science. He was guest of honor at the eighth annual British Weed Control Conference in Brighton, England; and gave the invitational address in the National Research Council, National Academy of Science. The Association of Western Agricultural Experiment Directors awarded the title of Director Emeritus to him in recognition of his leadership, dedication, and outstanding service to agricultural research in the Western Region and the United States. One of his favorite activities was the training of graduate students, at which he excelled. His continual optimism and exuberance kept his group excited and eager to explore new developments in the weed science field. He was energetic, innovative, and ambitious to develop new programs. A common comment within his group was, "Bill has more ideas before breakfast than anyone else has in a year." He was most active in weed control in the 1950s and 1960s when many crops lacked satisfactory methods of selective weed control. He was a master at evaluating one set of field trials and using those observations to design new approaches with other crops and weeds. This resulted in many new practices in Oregon's multitude of crops. Bill was a "mover and shaker" in the weed control field. He made things happen wherever he was located. His enthusiasm and ideas will be missed.

John William Wilcut, 52, passed away August 24, 2007 at his home after a valiant battle with adrenal cancer. His wife, Cathy Worley Wilcut of Apex, and children Jared, of Raleigh and Caitlyn (Caity) of Apex survive John. He was the son of Pete and Irene Wilcut (Missouri). His father preceded him in death.

Surviving siblings include his brothers, Kerry Wilcut and wife, Debbie (Marion, IL), James Wilcut and wife, Daphne (St. Louis, MO), and sister, Kim Amodio and husband, Angelo (Waynesboro, MO). Surviving also are several nephews and nieces.

John was born in Farmington, MO and grew up in Missouri and Illinois. He was an avid St. Louis Cardinal fan. He received his BS and MS degrees at Eastern Illinois University. He then went to Auburn University to receive his Doctorate in Weed Science. The Auburn Tigers were added to his list of favorite teams. John worked at research stations at Virginia Tech University and The University of Georgia. His desire to be on a main campus to teach and work with students led him to North Carolina State University, where he was a Professor in the Crop Science Department. He dedicated his life to being a mentor to other weed scientists and helping farmers find weed control solutions to maximize crop yields. He was nationally and internationally recognized for his contributions to Agriculture and Weed Science, but his greatest satisfaction came from working with students as they embarked on their careers. He had many more sons and daughters than listed here.

He was strongly devoted to his family, and his first priority was to take care of each of them in the best way he could. He was a thoughtful, romantic man who cherished his wife and children. His impact is profound and he will be sorely missed.

A memorial service was held Wednesday, 3:00 p.m., August 29, 2007 at Olive Chapel Baptist Church, 600 New Hill Olive Chapel Rd., Apex, NC, 27502.

In lieu of flowers, please make memorials in the memory of John to: American Cancer Society, RFL of Cary/Apex/Morrisville, 8300 Health Park, Suite 10, Raleigh, NC 27615. Online condolences may be made at www.apexfuneral.com

Washington Report by Lee Van Wychen, Ph.D., Director of Science Policy

Noxious Weed? Invasive Plant? Volunteer Crop?

Recently, I have been dealing with a number of increasing issues concerning the classification of weeds that may greatly impact the mission of the National and Regional Weed Science Societies. The mission of the WSSA (www.wssa.net) is to:

- 1) Promote research, education, and extension outreach activities related to weeds;
- 2) Provide science-based information to the public and policy makers:
- 3) Foster awareness of weeds and their impacts on managed and natural ecosystems.

As a weed scientist, I sometimes struggle with the various classifications of weeds such as noxious, exotic, invasive, alien, nonnative, nonindigenous, volunteer crop and my favorite-plant out of place (no acronym necessary). However, I believe there is a very important role for the weed science societies to help standardize science-based classifications for the public and policy makers as we foster the awareness of weeds and their impacts on both managed and natural ecosystems through research, education, and extension outreach activities.

Of all the classifications of weeds above, a "noxious" weed is the most straightforward because it's a legal term (7 U.S.C. 7702(10)) defined in the Plant Protection Act (Public Law 106-224). The term 'noxious weed' means any plant or plant product that can directly or indirectly injure or cause damage to crops (including nursery stock or plant products), livestock, poultry, or other interests of agriculture, irrigation, navigation, the natural resources of the United States, the public health, or the environment. In other words, a **noxious weed** is any plant designated by a Federal, State or county government as injurious to public health, agriculture, recreation, wildlife or property. There is a well defined federal process for both listing and delisting plants as federal noxious weeds that is conducted through USDA APHIS. For more info see: http://www.aphis.usda.gov/plant_health/plant_pest_info/weed s/index.shtml

The word "invasive" is at the forefront of this discussion. What is an invasive weed or invasive plant? There is no mention of "invasive" or "exotic" or "alien" in the Plant Protection Act. Yet, the term invasive weed is increasingly popular in new federal legislation being introduced in the House and Senate (see below). The WSSA will be issuing a new journal during the first quarter of 2008 titled "Invasive Plant Science and Management". The WSSA is also a major stakeholder in conducting the National Invasive Weeds Awareness Week (NIWAW). Certainly, people seem to "get" the invasive species message because the "message" has been out there much longer thanks to our fellow pest control colleagues working in entomology and plant pathology. Mission statement #2 above is a much easier to convey when I talk to people in Washington DC about "invasive plants" vs. "weeds".

In the 2002 National Research Council report titled "Predicting Invasions of Nonindigenous Plants and Plant Pests" (http://www.nap.edu/catalog/10259.html), a biological invasion is defined as a phenomenon in which a nonindigenous species arrives in a new range in which it establishes, proliferates, spreads, and causes broadly-defined detrimental consequences in the environment.

Executive Order 13112, signed by President Clinton in 1999, defines an **invasive species** as "an alien species whose introduction does or is likely to cause economic or environmental harm or harm to human health."

The Invasive Species Advisory Committee (ISAC) to the National Invasive Species Council (NISC) issued an excellent white paper on invasive species definition clarifications last year. This paper can be found at: http://www.invasivespeciesinfo.gov/docs/council/isacdef.pdf

The ISAC definitions white paper was intended to provide a non-regulatory policy interpretation of the term **invasive species** by identifying **what is meant**, and just as important, **what is not meant** by the term. Some of the key conclusions of this paper are:

- Invasive species are those that are not native to the ecosystem under consideration and that cause or are likely to cause economic or environmental harm or harm to human, animal, or plant health.
- Plant and animal species under domestication or cultivation and under human control are **not** invasive

species.

 Furthermore for policy purposes, to be considered invasive, the negative impacts caused by a non-native species will be deemed to outweigh the beneficial effects it provides.

This leads me to my last point, or rather question: Do the National and Regional Weed Science Societies need to adopt a standard definition or criteria for an "invasive plant"?

- 1) Are all weeds invasive plants?
- 2) Are all invasive plants weeds?
- 3) Are all noxious weeds invasive plants?

As I mentioned at the beginning of this article, there can be confusion associated with all the various terms used to describe a weed. What is most troubling is that many people in our discipline would have no trouble stating a definitive "yes or no" answer to the above three questions, yet the general public is exposed to many different definitions and classifications. For example, you can go to the USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) Plants Database (http://plants.usda.gov/index.html) and look up "Invasive and Noxious Weeds" (http://plants.usda.gov/java/noxiousDriver).

As you scroll down the "Invasive and Noxious Weeds" page and start searching for different weeds, you also find that crops like corn, soybeans, cotton, rice, wheat, and alfalfa are listed with the description "This plant can be **weedy** or **invasive** according to the authoritative sources noted below." Can a **volunteer crop** be **weedy**? Can a **volunteer crop** be **invasive**?

Whether or not a species is considered an invasive species depends largely on human values. Do the National and Regional Weed Science Societies need to make a distinction between an "invasive plant" and a "weed"? That is for you to decide.

House Action on the 2007 Farm Bill

During the week of May 21-25, the House Agriculture Subcommittee on Conservation, Credit, Energy & Research passed legislation on to the full House Agriculture Committee regarding its jurisdiction in the 2007 Farm Bill. This was the first action in either the House or Senate. In February at the WSSA annual meeting, the WSSA was very fortunate to have Dr. Gale Buchanan, USDA Under Secretary for Research, Education, and Economics present the Administrations proposal for the 2007 Farm Bill.

The House Agriculture Committee 2007 Farm Bill draft language can be found at: http://agriculture.house.gov/inside/2007FarmBill.html. This site provides a breakdown by each subcommittee of the different Farm Bill Titles as they become available.

The Research Title is a potpourri of the various proposals (The Administration, CREATE-21 and NIFA) that have been introduced up to this point. The bad news is that there is no mention of doubling agricultural research funding. This was a primary goal of the CREATE-21 and NIFA proposals. However, the good news is that the House version of the Farm Bill

proposal adopted the Administration's proposal that includes \$50 million per year for the agricultural bioenergy and biobased products research initiative and \$100 million per year for the specialty crops research initiative. Unlike the Administration's or the CREATE-21 proposal, there would be no merger of the Research Education and Economics Agencies (CSREES, ARS, ERS or FS R&D) in the House Farm Bill proposal.

The National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics (NAREE) Advisory Board would be retained as the principal vehicle for stakeholder input, while also adding the Agricultural Research Institute concept being championed in the CREATE-21 proposal. In the House Farm Bill proposal, the Agricultural Research Institute will coordinate the programs and activities of the research agencies through the following six institutes:

- 1) Renewable energy, resources, and environment
- 2) Food safety, nutrition, and health
- 3) Plant health and production
- 4) Animal health and production
- 5) Agriculture systems and technology
- 6) Agriculture economics and rural communities

Each research institute will have a Director appointed by the Under Secretary, and will formulate programs, develop strategic planning and priorities for department-wide research, education, extension and related activities. The Under Secretary, along with the Directors and in consultation with the NAREEE Advisory Board, will direct research, education, extension, and related programs for relevant departmental agencies, and ensure that strategies and funds are coordinated throughout.

Finally, the a National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) would be established, but only under CSREES, to administer **all** competitive grants including the National Research Initiative (NRI), which is re-authorized at \$500 million per year.

In the **Conservation Title** released by the House Agriculture Committee a couple of brief **invasive species** highlights include:

- a provision that would allow a producer to conduct prescribed grazing for the control of invasive species on Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) lands.
- Amending the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) to include the promotion of forest management and energy conservation. Forest management practices are defined as activities that may be needed to improve water quality, increase in-stream flows, restore forest biodiversity, or control invasive species.

"Noxious Weed" and "Invasive Plant" Related Legislation in the 110th Congress

There is much political posturing occurring and legislation being introduced that includes various aspects of noxious weed and invasive species provisions related to the 2007 Farm Bill debate. Below is a brief list of some noteworthy legislation:

- S. 1160 Specialty Crops Competition Act of 2007 introduced by Sen. Debbie Stabenow (MI) on April 19 with 18 co-sponsors.
 - establishes an invasive pest threat identification and mitigation program (including noxious weeds) authorized at \$40 million per year
 - o carries out an integrated pest management initiative
 - amends the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to restore import and entry agricultural inspection functions to the Department of Agriculture.
 Establishes the international agricultural inspection program within the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS)
- S. 1242 A bill to amend the Federal Crop Insurance Act and 2002 Farm Bill to establish a biofuel pilot program to offer crop insurance to producers of experimental biofuel crops. Introduced by Sen. Jon Tester (MT) on April 26.
 - Defines the term and conditions for an "experimental biofuel crop" to include a determination by USDA demonstrating that there are sufficient safeguards to prevent the spread of the crop as a noxious weed
- H.R. 1600 Equitable Agriculture Today for a Healthy America Act introduced by Rep. Dennis Cardoza (CA) on March 20 and now has 115 co-sponsors.
 - Includes many similar provisions as in S. 1160 above as well as a section titled "Invasive Pests and Diseases".
 - Authorizes \$50 million per year for an "Early Pest Detection and Surveillance Improvement Program". However, they define "pest" according to the legal definition given "plant pest" in the Plant Protection Act (7 U.S.C. 7702(14)) - just a few lines of text below the definition for "noxious weed". For the record, the legal term 'plant pest' means any living stage of any of the following that can directly or indirectly injure, cause damage to, or cause disease in any plant or plant product: (A) A protozoan; (B) A nonhuman animal; (C) A parasitic plant; (D) A bacterium; (E) A fungus; (F) A virus or viroid; (G) An infectious agent or other pathogen; (H) Any article similar to or allied with any of the articles specified in the preceding subparagraphs.
- H.R. 620 Rep. Olver (MA), S. 280 Sen. Lieberman (CT), and S. 317 - Sen. Feinstein (CA) - Three related bills with a goal to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the U.S. by establishing a market-driven system of greenhouse gas tradeable allowances.
 - Sen. Feinstein's bill, S. 317, is more specific than the other two bills and would amend the Clean Air Act to establish a program to regulate the emission of greenhouse gases from electric utilities.
 - Most notably, Sen. Feinstein's bill is the only one to mention invasive species and noxious weeds. Invasive species in S. 317 is defined as a species (including pathogens, seeds, spores, or any other biological material relating to a species) introduction of which causes or is likely

to cause economic or environmental harm or harm to human health.

- o In Sen. Feinstein's bill, greenhouse gas reductions projects from agricultural, forestry, wetlands, and other land use-related sequestration projects may only receive offset credits if native plant materials are given primary consideration and Federal- or State-designated noxious weeds or use of a species listed by a regional or State invasive plant councils within the applicable region or State are
- S. 725 National Aquatic Invasive Species Act of 2007 introduced by Sen. Carl Levin (MI) on March 1. This bill would amend the Nonindigenous Aquatic Nuisance Prevention and Control Act of 1990 to establish aquatic invasive species reduction and prevention requirements for vessels (including towed vessels and structures) operating in U.S. waters.
 - Definitions (in relation to this bill): "Invasion" is defined an infestation of an aquatic invasive species; "Invasive Species" is defined as a nonindigenous species the introduction of which into an ecosystem may cause harm to the economy, environment, human health, recreation, or public welfare; "nonindigenous species" is defined as any species in an ecosystem the range of which exceeds the historic range of the species in that ecosystem.
 - o Some of the main priorities listed in S. 725 include: Requires the National Invasive Species Council (NISC) to establish a federal rapid response team for each of the ten federal regions; Directs the Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force (ANSTF) to establish a priority pathway management program that identifies those pathways that pose the highest risk for the introduction of aquatic invasive species; and requires the National Science Foundation (NSF) to establish a grant program for researchers at institutions of higher education and museums to carry out research in systematics and taxonomy.
 - The bill would cost about \$150 million per year if the authorized funding was fully appropriated.

\$425 million for Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act

The Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act (P.L. 106-393), signed into law in 2000, provides an alternative source of funding for schools and other purposes in counties that were once dependent on timber sales from federal lands. At the time the law was passed, it was estimated to provide assistance to 700 counties in 39 states. The Act also provides funding for (A) road, trail, and infrastructure maintenance or obliteration; (B) soil productivity improvement; (C) improvements in forest ecosystem health; (D) watershed restoration and maintenance; (E) restoration, maintenance and improvement of wildlife and fish habitat; (F) control of **noxious and exotic weeds**; and (G) reestablishment of native species.

The \$425 million provides a one-year extension of the Secure Rural Schools Act and gives Congress time to find a long-term solution for counties with a high percentage of national forests or federal land. The \$425 million appropriation was part of the much larger Emergency War Funding bill (\$120 billion) that was wrangled over during much of May by the House, Senate and President. Also included in that bill (P.L. 110-28) was \$3 billion for agriculture disaster relief and \$465 million for wildfire suppression.

FY2008 Appropriation Bills

On May 23, the House Appropriations Subcommittee for Interior-Environment approved a \$27.6 billion fiscal 2008 spending bill for the Interior Department, EPA and a number of related agencies. This is the first step (of many) for the appropriations bills in which most seem likely that they will end up in another Omnibus Appropriation for FY2008.

The Interior-Environment Subcommittee's bill would increase overall discretionary funding by 4.5 percent over fiscal 2007 and by more than 7 percent over what President Bush has proposed. The appropriators billed the measure as the first step in reversing a long decline in environmental and American Indian health programs.

Chairman Norm Dicks (WA) said the bill would provide muchneeded increases in funding for national parks and wildlife refuges as well as new money to address the impact of global warming on public lands.

The bill would provide \$10.2 billion for the Interior Department, \$262 million more than current levels, as well as \$8.1 billion for the EPA, \$361 million above current levels. The USDA Forest Service would receive \$2.6 billion, an increase of \$102 million and the U.S. Geological Survey would get a \$50 million increase over the \$983 million appropriated in FY 2007.

Mike Owen Attends CoFARM/BESC Congressional Visits Day in DC.

On April 18-19, Dr. Micheal Owen from Iowa State represented the WSSA at the Coalition on Funding Agricultural Research Missions (CoFARM) and Biological and Ecological Sciences Coalition (BESC) Congressional Visits Day (CVD) in Washington D.C. Since 2003, CoFARM and BESC have teamed up to organize a Spring event on Capitol Hill that plays a critical role in the annual federal funding process for USDA and NSF research programs. The theme was "Agricultural and Biological Sciences: Today's Research = Tomorrow's Benefits". To view a copy of the talking points or "one pager", please visit: http://www.esa.org/besc/activities_files/BESCCoFARM%20Lea ve%20Behind.pdf

During the first day, Kei Koizumi, Budget Analyst at AAAS; Jim Collins, Asst. Director for Biology at NSF; Anna Palmisano, Deputy Administrator for USDA Competitive Programs and others briefed us on the 2008 federal budget for agricultural and biological research funding. The highlight of the day was a reception at the U.S. Capitol honoring the support and contributions of Senator Tom Harkin (IA), Chairman of the Senate Agriculture Committee, and Senator Kit Bond (MO), member of the Senate Agriculture Appropriations Committee.

Both Senators have been very supportive of agricultural research in particular and are co-sponsors for S. 971, the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) Act of 2007. Over the period of five years (2008-12), S. 971 would authorize the appropriation of \$3.4 billion in new agricultural research grants and multidisciplinary projects under NIFA.

On April 19, Mike and I began our day with a CoFARM sponsored breakfast in the Secretary's Dining Room at the USDA Whitten Building. We visited with a number of senior officials in the USDA Research Education and Economics mission area including Deputy Under Secretary Dr. Merle Pierson; Dr. Ed Knipling, ARS Administrator; and Dr. Colien Hefferan, CSREES Administrator.

Following breakfast, we headed to Capitol Hill to begin our six Congressional Visits. There were five of us in the "Iowa-Wisconsin team" representing scientific societies associated with CoFARM and BESC. We met with staff members from Sen. Harkin and Sen. Grassley's office from Iowa along with Rep. Latham (IA) whose district includes Iowa State University. On the Wisconsin side, we met with staffers from both Sen. Kohl and Sen. Feingold's offices as well Rep. Tammy Baldwin who represents the University of Wisconsin-Madison area.



"WSSA members
Lee Van
Wychen and
Mike Owen
pause for a
photo op
with Sen.
Herb Kohl
(WI),
Chairman of
the Senate
Agriculture

Appropriations Subcommittee, along with other participants from the CoFARM-BESC Congressional Visits Day. (Front row, I to r) Sarah Evans (ASA-CSSA-SSSA); Sen. Herb Kohl; Sarah Wright (AIBS). (Back row, I to r) Lee Van Wychen (WSSA), Mike Owen (WSSA), Maynard Hogberg (FASS)".

Overall, the CoFARM/BESC Congressional Visits Day was a big success. Our Iowa-Wisconsin group was able to meet with both the Chairman of the Senate Agriculture Committee and the Chairman of the Senate Agriculture Appropriations Committee and their staff. In addition to agriculture funding issues, Mike and I also discussed the issues surrounding "Biofuels and Invasive Plant Species" and left a copy of the WSSA white paper in each office we visited. This paper can be found on the WSSA website.

WSSA President Schroeder Presents 'Hot' Seminar at USDA

On May 14, Dr. Jill Schroeder from New Mexico State University was in Washington DC to present a guest seminar titled "Chile Pepper: Hot Topic or Model Crop?" (Note: Chile is spelt 'Chile' and not 'Chill' when talking about the pepper!). The seminar was at the USDA Waterfront Center, which is

home to most of the CSREES staff, and was well attended. The abstract of her presentation read as follows:

"One of the goals of the 2007 USDA Farm Bill proposal for research is to increase funding for specialty crops with the intent of improving production through a number of means. Dr. Schroeder has had the pleasure and frustration of working in a minor, specialty crop in New Mexico - the chile pepper for a number of years. Her presentation will introduce you to this crop that is important to the culture as well as the economy of New Mexico; the state question is "Red or Green?" New Mexico producers are primarily independent growers and farms are small and located where water is available for irrigation. Economic sustainability is critical to ensure the viability of the industry and to keep chile pepper production in the state and country. Weed management challenges in chile pepper production impact or are impacted by a large number of issues including labor costs and availability, mechanical thinning and harvest, water availability and management, development of transgenic crops, and management of other soilborne pests. Even though chile pepper is an intensively managed, high value crop, New Mexico producers have never used methyl bromide for soilborne pest management due to economic constraints. Are New Mexico growers the canary in the mine illustrating problems that producers in the major specialty crop growing areas are about to face, and if so, does this make Chile Pepper a model crop?"

I think everyone enjoyed Dr. Schroeder's seminar and learned a lot about "Chile" peppers. The crop-weed-nematode interaction was quite intriguing and stimulated some very good discussion following the seminar. The other part of the talk everyone liked was the fact that Jill brought fresh New Mexico salsa with her on the trip, not just as a prop, but for everyone there to enjoy. The Red Chile salsa was definitely HOT. Many thanks also to CSREES National Program Leader Rick Meyer for his help in organizing and reserving space at CSREES.

WSSA Members Organize 2nd Glyphosate Stewardship Forum in St. Louis

On March 20-21, a broad array of stakeholders from University Weed Scientists, Commodity Groups, Industry Representatives, Farmers, and Federal Policy and Regulatory Officials attended the 2nd National Glyphosate Stewardship Forum (NGSF) in St. Louis, Missouri. I would like commend the principal coordinators, Mike Owen from Iowa State and Chris Boerboom from the University of Wisconsin for their time and effort in organizing this event. Other WSSA members who actively participated in this forum include: Christy Sprague- Michigan State; Bill Johnson- Purdue; Stanley Culpepper- Georgia; Alan York and John Wilcut- North Carolina State; Larry Steckel-Tennessee; Andrew Kniss- Wyoming; Harold Coble- USDA; Bill Chism- EPA; Janis McFarland and Chuck Foresman- Syngenta; Jennifer Ralston- Monsanto; Raymond Forney- DuPont; Mike DeFelice- Pioneer Hi-Bred; and Bob Nichols- Cotton Incorporated. I have undoubtedly missed some WSSA members so I send my apologies in advance.

The first NGSF was conducted in St. Louis in November 2004 and was organized as a result of discussions among several university weed scientists about the potential evolution of glyphosate-resistant weeds and the management challenges they may pose for growers. This group of weed scientists

included: Mike Owen, Iowa State; Chris Boerboom, Wisconsin; Stanley Culpepper, Georgia; Mark Loux, Ohio State; Tom Mueller, Tennessee; David Shaw, Mississippi State; Christy Sprague, Michigan State; and John Wilcut, North Carolina State. A summary of presentations and stakeholder comments from the 1st NGSF can be found at: http://www.weeds.iastate.edu/weednews/2006/NGSF%20final%20report.pdf

The executive summary and stakeholder discussion comments from the 2nd NGSF are forthcoming. Some personal observations from 2nd NGSF include:

- Any glyphosate stewardship program should be voluntary and not mandated by regulatory action.
- A <u>consistent</u> glyphosate stewardship message needs to be adopted by all stakeholders for managing the potential evolution of glyphosate-resistant weeds.
- 3) Financial incentives should be provided to crop consultants and herbicide retailers for disseminating a consistent herbicide stewardship message to end-users.

On a separate, but related event, Dr. Stephen Powles from Australia presented a talk at the U.S. EPA on April 4 in Washington DC following the American Chemical Society meeting in Chicago. Thanks to Rick Keigwin, Director of BEAD at EPA for helping to organize the seminar. The topic for Dr. Powles talk was evolved glyphosate resistant weeds around the world. Dr. Powles felt that the current status of glyphosate stewardship was "lamentable" and that much more could be done prevent further weed resistance because glyphosate is "1 in a 100 year herbicide discovery". A particular point he emphasized was not to cut glyphosate application rates.

Herbicide stewardship and resistance management is not a new concept to the WSSA. However, with glyphosate now being applied on over 110 million acres across the U.S., the National and Regional Weed Science Societies need to be provide consistent, science-based glyphosate stewardship information to the public and policy makers.

NIWAW 9 Scheduled for February 24-29, 2008 in DC

Planning for the 9th Annual National Invasive Weed Awareness Week (NIWAW 9) is underway in Washington DC. Dr. Nelroy Jackson will be leading the Invasive Weed Awareness Coalition (IWAC) to help plan and coordinate the week long activities. The WSSA has once again received a \$15,000 Pulling Together Initiative grant from the National Fish and Wildlife Federation in April to help organize NIWAW 9. The slogan for NIWAW 9 is "Weeds won't wait: Don't hesitate". The six invasive weeds that will be featured on this year's poster are:

Yellow starthistle Cheatgrass

Beach vitex Japanese stiltgrass Russian olive Giant salvinia

In sticking with the theme of this science policy report, it is interesting to note that only 1 of 6 of the aforementioned NIWAW 9 poster weeds are a federally listed **noxious weed**. Yet all 6 weeds are listed as a **noxious** weed in at least one or more states.

Does everyone in the National and Regional Weed Science Societies consider these 6 weeds to be invasive?

Lee Van Wychen, Ph.D., Director of Science Policy The National and Regional Weed Science Societies 900 2nd St. NE, Suite 205, Washington, DC 20002 Lee.VanWychen@WeedScienceOrgs.com work: 202-408-5388 cell: 202-746-4686 Publication Order Form (visit our online store www.wsweedscience.org to order and learn more about each publication or contact WSWS at 505-527-1888 or wsws@marathonag.com or complete this form and mail it to: WSWS, 205 W. Boutz, Bldg. 4, Ste 5, Las Cruces, NM 88005)

Publication		Price	# ordered	Total
Weeds of the West		\$ 34.00		
WSWS History (1938-1992)		\$ 32.50		
Aquatic and Riparian Weeds of the West		\$ 47.00		
Weeds of California and Other Western States		\$110.00		
Broadleaf and Grass Weeds of the West		\$ 60.00		
(a two CD combination, interactive				
Invasive Plants of Range & Wildlands and		\$ 25.00		
Their Environmental, Economic and	l Societal			
<u>Impacts</u>				
WSWS Proceedings	2002	\$ 26.00		
, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	2003	\$ 26.00		
	2005	\$ 26.00		
	2006	\$ 26.00		
	2007	\$ 26.00		
WSWS Research Progress Reports	2002	\$ 26.00		
	2003	\$ 26.00		
	2004	\$ 26.00		
	2006	\$ 26.00		
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Western Society of Weed Science 205 W. Boutz, Bldg. 4, Ste. 5 Las Cruces, NM 88005