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

Office or Committee Name: Herbicide Resistant Plants
Officer or Chairperson Name: Drew Lyon
Date of Preparation (include year): 5 March 2019

Activities during the year: The committee has developed a Qualtrics survey on suspected new resistant weed biotypes that we plan to send out to representatives from member states in 2019 and that may be used annually thereafter. We plan to announce the survey at the WSWS annual business meeting in Denver and identify representatives from member states to receive the survey. The committee is also considering an assessment of the role of herbicide-resistant crop technologies as an integrated weed management tool for controlling herbicide-resistant weed biotypes in the western US.

Joan Campbell has established communication with the WSSA Herbicide Resistant Plants Committee. A summary of their meeting minutes from the 2019 WSSA annual meeting follows:

1. The main item discussed was use of Site of Action (SOA) vs Mechanism of Action (MOA) vs Mode of Action (MOA, also). Concern was raised from the EPA-OPP that a mixed message is being sent to growers on the use of these terms. ESA (Entomological Society of America) and APS (American Pathological Society) both use Mode of Action on labels as does HRAC. Weed Science journal uses Mechanism of Action (MOA) and Weed Technology journal uses SOA. Global HRAC is working on a refinement of World of Herbicides Map and is looking at sites of binding of herbicides as a refinement. This discussion will continue in quarterly conference calls.

2. Sarah Ward met with the USDA Plants database and they agreed to modify some of the common names to meet the needs of WSSA and the EPA as it relates to weeds on herbicide labels. (Side note from WSSA terminology committee: USDA Plants Database will now be the authority for weed names and the WSSA committee will likely disband.)

3. Proposed changes to the committee include dropping (a) compiling monetary loss due to resistant weeds, (b) maintaining a databank of documented cases of herbicide resistance, and (c) promoting action an Herbicide Resistance. Other WSSA committees or entities are tasked with these items.

4. One of the action items is to seek input from regional societies for action.

Recommendations for Board Action: The WSWS Operating Guide states that this committee is comprised of six members appointed by the president. We currently have four members, which includes one student representative. Either two more members need to be appointed to the committee or the size of the committee needs to be changed in the Operating Guide.

Joan Campbell is completing her term on the committee. Joan has become involved with the WSSA Herbicide Resistant Plants Committee and has volunteered to remain on the WSWS Herbicide Resistant Plants Committee as an ex officio member to facilitate communication between these two committees. Tara Burke plans to graduate in May of 2019. Both Joan and Tara will need to be replaced or reappointed.

Budget Needs: None.

Name of Person Preparing This Report: Drew Lyon