

SWSS

Southern Weed Science Society

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President's Message

JACKIE DRIVER



The SWSS Executive Board recently completed our annual Summer Board meeting. Below are highlights from the meeting:

Graduate Student Presentation Contest: The Board discussed several aspects of the graduate student presentation contest. After considerable discussion we voted to change the following rules of the contest:

- A separate contest will be held for M.S. and Ph.D. students.
- A student may win 1st place in either presentation contest in a degree program and compete again in a subsequent degree program.

All other rules governing the contest will remain intact as stated in the MOP. If you have any questions please refer to the MOP on the website or contact Wilson Faircloth, Graduate Student Program Chair.

Publications: Charles Bryson and Mike DeFelice continue to push towards completion of a new publication tentatively entitled "Weeds of the South." They are still on track to complete the book during the summer of 2007. We are excited to know that the UGA Press has offered their services as publisher. Pending contract acceptance UGA Press will publish the book with minimal to no financial obligations to SWSS. Our organization relies heavily on publication sales to maintain financial stability. Don't forget to continue our sales efforts of "The Encyclopedia of North American Weeds" DVD. Charles and Mike devote countless hours to develop these publications for the Society's benefit. Let's show our appreciation by supporting their efforts.

Quiz Bowl: Tom Mueller is planning a Quiz Bowl during the 2007 conference. Graduate students will have the opportunity to put on their thinking and competitive hats and show off their knowledge of weed biology and control, herbicide chemistry, and SWSS. Board members participated in a mock Quiz Bowl at the summer meeting. We are very excited and look forward to this activity at the annual meeting. All graduate students are encouraged to participate. Dr. Mueller will provide more details regarding the Quiz Bowl. Stay Tuned and Let The Games Begin!

2007 Annual Meeting: Please plan to attend the 2007 annual meeting in Nashville, TN. David Monks and the program committee are busy developing what should be a very informative program focusing on the theme "New Challenges Facing Weed Science." Any symposia or workshop ideas you have please forward them to David or a program committee member. Also please read further in the Newsletter for more

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE *continued from page 1*

information from David regarding the 2007 program. As you have probably heard Dr. Gale Buchanan, former SWSS president, has been appointed as USDA Under Secretary for the Cooperative State Research Education and Extension Service. We hope to have an opportunity to interact with Gale at the 2007 meeting.

Annual Meeting Date Change: The Board re-opened the discussion of a potential change in the date for the annual meeting. If you will recall we had a similar discussion during our 2005 meeting in Charlotte. At that time approximately 60% of the membership expressed

favor to a change. Everyone recently received a communication regarding the proposed date change via email and was given an opportunity to comment. About 20% of you have responded – thanks for your feedback. Understanding the sentiment of the membership is very important to the Board so please let us know your preference by November 1. We plan to continue discussion of this topic and will vote at the January meeting.

This year is rapidly progressing. It has been a challenging summer but fall is fast approaching. I wish you all the best and look forward to seeing you in Nashville, TN.

Comments for Upcoming 2007 SWSS Meeting

I look forward to seeing many of you at our upcoming meeting at the Gaylord Opryland Hotel in Nashville, TN in January 2007. The hotel is located a short distance from the Nashville airport, and promises to be a wonderful location for our meeting.

I write this to inform you about a few items you may not be aware. New this year will be a graduate student mixer which focuses on a “quiz bowl” contest. Student teams will be tested on their knowledge of weed science, with the attitude of “let’s have some fun, and we may learn something, too.” The board of directors conducted a simulation of this event at the summer meeting, and they thought it was a great deal of fun. More details will be forthcoming via the list serve.

New also this year will be a “Tennessee re-union,” although plans are still preliminary at this time. If you are a former student, former faculty, or in any way associated with Tennessee Weed Science, you are cordially invited to our meal function. Please see the program when it comes out for more details.

Lastly, for those that may not know it, there is a large mall attached to the Opryland, and one of the stores in the mall is the ever-popular Bass Pro Shops. Although I have not been inside this particular store, I have been told it is fantastic.

There are also many great places to eat, to relax, and to enjoy a good time in Nashville. We look forward to your visit.

Tom Mueller
Local Arrangements Chair
SWSS 2007 meeting

Herbicide Action Course October 22–27, 2006 Purdue University

The Herbicide Action Course will be held at Purdue University from October 22-27, 2006. This popular course has attracted over 1700 participants over the past 23 years. Information on the course and registration materials can be accessed at:

<http://www.hort.purdue.edu/hort/ext/herbicideaction/herbaction.shtml> or

www.conf.purdue.edu/herbicide or

by contacting Ed Keller at: ebkeller@purdue.edu

phone at: 800-320-6291

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Setting Priorities and Objectives for the USDA NRI Grant Program

Michael Bowers

At WSSA's 50-year anniversary meeting in New York, some Board members asked if I'd be interested in periodically addressing the membership via the newsletter. I thought this was a great opportunity for me to explain programmatic issues and I accepted. So this is the first of what I expect to be a series of columns about happenings within the Cooperative State Research, Education and Extension Service (CSREES) and, in particular, the Biology of Weedy and Invasive Species in Agroecosystems Program within the National Research Initiative (NRI).

The topic that I will discuss in this column is how Federal grant programs set priorities and objectives. It is a complex process that involves both the flow of information up from the user stakeholder community modulated by the editing of that information via top-down processes designed to meet national needs and priorities.

Both the tradition of Land Grant Institutions and the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998 make the gathering of stakeholder input through advisory systems a requirement. When appropriately gathered, advice from stakeholders can help focus programs on important issues, evaluate the impact of programs, and provide future direction for ongoing and new programs. In short, stakeholder input helps to keep programs current and relevant. This is the bottom-up part of the equation.

For my particular program, input is activity solicited (and, as it turns out, is freely given) through a variety of methods and from a host of advisory groups. To be most effective and relevant, advisory system input must represent all constituents who can

potentially benefit from the program. Regardless of the method used, the opportunity to provide input is expected to be fair, open, and broadly accessible. The first tier of stakeholder input comes from professional societies, commodity groups, and non-profits. For my program this includes the WSSA, the Ecological Society of America, the Tri-Societies, the Nature Conservancy, NatureServe, and a few others. This input might be directed and specific to a program provided via correspondence or one-on-one discussions, or it might take the form of a position or white paper that identifies research priorities or themes. My attending the WSSA annual meeting in February was to both explain my vision for the NRI program and to solicit feedback from the WSSA. The second tier of input comes from panels, organized meetings, and even causal discussions with individuals. I make certain that every panelist serving on my panel has a chance—either in group discussions or individually—to provide feedback on the program and its priorities. One outcome of our last panel meeting in May was a number of excellent suggestions from panelists that will most likely end up in the FY2007 Request for Applications (RFA). Last fall I helped sponsor an interagency meeting for both NRI and National Science Foundation (NSF) Principle Investigators (PIs) working on weedy and invasive plants. The ultimate goal of that meeting was to gather stakeholder input relative to: 1) identifying the critical questions in basic and applied ecological research that must be answered before management of invasive species can be successful; and 2) identifying the respective roles of the NRI and NSF

Programs in achieving this goal.

So how are program priorities set considering the wide diversity of stakeholder input that must necessarily mirror the diverse and varied interests of the advisory groups? The answer to this is that you take the best ideas and the best input and then you subject them to top-down evaluation by the various mechanisms within the federal government.

For the Biology of Weedy and Invasive Species in Agroecosystems Program there are two levels of federal review. The first level of review involves the CSREES and USDA Invasive Species Working Groups whose role it is to keep the various programs focused on the Agency's and Department's Strategic Goals. The US Government has been practicing performance based budgeting for a while now—meaning that programs are evaluated and rewarded (or not) relative to how successful they have been in achieving the stated goals. So the ability to tie a program's goals with that of the parent agency or department is critical. And within the NRI each program must identify short, mid- and long-term goals, all that must have relevance to CSREES and USDA goals.

The second level of review involves inter-departmental and inter-agency working groups like the Federal Interagency Committee on Invasive Terrestrial Animals and Pathogens (ITAP), the Federal Interagency Committee for the Management of Noxious and Exotic Weeds (FICMNEW), the National Invasive Species Council (NISC), and the Federal Interagency Committee for Extramural Programs for Research on Invasive Species (EPRIS)

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WSSA Officer Attends NIWAW

Jill Schroeder, WSSA President-Elect

During the week of February 27 to March 3, 2006, I attended the National Invasive Weed Awareness Week (NIWAW) 7 in Washington D.C. I was the first WSSA Board officer to attend this week-long meeting in its seven year history. Dr. Nelroy Jackson [Invasive Weed Awareness Coalition (IWAC) and WSSA] was the co-developer of NIWAW 1 through 7 and was the chair of IWAC which organized NIWAW 7. Lee Van Wychen, Director of Science Policy for WSSA, assisted Dr. Jackson with the arrangements.

The number and diversity of participants was impressive; 175 people registered for the week and represented practitioners, representatives of garden clubs, land managers, state and federal agencies, universities, industry, and professional societies (Exotic Pest Plant Councils (EPPC's), the North American Weed Management Association (NAWMA), state Weed Science Societies, The Nature Conservancy (TNC), Union of Concerned Scientists UCS, etc....) from nearly 40 states. Many of the attendees were involved with detection and management of invasive weed species in parks, urban areas, wildlands, forests, and riparian and aquatic areas. Many were involved in programs where volunteer activities are a major part of their management efforts. I was impressed with their enthusiasm and dedication to the issues surrounding invasive weed prevention and management. I was also impressed with how open they were to new participants. Many thanks go to Nelroy for introducing me to so many people.

Each half day of the week included opportunities to attend briefings held by USDA (ERS, ARS, CSREES, USFS, NRCS, APHIS), U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Department of the Interior (BLM, F&WS, NPS,

USGS, BOR), and numerous other Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs). The briefings were conducted by the top administrators in these departments; an indication of the impact that NIWAW participants are having in Washington. There was an opportunity at each briefing for questions. The land managers were very pointed in expressing what is working and what is not working for them in the field. In addition to the formal briefings, several groups held individual meetings with agency officials to address issues at the local or state level. Many of the participants also visited their congressional offices to introduce themselves and present them with two position papers (issues agreed on by all NIWAW participants).

A highlight of the week occurred on Wednesday with the awards reception at the U.S. Botanical Garden (they had an orchid exhibit in the main hall where the awards were presented!). Nelroy asked me to chair the awards ceremony as the representative of WSSA. I had the pleasure of presenting awards on behalf of IWAC, NAWMA and the Federal Interagency Committee for the Management of Noxious and Exotic Weeds (FICMNEW). A particular highlight of the evening was presenting the NAWMA Appreciation Award to Rob Hedberg (past WSSA DSP) for his role in developing NIWAW and the IWAC-FICMNEW Lifetime Achievement Award to Nelroy Jackson.

I want to highlight a few impressions of the week:

First, I made contact with a number of individuals who represent groups with whom WSSA should consider strengthening relationships. In particular, I spoke at length with Carl Bell, President of the California Weed Science Society, about the possibility of their affiliating with

WSSA. They are going to put together a letter outlining how they would like to interact with WSSA (perhaps differently than the regional societies – but they are potential contributors to the Director of Science Policy position!). If we can come to an agreement, we may have a template with which to approach other state organizations. I also had several conversations about how WSSA might interact with the Exotic and Invasive Pest Plant Councils.

Second, the people at the meeting had a great need for information about invasive management strategies. I sensed a gap between the WSSA and these individuals; they did not seem to appreciate research, but at the same time, were in need of the information that is generated by weed science research and outreach programs. This may present an opportunity for WSSA and/or the regional societies. I also spoke with several people about the Journal of Invasive Weeds that we are currently discussing.

Third, my presence at the meeting (and the chance to be in front of all the participants as chair of the awards reception) was welcomed. This was a wonderful opportunity to show WSSA's interest in invasive plants and to strengthen relationships with agency leaders and with other organizations. I had the opportunity to continue discussions (with Lee and Nelroy) about the Federal job series for Weed Science with ARS, CSREES, and USFS representatives – some who I met because of Nelroy's skills at connecting people who need to interact on behalf of weed science.

Of note is the fact that Ecological Society of America used NIWAW as the venue to roll out a position paper entitled: "Biological Invasions: Recommendations for U.S. Policy

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WASHINGTON REPORT

by Lee Van Wychen, Director of Science Policy

Weed Science Research Funding – House Agriculture Appropriations

The House of Representatives (House) passed their FY2007 Agriculture Appropriations Bill on May 24. The House budget for USDA has a lot of good news and a little bad news for weed science compared to the Administration's budget proposal. Given the extremely tight budgetary conditions here in DC, weed science has a lot to be thankful about. It's now up to the Senate to pass their version of the Agriculture Appropriations bill which should happen a week or two after the Memorial Day recess.

THE GOOD NEWS: In the House Agriculture Appropriations Bill, the FY2007 USDA Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service (CSREES) budget for the **National Research Initiative (NRI)** competitive grants program is \$190 million, an **increase of \$8,830,000** above the amount available for FY2006. The Administration's budget proposed to move the USDA CSREES Section 406 Programs into the NRI, but the House Ag Appropriators wanted to keep the Section 406 Programs where they are. Section 406 Programs include the Regional Pest Management Centers, Crops at Risk from the Food Quality Protection Act (FQPA) Implementation; FQPA Risk Mitigation Program for Major Food Crop Systems; and the Methyl Bromide Transition Program.

MORE GOOD NEWS: For payments under the **Hatch Act**, the House of Representatives provided an appropriation of \$183,275,000, an **increase of \$6,306,000** above the amount available for FY2006 and an increase of \$6,355,000 above the President's budget request. This fund-

ing level represents a 3 percent increase above the FY2006 funding level and the first time since FY1999 that funding has increased for the Hatch Act.

For cooperative forestry research (**McIntire-Stennis**), the House provides an appropriation of \$22,668,000, an **increase of \$660,000** above the amount available for FY2006 and an increase of \$685,000 above the budget request. This funding level represents a 3 percent increase above the FY2006 funding level and is also the first increase in this program since FY1999.

The House Appropriations Committee provided increases or level funding for 4 USDA CSREES special grant programs for agricultural research on improved pest control. Among these programs, **IR-4 increased \$108,000** over FY2006 to

\$10.79 million, the **IPM program increased \$174,000** over FY2006 to \$2.57 million, and the Pest Management Alternatives Program (PMAP) remained level to FY2006 funding levels at \$1.42 million.

The House also increased appropriations for the **Smith-Lever Act** Sections 3(b) and 3(c) by \$7.5 million for a total budget outlay of **\$281.4 million in FY2007**. On average, Smith-Lever formula funds account for about 30% of a state's total funding for extension programs.

Under the USDA Agriculture Research Service (ARS), the House provided an increase of \$100,000 for a total of \$525,745 in FY2007 for expanded research on invasive aquatic weeds carried out at Ft. Lauderdale, Florida.

The House Appropriations Com-
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that are charged with coordinating federal efforts across agencies, with a strong mandate to avoid redundancy.

In the end, program priorities reflect a balance between the bubbling up of diverse stakeholder input, filtered for Agency and Department relevance, and then screened for federal redundancy.

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WSSA ATTENDS NIWAW

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and Management." WSSA may be missing some opportunities if we do not actively participate in this arena.

My recommendation to the WSSA Board and the WSSA membership is that we should continue to actively and financially support NIWAW as an important outreach effort in Weed Science. We should also make the effort to maintain and increase our visibility by sending the president and president-elect to the conference each year.

Respectfully submitted by
Jill Schroeder

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mittee provided \$425,000 for the New England Center for Invasive Plants in Connecticut, Vermont, and Maine. This is a new award in FY2007. The goal is to develop a multi-state, interdisciplinary research program to address the problems caused by invasive species that are important to New England and the nation. There are five main goals: (A) development of non-invasive, sterile landscape plants; (B) assessment of the ecological impact of invasive plants and ecological evaluation of new "super-sterile" cultivars; (C) assessment of the economic impact of invasive species in New England; (D) development of alternative native crops; and (E) public education and outreach efforts to limit and control invasive species. More than 12 faculty members at the University of Connecticut, University of Vermont, and University of Maine will be involved in this project. The total estimated amount contributed by the three universities in the form of faculty salary and associated fringe benefits based on the faculty time commitment to this project is \$40,000 per year. In addition, no indirect costs will be charged to the project. The indirect cost of this project is about \$66,300. Thus, the total amount contributed to this project from non-federal sources is more than \$100,000.

THE BAD NEWS: President Bush's budget proposed a new USDA program for invasive species that included \$9.9 million for competitive grants to private groups for eradication and control of invasive species through the use of new and innovative methodologies. Unfortunately, the House Agriculture Appropriators did not include any money in the USDA budget for this initiative nor did they include the \$15 million appropriation authorized in the 2004 Noxious Weed Control and Eradication Act. The House Agriculture

Appropriations bill also directs the USDA ARS to terminate the Poisonous Plant Research Laboratory in Logan, UT, for a savings of \$1,400,757. However, I'm sure Senator Bennett (R-UT), Agriculture Appropriations Chair, will have something to say about this.

Weed Science Research Funding – House Appropriations for the Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies

The House Appropriation bill for the Department of the Interior (except the Bureau of Reclamation), the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and for other related agencies, including the Forest Service, was passed by the House on May 18, 2006. Under the Land Resources section in the **Bureau of Land Management (BLM)**, the House Appropriations Committee recommends \$187 million for land resources, \$350,000 above the president's budget request, but \$382,000 below the FY2006 enacted level. The BLM is responsible for the multiple use management, protection, and development of minerals, timber, rangeland, fish and wildlife habitat, and wilderness on about 261 million acres of the Nation's public lands as well as management of 700 million additional acres of Federally-owned subsurface mineral rights. The BLM is the second largest supplier of public outdoor recreation in the Western United States. Changes from the President's budget request include increases of \$500,000 in range management for invasive species work; \$400,000 in forestry as a general increase; and \$250,000 in riparian management to work on the Santa Ana River wash project, CA.

The **Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)** received \$1.3 billion in the House bill, a decrease of \$55 million from the FY2006 enacted amount and

\$2 million below the president's request. The largest decreases would be in construction (zero funds would be provided, down from \$30 million last year), and state and tribal grants, which would be funded at \$50 million, down \$17.5 million from FY2006. Other FWS subtotals include \$80.5 million for the Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Act, down slightly from fiscal year 2006, and \$36.6 million for the North American Wetlands Conservation Fund.

As the Nation's largest water, earth, and biological science and civilian mapping agency, the **U.S. Geological Survey (USGS)** collects, monitors, analyzes, and provides scientific understanding about natural resource conditions, issues, and problems. The House appropriated \$986 million for the USGS, up \$16 million from FY2006.

The House appropriated **\$7.566 billion to EPA**, which is a decrease of \$58.5 million below the FY2006 level. However, in the **EPA's Office of Science and Technology**, pesticide licensing of new pesticides increases \$303,000 to \$2.7 million over FY2006 and pesticide review/re-registration increases \$340,000 to \$2.8 million. The Science and Technology account funds all EPA research carried out through grants, contracts, and cooperative agreements with other Federal agencies, States, universities, and private business, as well as in-house research. The **EPA Environmental Programs and Management** account encompasses a broad range of abatement, prevention, and compliance activities. The House Appropriations committee passed a \$2.5 decrease for pesticide licensing activities in the Environmental Programs and Management section compared to FY2006 allocation, but is an increase of \$4.5 million over Administration's budget request of \$118.3 million for FY2007.

The House Appropriation's com-

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mittee recommended that the EPA's Pesticide Safety Education Program should continue to be funded at \$1.2 million in FY2007 using the services of the USDA CSREES. Furthermore, the House commends the **Agriculture Container Recycling Council** for its development of a voluntary program for recycling agricultural and professional specialty pesticides containers. This program has facilitated the proper disposal of millions of plastic pesticide containers at no cost to farmers. The EPA has been developing regulations on this recycling and, to ensure the program remains a viable, free service that is available to agricultural producers, the House Appropriations Committee expects EPA to issue a final rulemaking on the recycling of high density polyethylene pesticide containers within 60 days of enactment of this Act.

The **U.S. Forest Service (USFS)** manages 192 million acres of public lands for multiple use Nationwide, including lands in 44 States and Puerto Rico, and cooperates with States, other Federal agencies, Tribes and others to sustain the Nation's forests and grasslands. The National Forest System (NFS) includes 155 National forests, 20 National grasslands, 20 National recreation areas, a National tall grass prairie, 6 National monuments, and 6 land utilization projects. While USFS policy is authorized by the House and Senate Agriculture Committees, funds are appropriated through the House and Senate Appropriations Subcommittee for the Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies.

The House Appropriations Committee recommends **\$280 million for forest and rangeland research**, an increase of \$12.5 million above the President's budget request and \$2.6 million above the FY2006 enacted level. Within the National Forest System (NFS) account, the House

recommends \$180 million for vegetation and watershed management, an increase of \$148,000 above the FY2006 funding level.

Salt Cedar and Russian Olive Control Demonstration Act

On May 2, 2006, the House of Representatives passed H.R. 2720, the Salt Cedar and Russian Olive Control Demonstration Act. The Senate version of this bill, S. 177, now waits approval in that chamber. H.R. 2720 would authorize the appropriation of \$20 million in FY2006 and \$15 million for each of fiscal years 2007 through 2010. Of this, not more than 15 percent shall be used to pay for administrative costs to carrying out the program. H.R. 2720 directs the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Commissioner of Reclamation and the Director of the U.S. Geological Survey, to carry out a salt cedar (*Tamarix spp*) and Russian olive (*Elaeagnus angustifolia*) assessment and demonstration program to: (1) assess the extent of the infestation by salt cedar and Russian olive trees in the western United States; (2) demonstrate strategic solutions for the long-term management of such trees and the reestablishment of native vegetation; and (3) assess economic means to dispose of biomass created as a result of removal of those trees. H.R. 2720 also directs the Secretary of Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture to enter into a memorandum of understanding for the administration of such program.

H.R. 2720 would limit the costs of the assessment phase to \$4 million, would limit the identification and documentation of strategies for long-term management at \$2 million, would limit demonstration projects to \$7 million, and would limit the analysis of the biomass disposition phase to \$3 million. Work done on federal land would receive 100 percent funding while work done on private land

would require a minimum of 25 percent cost share of the federal grant dollars.

Sen. Talent Introduces Legislation to Boost Agriculture Research

Sen. Jim Talent (R-MO) introduced the National Food and Agriculture Act (NIFA) of 2006 which would keep America's farmers the most productive in the world by boosting investment in food and agriculture research. Sen. Talent's legislation, cosponsored by Sen. Bond (R-Mo.), would implement recommendations from the USDA Research, Education and Economics task force established in the 2002 farm bill.

"America has the safest, most abundant and least expensive food supply in the world," said Sen. Talent, Chairman of the Senate Agriculture Subcommittee on Marketing, Inspection and Product Promotion. "The heart of food production in the United States and the world is the American family farmer and rancher. Our plan will expand the development of research programs to improve human health, increase agricultural production and provide our producers with a competitive edge in the global marketplace."

"The leading competitiveness of our U.S. producers is only as solid as our willingness to invest in forward-looking investments and build upon our historic successes. This legislation seeks to lay the foundation for tremendous advances in the future," said Senator Bond. "This is a tremendous opportunity to improve agriculture and its benefits to all our populations."

"Knowledge is power," said Dr. William H. Danforth, Chancellor Emeritus of Washington University and Chairman of the Research, Education and Economics Task Force, USDA. "This legislation recognizes a knowledge gap in agricul-

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ture and seeks to close that gap so that the American farmer remains productive and competitive in the global marketplace. We do not yet fully know how to grow highly productive plants that require less water or less fertilizer, how to make plants maximally efficient in producing ethanol and bio-diesel fuels or how to immunize farm animals against dangerous diseases. With a national institute for agriculture, we will achieve that base of knowledge.”

The USDA Research, Education and Economics task force found that America’s inadequate funding of agriculture research puts the nation’s farmers at a disadvantage from foreign competitors. One key recommendation from the task force suggested establishing a National Institute for Food and Agriculture (NIFA) at the USDA which would supplement ongoing research conducted at the Department. The legislation implements this recommendation by directing USDA to create a NIFA that provides agriculture researchers additional funds through a competitively awarded grant program.

The amount of funding going into researching to improve profitability on farms, economic growth and jobs in rural America, consumer well-being, and conservation of natural resources has remained flat for roughly two decades. USDA’s task force noted that the amount of funding designated for competitively awarded, peer-reviewed agriculture grants is outpaced 100 to 1 by the National Institutes of Health. NIFA would increase funds available for food and agriculture research in addition to the current available resources at USDA-ARS and CSREES.

Maxwell and Gopinath Speak on Capitol Hill and at USDA about Economic Impact of Invasive Weeds

On May 5, the WSSA along with the Council on Food, Agricultural and Resource Economics (C-FARE) co-hosted 2 one hour briefings on Capitol Hill and USDA to highlight federally funded research for invasive weeds. The title of the seminar was “Researching Invasive Weeds: Tools for Policy Makers.” Dr. Bruce Maxwell (WSSA) and Dr. Munisamy Gopinath (C-FARE) presented preliminary work from research funded by the USDA Economic Research Service (ERS) Program of Research on the Economics of Invasive Species Management (PREISM) program, and other federally funded competitive grants.

Dr. Maxwell, Montana State University, discussed his work on developing and integrating tools for assessing the impacts of invasive plants for prioritization on federal lands. Dr. Maxwell’s project developed a GIS-based decision support system for management planners based on economic tradeoff analysis.

Dr. Munisamy Gopinath, Oregon State University, analyzed the role of stakeholders’ interest and input in explaining cross-state differences in noxious weed regulations. In particular, his work identified the trade-offs which consumers, environmentalists, and seed and commodity producers face in their decision to support or oppose noxious weed regulations.

Derr Visits DC for CoFARM/ BESC Congressional Visits Day

On March 14 and 15, 2006, WSSA Vice President Jeff Derr represented the WSSA at the Coalition on Funding Agricultural Research Missions (CoFARM) – Biological and Ecological Sciences Coalition (BESC) program in Washington, D.C. organized to generate congressional support for the agricultural and biological sciences. Over 50 scientists from other scientific societies including the American Institute of Biological

Sciences (AIBS), the Tri-Societies (ASA-CSSA-SSSA), and the Ecological Society of America (ESA) participated in this two day event.

Unfortunately, I could not join Dr. Derr for this event as it conflicted with the WSWS meeting in Reno, NV. However, Jeff was generous enough to write the following report of his activities on March 14 and 15:

On the first day, we were briefed on the 2007 federal budget for agricultural and biological research funding. Several prominent people provided their perspectives on the science budget which included: Kei Koizumi, Budget Analyst, American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS); Jim Collins, Assistant Director for Biology, National Science Foundation (NSF) Biology Directorate; Anna Palmisano, Deputy Administrator, Competitive Programs, USDA CSREES; Dan Byers, Deputy Chief of Staff, Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP); and David Goldston, Chief of Staff, House Science Committee. There also was a congressional visits training workshop conducted by Adrienne Sponberg. In the evening, a reception was held to honor the contributions for Reps. Vern Ehlers (R-MI) and Rush Holt (D-NJ), two congressmen who have supported science research funding.

The next day, we attended a CoFARM-sponsored breakfast with Dr. Pearson, former USDA Deputy Undersecretary for Research, Education, and Economics, Dr. Ed Knipling, USDA-ARS Administrator, Colien Hefferan, USDA-CSREES Administrator, Rob Hedberg, former WSSA DSP now with USDA CSREES, and other USDA officials. They spoke on the National Research Initiative (NRI), Hatch Act funding, and funding for ARS and ERS, among other issues. I then went on three congressional visits with Paul Bradley, a student representing the Virginia

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Institute of Marine Science (VIMS), and Mike Neff, representing the American Society for Horticultural Science (ASHS). We were grouped by state, our group focusing on Virginia, for our Capitol Hill visits.

Surprisingly, we were able to meet with Rep. Jo Anne Davis (R-VA), who represents the Williamsburg area of Virginia. When we make these congressional visits, we need to highlight issues that are of interest to that individual representative. For Rep. Davis, who has cancer, funding for organic production and health benefits of fruits and vegetables were of interest to her. We also met with Brent Robinson, her legislative assistant. We then met with Carrie Breig, legislative assistant for Rep. Jim Moran (D-VA), who represents the Fairfax area in northern Virginia. Finally, we met with Tack Richardson, legislative assistant for Senator John Warner (R-VA). Tack was interested in the impact of invasive weeds on military installations because Sen. Warner chairs the Senate Armed Services Committee. Tack asked me for figures on the economic impact of weeds on military bases. What surprised me, though, about our discussions with Tack was his mention of National Invasive Weed Awareness Week (NIWAW) and that he had met some NIWAW 7 participants. It appears that making these Hill visits does have an impact.

I feel it was good to be there representing WSSA, since there were representatives from the entomology, plant pathology, crop/soil science, and horticulture societies, among others. Although I enjoyed meeting with representatives from organizations comprising BESC, it did make it more difficult getting across points with congressional staffers. While Mike Neff (ASHS) and I were talking about crop production and invasive plants issues that would be funded by USDA, Paul Bradley spoke about

things like funding for NOAA, oyster research, and other issues, and mentioned that VIMS receives their funding primarily from NSF. In my mind, it would be preferable if agricultural representatives had separate visits from the BESC representatives, since it would allow for a more focused visit. This is important since we only had about 15 minutes to spend with the staffers and it is hard to talk about potential funding for weeds, crops, fish, oysters, weather, etc... in that time frame. I feel WSSA should continue sending representatives to CoFARM sponsored events.

EPA to Provide Financial Support for Conferences, Workshops and/or Meetings

I listed this news article in the last WSSA News and I am going to list it again. The EPA announced that it will provide financial support for Conferences, Workshops and/or Meetings on EPA mission related issues which include: 1) protecting human health and safeguarding the natural environment; 2) advancing the scientific and technical research that promotes environmental protection; 3) exploring current and emerging issues of impor-

tance to environmental protection; and/or 4) encouraging collaboration among the nation's best scientists and engineers in academia, business and nonprofit research institutes.

The EPA expects \$750,000 will be available in grant funds through 25 awards. Applications for grant funding will be due and approved on a quarterly basis through January 18, 2007. Eligible Applicants include city, county and state governments, public and private institutions of higher education and certain nonprofit organizations. Details are posted at

http://www.epa.gov/ord/grants_funding/pdfs/BAA_conferences_011806.pdf

EPA Contact:

Michael Bender at 202 564 6829;
e-mail: Bender.Michael@EPA.gov

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
fax: 202-408-5385

2006 Southern Weed Contest Results

On August 1, students across the southern region competed in the 2006 Southern Weed Contest in Lonoke, Arkansas. Dr. Bob Scott hosted an excellent contest that was challenging and educational for the students.

Team Results

1st Place	University of Arkansas
2nd Place	Louisiana State University
3rd Place	Mississippi State University

Individual Winners

1st Place	Vinod Shivrain	University of Arkansas
2nd Place	Chad Brewer	University of Arkansas
3rd Place	Darrin Dodds	Mississippi State University
4th Place	Franklin Lyons	University of Arkansas
5th Place	Drew Ellis	University of Tennessee

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A CRITICAL PLANNING TOOL FOR
NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGERS AND
POLICY MAKERS

Professionals in natural resource management, planning, research, or conservation disciplines who want to **strengthen environmental documents, validate project proposals, develop stewardship or management policies, prioritize research efforts, or develop management plans** will want to order this valuable resource today!

Invasive plants are of major economic and ecological importance on range and wild lands of the United States. However, few studies have assessed the economic or environmental losses caused by invasive plants on these lands.

Invasive Plants of Range and Wildlands... is the only comprehensive literature review focusing extensively on **damages caused by invasive plants**. This resource will be critical to prioritizing management programs, and will provide a basis for consistent and rational management decisions.

The book provides quick reference to over 750 credible citations documenting impacts associated with 16 important invasive plants in the United States. Each chapter contains information on distribution and rate of spread, eight categories of environmental and economic impacts, and perceived value and use of each plant species.

Edited by: Celestine A. Duncan and Janet K. Clark.

Authors: Melissa L. Brown, Joseph M. DiTomaso, Celestine A. Duncan, Rodney G. Lym, Kirk C. McDaniel, Mark J. Renz, Peter M. Rice.

Steering Committee: John Jachetta, Vanelle Carrithers, Mike Foley, Rob Hedberg, Janet Clark.

Sponsors: Weed Science Society of America, Dow AgroSciences, Center for Invasive Plant Management.

222 pages

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Call for Paper/Poster Titles for 2007 Annual Meeting

INVITATION TO PRESENT A PAPER OR POSTER

You are invited to submit titles for papers and posters at the 2007 annual meeting of the Southern Weed Science Society on January 22-25, 2007. Papers and posters may be submitted to one of the following sections.

- Weed Management in Agronomic Crops
- Weed Management in Turf
- Weed Management in Pastures and Rangeland
- Weed Management in Horticultural Crops
- Forest Vegetation Management
- Utilities, Railroads, Highway Rights-of-Way, Industrial
- Physiology, Biology, and Ecology of Weeds
- Educational Aspects of Weed Control
- Invasive Species
- Updates from Industry (bobby_walls@fmc.com)
- Soil and Environmental Aspects of Weed Science

In 2007, the paper sessions will consist of 15 or 30 minute presentations. Some sessions will include a symposium format in thematic topics. Periods for discussion will be interspersed in the sessions. Section chairs are:

- Agronomic Crops – Stanley Culpepper (stanley@uga.edu)
- Turf – Scott McElroy (mcelroy@utk.com)
- Pastures and Rangeland – John Byrd (jbyrd@ext.msstate.edu)
- Horticultural Crops – Katie Jennings (katie_jennings@ncsu.edu)
- Forest Vegetation Management – Jimmie Yeiser (jyeiser@sfasu.edu)
- Utilities, Railroads, Rights-of-Way, and Industrial Sites – Mitch Blair (mitch@uky.edu)
- Physiology, Biology, and Ecology – Jason Norsworthy (jnorswor@uark.edu)
- Educational Aspects – Chris Main (cmain@clemsun.edu)
- Invasive Species – Greg MacDonald (gmac@ifas.ufl.edu)
- Industry Updates – Bobby Walls (bobby_walls@fmc.com)
- New Technology – Trey Koger (ckoger@msa-stoneville.ars.usda.gov)
- Soil and Environmental Aspects - Jason Norsworthy (jnorswor@uark.edu)
- Posters – Ted Webster (twebster@tifton.usda.gov)

Members are encouraged to contact section chairs with topics for sessions, and to suggest (or volunteer as)

speakers for these sessions. Graduate students are welcomed to participate in the symposia or special topic sessions.

Graduate students, regardless of whether or not they enter the paper contest, will be allowed to submit an oral presentation or poster just as in the past.

SUBMISSION OF TITLES

Title submissions for 2007 will be via the SWSS website (<http://www.swss.ws>). The “Title Submission Form” and instructions for submission are on the website and are due September 15, 2007. Program and instructions for abstracts will be sent to the presenter in November.

Graduate students will follow the same procedures as in the past. Indicate “graduate student” on the title submission form, and you will be allowed to choose either paper or poster sessions for submission.

Participation in symposia focused on thematic topics will be organized by section chairs. The SWSS website will have a separate section for title submission for symposia presentations.

PRESENTATIONS OF PAPERS

ONLY LCD PRESENTATIONS WILL BE USED AT THE 2007 SWSS MEETING.

To ensure quality presentations and a smooth transition from presentation to presentation all presenters will be required to follow the directions provided by the Computer Applications Committee, and by the section chair.

All presentations must be in PowerPoint 2000 for MS Windows (PC compatible). MacIntosh/Apple formats will not be supported.

Presentation size should be 25 MB or less. Audio clips or sound are not allowed. Fonts used in the presentation are limited to basic ones such as Times New Roman, Arial, Courier, or similar equivalents. Not all computers used at the meeting will support all fonts. To compress the pictures in your slideshows:

- Save a full-resolution version of your slideshow under another name for our own use later.
- Select “tools”
- Select “customize”
- Click on the “Picture Toolbar” box (this will place a new toolbar on Power Point.)

The compress icon is the square with four arrows pointing inward (like compressing). After you click

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CALL FOR PAPERS/POSTERS

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on the icon, you will be prompted with several choices.

You can compress an individual photo or compress all photos in the slideshow (you should compress all).

- Choose the “Projection, 96 dpi” choice for your SWSS slideshow.

Animation is discouraged. Permission to use a video must be prearranged. Contact the section chair before the meeting if you plan to use a video clip. SWSS can not guarantee proper functioning of the video.

Presentations must be presented to the section chair on a CD-R (not a CD-RW). Presenters for Monday afternoon sessions MUST have their presentations to the section chair prior to 9:00 am on Monday morning for loading. Presentations for the remainder of the meeting must be presented to the section chair by 4:00 pm the day prior to the presentation being given. All editing of the presentation should be completed prior to submission.

You may bring your presentation on a jump drive, however, the SWSS assumes no responsibility for “jump drive” compatibility, and recommends a CD-ROM for backup.

Presenters will not be allowed to use their own computers in the sessions.

More details will be provided in the December newsletter as to the location for submitting the presentation to the section chair.

POSTER PRESENTATIONS

No substantive changes have been made in the rules for poster presentation at the 2007 conference. More information will be provided in the next newsletter, or you can go to the Manual of Operating Procedures section of the SWSS website (<http://www.swss.ws>).

STUDENT INFORMATION

Students may enter the “Student Paper Contest” and “Student Poster Contest” only one time within a degree

program. That is, students are eligible to compete in the Student Paper Contest once during a M.S. degree program and once during a Ph.D. degree program. Likewise, students are eligible to compete in the Student Poster Contest once during a M.S. degree program and once during a Ph.D. degree program. A recent change with regard to the student contests was approved by the SWSS Board. The change is as follows: A student may win first place in either presentation (paper or poster) contest in a degree program and then compete again in a subsequent degree program. All other rules concerning the student contest as presented in the MOP remain intact. Rules for the contest are posted on the SWSS website (<http://www.swss.ws>) in the Manual of Operating Procedures section. See the judges worksheets in subsequent pages of the newsletter.

Specific questions regarding the student contest should be directed to:

Wilson Faircloth, Chair of the Graduate Student
Contest Committee
Research Agronomist
USDA-ARS, National Peanut Research Laboratory
1011 Forrester Drive, SE
Dawson, GA 39842-0509
229.995.7459 office
229.343.8836 mobile

If you have questions pertaining to submitting for the 2007 meeting, contact:

David Monks
NC State University
Dept. of Horticultural Science
Box 7609
Raleigh, NC 27695-7609

david_monks@ncsu
919.515.5370 office
919.218.1822 mobile
919.515.7747 fax

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What's New in the Third Edition

This award winning interactive DVD-ROM has been completely rebuilt to high resolution (1024 x 768 pixel) graphics with new full color photographs and illustrations. Botanical descriptions, distribution maps, habitats, and over 2400 photographs of 447 weeds and crops common to the continental United States, Canada, and Alaska are included. New features include 85 additional weed species, revised distribution maps that include Canada and Alaska, an expanded illustrated glossary of 565 botanical terms, and updated common and scientific names. The unique interactive visual identification key now covers all weeds in the program. This program is an outstanding resource for agriculturalists, horticulturalists, gardeners, herbalists, and all types of courses in the agricultural and biological sciences at the high school and collegiate level.

The DVD-ROM requires Windows 98 2nd ed./Me/2000 with SP3 or higher/XP, a 500 mhz processor (1 Ghz recommended), at least 128 Mb of RAM, a DVD-ROM drive, sound card, and an XGA video adapter (1024 x 768 pixel resolution or higher) capable of producing 64,000 - 16 bit color (24-bit or greater, 16 million colors recommended).

Sample Entry: Jimsonweed (Species Screen)

additional illustrations

hot link to complete family description

full botanical description of species characteristics

geographical distribution map for U.S. and Canada

4-9 photos of each growth stage for each species

historical uses and features of species

Illustrated glossary of botanical terms

Primary weed habitats

WSSA UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH AWARD – 2007

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 2007. 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 10, 2006. Funding decisions will be made by January 26, 2007 and presented at the 2007 WSSA National Meeting General Session.

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

This is a request to all SWSS members to supply the Nomination Committee with names of individuals to serve on the SWSS Board. Nominations are needed for Vice President (from the public sector), Member-at-Large (2 positions: public sector and private sector), and Endowment Foundation Board of Trustees. All SWSS members are eligible to serve as an officer. Please take time to nominate people for these important positions. The description of each position is listed in the Manual of Operating Procedures, which may be found on the SWSS web site (www.swss.ws). Send your nominations for the various officers to:

David Shaw
SWSS Nominations Committee Chair
Mississippi State University
GeoResources Institute
Box 9652
Mississippi State, MS 39762
dshaw@gri.msstate.edu
662/325-9575

SWSS Awards

Each year the SWSS recognizes excellence within its membership with several awards. Our Society has numerous people that should be recognized for their efforts and expertise. The awards are:

- **Distinguished Service Award, Academia**
- **Distinguished Service Award, Industry**
- **Weed Scientist of the Year**
- **Outstanding Educator**
- **Outstanding Young Weed Scientist, Academia**
- **Outstanding Young Weed Scientist, Industry**
- **Outstanding Graduate Student, M.S.**
- **Outstanding Graduate Student, Ph.D.**

Qualification and nomination forms are listed under Awards, which may be found on the SWSS web site (www.swss.ws).

Contact David Shaw should you have questions at dshaw@gri.msstate.edu or 662/325-9575.

Award Nominations are due **September 30, 2006** to the respective Chairs of each award Sub-committee. The chairs are as follows:

- **Distinguished Service Award**
Jason Norsworthy
jnorswor@uark.edu
- **Weed Scientist of the Year**
Donny Miller
dmiller@agctr.lsu.edu
- **Outstanding Educator**
Dan Poston
dposton@drec.msstate.edu
- **Outstanding Young Weed Scientist**
Barry Brecke
bjbe@ifas.ufl.edu
- **Outstanding Graduate Student**
Clifford "Trey" Koger
ckoger@ars.usda.gov

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSION Instructions and Deadlines

ISSUE	DEADLINE
December	November 1, 2006

Please send text information as Microsoft Word or WordPerfect files, and pictures as JPEG or BMP files to:

AL RANKINS, JR., Editor
Box 9555
Mississippi State, MS 39762
Telephone 662-325-3341
E-mail: arankins@pss.msstate.edu

POSITION ANNOUNCEMENTS

Position Title:

Assistant/Associate Research Professor

Area of Specialization:

Weed Science/Agronomy

Department:

Delta Research and Extension Center

Departmental Contact:

Dr. Dan Poston

Position Open Date: June 14, 2006

Position Close Date:

Open until filled

Position Category: Faculty

Position Type: Regular

12-month/9-month: 12 month

Salary: Determined by market and commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Tenure track status:

Non Tenure-track

Work location: Off-campus

Restricted Clause:

Position is contingent on availability of funding

Requisition Number: 2389

Posted on line at:

<https://www.jobs.msstate.edu>

Position Function:

The Mississippi Agricultural and Forestry Experiment Station of Mississippi State University is seeking a weed scientist/agronomist for the Delta Research and Extension Center in Stoneville, MS to develop a Delta-wide weed control and agronomic research program in cotton. Research efforts will be focused on the development of profitable cotton production systems for major Delta soil types. Areas of emphasis will include weed control, harvest aids, and plant growth regulators. Evaluation of programs that further enhance and support the cotton industry from an agronomic and weed control viewpoint will be considered an important aspect of the position.

Essential Duties and Responsibilities:

- Conduct in-depth research to develop economically viable weed management and harvest aid systems for the Mississippi Delta.
- Evaluate the performance and profitability of commercially available transgenic cotton cultivars (i.e. Round-up Ready Flex varieties) and investigate the long term sustainability of glyphosate only weed control systems.
- Monitor, confirm, and develop control strategies for glyphosate resistant weed biotypes.
- In cooperation with other discipline-specific scientists, conduct agronomic and plant growth regulator research for the development of optimum cotton production systems.
- Work closely with Extension specialists and agents to establish cotton production, weed control, and harvest aid systems for the Mississippi Delta.
- Transfer research information and technology to clientele via appropriate methods that may include electronic publications, experiment station and/or Extension bulletins.
- Develop and publish peer-reviewed publications based on cotton production research.

Minimum Qualifications:

- Earned doctorate in Weed Science/Agronomy or closely related Plant Science discipline.
- Experience in crop production, experimental design, statistical analysis, and modern agricultural production practices.
- Ability to develop crop production recommendations from research data.
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills to interact effectively with producers, consultants, faculty, Extension staff, and the general public.
- Ability to secure extramural funding to support research program.

Preferred Qualifications:

Previous job experience in cotton production and working knowledge of computer applications in research.

Instructions for Applying:

Submit application, cover letter, and resume on line. Official transcripts and three letters of recommendation must be mailed to: Dr. Joe Street, Head, Delta Research and Extension Center, P. O. Box 197, Stoneville, MS 38776. Candidates should complete the Personal Data Information Form on-line.

• • • • •

ASSOCIATE/PROFESSOR & RESEARCH COORDINATOR**WORK LOCATION:**

Sweet Potato Research Station Chase, Louisiana

NATURE OF POSITION:

The position is 80% research and 20% administration (research coordinator of the Sweet Potato Research Station). The individual will be a faculty member of the LSU AgCenter Northeast Region. Partial appointment in the LSU Department of Horticulture is available.

JOB DESCRIPTION:

Administration: The successful candidate will provide leadership for and coordinate the research programs of the Sweet Potato Research Station. In concert with the Northeast Regional Director, he/she will manage the station budget, personnel, land resources, facilities, and equipment by providing day to day administrative and budgetary leadership including allocations of labor and other resources to the various research projects at the station, hiring, supervision, and evaluation of station faculty and support

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POSITION ANNOUNCEMENTS

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personnel, and procuring supplies and major equipment. In addition, he/she will work cooperatively with other LSU AgCenter scientists and the Louisiana Sweet Potato Growers Association to address problems and increase profitability of growers through research conducted at the Sweet Potato Research Station as well as off-station sites throughout Louisiana. As resident coordinator, the successful candidate also will oversee the foundation seed production operations and sales functions of the Sweet Potato Research Station.

Research: The successful candidate will develop or continue a regionally or nationally recognized research program in cultural practice research, in post-harvest physiology/storage, or in the applicant's area of expertise with relevance to the Louisiana sweet potato industry. This will include development and documentation of a research plan of work, securing extramural funds to enhance the research program, and timely publishing of research results in peer-reviewed journals and other appropriate outlets. The successful candidate will work closely with the regional director, LSU Department of Horticulture, and other campus-based departments to ensure that his/her sweet potato research supports the mission of the LSU AgCenter. Effective communication and collaboration with extension personnel and stakeholders are essential. Participation in regional, departmental and

AgCenter committees as well as professional societies is expected as a faculty member in a land grant university.

QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS:

Ph.D. in Horticulture, Plant Science, Soil Science or closely related field and research experience in a discipline relevant to the economic enhancement of the sweet potato industry is required. Coursework and experience in sweet potato production are highly desirable. Experience in supervising, managing and conducting research at a branch research station is also desirable. Good interpersonal skills and leadership abilities are required for working effectively with diverse professional and lay audiences and cooperators. The candidate must be able to communicate effectively (orally and in writing) with diverse audiences including scientific peers, producers, agrichemical company representatives, etc.

SALARY AND BENEFITS:

Salary will be commensurate with qualifications and experience. The LSU AgCenter has an attractive benefits package with a wide variety of benefit options. Current benefits offered include retirement, multiple medical insurance options, supplemental insurances (dental, life, long-term disability, accident, vision, long-term care, etc.), Tax Saver Flexible Benefits Plan (saves tax dollars on some child care and medical expenses), university holidays (14 per year,

typically includes a week off at Christmas), generous annual (vacation) and sick leave benefits, Employee Assistance Program, and possible educational leave and tuition exemption for coursework at campuses of the LSU System. Specific benefits depend on job category, percent effort and length of employment.

APPLICATION DEADLINE:

October 16, 2006 or until suitable candidate is located.

DATE AVAILABLE:

Upon completion of interview process.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE:

Letter of application should specifically address candidate's qualification for position and provide (1) complete professional resume, (2) transcripts of all college credits, (3) three letters of recommendation, and (4) other pertinent data. Letters of recommendation should address the candidate's qualifications for the position and potential for development. Letters of recommendation should candidly evaluate both strengths and weaknesses of the applicant for the position. Submit application to:

Dr. Robert Hutchinson,
Regional Director
Scott Research and
Extension Center
212 Macon Ridge Road, Bldg. B
Winnsboro, LA 71295
Phone: 318/435-2903
Web site: www.lsuagcenter.com

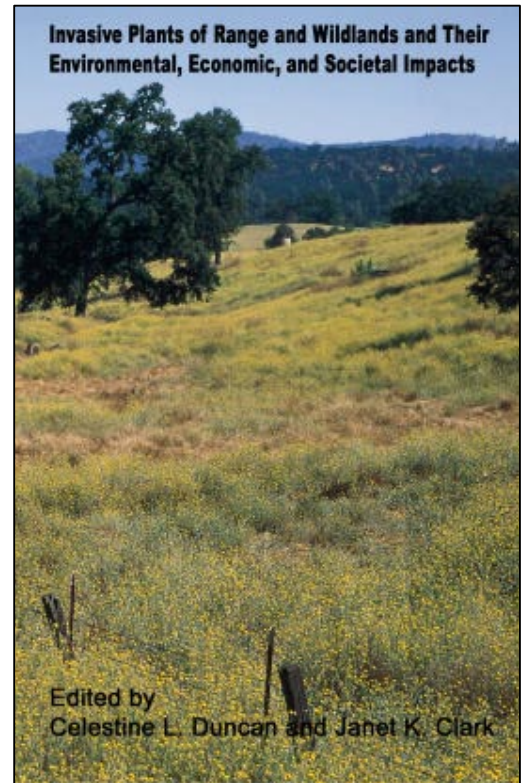
Invasive Plants of Range and Wildlands and Their Environmental, Economic, and Societal Impacts

An invaluable reference for researchers, weed control specialists, and natural resource planners and policymakers, this book provides comprehensive references to scientific studies that quantify the impacts of sixteen invasive plants on our environment, economy, and society. Data also offer evidence of the extent of infestations in the continental United States and the historical spread rate of these species.

Range and wildland species highlighted in this volume are Canada thistle, Dalmatian toadflax, diffuse knapweed, downy brome, hawkweed, leafy spurge, medusa-head, musk thistle, perennial pepperweed, purple loosestrife, Russian knapweed, saltcedar, sericea lespedeza, spotted knapweed, tropical soda apple, and yellow starthistle.

For each species, national databases and scientific literature collections of experts were consulted to uncover historical as well as the most up-to-date impact information. In some cases, a lack of scientific data points to research gaps that deserve immediate attention.

Published by the Weed Science Society of America, this book provides readers succinct summaries and references that will be valuable to prioritizing management programs and formulating consistent and rational land management decisions.



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Online at:
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 Lawrence, KS 66044-7050

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 785-843-1274

By Phone:
 800-627-0629