



Presidential Address

James Holloway

As I write this, it is still wet all over the SWSS region. Planting is at a standstill but will get started once it dries up. The Oklahoma City meeting has come and gone, and all the success is contributed to all the great Volunteers in this Society! There were 255 registered at this year’s meeting. There were 241 title/abstract submissions and 105 of them were posters and 136 where papers. Thanks to Todd Baughman and his Local Arrangement team for their support and coordination. For a complete review of the meeting, review the meetings minutes the website.



I had the pleasure to go to Washington DC as part of the Science Policy team and meet with many on Capitol Hill, EPA, and USDA. It was a great experience! Many thanks to Lee Van Wychen for putting this meeting together. Read more about this trip in the Washington DC Report inside this edition of the newsletter. SWSS volunteers are the backbone of the success of this organization. We have many positions to fill going into the 2020 year. Thanks to Past President Dr. Bob Scott for getting a great list of officer candidates together for the various positions to be voted on in the later part of 2019. If you are interested in volunteering for a committee position or a position on the board, please reach out to me or any of your Board members so we know you are interested in serving in this great organization.

As you are aware, we will meet at the Beau Rivage Casino and Resort located in Biloxi, MS for the 2020 annual meeting this January 23rd through the 26th. Please visit the SWSS website (www.swss.ws) for more information on upcoming events including the Weed Olympics in Seymour Illinois on July 25th. Also, on the web site, is a link to Symposium Proposal Form for the 2020 Annual meeting. Please consider hosting a symposia, just fill out the form if you have an idea for the 2020 meeting and send to Eric Webster or James Holloway before July 1st. We will have our summer board meeting at the Beau Rivage on July 15th and 16th at which time we will vote on the symposiums that have been submitted.

What’s Inside

President’s Letter	1
People and Places	2
Award Winners	3
Weed Olympics.....	8
Are You on a Committee?.....	9
Washington Report	14



2020 Annual Meeting January 27-30, 2020 Beau Rivage Biloxi, MS
Look for more details at: www.swss.ws

People and Places

Dr. Carroll Johnson will retire from US-DA-ARS on 30 April 2019 with 30 years of Federal service. He and his wife will continue to reside in Tifton, GA.

After retirement Carroll plans on spending more time with family and starting a new part-time career with Whitetail Institute of North America on 1 July 2019 as the company agronomist and weed scientist. Whitetail Institute is located near Montgomery, AL and his role with the company will basically be a telework position with occasional trips to their office. Please give Carroll an email and congratulate him at wjohnsoniii@mchsi.com



Pedro Henrique Urach Ferreira graduated in December 2018 with an M.S. with Conner Ferguson. His thesis is titled "Effect of the spray droplet size and herbicide physicochemical properties on preemergence herbicide efficacy for weed control in soybeans." Pedro is pursuing a PhD at Universidade Estadual Paulista "Julio de Mesquita Filho" in Jaboticabal, São Paulo, Brazil under the direction of Marcelo Ferreira.

Swati Shrestha completed a M.S. degree with Paul Tsing. Her thesis is titled "Evaluation of herbicide tolerance and interference potential among weedy rice germplasm." Swati is now at Texas A&M University working on a Ph.D. with Muthu Bagavathiannan.

Nolan Thorne completed a M.S. degree with John Byrd. His thesis is titled "Impact of integrated vegetation management practices on green antelopehorn milkweed (*Asclepias viridis* Walter) in rights-of-ways and forages." Nolan currently works for Progressive Solutions, a right-of-way contract application company.

Please complete and mail to:

TN Weed Science Society
 Attn: Tom Mueller
 P. O. Box 52141
 Knoxville, TN 37950
 or
www.tnwss.org



**Yes, I want to attend the
 2019 TN Weeds Short
 Course in Colorado**

Name: _____

Company/affiliation: _____

Mailing Address

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

For more information, contact Tom Mueller at
 (865) 974-8805 or tmueller@utk.edu or visit
 our website at www.tnwss.org
 (Registration is now open)

Class size limited to 40 students, so sign up
 now!!

Tennessee Weed Science Short Course

Do you need a concentrated, focused
 short course to refresh your knowledge of
 herbicide modes of action and herbicide
 resistance? This is the course for you!

What is included in the course?

1. 108 hours of instruction, hands-on
 demonstrations and field trips.
2. All students receive comprehensive workbook
 detailing course content.

How much does the course cost?

- Course fee is \$1000 per person
- Course materials and handouts
 included with registration



Attendees tour field plots at
 2015 Short Course



Tennessee Weed Science
 Short Course On
 Herbicide Modes of
 Action and Resistance in
 Weeds
www.tnwss.org

**August 5-8, 2019
 Fort Collins, CO**

Lory Student Center
 Colorado State University
 Fort Collins, CO 80523-8033
 970-491-0229

Contact Us Tom Mueller, Coordinator
 Phone: 865-974-8805
tmueller@utk.edu

TENNESSEE WEED SCIENCE SOCIETY

P.O. Box 52141
 Knoxville, TN 37950
www.tnwss.org

2019 Award Winners Were Honored at the Banquet in Oklahoma City

Outstanding Educator Award - Larry Steckel



Larry Steckel was raised on a small family farm near Carrollton, Illinois. He received his B.S. in agronomy in 1987 from Western Illinois University and his M.S. in Weed Science from the University of Missouri in 1989. Larry then went on to work for Pioneer Hi Bred Int'l. where he worked for 10 years as an Agronomist. He left Pioneer to pursue a Ph.D. in the spring of 2000 and received his doctorate in 2003 from the University of Illinois. Larry joined the Department of Plant Sciences at the University of Tennessee in 2003 where he holds a weed science extension (75%) and research (25%) appointment. Dr. Steckel's extension/education efforts have been recognized formally several times with awards like the Cavendar award for outstanding extension publication from the UT Institute of Agriculture, Excellence in Extension Award from Gamma Sigma Delta, the Weed Science Society of America Extension award and most recently in 2018 the Association of Southern Region Extension Directors Runner-up Excellence in Extension Award. Dr. Steckel maintains an extensive applied research program that has focused on the biology and management of two troublesome glyphosate-resistant weeds, Palmer amaranth and horseweed. These two weeds cause Tennessee growers the most management challenges and is where the majority of his program efforts are directed. His research has been recognized by the National Conservation system Cotton and Rice Conference with the Conservation System Cotton Researcher of the Year award, the University of Tennessee Ag Research Impact award and he has received the Award of Excellence – Outstanding Paper award in 2017 and 2018 for manuscripts in Weed Technology as well as the Superior Paper Award for a manuscript in the American Society of Agriculture and Biological Engineers in 2018. Dr. Steckel has mentored 3 Masters Students and 4 Ph.D students to completion of their degrees. He is very proud of those students' accomplishments and believes this group of young pest management scientists will have a very positive impact on advancing agriculture as their careers mature.

2019 Outstanding Young Weed Scientist-Academia - Peter Dittmar



Dr. Peter Dittmar is an Associate Professor at the University of Florida Horticultural Sciences Department. His interest in agriculture began in Illinois on his family's farm and was an active member of 4-H participating in horticulture, sheep, and poultry. Peter received a B.S. in Plant and Soil Sciences (2004) from Southern Illinois University-Carbondale. Then Peter attended North Carolina State University to complete a M.S. (2006) in Horticultural Sciences and Ph.D. (2010) under the mentorship of Dr. David Monks. Since joining the faculty at University of Florida, Peter has conducted 79 Extension meetings, published 33 journal articles, and mentored 9 graduate students. Peter's IR4 field lab has conducted 166 GLP protocols encompassing 17 crop groups and 69 active ingredients resulting in 34 registrations and 57 final reports submitted to the EPA.

2019 Outstanding Graduate Student Award (MS) - Swati Shrestha



I am originally from Nepal where more than 70% of the population depend on Agriculture for livelihood. Interested in Agriculture and ways to enhance productivity, I gained BS in Agronomy from Institute of Agriculture and Animal Science, Nepal. With the aim to learn more about Biology and Ecology of Weeds and their management, I joined MS in Weed Science at Mississippi State University, under the guidance of Dr. Te-Ming (Paul) Tseng at. My masters research focused on Screening and characterization of weedy rice for herbicide tolerance and weed-suppressive potential. During my masters I have been recognized for numerous academic and extracurricular activities including Weed Science Society of America (WSSA) travel grant 2017, Gamma Sigma Delta Award of Merit Scholarship 2018. I have also secured second position in WSSA graduate student paper presentation 2017 and Mississippi State University Graduate student research symposium oral presentation 2018. Thus far, I have authorship on 1 book chapter, 3 peer reviewed publications (under review) and 8 scientific abstracts for professional meetings. Currently, I am working as a research assistant under Dr. Muthukumar Bagavathiannan at Texas A&M University where my research work focusses on understanding the mechanism of gene flow from Sorghum to Johnsongrass. In the future I aspire to work for industry doing applied research that would ultimately help farmer's enhance productivity and profitability.

2019 Outstanding Graduate Student Award (PhD)-Nicholas Basinger



Nicholas Basinger was born in Charlotte, NC. Nicholas grew up surrounded by peach orchards in Greer, SC but found his love of agriculture while spending time on his grandparent's farm in Salisbury, NC. Nicholas graduated from Furman University with a B.S. in Health and Exercise Science in 2009, with hopes of becoming a physical therapist. After hiking the Appalachian Trail from Maine to Georgia, he decided not to follow his planned path to physical therapy school. At the suggestion of a friend, Nicholas spent two seasons on small organic and biodynamic farms in western North Carolina where he rediscovered his love of agriculture. Wanting to explore agriculture in greater depth Nicholas attended North Carolina State University in the Department of Horticultural Science where he conducted research in weed management systems in grapes, blackberries, and blueberries under the direction of Drs. Katie Jennings and David Monks. The focus of his M.S. thesis was identifying the optimal vegetation-free strip width for winegrape and blackberry production systems in the southeastern United States. After graduating with his M.S. in 2015, Nicholas continued working with Drs. Jennings and Monks on his Ph.D. and completed his degree in August 2018 under their direction. His dissertation research focused on interspecific and intraspecific competition of Palmer amaranth (*Amaranthus palmeri*) and large crabgrass (*Digitaria sanguinalis*) in soybean and sweetpotato. In addition to this work, he used ground-based hyperspectral remote sensing to identify spectral regions for differentiation of crop and weed species and weed density. Nicholas has received a number of awards including Outstanding Graduate Student from the Weed Science Society of North Carolina, 6 first place awards for his research presentations, 3 first place awards for scientific poster presentations, and 6 scholarships through state, regional, and

national societies. In addition, Nicholas has contributed to 5 peer-reviewed articles with several more article to be submitted, and 18 abstracts to scientific meetings. Nicholas has also had the pleasure to serve as the Vice President and President of the Weed Science Society of America Graduate Student Organization and serve on the Board of Directors for the Weed Science Society of North Carolina as the Student Representative. Through all of these experiences, Nicholas has found a love of weed science and the community surrounding the discipline. Nicholas began his post-graduate career at the University of Georgia-Athens as an Assistant Professor with a focus on weed ecology and biology in the Department of Crop and Soil Sciences. His appointment is 60% research and 40% teaching, allowing him to research novel approaches to integrated weed management in crop and non-crop areas while also sharing his love of weed science with students through teaching Weed Science and Herbicide Physiology. He looks forward to making significant contributions to the state, regional, national, and international weed science community. Nicholas would like to dedicate this award to his wife Grace B. Tuschak who has supported and encouraged him to do his best in everything that he does, and to Drs. Katie Jennings and David Monks who cultivated him into the scientist he is today.

2019 Excellence in Regulatory Stewardship Award - Alan York



Alan York is a William Neal Reynolds Distinguished Professor Emeritus in the Crop and Soil Science Department at North Carolina State University (NCSU). He received his BS and MS degrees in Crop Science from NCSU and his PhD in agronomy from the University of Illinois.

A native of North Carolina, he returned to NCSU and served on the faculty for 38 years prior to his recent retirement. During his tenure at NCSU, his primary responsibility was weed science extension programs in corn, cotton, peanuts, small grains, and soybeans. He was widely respected by colleagues, growers, and industry for his knowledge, work ethic, and down-to-earth manner. Additionally, he was active in applied research, teaching, and graduate education. He taught an undergraduate weed science class for 28 years, and he served as major advisor for 31 graduate students who now occupy prominent positions in academia, industry, extension, and state government. He is an author on over 150 refereed papers, five book chapters, and countless extension publications.

Dr. York has served as an associate editor for *Weed Technology*, *Journal of Cotton Science*, and *Peanut Science*, Secretary-Treasurer for SWSS, CAST representative for SWSS, Chairman of the SWSS Endowment Foundation, and numerous SWSS committees.

Awards include Distinguished Service Award (SWSS), Weed Scientist of the Year (SWSS), Fellow (WSSA), Outstanding Extension Award (WSSA), Cotton Extension Education Award (Cotton Foundation), Outstanding Extension Service Award (NCSU), Outstanding Service Award (NC Cotton Producers Assoc. and NC Soybean Producers Assoc.), Career Achievement Award (Univ. Illinois Alumni Assoc.), Alexander Quarles Holladay Medal for Excellence (Board of Trustees, NCSU), White Gold Award (NC Cotton Producers Assoc.), and Order of the Long Leaf Pine (Governor of North Carolina).

2019 Excellence in Regulatory Stewardship Award-Patrick Jones



Patrick Jones, Deputy Director for Pesticide Programs at the NC Department of Agriculture & Consumer Service, Structural Pest Control and Pesticides Division has worked for the department for over 35 years in various positions including a pesticide inspector, field supervisor and enforcement manager. One of his focus items, is the outreach and education efforts to educate growers on the pollinator protection, FieldWatch Program implemented by NCD&CS to enhance communication between growers, beekeepers, and applicators. As deputy director, he oversees pesticide registration, field compliance, enforcement and outreach programs focused on ensuring the safe use of pesticides in North Carolina. He has also served as the Region 4 Representative to SFIREG the State-FIFRA Issues Research and Evaluation Group, a network of state officials interested in Federal/State "co-regulation" of pesticides under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) and served as a member of the

Pesticides Operation Management Working Committee under SFIREG. He is currently serving as an AAPCO (Association of American Pest Control Officials) member at large and has been very active in Regional and National training for pesticide inspectors. He is a graduate of N.C. State University with a degree in Agronomy.

2019 Fellow Award - Neil Rhodes



Neil Rhodes, a Tennessee native, is Professor and Extension Weed Management Specialist at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville. He received the B.S. and M.S. degrees in Plant and Soil Science from the University of Tennessee in 1977 and 1979, respectively. He then began pursuit of a PhD in Crop Science (major in Weed Science and minor in Entomology) under the direction of Dr. Harold Coble, graduating in 1982. He worked full time as an Extension Specialist in aquatic and non-cropland weed management while pursuing the Ph.D.

Following graduation, Dr. Rhodes worked for two years as a Field Development Representative for Rohm and Haas in Mississippi. In 1985 he returned to his native Tennessee to join the faculty of The University of Tennessee in Weed Science research and teaching. Beginning in 1990, Neil became Professor and Extension Weed Management Specialist with UT Extension. He has been responsible for the statewide educational program for weed management in all agronomic and horticultural crops, forages and aquatics. He led active applied research and demonstration programs across the state that focused on weed management in no-till cropping systems. In 2001 Neil assumed additional responsibilities at the University of Tennessee when he was selected as Head of the Plant Sciences Department and he served in that role through 2008 when he requested to return to the faculty ranks. He maintains active Extension and applied research programs in weed management in forages, tobacco, aquatics and increasingly in recent years, herbicide stewardship.

He is a Past-President of both the Tennessee Agricultural Chemical Association and the Tennessee Agricultural Production Association. He has been an active member of the Southern Weed Science Society and the Weed Science Society of America, serving on numerous committees in

both societies over the years. In the Southern Weed Science Society (SWSS) he has chaired the Graduate Program Committee, the Endowment Committee, the Outstanding Graduate Student Award Committee, numerous paper sections and two symposia. Dr. Rhodes has received several awards, including being named the 2004 Outstanding Extension Weed Scientist by the Weed Science Society of America, and the 2008 Distinguished Service Award from the Tennessee Turf-grass Association. Also in 2008, Neil was named as winner of the Outstanding Alumnus Award from the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences at North Carolina State University. In 2018, Dr. Rhodes was the recipient of the Excellence in Regulatory Stewardship Award from the SWSS.

2019 Fellow Award - John Byrd



Frequent use of the business end of a hoe on the small tobacco, cotton and soybean farm in coastal South Carolina where Treflan was the only herbicide used may have helped John weed out other fields of study when he enrolled at Clemson University to pursue a B.S. in agronomy. While the thoughts of becoming a plant breeder. The realization scientists actually studied weeds was enlightening, but *Drosophila* fruit flies and Genetics 101 sealed the deal. Alan York went out on a limb, thanks to the persistence of John Harden, to allow him to pursue a M.S. degree at North Carolina State University which was completed in 1986 as well as provided the inspiration to pursue a career as an Extension Weed Specialist. He completed the Ph.D. under the direction of Harold Coble at North Carolina State University in 1989. His real weed control education started that same year when he was hired as the Extension Weed Specialist for horticulture, turf, cotton, and 4-H at Mississippi State University. As the sole Extension Spe-

cialist with weed science responsibility at Mississippi State University for nearly two decades, he has dealt with weed management questions and issues from homeowners, land managers and producers for a wide diversity of topics. He was promoted to Extension/Research Professor in 1998, has served on the graduate committees of 76 students, is Past President of Mississippi Association of County Agricultural Extension Agents, Mississippi Weed Science Society, and National Roadside Vegetation Management Associations. He has been active in the Southern Weed Science Society since 1986 having served as Chair of Graduate Student Contest, Site Selection, Endowment, Historical, Legislative and Regulatory, Continuing Education, and Constitution and By-Laws committees as well as service on many other committees. He is currently the SWSS Representative to the Weed Science Society of America. He and his wife Sylvia Howey Byrd have a small cow-calf operation where their two daughters have learned to use a hoe.

2019 Quiz Bowl Winners

Virginia Tech

Coach Shawn Askew

The North American Weed Science Contest to be Held on July 25, 2019

The 2019 North American Weed Science Contest is this summer!

The North American Weed Science Contest will be held on Thursday, July 25, 2019, at the BASF Midwest Research Farm, Midwest Ag Research Center of Valent, and Klein Farms near Seymour, Illinois.

These facilities are approximately 10 miles from Champaign, IL. As with past contests, Wednesday, July 24th will be a travel day. Also, on the 24th, volunteers will meet at the site during the day to review the contest plots and finalize preparations.

An orientation dinner will be held in the evening for all participants to communicate arrangements for the contest. The contest will run from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, followed by an evening awards banquet at the Memorial Union Football Stadium on the main campus of University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign.



Below you will find links for team registration, volunteer registration, rules for the contest, including weed and herbicide lists; and hotel information with maps. If you have questions, please contact Dawn Refsell via email: dawn.refsell@valent.com.

Team & individual registration: [2019 Weed Science Contest – Participant](#)
COACHES NEED TO REGISTER TEAMS AND INDIVIDUALS SEPARATELY!

Volunteer registration: [2019 Weed Contest Volunteer](#)

Participant Hotel information: [Hotel Info.pdf](#)

Volunteer Hotel information: [Volunteer Hotel Info.pdf](#) [Hotel Directions.pdf](#)

Contest Rules and Additional Information can be found here: [National-Weed-Science-Contest.pdf](#)

We encourage you and your students to participate in this year's North American Weed Science Contest (NAWSC). The contest is an excellent opportunity for students to learn and interact with other students, faculty, and industry professionals.

Please be sure to share this invitation with your students, colleagues, and other individuals who may be interested in participating.

We look forward to seeing all of you at the contest in July.

2019 NAWSC Local Arrangements Committee

BASF, Valent, Corteva, Bayer

**Directory of Officers, Executive Board Members, Committees
and Committee Members
January 31, 2019 - January 31, 2020**

Note: Duties of each Committee are detailed in the Manual of Operating Procedures, which is posted on the SWSS web site at <http://www.swss.ws>

100. SOUTHERN WEED SCIENCE SOCIETY OFFICERS AND EXECUTIVE BOARD

100a. OFFICERS

President	James Holloway	2020
President Elect	Eric Webster	2021
Vice-President	Clete Youmans	2022
Secretary-Treasurer	Jim Brosnan	2020
Editor	Muthu Bagavathiannan	2020
Immediate Past President	Bob Scott	2020

100b. ADDITIONAL EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS

Member-at-Large - Academia	Jason Bond	2020
Member-at-Large - Industry	Greg Stapleton	2020
Member-at-Large - Academia	Todd Baughman	2021
Member-at-Large - Industry	Eric Castner	2021
Representative to WSSA	John Byrd	2020

100c. EX-OFFICIO BOARD MEMBERS

Constitution and Operating Procedures	Carroll Johnson	2020
SWSS Business Manager	Kelley Mazur	
Student Representative	Jordan Craft	2021
Web Master	David Krueger	
Newsletter Editor	Susan Scott	

101. SWSS ENDOWMENT FOUNDATION

101a. BOARD OF TRUSTEES - ELECTED

President	Donnie Miller	2020
Secretary	Hunter Perry	2021
	Gary Schwarzlose	2022
	Mike Lovelace	2023
	Greg MacDonald	2024
Graduate Student Rep	Maria Zaccaro	2020

101b. BOARD OF TRUSTEES - EX-OFFICIO

Darrin Dodds	Past President of Endowment Foundation Board of Trustees
Kelley Mazur	SWSS Business Manager

102. AWARDS COMMITTEE PARENT (STANDING) - The Parent Awards Committee shall consist of the immediate Past President as Chairperson and each Chair of the Award Subcommittees.

Bob Scott*	2020	Barry Brecke	2020	Tom Mueller	2020
Daniel Stephenson	2020	Stanley Culpepper	2020	J. D. Green	2020

The Awards Subcommittees shall consist of six members including the Chair, serving staggered three- year terms with two rotating off each year.

- 102a. SWSS Fellow Award Subcommittee

Barry Brecke*	2020	Scott Senseman	2021	John Byrd	2022
Renee Keese	2020	Brad Minton	2021	Neil Rhodes	2022

- 102b. Outstanding Educator Award Subcommittee

Tom Mueller*	2020	Nilda Burgos	2021	Larry Steckel	2022
Jason Norsworthy	2020	Peter Dotray	2021	Tim Grey	2022

- 102c. Outstanding Young Weed Scientist Award Subcommittee

Daniel Stephenson*	2020	Ramon Leon	2021	Peter Dittmar	2022
Drew Ellis	2020	Hunter Perry	2021	Jim Brosnan	2022

- 102d. Outstanding Graduate Student Award Subcommittee

Stanley Culpepper*	2020	Sandeep Rana	2021	Nicholas Basinger	2022
Jay McCurdy	2020	Muthu Bagavathiannan	2021	Kelly Backscheider	2022

- 102e. Excellence in Regulatory Stewardship Award Subcommittee

J. D. Green *	2020	David Jordan	2021	Gary Schwarzlose	2022
Larry Walton	2020	Cherilyn Moore	2021		

103. COMPUTER APPLICATION COMMITTEE (STANDING)

Shawn Askew *	2020	Jim Brosnan	2021	Shandrea Stallworth	2022
Dan Reynolds *	2020	Matt Goddard	2021	Gary Schwarzlose	2022
Kelley Mazur – SWSS Business Manager					

104. CONSTITUTION AND OPERATING PROCEDURES COMMITTEE (STANDING)

W. Carroll Johnson *	2020
----------------------	------

105. FINANCE COMMITTEE (STANDING) - Shall consist of the Vice President as Chair and President-Elect, Secretary-Treasurer, Chair of Sustaining Membership Committee, and others as the President so chooses, with the Editor serving as ex-officio member.

Clete Youmans *	2020
Eric Webster	2020
Jacob Reed	2020
Larry Steckel	2020
Jim Brosnan	2020
Muthu Bagavathiannan	2020
Phil Banks	2020
John Schultz	2021
Tom Barber	2021
Kelley Mazur – SWSS Business Manager	

106. GRADUATE STUDENT ORGANIZATION

President	Jordan Craft	Virginia Tech
Vice President	Lawson Priess	Arkansas
Secretary	Delaney Foster	Texas Tech
Weed Resistance & Technology Committee	DJ Mahoney	NC State
Endowment Committee	Maria Zaccaro	Arkansas
Social Chair/Student Program Committee	Hannah Wright	Arkansas

107. WEED RESISTANCE AND TECHNOLOGY STEWARDSHIP (STANDING)

Alabama	Steven Li	North Carolina	D. Spak
Arkansas	N. French J. Norsworthy	Oklahoma	T. Baughman
Florida	B. Brecke	Puerto Rico	W. Robles
Georgia	E. Prostko C. Johnson	South Carolina	M. Cutulle
Kentucky	J. Green	Tennessee	J. Holloway L. Steckel A. Mills
Louisiana	D. Stephenson	Texas	P. Dotray
Mississippi	H. Perry ** F. Carey * J. Bond	Virginia	S. Askew
Missouri	J. Heiser	Grad. Student Representative	DJ Mahoney

108. HISTORICAL COMMITTEE (STANDING)

John Byrd *	2021
Andy Kendig	2022

109. LEGISLATIVE AND REGULATORY COMMITTEE (STANDING)

Angela Post *	Chair	2020
Lee Van Wychen	(ad hoc) WSSA Science Policy Director	2020
Janis McFarland	(ad hoc) Chair of the WSSA Science Policy Committee	2020
Greg Kruger	(ad hoc), EPA liaison	2020
Jason Bond	Member-at-Large - Academia	2020
Greg Stapleton	Member-at-Large - Industry	2020
Todd Baughman	Member-at-Large – Academia	2021
Eric Castner	Member-at-Large - Industry	2021
Bob Scott	Past President	2020

110. LOCAL ARRANGEMENTS COMMITTEE - (STANDING)

Darrin Dodds *	2020	Biloxi, MS (MS)
Jim Brosnan	2021	Knoxville, TN (SE)
TBD	2022	(SW)

111. LONG-RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEE (STANDING) –
Shall consist of the Past-Past President (chair), Past-President, President, and President-Elect.

Gary Schwarzlose	2020
Bob Scott	2021
James Holloway	2022
Eric Webster	2023

112. MEETING SITE SELECTION COMMITTEE (STANDING) - Shall consist of six members and the SWSS Business Manager. The members will be appointed by the President on a rotating basis with one member appointed each year and members shall serve six-year terms. The Chairmanship will rotate to the senior committee member from the geographical area where the meeting will be held.

James Holloway (MS)	2020	Luke Etheredge (SW)	2022	Jim Brosnan (SE)	2024
Angela Post (SE)	2021	Andrew Price (MS)	2023	Ben McKnight (SW)	2025
Kelley Mazur – SWSS Business Manager					

113. NOMINATING COMMITTEE (STANDING) - Shall be composed of the Past President as Chair.

Bob Scott *	2020
-------------	------

114. PROGRAM COMMITTEE - 2020 MEETING (STANDING)

Eric Webster *	2020
Clete Youmans	2021

115. PROGRAM COMMITTEE - 2021 MEETING (STANDING)

Clete Youmans *	2021
Elected VP (in-coming)	2022

116. RESEARCH COMMITTEE (STANDING)

Clete Youmans *	2020		
Alabama	Steven Li	North Carolina	W. Everman
Arkansas	N. Burgos	Oklahoma	T. Baughman
Florida	P. Dittmar	Puerto Rico	W. Robles
Georgia	E. Prostko	South Carolina	M. Marshall
Kentucky	T. Legleiter	Tennessee	L. Steckel
Louisiana	D. Miller	Texas	P. Dotray
Mississippi	J. Byrd	Virginia	S. Askew
Missouri	K. Bradley		

117. RESOLUTIONS AND NECROLOGY COMMITTEE (STANDING)

David Black *	2022	Ryan Edwards	2021	Michael Flessner	2020
---------------	------	--------------	------	------------------	------

118. SOUTHERN WEED CONTEST COMMITTEE (STANDING) - Open to all SWSS members

Mississippi	D. Dodds **	Missouri	J. Heiser
Alabama	Steven Li	North Carolina	W. Everman
Arkansas	N. Burgos	Oklahoma	T. Baughman
Florida	G. MacDonald	South Carolina	M. Cutulle
Georgia	W. Vencill	Tennessee	T. Mueller D. Ellis *
Kentucky		Texas	P. Dotray
Louisiana	E. Webster	Virginia	S. Askew
Mississippi	D. Reynolds	Puerto Rico	W. Robles
Ad Hoc – Current	Bruce Kirksey	Ad Hoc - Previous	Cheryl Dunne

119. STUDENT PROGRAM COMMITTEE (STANDING)

Kelly Backscheider *	2020	
Peter Eure	2021	
Tommy Butts	2022	
Hannah Wright	2020	Graduate Student Organization Rep. – Ex-officio member

120. SUSTAINING MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE (STANDING)

Kelly Backscheider *	2020	Bob Scott	2021	Jacob Reed	2022
Tom Barber	2020	Peter Dotray	2021	Andy Kendig	2022

121. CONTINUING EDUCATION UNITS COMMITTEE (SPECIAL)

AL - Steve Li	2020		MO – Jim Heiser	2020
AR - Tom Barber	2020		NC – Angela Post	2020
FL - Calvin Odero	2020		OK - Todd Baughman**	2020
GA - Scott Tubbs	2020		SC - Alan Estes	2020
KY – Travis Legleiter	2020		TN – Bruce Kirksey *	2020
LA – Daniel Stephenson	2020		TX - Jacob Reed	2020
MS -Te-Ming Paul Tseng	2020		VA – Shawn Askew**	2020

*Chair

**CEU's not provided by that state

Washington Report

Submitted by James Holloway

Washington DC April 2-3

USDA-ARS National Program • 304 Crop Protection and Quarantine

On April 2, the USDA-ARS held a Customer/Stakeholder Workshop at the National Agriculture Library in Beltsville, Maryland to review accomplishments and plan for the next five years of National Program 304 – Crop Protection and Quarantine. In addition to the weed scientists of the USDA-ARS, many members of the WSSA Science Policy Committee attended the workshop to support the importance of continued research in weed science. Members representing weed science were Dr. Lee Van Wychen (WSSA Executive Director of Science Policy), Dr. Larry Steckel (WSSA President), Dr. Aaron Hager (NCWSS President), Dr. James Holloway (SWSS President), Dr. Andrew Kniss (WWSS Past President), Dr. Janis McFarland (Syngenta, WSSA Science Policy Committee Chair), Dr. James Kells (WSSA NIFA Fellow), Mrs. Arlene Cotie (Bayer CropScience), Dr. Mark VanGessel (University of Delaware), and Mr. John Schramski (WSSA Science Policy Fellow). The morning session provided attendees an overview of the components of NP 304 as well as its mission and recent successes. This was followed up by a Draft Action Plan for 2018-2022 presented by the National Program Lead Team and a panel session where commodity/industry stakeholders were able to point out future priorities of the national program.

The lunch program included NP 304 progress presentations by Dr. Steven Mirskey on GROW – Integrated Weed Management and by Dr. Tracy Leskey on Brown Marmorated Stink Bug programs. This was followed by breakout sessions where the weed scientists in attendance were able to address areas where long-term research in NP 304 need to be focused. Weed science was well represented and addressed the need to increase funding in areas of: weed genomics, biology, and ecology; weed seed identification tools; and integration of technologies such as drones, robotics, and artificial intelligence for weed science from other U.S. Agencies.

Congress, USDA, and EPA Visits

On April 3, Lee Van Wychen organized a great agenda for Larry Steckel, Aaron Hager, James Holloway, Andrew Kniss and John Schramski in Washington DC. They were able to discuss weed science with the offices of members of Congress, the USDA, and EPA. The offices of members of Congress visited were: Sen. John Barrasso, Sen. Mike Enzi, and Rep. Liz Cheney of Wyoming; Sen. Lamar Alexander and Rep. David Kustoff of Tennessee; Sen. Dick Durbin and Rep. Rodney Davis of Illinois; and Sen. Debbie Stabenow – Senate Ag. Committee Ranking Member and Rep. Elissa Slotkin of Michigan. They were also able to

visit the USDA and welcome Dr. Scott Hutchins in his new role as Deputy Under Secretary for the USDA's Research, Education, and Economics mission area. Lastly, they were able to visit the EPA Office of Pesticide Programs and meet with Dan Kenny, Branch Chief of the EPA's Herbicide Branch, and members of the Biological and Economic Analysis Division team.

The meetings in DC were productive as members of each staff were responsive to weed science issues and quick to take notes. The main talking points of each of the meetings were support for increased IR-4 funding, the recent federal court cases involving glyphosate in California, dicamba issues, and weed resistance. We discussed the need for support to increase IR-4 funding to \$20 million in FY 2020, and how crucial pest control is in minor crops. Regarding the glyphosate lawsuits, the weed science team emphasized the findings of previous research, that glyphosate is non-carcinogenic, and has been the most revolutionary technology to agriculture in the last century. We also stressed that negative public perception of glyphosate could lead to illegitimate lawsuits involving other pesticides important to agriculture and have detrimental implications. We were able to address any questions regarding dicamba and discuss the extended registration through 2020. To conclude, we discussed the recent onset of metabolism-based herbicide resistance and multiple-resistant species. We emphasized the importance of our field and ask for continued support from our legislators.

In addition to the talking points listed above, Under Secretary Hutchins asked where the future of weed research is headed during the meeting at the USDA. We discussed the need for better understanding of weed genomics, biology, and ecology as well as integration of new control technologies. Lastly, we asked Under Secretary Hutchins for his opinion on the possible establishment of a Federal Job Series for Weed Science to improve the placement of weed scientists into federal government positions. He responded positively to this proposal and Kailee Tkacz, Chief of Staff, agreed to assist the Weed Science Societies in researching what the application process would entail.

Similar to the USDA meeting, a couple additional talking points were brought up during the meeting at the EPA Office of Pesticide Programs. PRN 2017-1 (Guidance for Pesticide Registrants on Pesticide Resistance Management Labeling) and PRN 2017-2 (Guidance for Herbicide-Resistance Management, Labeling, Education, Training, and Stewardship) and how they are being enforced was discussed. During conversation about the Roundup lawsuits, the idea of creating an easily understood publication or diagram for consumers about the registration process was brought up to address current public concern regarding pesticides. Providing consumers with clarity and knowledge of the detail and precautions that take place in registering/reregistering a pesticide would greatly benefit agriculture and weed management, specifically.

Conclusion

It was a productive two days joining Lee Van Wychen in Washington DC to represent and advocate weed science. Addressing issues of both the public and our organizations in Washington DC will greatly benefit the Weed Science Societies' continued efforts to manage our favorite ever-evolving pests, weeds.

Submitted by Lee Van Wychen

How Dicamba's Visibility Could Change Ag Pesticide Use Forever

Editorial by Emily Unglesbee, DTN Staff Reporter

ROCKVILLE, Md. (DTN) -- Have you ever heard the phrase, "You can't unsee that?"

I found it rolling through my mind as I watched university scientists display their latest research on dicamba at the Weed Science Society of America's annual meeting in February.

These scientists are doing public studies examining exactly how dicamba behaves from the second it leaves a sprayer tip to the moment fine particles and vaporized gases drift out of field and are sucked into an air sampler stationed nearby. We're learning, down to the nanogram, just how much of a chemical leaves a field in the hours and days following an agricultural pesticide application.

And we can't un-see that.

For better or worse, the widespread use of dicamba is pushing an entire industry to scrutinize how herbicides behave, how they're regulated, who suffers when they don't stay put and how they affect trees, plants and even people.

For now, scientists are behind a lot of this scrutiny. The conclusions that are emerging on off-target dicamba movement are generally data-based and sound. But soon -- perhaps this year, perhaps the next -- the American public may take the wheel. Production agriculture's chemical use could never be the same again.

DICAMBA WINDS OF CHANGE

Chemical drift is not a new problem in agriculture, but dicamba is especially visible. Minute amounts of dicamba can cause distinctive cupping, strapping and crinkling on a wide range of vegetation, from soybeans to tomatoes and oak trees.

It's easy to understand why some farmers are pushing for unrestricted access to dicamba herbicides. Herbicide-resistant weeds are a costly obstacle for many row crop operations, and as the Roundup Ready era demonstrated, herbicide-tolerant crops are a popular weed-control system.

But for many years, organic, non-GMO and specialty crop growers have paid the price for conventional agriculture's heavy dependence on chemicals. Victims of spray drift bear nearly all the responsibility to investigate the damage, prove who and what chemical was at fault and hunt down compensation, usually in the courts. Organic growers can actually lose the organic certification they rely on for a livelihood when a herbicide drifts into their fields. In contrast, pesticide applicators usually encounter milder repercussions. Even when found at fault by a state investigation, applicators often face citations or fines as low as \$250 in some cases.

But that could be changing.

After a harrowing year dealing with widespread illegal dicamba applications, the state legislature of Arkansas passed a bill increasing the fee for illegal pesticide use up to \$25,000 per violation in 2017. Other states are mulling similar changes.

In a rather remarkable state of affairs, state departments of agriculture have also turned to 24(c) special local needs labels to restrict dicamba use beyond the EPA's federal labels. This use of 24(c) is rare and, some argue, not entirely legal, since this particular section of pesticide law was crafted for states to add additional uses of a chemical, not further police it. The situation speaks to a dangerously diminished federal regulatory agency. If fellow state regulators don't trust the EPA to fully protect the environment, why should the public?

EPA is now considering ending states' use of 24(c) to restrict pesticides, raising another concern: If states could no longer legally restrict dicamba as needed for their individual environmental concerns, how many would make the difficult decision to ban the chemical altogether?

Remember that those 24(c) state restrictions are in addition to some of the most complex pesticide labels the industry has ever seen. The new dicamba labels are filled with vague language and dozens of use restrictions that render legal use of the product nearly impossible. Indiana weed scientists estimated that applicators had only a handful of days in the entire month of June to apply these formulations legally last year -- and that was before the latest round of label restrictions.

Why write labels that set applicators up to fail? Part of the problem is that spraying dicamba is inherently risky, and lawyers don't like risk. The new dicamba labels essentially shift all legal liability from the manufacturers of these chemicals -- and the agency who registered them -- to the applicator. Now that this precedent is set, farmers and applicators should brace themselves for many chemical jugs of the future to bear this type of complex pesticide label.

THE WAR AGAINST AG CHEMICALS JUST GOT EASIER

Ultimately, dicamba's visibility may soon move this issue out of agriculture and regulators' domain, and into the public's. In August of 2018, I toured the small town of Waverly, Nebraska, with members of the Nebraska Forest Service. In a beautiful little recreation center called Wayne Park, tucked in among residential streets, nearly every tree we walked past bore the same distinctive signs -- cupped, crinkled leaves and shrunk-en canopies. At nearby tree nurseries, we walked row after row of dicamba-damaged redbuds, Kentucky coffee trees and a wide range of oak trees. Nebraska Forest Service landscape specialist Justin Evertson has been noticing herbicide injury to the state's trees for years, especially in the spring. But only now that dicamba has increased the visibility of this problem does he have funding available to study its long-term effects. For the next two years, led by South Dakota State University, Nebraska will join five other Midwestern states to conduct surveys of herbicide injury to trees in rural America.

Their findings will be public. And we won't be able to unsee them.

Agrichemical companies, regulators and farmers have perhaps one more year, maybe two, to take ownership and responsibility for off-target dicamba movement. After that, they may have to accept the consequences of an unsympathetic public calling the shots on this chemical's use.

Consider the recent public outcry over minute glyphosate residues found in our cereal and booze. The American consumer has shown little appetite for ag chemical exposure, even miniscule amounts of relatively safe compounds. Air sampler data showing dicamba particles or vapors lingering in the air well outside agricultural fields for hours or even days will not be well received in the kitchens and playgrounds of this country.

The EPA conducted its usual human health risk assessments on the new dicamba formulations before registering them in 2016. (It declined to redo them when it reregistered the products in 2018.) But the agency's 2016 analysis relied on the assumption that the new formulations had very little volatility, so vaporized dicamba would not be a significant source of exposure for most people. University research on dicamba volatility is now calling that assumption into question. With 60 million acres of dicamba-tolerant crops predicted for 2019, University of Arkansas weed scientist Jason Norsworthy is warning of "atmospheric loading" of dicamba in the summer months in areas of heavy dicamba use.

Questions about human health and safety are already arising. At DTN, we have fielded multiple calls from rural citizens and farmers, who are wondering and worrying how repeated exposure to vaporized dicamba affects them and their families.

No one has answers for them just yet. But they may soon -- and it won't necessarily be weed scientists and qualified toxicologists doling them out.

Agriculture is an industry that has thrived and improved for decades by following new scientific information, from genetically modified crops to self-steering tractors. But sometimes science reveals things the industry doesn't want to know -- such as how a chemical moves after it's applied and where it goes.

Let's not unsee any of this. Let's open our eyes wide, ask the difficult questions and follow the science where it leads us.

Emily Unglesbee can be reached at Emily.unglesbee@dtm.com
Follow her on Twitter [@Emily_Unglesbee](https://twitter.com/Emily_Unglesbee)

© Copyright 2019 DTN/The Progressive Farmer. All rights reserved.

Sustaining Members

ADAMA

Agricenter International

AMVAC Chemical Corp.

BASF Corporation

BASF Seed and Trait

Bayer CropScience

Bellspray, Inc

Corteva Agriscience

Diligence Technologies

DuPont Crop Protection

Farm Press Publications

FMC

Greenleaf Technologies

Gylling Data Management Inc

Helena Agri-Enterprises

K-I Chemical U.S.A. Inc.

Monsanto Company

Nichino America

Syngenta Crop Protection

TeeJet Technologies - Spraying Systems Co.

The Scotts Company

United Phosphorus, Inc.

Valent USA Corp

Winfield United