Southern Weed Science Society

Vol. 43 No. 1 May 2020 News from the



Presidential Address

Eric Webster

First of all, let me thank the members of the SWSS for selecting me as your 2020 President. As I look back at the past presidents, I am in awe of those who proceeded me. What an odd time we are living in. We have heard all of the adjectives associated with the COVID-19 pandemic: unprecedented, historical, seismic, unique, etc. I am sure all of us have been impacted in some form or fashion. Many of us are working from home, practicing social distancing, missing our favorite restaurants, watching more Netflix, or getting a little more exercise. We will get through this, but for me it will be interesting see which "short-term" changes will become the "norm". The biggest thing I fear is that this episode will change who we are. We are a people who love to go to parties, crawfish boils, sporting events, annual conferences, weddings, etc. We celebrate life and death; however, all of that has changed in a matter of 2 months. I look forward to this thing being over.



The 2020 meeting in Biloxi was a great success. We had 268 presentations submitted, 126 posters and 142 oral presentations. There were 248 individual pre-registered and 29 on -site registrations for a total number of 277, and 101 of those being students. I would like to thank Darrin Dodds and his group for the local arrangements during the conference. I would also like thank Carroll Johnson for his help with the symposium, and as always, for Tom Mueller and his wife Sara for their long-term dedication and work to host the Graduate Student Quiz Bowl. To all those folks behind the scenes, thanks for all your help.

Cletus Youmans is the SWSS President Elect and the 2021 Program Chair. Jim Brosnan is serving as the Local Arrangements Chair. These 2 folks have been working very hard getting the meeting put together. We saw several changes to the way we do things at the 2020 meeting, and I am sure these two have some great things planned for our 2021 Conference in Knoxville, TN January 24 - 28. I am looking forward to seeing all of you, and don't forget to Bring a Friend in 2021. Until next time.

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2021 Annual Meeting January 24-28, 2021 at the Hilton Knoxville/Knoxville Convention Center

Look for more details at: www.swss.ws

COVID-19 Pandemic Effects 2020 Weed Contest

Dear SWSS Membership,

Due to the unfortunate impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, the SWSS and Corteva will have to cancel the contest for 2020. After seeking out feedback from the University Weed Team coaches and the Corteva Southern Research Center on their capabilities and/or limitations for competing and hosting the contest this is the best move for the safety of all involved during these difficult times.

However, Corteva Agriscience is committed to supporting the SWSS and hosting the contest at the Southern Research Center in Stoneville, MS in August of 2021.

We hope that everyone is staying safe and that things will hopefully return to more normal conditions in the near future.

Drew Ellis. Weed Contest Chairman

People and Places

Texas A&M AgriLlfe researcher Muthukumar Bagavathiannan received the Early Career Outstanding Scientists Award from the WSSA this past winter at the Annual Meeting in Maui, Hawaii. Muthu has been with A&M since 2014.



National Sweet Potato Collaborators Honors NC State Participants

NC State reaped sweeping honors at the National Sweetpotato Collaborators Annual Meeting. With North Carolina being the nation's top sweetpotato producer, the Nashville, Tennessee meeting was well represented by the College of Agriculture and Life Science's sweetpotato breeders, research faculty, graduate students, staff and alumni. NC State's David Monks received the National Impact Award for his numerous contributions to the industry, while NC State graduate students took the top three awards in the presentation contest.

The National Sweetpotato Collaborators Group and Annual Meeting provides a unique forum in the Unit-



From left to right: Madison Stahr, Cole Smith, Levi Moore, and David Monks.

ed States with its focus solely on sweetpotato research and extension work. The association includes university, industry and government representatives from 21 states and at least five countries. Group activities include evaluation of new sweetpotato varieties, assessment and improvement of production practices and investigation into disease, insect and weed management issues.

Madison Stahr, a Ph.D. graduate student under the direction of Dr. Lina Quesada, Ph.D., from the Department of Entomology and Plant Pathology, won first place for her presentation "Identifying insect vectors of Ceratocystis fimbriata, causal agent of black rot, within North Carolina sweetpotato storage and packing systems."

Cole Smith, a Ph.D. graduate student under the direction of Katie Jennings, Ph.D., from the Department of Horticultural Science, won second

place for his presentation "Evaluation of a reduced-tillage production system in sweetpotato."

Levi Moore, a Ph.D. student under the direction of Katie Jennings, Ph.D., from the Department of Horticultural Science, won third place for his presentation "Evaluation of high density polyethylene cloth row coverings to simulate Palmer amaranth competition in sweetpotato."

David Monks, who holds a doctoral degree in weed science, was recognized with the National Impact Award at the annual sweetpotato meeting. As associate director of the N.C. Agricultural Research Service, Monks' responsibilities have included commodity relations and research station administration. Once a professor in the Department of Horticultural Science, Monks served as department Extension leader and assistant department head. His primary research focus is on weed management in vegetable and fruit crops. Monks was previously honored by the American Society for Horticultural Science with its Outstanding Extension Publication Award, Outstanding Extension Educator Award, and Distinguished Achievement Award. The North Carolina Vegetable Growers Association also honored Monks with the Educator of the Year award.

A Note from Bob Nichols

Dear Friends in Research,

The word is getting out, and that's OK. I have talked with some of you, and I will be speaking with many of you. I will be retiring from Cotton Incorporated in early July. My wife said Cotton Incorporated was my other wife. I have had a good marriage 1st with her and 2nd with Cotton Incorporated

Although I am almost as old as Moses (I going on 75), the timing of my retirement is somewhat of a surprise to all, including me, because it is necessitated by my health.

For about a year I have been plagued with fatigue. My wife urged me to retire because I was flying 2-3 times/month and working on weekends. She thought I would recover with rest and exercise.

Over last Thanksgiving we had a double family reunion in Jamaica with our family and with the family of my 2nd daughter's college roommate, whose aunt owns a beach hotel in Negril. In Jamaica I was relaxing, doing the stuff I do – swimming in the ocean, dancing in reggae clubs, and cliff jumping in mountain streams. I felt rested and thought I was about 95% OK. I was wrong.

In Dec. I was shocked to find that I could not use chop sticks with my right hand, while I could with my left. Two weeks later I had leg cramps and fell awkwardly in a yoga class.

My primary physician referred me to a neurologist. It took 2 months to get an appt. The news was not good. I have ALS. I know it as Lou Gehring's disease, and I hope I have as much class as he did. There is a minor genetic component. My uncle also had ALS. The primary disease cluster is among military personnel with field service (Vietnam, Iraq, & Afghanistan) and the second is physical labor. Both my uncle and I played contact sports, served in combat, and had out-door jobs. Both the VA and the Duke ALS clinic want me for their ALS research group. I have consented to be genotyped. I do not have to take any assignments or treatments that I do not want. The VA will pay for everything and Duke will give me the best available care. Even if I serve as a control I will be helping generations of GIs that will come after me. I feel blessed to have been selected for this program.

None of this is a confidential. Please pass the information on to others who you feel know me and would be concerned. I'm concerned that I may have inadvertently left someone off this email who I should have included. As my retirement date approaches, I'll send new contact information.

4th of July is my favorite holiday. If the virus permits, on July 4th I will be in at my oldest daughter's house in South Georgia eating sweet corn, fresh tomatoes, and watermelon. I plan to continue living in Raleigh, but virus permitting, I may stay part of the summer at my 2nd daughter's apple farm in Puget Sound.

2020 Award Winners 2020 Southern Weed Science Graduate Student Paper & Poster Contest

It's hard to believe that it's already been a few months since we were gathered for the SWSS annual meeting in Biloxi, MS. The graduate student paper and poster contest is an excellent opportunity for students to practice their presentation skills so thank you to everyone who participated. A special thank you to our graduate student contest committee members, Pete Eure and Tommy Butts, as well as the many judges and volunteers that helped with this event! We had 22 students participate in the poster contest and 56 students participate in the paper contest. The large number of students in the paper contest allowed us to have only graduate student oral presentations on Tuesday morning of the annual meeting. Below is a picture of our 2020 SWSS paper and poster contest winners. And once again, congratulations!

Masters Poster Contest Session 1:

1st Place: C. Sias – Texas A & M University 2nd Place: R. Tiwari – University of Florida Masters Poster Contest Session 2:

1st Place: MC Castner – University of Arkansas 2nd Place: MT House – Texas A & M University PhD Poster Contest Session:

1st Place: MM Zaccaro – University of Arkansas 2nd Place: RS Randhawa – University of Florida Masters Oral Paper Contest Session 1A:

1st Place: TH Avent – University of Arkansas 2nd Place: AL Wilber – Mississippi State University Masters Oral Paper Contest Session 1B:

1st Place: JA Patterson – University of Arkansas 2nd Place: BC Schumaker – Miss. State University Masters Oral Paper Contest Session 2A:

1st Place: JD Joyner – North Carolina State Uni. 2nd Place: JM Taylor – Mississippi State University

Masters Oral Paper Contest Session 2B:

1st Place: KR Russell – Texas Tech University 2nd Place (tie): TM Randell – University of Georgia 2nd Place (tie): DC Foster – Texas Tech University

PhD Oral Paper Contest Session 1A:

1st Place: LC Hand – University of Georgia
2nd Place: FB Browne – Auburn University
PhD Oral Paper Contest Session 1B:

1st Place: SY Rustom – Louisiana State University 2nd Place: LC Webster – Louisiana State University

PhD Oral Paper Contest Session 2A:

1st Place: GL Priess – University of Arkansas 2nd Place: LM Perez – Mississippi State University PhD Oral Paper Contest Session 2B:

1st Place: J Brewer – Virginia Tech University 2nd Place: BB Sapkota – Texas A & M University



2020 Award Winners 2020 Southern Weed Science Graduate Student Paper & Poster Contest.

2020 Award Winners Honored in Biloxi

2020 Outstanding Educator Award Stephen Enloe

Stephen Enloe is an Associate Professor in the Agronomy Department at the University of Florida. A native of Franklin, North Carolina, he was raised on a small mountain farm that produced vegetables, dairy products and meat. While growing up, one of his primary tasks was hand-weeding acres of vegetable gardens and this served to spark his interest in agriculture and weed science. He received his BS in Agronomy in 1994 from N.C. State University and his MS in Bioagricultural Sciences and Pest Management from Colorado State University in 1997 under the direction of Drs. Phil Westra and Scott Nissen. His PhD in Plant Biology from the University of California Davis in 2002 was under the direction of Dr. Joseph DiTomaso. He served as a Post-Doctoral Associate with USDA-ARS in Davis, CA for one year before beginning his professional career at the University of Wyoming as an Extension Weed Specialist in 2003. Dr. Enloe moved to Auburn University in 2008, where he spent 7 years as an Invasive Plant Extension Specialist before taking his current position at the Center for Aquatic and Invasive Plants at the University of Florida in 2015. Over his career, Dr. Enloe's research and extension respon-



sibilities have centered around the biology, ecology, and management of invasive plants in pasture and non-crop systems. He was worked across numerous ecosystems, including cold desert rangelands, high plains grasslands, southeastern forests, warm season pastures, and lakes, rivers, and wetlands. He has developed a wide diversity of extension programs and materials tailored to public and private land management from the local to the national level. He is very grateful to his wife (Heather) and children (Samuel, Ava, and Gabriel) for their love and support. He is also very grateful to his father (Robert), who was a wonderful public speaker and sewed into him a desire to help others. When he has time, he enjoys gardening, being outdoors, and competing in disc golf.

2020 Outstanding Young Weed Scientist-Industry Kelly Backscheider

Kelly grew up on a corn and soybean farm in southern Indiana where she spent a lot of time chopping weeds. She did not intend on pursuing a career in agriculture and instead went on to attend Saint Mary's College in Notre Dame, Indiana to pursue a BS in Biology. After an internship with Dow AgroSciences, Kelly found her passion in weed science and decided to pursue a MS in Crop and Soil Sciences (Weed Science) at Michigan State University with Dr. Christy Sprague. In 2010, she moved to west Tennessee to complete her PhD in Plant Sciences (Weed Science) under the direction of Dr. Larry Steckel. Kelly has been very involved with the SWSS since she started her PhD almost 10 years ago. She's presented at several meetings and competed in the SWSS Weed Contest and won 1st place individual in 2012. She also competed in both the SWSS graduate student paper and poster contest and won 1st place Oral Paper in 2011, 1st place Poster in 2012, and the SWSS Outstanding Graduate 8 Student Award in 2013. She was also the SWSS Graduate Student Representative in 2012. Since then, Kelly has continued to stay involved in the SWSS and has moderated, judged the graduate student paper and poster contests, and been an active member of the Sustaining membership committee and the Graduate student contest committee



(chair – 2020). In 2019, she also started the first SWSS women's event where female graduate students, professors, and industry colleagues gathered to network at the annual meeting. After completing her PhD

in 2012, Kelly took a position as a field development representative with DuPont Crop Protection covering Indiana and Kentucky. She was heavily involved with several discovery and development projects in corn, soybean, wheat, and tobacco. In this role, she not only conducted several trials each year, but also spent time in commercial support for her sales teams and Pioneer agronomists. In December 2018, she transferred to the Data Management & Information Management Strategy Team with Corteva AgriSciences, the Agricultural Division of DowDuPont where she conducts several tasks for Integrated Field Sciences. This includes assisting with IFS data management tools and being a lead for North America IFS related to data manage as well as managing data management contractors. Kelly resides in southern Indiana on the farm that she grew up on with her husband (Mark) and son (Rhett). She enjoys "hobby farming" with her family, hunting, working out, and teaching fitness classes at a local church.

2020 Outstanding Graduate Student Award (MS) Lawson Priess

Lawson grew up west of Dallas, TX, and was raised by his father and mother, Grant and Dina Priess. Lawson spent multiple summers working in the Panhandle of Texas as Crop Scout, Independent Research Assistant, and interned for DuPont Crop Protection under Dickie Edmund. He graduated from Stephen F. Austin University in 2016 with a B.S. in Agronomy. Lawson completed his M.S. in Weed Science from the University of Arkansas in 2019 and is currently working on his Ph.D. under the advisement of Dr. Jason Norsworthy. His thesis research evaluated the impact of herbicides on soil-borne diseases and soybean canopy formation. During his time at the University of Arkansas, Lawson successfully presented his research, winning multiple awards at the Beltwide Cotton Conference and Arkansas Crop Protection Association. Lawson has also competed in the Southern Weed Contest, winning fifth-place overall individual in 2017 and 2018. In 2019, he was the highest individual in the Weed Identification portion of the contest. During his time as an M.S. student, Lawson has served as Vice President of the SWSS graduate



student organization and is currently serving as President this term. Lawson has been recognized for his academic and extracurricular achievements with awards such as the 2019 Department of Crop, Soil, and Environmental Sciences Outstanding M.S. Student Award, the Ron and Alice Talbert Distinguished Weed Science Scholarship, University of Arkansas Doctoral Academy Fellowship, and the Arkansas Soybean Promotional Board Fellowship. Lawson has made advances to science outside of his M.S. research where he is co-inventor on a recent provisional patent. Lawson's current Ph.D. project is focused on optimization of dicamba in XtendFlex® systems.

2020 Outstanding Graduate Student Award (PhD) John Brewer

John is a native of Pulaski, Tennessee, where he grew up on a small cattle farm. He was introduced to agriculture through is father and grandfather who instilled in him a love and respect for plant and animal production and environmental preservation. John received his B.S. degree in Agriculture with a concentration in golf course and landscape management from the University of Tennessee at Martin where he graduated Summa Cum Laude. At this time, he found his passion in turfgrass and weed science as he competed at multiple GCSAA Turfbowl competitions and his first SWSS summer weed contest as an undergraduate. During the contest, he met his present graduate advisor Dr. Shawn Askew from Virginia Tech. He then moved to Blacksburg to pursue his Ph.D. degree in Turfgrass Weed Science at Virginia Tech in which he focused on optimizing topramezone and other herbicide programs for weed control in



bermudagrass and creeping bentgrass turf. John's dissertation research is only a small part of his graduate responsibilities at Virginia Tech. He has conducted over 200 field and greenhouse studies that encompass weed science research in turfgrass, industrial vegetation management/roadside management, and invasive weed management. He also is involved in confirming and characterizing herbicide resistance in turfgrass systems in Virginia.

During his time at Virginia Tech, John has authored or co-authored 2 peer-reviewed papers, 2 magazine articles, and 44 abstracts from scientific presentations, and he has also given 47 extension presentations and guest lectures. John has been actively involved in the SWSS, NEWSS, and WSSA. He has served as the president, vice president, and secretary for the SWSS GSO, as graduate representative on the NEWSS executive council, and also leadership roles for both departmental and university level organizations. He is presently serving as the turfgrass section chair at the SWSS annual meeting. He has received the SWSS Endowment Fellowship, PPWS departmental Webber graduate student award, VSGA Turfgrass Research Scholarship, Louis and Ginger Brooking Sod Research Scholarship, and Chester L and Betty Foy Scholarship. John has actively competed in different regional student paper and poster presentations where he has won 4 poster presentation awards at scientific meetings and 3 awards at the MidAtlantic Turfgrass Expo student presentation competition. He has also competed in multiple national and regional summer weed contest. John competed in the 2019 North American Weed Science Contest where his team won 1st place overall and he was the highest scoring individual in weed ID, and he was also the 2nd place overall scoring individual at the 2015 National weed contest. In 2017, John was the highest scoring individual and team member of the 1st place team at the SWSS summer weed contest in Vero Beach, FL. He was also a member of two 2nd place teams where he was awarded 4th and 8th place overall individual. John was the highest scoring individual and 1st place team member at the NEWSS weed contest for three separate competitions as well. He also helped coach a 2nd place team at the SWSS contest and a 1st and 3rd place team at the NEWSS contest. John plans to continue his involvement in the SWSS after he graduates especially the student contest and events since he understands the importance and influence, they can have on future students and their careers.

2020 Excellence in Regulatory Stewardship Award Robert Nichols

Since 1992, Bob Nichols has managed research in crop production and pest protection for Cotton Incorporated and has served in advisory and leadership roles on several cotton industry and agricultural action groups. He has broad experience in crop agriculture and pest management, including experience in agronomic research, agrichemical product development, management of products, staff, research stations, and of regional, national and hemispheric development programs in the crop protection industry. Before joining Cotton Incorporated, Dr. Nichols held positions in research with USDA-ARS, in product development with PPG Industries, in research management with F. Hoffmann La Roche Company, and in marketing management with Agri-Growth Research. He has conducted agricultural research in the Northeast, Mid-West, and Southern Regions of the U. S.

Dr. Nichols has worked in plant biology, crop production, and pest management for 45 years. He is a member of the American Chemical Society, the American Society of Agronomy, the American Phytopathological

Society, the Society of Nematologists, and the Weed Science Society of America (WSSA). He is a Fellow of the Southern Weed Science Society and of Pierson College of Yale University and a long-time member of the WSSA Science Policy Committee. He is an author of more than 140 scientific papers.

Dr. Nichols has a B.A. from Yale University with emphasis in economics and political science, and a Master of Science and Doctorate of Agronomy from the University of Connecticut where he worked in the 1970s

on use of the then experimental herbicide glyphosate for no-tillage systems. He served four years with the U.S. Army Security Agency, volunteered for and served three consecutive combat tours in Vietnam. He is married and has five children and five grandchildren. He has lived in eight U.S. states, including New Jersey, Connecticut, New Hampshire, Texas, Georgia, Florida, Minnesota, and North Carolina; he and his wife reside in Wake County, North Carolina.

2020 Fellow Award Greg MacDonald

Greg MacDonald was raised in the Finger Lakes region of upstate New York where he spent his time working on dairy and row crop farms. He received an Associate of Applied Science in agricultural engineering from Alfred State University and a Bachelor's of Science from Cornell University in vegetable crop production in 1986. He received his Master of Science in Agronomy/Weed Science at the University of Florida in 1991 and PhD from the same institution in 1994. From 1994 to 1998 he was employed as a weed extension specialist for The University of Georgia, based in Tifton, GA. In December 1998 he returned to Gainesville as a faculty member in Agronomy at the University of Florida. He is a professor of Weed Science and teaches undergraduate and graduate weed science and crop production courses, including on-line, distance education courses. His research focus is weed physiology and the interactions of herbicides with plants in terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems and research on perennial invasive grass management. In addition, he conducts international research and de-



velopment through USAID in Haiti, Endowment Foundation Trustee. Greg and his wife Mickey have two boys, George and Joey. He enjoys spending time with his family, camping, traveling, home projects and is a volunteer Boy Scout leader.

2020 Fellow Award Cletus Youmans

Clete grew up in southern Alabama and Georgia where most of his relatives allowed him to work in tobacco and veterinary medicine as a youngster and teenager, before attending college at Auburn University as an Agronomy major, and later receiving his PhD in Weed Science at the University of Arkansas in 1985 under Dr. L.R. Oliver.

He has a great interest in the SWSS family and has been affiliated with the SWSS over 40-years, attending his first SWSS meeting in 1979. In 1980 he competed in the first SWSS Weed Contest in Albany, GA where his team from Auburn Univ. won first place, followed the next year with a 2nd place showing. Clete moved to Arkansas and participated on the UAR weed team, which received a 3rd place finish in 1982. Clete was assistant coach with Arkansas in 1983 and 1984 when Arkansas won its first two SWSS Weed contests. Over the years, Clete has been on the SWSS



board as an Industry rep, a site chairperson, an SWSS local arrangements food coordinator, the calibration coordinator at the SWSS weed contest five times, assisted in several other SWSS weed contests, judged over a hundred student papers and posters, was an agronomic section chairperson, a moderator at annual SWSS meetings many times, and personally presented over twenty papers or posters at the SWSS. Clete is currently the SWSS Vice President.

In college, in 1984 he won first place for the graduate level presentation at the Arkansas Crop Protection Assoc. The same year, he was voted by his peers as the recipient of the first "Top PhD graduate student in the Dept. of Plant and Soil Science at the Univ. of Arkansas".

In 1985 he began work as a field researcher for American Cyanamid Co. in Little Rock, AR, and transferred to Tifton, GA, where his territory included AL, GA and SC. In 1987 he transferred to Princeton, NJ where he worked at a national level managing Assert herbicide when it received registration in 1989. In 1989 he was the AMCY herbicide resistance manager, attended the International Weed resistance meeting in Bristol, England as a representative for the imidazolinone chemistry, and was instrumental in developing the HRAC. In 1990 Clete transferred to Dyersburg, TN as the Agriculturalist covering TN, AL, and the MO bootheel and worked developing imi-resistant corn and imazapic for peanuts. In the late 90's he was working on saflufenacil before transferring back to Georgia for a year. In 2000 he returned to Tennessee as the BASF Southern Regional Research manager. Since 2000, Clete has resided in Tennessee where he has developed the BASF TN Research Farm. Clete conducted over 1260 personal internal weed science trials during his career and contributed directly to over 825 external weed science studies.

Outside of Weed Science, Clete has twice been the president of the Tennessee Entomological Soc., and once the President of the TN Agric. Production Assn. Clete has supported the local community efforts by being the high school Quarterback Club President, assistant high school soccer coach, and working with the local FFA. Clete is a former marathoner, scuba diver, sky diver, assistant Scout Master, and attended Philmont and Seabase. Today, other than rating plots, he enjoys kayaking, fishing and travel. Clete is an active member of his church, a deacon, member of the church financial and physical plant committees, and helps on Wed. nights at the Logos training.

Clete's wife of thirty-one years is Deidra Youmans from Stockton, GA. His son Kyle, is a graduate of the Univ. of TN and currently lives in Colorado Springs, CO. His daughter Claire is a senior in high school, loves hip hop and jazz dancing, soccer, tennis, and plans on attending the Univ. of AR this fall.

Dear IWSC (International Weed Science Congress) 2020 pre-registrants and presenters,

We hope everything goes well with you even though the COVID-19 has been threatening our daily life. IWSS Board and IWSC-2020 LOC and SPC have intensively been monitoring the status of the COVID-19.

As the participants' health and safety are the most important than anything else, we have finally decided to postpone the Congress to 7-12 December, 2020.

Please see below for the important re-scheduled dates.

Abstract submission date extended to: 30 June 2020 Early bird registration date extended to: 31 July 2020

The EWRS training workshop moved to: 7 December 2020 (TBC)

Please save the dates on your calendar.

If you have any inquiries concerning the IWSC-2020, please feel free to contact LOC Chair Chanya (chanyaku36@gmail.com) or Pat (pat@idext.co.th).Regarding the issues related to the IWSS, please feel free to contact our secretary Do-Soon (dosoonkim@snu.ac.kr).

Thank you very much for your understanding and continuous support. We wish you very good health and safety under this harsh period of COVID-19 outbreak.

Best regards, IWSC2020 Organizing Committee.

Are you on a Committee?

Directory of Officers, Executive Board Members, Committees and Committee Members January 31, 2020 - January 31, 2021

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. <u>SOUTHERN WEED SCIENCE SOCIETY OFFICERS AND EXECUTIVE BOARD</u>

100a. OFFICERS

President	Eric Webster	2020-2021
President Elect	Clete Youmans	2020-2021
Vice-President	Darrin Dodd	2020-2021
Secretary-Treasurer	Hunter Perry	2020-2023
Editor	Paul Tseng	2020-2023
Immediate Past President	James Holloway	2020-2021

100b. ADDITIONAL EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS

Member-at-Large - Academia	Shawn Askew	2020-2022
Member-at-Large - Industry	Kelly Backscheider	2020-2022
Member-at-Large - Academia	Todd Baughman	2018-2021
Member-at-Large- Industry	Eric Castner	2018-2021
Representative to WSSA	John Byrd	2020-2023

100c. EX-OFFICIO BOARD MEMBERS

Constitution and Operating Procedures	Carroll Johnson	2020-2021
SWSS Business Manager	Kelley Mazur	
Student Representative	Lawson Priess	2020-2022
Newsletter Editor	Susan Scott	

101. <u>SWSS ENDOWMENT FOUNDATION</u>

101a. BOARD OF TRUSTEES - ELECTED

President	Hunter Perry	2020-2021
Secretary	Gary Schwarzlose	2020-2023
	Mike Lovelace	2020-2024
	Greg MacDonald	2020-2025
	Jason Bond	2020-2026
Graduate Student Rep	Hannah Wright	2020-2022

101b. BOARD OF TRUSTEES - EX-OFFICIO

II Jonnie Miller	Past President of Endowment Foundation Board of Trustees
Kelley Mazur	SWSS Business Manager

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

James Holloway*	2021	Brad Minton	2021	Peter Dotray	2021
Hunter Perry	2021	Nicholas Basinger	2021	Cherilyn Moore	2021

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

Brad Minton	2021	John Byrd	2022	Greg MacDonald	2023
Scott Senseman	2021	Neil Rhodes	2022	Cletus Youmans	2023

102b. Outstanding Educator Award Subcommittee

Peter Dotray	2021	Larry Steckel	2022	Stephen Enloe	2023
Nilda Burgos	2021	Tim Grey	2022	Doug Spaunhorst	2023

102c. Outstanding Young Weed Scientist Award Subcommittee

Hunter Perry	2021	Peter Dittmar	2022	Kelly Backscheider	2023
Ramon Leon	2021	Jim Bronson	2022	Todd Baughman	2023

102d. Outstanding Graduate Student Award Subcommittee

Nicholas Basinger *	2023	Sandeep Rana	2022	Matt Griffin	2023
Muthu Bagavathiannan	2021	Frank Carey	2022	Kelly Backscheider	2023

102e. Excellence in Regulatory Stewardship Award Subcommittee

Cherilyn Moore	2021	Robert Nichols	2022	Matt Goddard	2023
David Jordan	2021	Drew Ellis	2022		

103. COMPUTER APPLICATION COMMITTEE (STANDING)

Shawn Askew *	2021	Jim Brosnan	2022	Shandrea Stallworth	2023
Dan Reynolds *	2021	Matt Goddard	2022	Gary Schwarzlose	2023
Kelley Mazur – SV	VSS Bus				

104. <u>CONSTITUTION AND OPERATING PROCEDURES COMMITTEE</u> (STANDING)

W. Carroll Johnson * 2020-2021

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.

Darrin Dodd*	2020-2021
Cletus Youmans	2020-2021
Jacob Reed	2020-2021
Larry Steckel	2020-2021
Jim Brosnan	2020-2021
Muthu Bagavathiannan	2020-2021
Phil Banks	2020-2021
John Schultz	2020-2021
Tom Barber	2020-2021
Kelley Mazur – SWSS Business Manager	

106. GRADUATE STUDENT ORGANIZATION

President	Lawson Preiss	Univ Arkansas
Vice President	John Peppers	Virginia Tech
Secretary	Cynthia Sias	Texas A&M
Weed Resistance & Technology Committee Rep	Pamela Carvalho	Univ Arkansas
Endowment Committee	Hannah Wright	Univ Georgia
Social Chair/Student Program Committee	Jake Patterson	Univ Arkansas

107. WEED RESISTANCE AND TECHNOLOGY STEWARDSHIP (STANDING)

Alabama	Steven Li	North Carolina	D. Spak
Arkansas	N. French J. Norsworthy	Oklahoma	T. Baughman
Florida	Pratap Devkota	South Carolina	M. Cutulle
Georgia	E. Prostko C. Johnson	Tennessee	L. Steckel A. Mills
Kentucky	J. Green	Texas	P. Dotray
Louisiana	D. Stephenson	Virginia	M. Flessner
Mississippi	Connor Fergusson*	Puerto Rico	W. Robles
Missouri	J. Heiser	Grad. Student Representative	P. Carvalho

108. HISTORICAL COMMITTEE (STANDING)

John Byrd *	2021
Andy Kendig	2022

109. LEGISLATIVE AND REGULATORY COMMITTEE (STANDING)

Todd Baughman*	Chair & Member-at-Large - Academia	2020-2023
Lee Van Wychen	(ad hoc) WSSA Science Policy Executive Director	2020-2021
Janice McFarland	(ad hoc) Chair of the WSSA Science Policy Committee	2020-2021
Greg Kruger	(ad hoc), EPA liaison	2020-2021
Shawn Askew	Member-at-Large - Academia	2020-2023
Kelly Backscheider	Member-at-Large - Industry	2020-2023
Todd Baughman	Member-at-Large - Academia	2019-2021
Eric Castner	Member-at-Large - Industry	2019-2021

110. LOCAL ARRANGEMENTS COMMITTEE - (STANDING)

Jim Brosnan *	2021	Knoxville, TN (SE)
Luke Etheridge	2022	Austin, TX (SW)
TBD	2023	TBD

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

President-Elect.

Bob Scott	2021
James Holloway	2022
Eric Webster	2023
Cletus Youmans	2024

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 (MS)	2025
Kelley Mazur – SWSS Business Manager					

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

James Halloway*	2021
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114. PROGRAM COMMITTEE – 2021 MEETING (STANDING)

Clete Youmans	2021
Darrin Dodd	2022

115. PROGRAM COMMITTEE - 2021 MEETING (STANDING)

Clete Youmans *	2020
Darrin Dodds	2021

116. RESEARCH COMMITTEE (STANDING)

Darrin Dodds	2021		
Alabama	S. 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. Leglieter	Tennessee	L. Steckel
Louisiana	D. Miller	Texas	P. Dotray
Mississippi	J. Byrd	Virginia	S. Askew
Missouri	K. Bradley		

117. RESOLUTIONS AND NECROLOGY COMMITTEE (STANDING)

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

Mississippi	D. Dodds **		Missouri	J. Heiser
Alabama	S. Li		North Carolina	W. Everman
Arkansas	N. Burgos		Oklahoma	T. Baughman
Florida	G. MacDonald		South Carolina	M. Cutulle
Georgia	W. Vencill		Tennessee	T. Mueller
	VV. VOITOIII		1611163366	D. Ellis *
Kentucky			Texas	P. Dotray
Louisiana	E. Webster		Virginia	S. Askew
Mississippi	D. Reynolds		Puerto Rico	W. Robles
Ad Hoc - Current	B. Kirksey		Ad Hoc - Previous	Cheryl Dunne

119. STUDENT PROGRAM COMMITTEE (STANDING)

Peter Eure*	2021	
Tommy Butts	2022	

Matthew Wiggins	2023	
Connor Webster	2021	Graduate Student Organization Rep. – Ex-officio
		member

120. SUSTAINING MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE (STANDING)

Jacob Reed*	2021	Andy Kendig	2022	Luke Etheridge	2023
Bob Scott	2021	Kelly Backscheider	2022	Chris Meyer	2023

121. CONTINUING EDUCATION UNITS COMMITTEE (SPECIAL)

AL - Steve Li	2021	MO – Jim Heiser	2021
AR - Tom Barber	2021	NC – Angela Post	2021
FL - Calvin Odero	2021	OK - Todd Baughman**	2021
GA - Scott Tubbs	2021	SC - Alan Estes *	2021
KY – Travis Legleiter	2021	TN – Bruce Kirksey *	2021
LA – Daniel Stephenson	2021	TX - Jacob Reed	2021
MS -Te-Ming Paul Tseng	2021	VA – Shawn Askew**	2021

^{*}Chair

Committee list also available at:

http://www.swss.ws/wp-content/uploads/SWSS-Committees 2020-2021.pdf

WASHINGTON REPORT

April 20, 2020 Lee Van Wychen

Global HRAC Updates Herbicide MOA Classifications

The global herbicide resistance action committee (HRAC) has worked to update and revise the herbicide mode of action (MOA) classification system. The goal is to gradually phase out the old alphanumeric codes. The WSSA Board voted to approve the revised HRAC classification system at their annual meeting in Maui. The updated 2020 Herbicide MOA map, which is divided into three areas (Light Activation of Reactive Oxygen Species, Cellular Metabolism, and Cell Division and Growth) can be found at: https://hracglobal.com/tools/hrac-mode-of-action-classification-2020-map

FY 2021 Budget

The \$2+ trillion COVID-19 response and recovery legislation currently overshadows FY 2021 budget action, but FY 2021 appropriations debate continues in the background. The National and Regional Weed Science Societies are active in several coalitions that are advocating for agricultural research funding. We strongly support increased federal investment in food and agricultural research, extension and education funding at USDA in FY 2021 through intramural and extramural programs, as follows:

- Agricultural Research Service (ARS), at least \$1,789 million
- National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA), at least \$1,721 million
- Economic Research Service (ERS), at least \$87 million
- National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), at least \$180 million

^{**}CEU's not provided by that state

The requested increases within the NIFA budget include:

- Hatch Act (Research and Education Programs), at least \$280 million
- Smith-Lever (Extension Activities), at least \$341 million
- Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI), at least \$480 million
- Evans-Allen (Research and Education Programs), at least \$73 million
- 1890 Extension (Extension Activities), at least \$62 million

Administrative Relief for Federal Grant Recipients Due to COVID-19

On March 19, 2020, the federal Office of Management and Budget (OMB) issued a memo (M-20-17) titled: "Administrative Relief for Recipients and Applicants of Federal Financial Assistance Directly Impacted by the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) due to Loss of Operations."

The USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) is particularly concerned about institutions with faculty, staff, and students who depend on grant funding for their livelihood and are required to shelter in place. However, the OMB memo specifically states: Awarding agencies may allow recipients to continue to charge salaries and benefits to currently active Federal awards consistent with the recipients' policy of paying salaries (under unexpected or extraordinary circumstances) from all funding sources, Federal and non-Federal (Appendix A, No. 6).

OMB's March 19th memo bolsters NIFA's continued response to COVID-19 as it allows the agency to also provide flexibilities for recipient organizations affected by the loss of operational capacity. Appendix A of the memorandum details administrative relief actions and procedures Federal awarding agencies are authorized to take.

Questions regarding the applicability of the memorandum's administrative relief provisions should be directed to NIFA's Awards Management Division at awards@usda.gov. For more information, see OMB's M-20-17.

EPA Approves Isoxaflutole Use on Soybeans

On March 30, EPA announced the registration of the use of isoxaflutole on genetically engineered soy-beans. "Safe and effective weed management is a constant challenge that farmers face," said American Soybean Association President and soybean grower from Worthington, Minnesota, Bill Gordon. "EPA's registration of isoxaflutole will provide soybean growers with an important new tool to combat damaging weeds and help better control emerging herbicide-resistance issues.

Isoxaflutole is already registered by EPA for use on corn in 33 states. Like this existing use, the new registered use of isoxaflutole on genetically engineered soybeans is classified as a restricted-use pesticide, meaning that applicators must receive special training in order to use it. The training will emphasize ways applicators will protect ground and surface water and non-target plants.

The new use on genetically engineered soybeans would be limited to specific counties in 25 states. EPA is limiting use to these specific counties to protect endangered or threatened species from exposure. EPA is also including additional use restrictions, such as not allowing aerial and irrigation system applications.

The registration is limited to five years during which EPA will evaluate any potential weed resistance issues that may result. As part of the terms and conditions of the registration, the registrant must provide a herbicide-resistance management plan and submit annual reports to EPA.

More information, including the final registration decision, can be found on: https://www.regulations.gov/docket?D=EPA-HQ-OPP-2019-0398

USDA Casts Vision for Scientific Initiatives Through 2025

The Agriculture Department has published a "USDA Science Blueprint" to serve as its vision for and commitment to scientific research through 2025. It lays out five overarching themes for research, education, and economics, each with established objectives, strategies, and evidence-building measures. The five

Program Themes include: 1) sustainable ag intensification, 2) ag-climate adaptation, 3) food and nutrition translation, 4) value-added innovations, and 5) ag science policy leadership.

The USDA Science Blueprint (PDF, 2.6 MB) includes the four REE mission area agencies — the Agricultural Research Service (ARS), the Economic Research Service (ERS), the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), and the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) — along with the Office of the Chief Scientist (OCS) and the science arms of the U.S. Forest Service (FS), Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS), Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Food and Nutrition Service (FNS), and the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS).

Some strategies listed under plant production, health and genetics within the sustainable ag intensification theme include:

- Tap into genetic diversity and use genomic technology to accelerate breeding progress, decrease susceptibility to climate variability, pests, diseases, and weeds, and increase yield potential.
- Use precision agriculture technologies, innovative input technologies and stand improvement to optimize resource use and reduce the gap between actual yield and yield potential.
- Improve surveillance, early detection, rapid response, and recovery for transboundary, vector-borne, emerging/reemerging, and costly endemic crop diseases, insects, and weeds through research, education, and extension.
- Identify key factors in producer behavior change and technology adoption models emphasizing the critical decisions and thresholds.

Bill Authorizing 600 New Agricultural Inspectors Signed into Law

On March 4, "The Protecting America's Food & Agriculture Act of 2019" was signed into law, which addresses the shortage of agricultural inspectors who protect the nation's food supply and agriculture industry and ensure safe and secure trade of agricultural goods across borders. The act authorizes U.S. Customs & Border Protection (CBP) to hire additional inspectors, support staff and K-9 teams to fully staff America's airports, seaports and land ports of entry.

The USDA and CBP work together to facilitate safe and secure importation of agricultural goods into the U.S. The program's agricultural specialists and K-9 units conduct inspections of passengers, commercial vessels, trucks, aircraft and railcars at U.S. ports of entry to protect health and safety by preventing the entry of harmful goods and invasive species that may pose a threat to American food and agriculture. On a typical day (prior to COVID-19), inspectors process more than 1 million passengers and 78,000 truck, rail and sea containers carrying goods worth approximately \$7.2 billion.

The act authorizes the annual hiring of 240 agricultural specialists a year until the workforce shortage is filled and 200 agricultural technicians a year to carry out administrative and support functions. The act also authorizes the training and assignment of 20 new K-9 teams a year, which have proven valuable in detecting illicit fruits, vegetables and animal products that may have otherwise been missed in initial inspections. Finally, it authorizes supplemental appropriations each year to pay for the activities of the agriculture specialists, technicians and K-9 teams.

Cooperative Extension System COVID-19 Resource Collection Grows

A comprehensive collection of COVID-19 resources developed by the Cooperative Extension System is available at https://virtual.extension.org/extension-responses-to-covid-19. To date, 48 land-grant institutions have contributed to the collection with new items being added nearly every day. In addition to materials submitted by states, the site also includes a number of general resources that Extension professionals and others may find useful. Recently added were collections of materials related to farmworkers, food systems, and health insurance for farm families. Navigation of the site has been aided by the addition of labels indicating whether a particular link contains information regarding institutional policies and procedures related to COVID-19 or programmatic resources for engaging the public. Links to additional resources can be sent directly to contact-us@extension.org.

The Unified Website for Biotechnology Regulation

The USDA, FDA, and EPA launched a Unified Website for Biotechnology Regulation: https://usbiotechnologygov/home/ The Website streamlines information about the three regulatory agencies charged with overseeing agriculture biotechnology products and is part of the President's Executive Order on Modernizing the Regulatory Framework for Agricultural Biotechnology Products.

Position Vacancy Announcement

Position: Center Director

West Tennessee AgResearch and Education Center (WTREC), located in Jackson, TN Tennessee Agricultural Experiment Stations

POSITION DESCRIPTION AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- Responsible for the comprehensive administration and management of the UT WTREC.
- Exert visionary leadership and serve as a catalyst for the implementation of innovative research projects.
- Direct the execution of research plans developed by faculty scientists.
- Recruit qualified staff and promote their professional development.
- Manage finances, assets, land, equipment and personnel to meet needs of the research program.
- Nurture productive relationships with a wide variety of entities across the Institute of Agriculture and University community, as well as the local community and constituents external to the University.
- Work with local faculty, agents and specialists to plan and conduct annual field days.
- The WTREC functions independently from any single department and reports directly to the Dean of UT AgResearch/Director of the Tennessee Agricultural Experiment Station (TAES).
- The University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture is seeking candidates who have the ability
 to contribute in meaningful ways to the diversity and intercultural goals of the University.
- The Director provides supervision to the following positions at the WTREC:

Administrative Assistants (2.0 FTE) Farm

Manager and Assistants (2.5 FTE)

Maintenance Supervisor and Assistant (2.0 FTE)

Ornamental Horticulture Research Associate and Assistant (2.0 FTE)

Agronomy Research Associate and Assistant (2.0 FTE)

AGRESEARCH AND EDUCATION CENTER INFORMATION

One of ten outdoor research and teaching laboratories in the University of Tennessee AgResearch System, the WTREC serves the agricultural community of west Tennessee. The center is located in Jackson, TN, 310 miles west of the main campus in Knoxville. Founded in 1907 and originally known as UT's West Tennessee Experiment Station, the facility's name was changed to the West Tennessee AgResearch and Education Center to more accurately reflect the center's mission to meet agricultural research and information needs of West Tennessee. The center includes some 650 acres to meet the scientists' needs.

Research performed at the center strives to help landowners produce better and more abundant crops while another research focus is on ornamental horticulture and the Green Industry. The Center is home to The UT Gardens - Jackson, which is one of three University of Tennessee Gardens that make up the State Botanical Garden of Tennessee.

The WTREC hosts numerous industry and public tours, including the annual Summer Celebration Lawn and Garden show, held the second Thursday in July. This event showcases the Green Industry and attracts thousands of gardeners, homeowners, and plant enthusiasts who desire to learn the latest information related to lawns, gardens, and ornamental plantings. The Center also hosts numerous other technology transfer events including Row Crop Scout Schools, the UT Weed Tour, Turf Day, the UT Cotton Tour and more.

With over 46,000 square feet in the main building, personnel from various organizations are stationed at this location including:

UT AgResearch staff (19)

Principal Investigators from four Departments (11)

UT Western Region Extension (16)

USDA (10)

UT Institute for Public Service (10)

Tennessee Department of Agriculture (1)

FFA (1)

UT Foundation (1)

Tennessee Corn Producers Board (1)

Information about UT AgResearch may be found at https://agresearch.tennessee.edu/ and information specific to the WTREC at https://west.tennessee.edu/.

MINIMUM REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS

- A Master's degree (preferably in the field of agricultural science or related area). Candidates in the process of obtaining degree will be considered if degree conferred by Sept. 1, 2020.
- Five years of experience in conducting and/or directing agricultural research.
- Strong leadership and communication skills, and other personal attributes necessary to manage and direct a research and education center.
- Demonstrated commitment to and knowledge of equal employment opportunity and affirmative action.
- Demonstrated ability to administer budgets and manage personnel.
- Ability to lead, work well with others, and work with a diverse range of constituents.

PREFERRED/DESIRED QUALIFICATIONS

- Research and/or managerial experience at a university (preferably land-grant institution) or related agricultural industry experience.
- An earned doctorate degree, with knowledge/experience with row crop production.
- Background or experiences in agricultural or natural resource production/management.

Desired start date is Sept. 1, 2020.

LOCATION INFORMATION

Jackson is the County Seat of Madison County and was named in 1822 in honor of Andrew Jackson, a hero of the recent War of 1812. Jackson's sister-in-law Jane Hayes lived in the city, and the General played an important role in the early history of Madison County. Jackson is located in west Tennessee on I-40 approximately 85 miles east of Memphis and 130 miles west of Nashville. Today Madison County offers a wide variety of economic, cultural, and educational benefits. It is the home of University of Memphis at Lambuth, Union University, Lane College, and Jackson State Community College. For many years, Jackson has hosted the Miss Tennessee pageant. Several musical artists claim Madison County as their home, including Sonny Boy Williamson, a legendary blues and harmonica artist; Big Maybell, a gospel and blues recording artist; Denise LaSalle, Queen of the Soul Blues; and Carl Perkins, Mr. "Blue Suede Shoes." Once largely agricultural, the county's economy now rests on a diversified industrial and commercial base. Transportation continues to be important to county development, and Madison County is served by Interstate 40, three railroads (Norfolk-Southern, CSX Transportation, and West Tennessee Railroad), and McKellar-Sipes Regional Airport.

NOMINATION AND APPLICATION PROCESS

Nominations of qualified individuals are sought and should be sent electronically to the Search Committee Chair at the address shown below. Applications must be completed online. The position posting along with application instructions can be found at

https://ut.taleo.net/careersection/ut_system/jobdetail.ftl?job=20000000E7&tz=GMT-04%3A00&tzname=America%2FNew_York
. Please attach: (1) a cover letter summarizing the applicant's qualifications and interest in the position; (2) a complete curriculum vitae; and (3) names, addresses, e-mail addresses and telephone numbers of at least five references (contacted with permission). Review of applications will begin May 4, 2020. The Search Committee will review and continue to receive applications until an appointment is made.

Nominations and other inquiries should be addressed to:

Dr. Blake Brown Chair, Search Committee Director, UT AgResearch and Education Center at Milan 3-A Ledbetter Gate Road Milan, TN 38358

E-mail: bbrown12@utk.edu Phone:

731-686-7362

All qualified applicants will receive equal consideration for employment and admission without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, pregnancy, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, physical or mental disability, genetic