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## President's Message

#### **JACKIE DRIVER**

In the midst of your busy activities finalizing 2006 and planning for 2007, I hope everyone submitted their title for participation in the upcoming 2007 annual meeting. The meeting in Nashville is approaching and I have a few related comments.



David Monks, Program Chair, and the program committee have done an excellent job in pulling together what will be an excellent program in 2007. Please see more details from David in the newsletter. I want to thank everyone that submitted a title or agreed to participate in a symposium. Your involvement and cooperation is what makes the annual conference the success we experience. I commend Darrin Dodds for his efforts in developing the Graduate Student Symposium. I encourage all, especially graduate students, to support the symposium with their participation and attendance.

Tom Mueller and the Local Arrangements committee have been very busy working with the staff at the Opryland Hotel to insure all of our conference needs are met. More information on the Opryland and surrounding area are included in the newsletter. Tom recently solicited input for the Quiz Bowl. I would encourage everyone to send in questions and answers for inclusion. More importantly, I would encourage all to attend the Quiz Bowl during the meeting. It should be an educational, fun-packed event!

The SWSS Board is aware of the concern expressed regarding the cost of the Opryland. It is one of the more expensive venues we have utilized. It is important that all members support the SWSS by staying at this location during the conference. Due to contractual agreements between SWSS and the Opryland, we are required to meet a minimum 'room block' to avoid paying for meeting rooms. I urge everyone attending the meeting to support the SWSS by staying at the Opryland Hotel.

I solicited your inputs a few months ago regarding the potential change in meeting dates for our annual meeting. My expressed appreciation to all who took time to make their voices heard. All responses will be compiled and made available to Board members for their consideration as we work towards a decision regarding the meeting date change.

Finally, I wish each of you a safe holiday season. Take some time to relax and spend quality time with family and friends. I look forward to seeing all of you in Nashville!

## 2007 Southern Weed Science Society Meeting

The 2007 SWSS Annual Meeting will be held January 22–24 at Opryland Hotel, Nashville, Tennessee. Gaylord Opryland is recognized around the world for its extraordinary service, luxurious accommodations and first class entertainment. While you are here experience the legendary sounds of the Grand Ole Opry, play Nashville's premier golf course, Gaylord Springs, enjoy a cruise aboard the General Jackson Showboat, get your kicks at the Wildhorse Saloon, or walk to the nearby mall, Opry Mills, or explore Music City, USA with a Nashville Sightseeing tour. Below are descriptions of some other points of interest while you are in Nashville.

Belle Meade Plantation is a 30-acre historic site representing 200 years of Tennessee history. The museum, once a world-famous thoroughbred farm, features an antebellum mansion and eight outbuildings. Guided tours of the mansion are offered daily.

The Parthenon, an exact copy of the Athenian original, was constructed to commemorate Tennessee's 1897 centennial. Across the street from Vanderbilt University's campus, in Centennial Park, it's a magnificent sight.

The Hermitage, historic home of President Andrew Jackson, is located just east of Nashville, and the Belle Meade Mansion is located in West Nashville.

Nashville has many interesting theaters and museums, including the State Agricultural Museum located at the beautiful Ellington Agriculture Center with entrance at the intersection of Marchant and Hogan Roads in South Nashville. For the sports minded, the NHL's Nashville Predators are scheduled to face-off against the Chicago Blackhawks on January 20.

There is construction on the intersection of Brilley Parkway and I-40, so allow a little extra time as you plan your travels. In fact, I recommend you come and spend the weekend in Nashville and take in the many things Nashville has to offer. We look forward to having you in Tennessee.

The 2007 annual meeting of the Southern Weed Science Society is almost finalized. This year's meeting will have a very exciting program. Many thanks to the section chairs who, through their diligent work, put together informative educational sessions and symposia for this year's meeting. I know that you will find this year's meeting interesting.

Tom Mueller has taken leadership to develop a new fun filled graduate student competition for early Tuesday night. It will feature a team competition consisting of weed related questions and answers. This competition is similar to competition at the Entomological meetings. In addition to this activity, several symposiums are scheduled in the following areas: invasive vines, weed control in organic crops, graduate careers, new technology, herbicide resistance, wildlife and right-of-ways.

Please take the time to invite people in your department/ company who do not normally attend the Southern Weed Science Society. We would like to increase in the number of people who participate in our society and in the annual meeting.

I believe that this will be a very educational meeting in Nashville. Plan to come early and enjoy Nashville and then participate in a great meeting. See you in Nashville! Bob Hayes

## NEWSLETTER SUBMISSION Instructions and Deadlines

ISSUE DEADLINE May 2007 . . . . . . . . . . April 1, 2007

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

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## **SWSS Quiz Bowl**

All SWSS members are asked to send potential questions and their correct answer to Tom Mueller for use in the 2007 SWSS Quiz Bowl Games, to be held on Tuesday of the SWSS meeting in Nashville, TN. See below for complete contest rules and regulations.

Questions are drawn from the following areas of weed science: (1) history & people, (2) weed biology, (3) weed identification, (4) biological control, (5) weed taxonomy & systematics, (6) ecology, (7) herbicide mode of action, (8) herbicide chemistry, (9) miscellaneous. Universities are encouraged to send questions (and answers) for use in the competition to Tom Mueller at UT, at <a href="mailto:tmueller@utk.edu">tmueller@utk.edu</a> prior to December 31, 2006. Send as many questions from as many areas as you would like!!!

## **SWSS Quiz Bowl Games Rules & Regulations**

The SWSS Quiz Bowl consists of 14 tossup questions that either team may answer. A bonus question is subsequently awarded to the team that answers a tossup question correctly (see exception below). The moderator and judges (usually 3) have final say on the correctness of all answers.

Tossup questions must be answered by a player without consulting other team members. A player must be recognized by the moderator before an answer is given; otherwise, the answer will be judged incorrect. After the question has been read completely, team members are given 5 seconds to "buzz-in." An additional 5 seconds is allowed to answer a tossup question after a player is recognized. Each tossup question answered correctly is awarded 10 points. If a player answers a completed question incorrectly, no points are deducted. If a player interrupts a question before its completion and then answers incorrectly, the team is penalized five points. The opposing team is given an opportunity to answer all tossup questions answered incorrectly. Interrupted questions incorrectly answered will be completely read for the other team. Tossups are generally short answer.

Bonus questions are awarded to the team answering a tossup question correctly. Bonus questions are not awarded to a team if the opposing team answered incorrectly after an interrupted tossup question. Players are allowed to consult with other team members on bonus questions for 15 seconds before an answer is required. A team that answers a bonus question correctly is awarded 10 points. No points are awarded or deducted for incorrect answers. Again, a team member must be recognized

by the moderator before an answer is given. Bonus questions typically draw from the areas of history and people but questions from other fields are acceptable. Bonus questions are often longer than tossups or are multiple answers.

The winner of the game is the team which has scored the most points after all 14 tossup (and the associated bonus) questions have been asked. In the event of a tie, "tie-breaker" tossup questions will be asked until one team answers correctly or answers incorrectly after interrupting the question.

Teams will consist of four players plus one alternate; however, fewer players are allowed. Alternates may not be substituted during the course of a game. All players must attend the school which they represent. Specifically, players must either be enrolled at that university or not have graduated prior to one year before the games are held.

Questions are drawn from the following areas of weed science: (1) history & people, (2) weed biology, (3) weed identification, (4) biological control, (5) weed taxonomy & systematics, (6) ecology, (7) herbicide mode of action, (8) herbicide chemistry, (9) miscellaneous. Universities are encouraged to send questions (and answers) for use in the competition to Tom Mueller at UT, at <a href="mueller@utk.edu">tmueller@utk.edu</a> prior to December 31, 2006.

Games will be scheduled in typical, single-elimination (bracket-styled) tournament fashion. The drawing of opposing teams is random and will not be posted until the morning of the games. Good luck.

## **WSSA Photo Contest**

Attention photographers! Submit images to the WSSA Photo Contest. Please read below:

#### **GENERAL RULES**

- 1. Contest is open only to WSSA members.
- 2. Subject of photo is to be any photogenic subject associated with Weed Science.
- 3. There are two divisions: 1) Color Print and 2) Digital File.
- 4. Each contestant can enter a maximum of 5 images per division but can win only one prize per division.
- 5. Prizes in each division are \$100 for 1st, \$75 for 2nd, and \$50 for 3rd.
- 6. In some cases, an overall winner may be selected and presented the "WSSA Outstanding Photographer Award," which includes a \$300 prize.
- 7. Members of the Photo Contest Subcommittee will judge the contest.
- 8. Judges will consider factors such as subject, composition, technical aspects, and overall appeal.
- 9. MAIL OR EMAIL IMAGES TO CHAIRPERSON BY JAN 24 OR SUBMIT BY 1:00PM AT WSSA REGISTRATION DESK ON FIRST REGISTRATION DAY. The current chairperson is Shawn Askew at 435 Old Glade Road, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA 24061-0330, (540)-231-5807, saskew@vt.edu.
- 10. Prints will either be returned at the WSSA annual meeting or mailed to the photographer within 2 months of the annual meeting. PLEASE DO NOT REMOVE IMAGES FROM THE POSTER-SESSION DISPLAY UNLESS REQUESTED TO DO SO BY THE PHOTO CONTEST SUBCOMMITTEE. The utmost care will be given to your images until they are safely returned to you. However, images are submitted at the photographer's own risk and the WSSA Photo Contest Subcommittee is not responsible in the unlikely event of damage or loss.

#### **COLOR PRINT DIVISION**

- 1. Up to 5 prints may be submitted.
- 2. Prints should be no smaller than 35 sq. in. and no larger than 80 sq. in.
- 3. Photo processed or computer-generated prints are acceptable.
- 4. Prints should be mounted.
- 5. Name and address or business card should be attached or written on the back of each print. Designate which side should face up by placing arrows on the back of each print. A separate card should be included with a title, approximate date, and approximate location where the image was photographed and the photographers name. See example below.

#### **DIGITAL FILE**

- 1. Digital files can be submitted for a total of 5 entries.
- 2. Include a .txt file in place of the description card shown below (all images can be described on one file).
- 3. Digital files must be on PC-formatted CD-R compact discs or USB jump drive if submitted at the contest. Otherwise, files may be emailed to the chairperson as attachments or as internet links.
- 4. Digital files must be .jpg format and should be a minimum of 1440 x 960 resolution or at least 1.3 megapixel. Digital media should be labeled with your name and address. Name your files to match all or a portion of your image title.

Separate card required for every image submitted, can be hand written but should be neat (example):

Water Drops on Palmleaf Morningglory
Circa 1998

Raleigh, NC Shawn Askew

## WASHINGTON REPORT by Lee Van Wychen, Director of Science Policy

### President Bush Signs Salt Cedar and Russian Olive Control Bill in to Law

On October 11, 2006, President Bush signed the Salt Cedar and Russian Olive Control Demonstration Act (SCROCDA) into law. [Since we are short on acronyms here in DC, SCROCDA should be a worthwhile acronym for those of you west of the Mississippi River to get to know. Plus it sounds "tough".]

The bill (SCROCDA) directs Interior Secretary Dirk Kempthorne acting through the Commissioner of Reclamation and the Director of the U.S. Geological Survey to disburse \$80 million over 5 years (FY 2006-2010) to carry out a salt cedar (Tamarix spp) and Russian olive (Elaeagnus angustifolia) assessment and demonstration program. Since FY 2006 is already gone and FY 2007 appropriations should have been approved by Oct. 1, 2006, only 3 fiscal years of this bill remain in play for all practical purposes. Under SCROC-DA, FY 2008–2010 are authorized at \$15 million per year.

This legislation has three major components: (1) assess the current extent of the infestation by salt cedar and Russian olive trees in the western United States; (2) demonstrate strategic solutions for the long-term management of such trees and the reestablishment of native vegetation; and (3) assess economic means to dispose of biomass created as a result of removal of tamarisk and Russian olive trees. A majority of the authorized appropriations will be designated for Phase 2, the demonstration and long term management and research projects. This legislation has many proponents and more details will be forthcoming. The National and Regional Weed Science Societies will be circulating a letter of support for SCROCDA appropriations in the near future.

## **Democrat Takeover in House** and Senate Will Influence Agriculture, Environment, and Science Agenda During The 110th Congress

Democrats will take control in both the U.S. House of Representatives and Senate in January 2007. For weed scientists, that will mean dealing with a combination of some old faces returning to lead key committees and new ones taking the reins. And although all these politicians have track records, even the pundits admit that it's too early to predict which issues will dominate the next 2 years, let alone how successful the Democrats will be in working with President Bush.

One thing is for certain, Chairman and committee staff in both the House and Senate will change. As I write this, it's only been two days since the election. Here are some early observations about how the Democrat victory in the House and Senate will affect weed and invasive plant science policy.

#### **Senate Agriculture Committee:**

Tom Harkin (D-IA), will likely take over the committee gavel from Saxby Chambliss, R-GA. Sen. Harkin is more interested in trying to strike a balance between competing demands from commodity groups that want continued government subsidies and environmentalists who want more money for conservation and renewable energy incentives.

In Harkin's Iowa, corn and soybean production rule, and he will continue to support commodity crop subsidies. At the same time. Harkin is the creator of the Conservation Security Program (CSP) in the 2002 Farm Bill which pays farmers for following specific land and water conservation practices. One opportunity for the weed science societies may be to push for more stringent standards regarding noxious weed control requirements within many of the federal conservation programs such as CRP and CSP.

Possible new members of the Senate Ag Committee could include Claire McCaskill, D-MO and Jon Tester, D-MT.

#### **House Agriculture Committee:**

Collin C. Peterson (D-MN) is the most likely candidate to lead the Agriculture Committee through next year's "expected" rewrite of the 2002 Farm Bill. The Minnesotan has warmed up to rewriting parts of the Farm Bill, even though he has said repeatedly that it would be foolhardy to reauthorize it without waiting for the outcome of the next round of international trade negotiations.

Peterson's initial plan was to seek a simple extension of the 2002 law. He now says some parts are worth revamping such as increasing support for the energy and renewable fuels Title in the 2002 law and adding a disaster relief Title.

Growers of specialty crops are asking for more block grants and changes to the nutrition program, but those growers lost an advocate on the committee when Richard Pombo (R-CA) was defeated by Jerry McNerney.

The proposal for the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) also lost two major supporters to the election with the defeat of Rep. Gil Gutknecht (R-MN) and Sen. Jim

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Talent (R-MO). NIFA would increase funds available for food and agriculture research in addition to the current available resources at USDA-ARS and CSREES through a competitively awarded grant program similar to that conducted through the National Institute of Health (NIH) and the National Science Foundation (NSF).

## Senate Environment and Public Works Committee:

Few panels would see a more drastic change of focus. With the retirement of James M. Jeffords – I-VT, Barbara Boxer (D-CA) would take the gavel from James Inhofe (R-OK). Boxer and Inhofe have been known to "disagree" on many issues under the Committee's jurisdiction. At oversight hearings, Inhofe has strongly supported the Bush Administration's approach to pollution control while Boxer has felt that the Bush administration has made efforts to roll back bedrock environmental safeguards.

#### **House Resources Committee:**

Nick Rahall II (D-WV) will take the reins of the House Resources Committee from Richard Pombo (R-CA). Rahall's agenda will probably be a dramatic departure from that of Pombo, a California rancher who fought to loosen environmental laws and protect private property rights.

Pombo tried repeatedly to rewrite the Endangered Species Act, where he fought to ease its mandates by shepherding the Threatened and Endangered Species Recovery Act (TESRA) through the House in 2005 before it stalled in the Senate. Rahall argues that more money is needed for federal agencies to fulfill their responsibilities under the law, but he does not favor a complete overhaul.

Likewise, Pombo and other critics of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), which requires federal agencies to assess and minimize environmental impacts of major projects, have characterized that law as burdensome and antiquated. Rahall, however, says the law might need some "tinkering around the edges" but generally has been effective.

The House Resources committee is also likely to head in a different direction on energy policy. Pombo advocated boosting production of fossil fuels on public lands, including in Alaska's Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR) and offshore. Being from a coal-producing state, Rahall fought those efforts. Rahall probably will seek to advance clean-coal technology and will likely push legislation that would redirect fees paid by coal companies to cover health care costs of some retired miners and to speed the cleanup of abandoned mine sites.

#### **House Science Committee:**

The new chair of the House Science Committee will be Rep. Bart Gordon (D-TN). He shares many of the same interests as his predecessor, retiring Rep. Sherwood Boehlert (R-NY). That list includes increasing spending on science, improving U.S. science and math education, developing new energy technologies to reduce the country's dependence on foreign oil, and ensuring that government scientists are free to disseminate their results. Gordon says that legislation to boost U.S. competitiveness will be a priority for Democrats and that he also expects the panel to take up a reauthorization of programs at NSF.

#### **Other Committee Changes:**

House Interior-Environment Appropriations Subcommittee Chairman Charles Taylor (R-NC) was defeated by Heath Shuler.

Sen. Lincoln Chafee (R-RI), chairman of the Senate Environment Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife and Water, lost to Democratic challenger Sheldon Whitehouse.

## Glyphosate-Resistant Marestail Confirmed in Nebraska

WSSA members Alex Martin and Stevan Knezevic with the University of Nebraska confirmed the first glyphosate-resistant weed species in Nebraska — marestail, also know as horseweed. They first suspected resistance had developed almost a year ago, but it took tests and growing plants from last year's seeds to confirm it. Prior to the introduction of glyphosate-tolerant crops only a few weed species (eg. ryegrass and goosegrass) had developed resistance to glyphosate worldwide. However, the number of glyphosate-resistant weeds tripled in just over eight years of repeated glyphosate use over a large land area (over 50 million acres). Current examples of glyphosate-resistant weeds in the U.S. include waterhemp, lambsquarters, giant ragweed, common ragweed, palmer amaranth and marestail (horseweed).

## Guidance on Pesticide Product Warranty Statements Available

Most, if not all, pesticide labels contain some type of warranty disclaimer language. EPA's Office of Pesticide Programs (OPP) has posted on its Web site a document that provides a discussion and examples of warranty statements for pesticide products that the agency considers either acceptable or unacceptable. OPP is aware that some warranty disclaimer statements that contain potentially false or misleading language, or words and phrases that are in some way objectionable. Additionally, OPP is frequently asked by applicants/registrants about warranty disclaimer language they wish to place on pesticide labels. Therefore, OPP is posting on its Web site the agency's guidance on warranty statements.

There are four types of label language associated with warranty disclaimers, and statements of limitations that the Agency has found to be

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## News from the Northeastern Weed Science Society

Weed scientists from experiment stations in the northeast region of the US collaborated under the Northeast Regional Project NE-42 entitled "Weed Life Cycles, Soil Micro-organisms and Light as Factors in the Control of Weeds in the Northeast" to study weed biology and ecology. The studies involved detailed field, greenhouse, and laboratory germination trials, plant growth and development as influenced by light and moisture, and response to herbicides. Out of this collective effort, nine publications were written detailing the results. The Northeast Regional Weed Control Technical Committee (NE-42) published these bulletins from 1962 until 1986, with Dr. Robert Sweet, Cornell University, taking a very active role in writing these publications. The species examined were: barnyardgrass; large and small crabgrass; yellow and giant foxtail; galinsoga; horsenettle; yellow nutsedge; common purslane; quackgrass; and common ragweed.

These publications contain excellent information that is not available from other sources. Unfortunately, it is difficult to locate many of these bulletins. Recently, these publications have been scanned and are now available as PDF files at the Northeastern Weed Science Society's website www.newss.org/publications.php).

The Northeastern Weed Science Society approved a resolution supporting a Herbicide Resistance Stewardship Statement. This statement was developed by the Herbicide-Resistant Plants Committee with input from the general membership. The final version was accepted by the general membership at its annual business meeting in January 2006. The text of the statement can be found at the NEWSS website:

http://www.newss.org/stewardship2006.php

#### WASHINGTON REPORT

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unacceptable under statutory and regulatory standards. It is important to recognize that these statements must be assessed on a case-by-case basis. Following are examples of statements that have been found unacceptable:

Overly broad statements negating or detracting from the Directions for Use or other label language (including precautionary statements and directions for use). For instance, the warranty statement that the product may not work would negate Directions for Use that explained how the product was to be used.

Label language asserting that the buyer has accepted the manufacturer's statement of his/her respective rights (e.g., manufacturer states buyer's rights are extremely limited or require a specific process to be realized). Because these statements are almost always incomplete (in terms of fully

explaining a buyer's rights in the jurisdiction (state) of purchaser and because they can mislead buyers into thinking that they have no legal remedy, they may constitute "misbranding" under FIFRA.

Overly broad language implying buyer has no legal right to recover damages from manufacturer (e.g., "all such risks shall be assumed by the buyer").

Because Experimental Use Permit (EUP) labels must be used in strict accordance with the EUP program, the warranty on EUP labels may not disclaim control over use.

For more information:

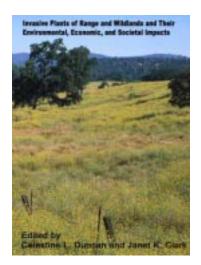
http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/ regulating/labels/warranty.pdf

## USDA-APHIS Lists South African Ragwort and Madagascar Ragwort as Noxious Weeds

The USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) has amended the noxious weed and imported seed regulations by adding South African ragwort (Senecio inaequidens DC.) and Madagascar ragwort (Senecio madagascariensis Poir.) to the list of terrestrial noxious weeds and to the list of seeds with no tolerances applicable to their introduction. The final rule was adopted on October 5, 2006 and was necessary to prevent the artificial spread of these noxious weeds into the U.S. For more information, contact WSSA member Dr. Al Tasker, Noxious Weeds Program Coordinator, Invasive Species and Pest Management, at 301-734-5225.

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# NEW INVASIVE PLANTS IMPACTS PUBLICATION FROM WSSA

A CRITICAL PLANNING TOOL FOR NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGERS AND POLICY MAKERS

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

222 pages

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# Weed Science Society of America Meeting San Antonio, TX • February 5–8, 2007

The Weed Science Society of America would like to invite you to attend the 2007 annual meeting February 5-8 in San Antonio, Texas. Pre-meeting events include a tour and a workshop. Sunday, February 4, Dr. Russ Wallace and colleagues will host a tour of the Wintergarden region to see the leafy green vegetable production areas of Texas. The cost is a bargain at \$20.00 per participant. Drs. Jens Streibig and Christian Ritz will again offer a special one day workshop on "Statistical Assessment of Dose-Response Curves with Free Software" on Monday February 5 (to conclude in time for the General Session). The attendance will be limited to a maximum of 25 and the cost will be \$150 per person.

The annual meeting will begin on Monday February 5, at 4:15 p.m. with the **General Session and Awards Ceremony** followed by the Awardees' Reception. Dr. Gale Buchanan, USDA Under Secretary for Research, Education, and Economics, has accepted our invitation to share his vision on the future of Agricultural Research at the general session. On Wednesday, plan on attending the society business meeting followed by our second member reception. Additional program highlights include:

Graduate Student Activities: John Willis, President, and the Graduate Student Organization are making plans for a symposium titled "Employment Opportunities and How to make Yourself More Marketable" Tuesday morning followed by a luncheon meeting. One of the presentations will be made by Holly Menninger of the American Institute of Biological Sciences on "Techniques and Tips for Communicating Your Science to the Media." The students also plan to initiate a Student Night Out Activity where non-student members pair with students to become acquainted over dinner and discussion. This has been a successful and popular activity at the Western Society of Weed Science annual meeting since it was proposed by Steve Dewey in 2002.

**Symposia:** Three symposia, in addition to the graduate student symposium, are planned for the meeting. The Weed Biology and Physiology Sections have joined to offer a symposium "Using Emerging Technologies to Study Weed Biology: an educational forum" on Tuesday afternoon. James V. Anderson and Wun S. Chao are organizing this session and plan to invite vendors whose products complement the topics to display at the meeting. Debanjan Sanyal is organizing the second sympo-

sium "Integrated Weed Management Revisited" which will be held on Wednesday afternoon. Finally, a day long symposium "Nursery Stock vs. Invasive Plant: Which is it, and why do we care?" will be held on Thursday and is being organized by Alan Tasker and Nelroy Jackson in conjunction with the Turf and Ornamentals, Wildland and Aquatic Invasives and Regulatory Affairs sections. They will be advertising this symposium to attract a broad audience including local residents.

Roundtable Discussions and Mini-Symposia: The board of directors is planning a noon-time Roundtable discussion to provide information and obtain member input about the proposed new society journal "Journal of Invasive Plant Science and Management." Fred Salzman, Chair, is planning a Specialty Crop Roundtable Discussion as part of the Horticulture Section of the meeting. This will be an informal discussion of research results and issues that are common across the regions. Susan Sun is planning a panel discussion: Building Bridges between Industry and Academia in Formulation and Adjuvant Technology as part of the Formulation, Adjuvant, and Application Technology session. The Education and Extension session Thursday afternoon will include a mini-symposium that discusses first year results of a multi-state project designed to investigate long-term weed shifts in Roundup Ready crops.

#### **National Research Initiative Project Meeting:**

Michael A. Bowers, CSREES

National Program Leader-Ecology is chairing the 2007 Project Director meeting for the NRI Program, Biology of Weedy and Invasive Species in Agroecosystems at the WSSA meeting. Project directors will be presenting their research within the poster session. In addition, the directors will participate in a discussion session and poster session Tuesday afternoon that is open to all society members.

I am looking forward to seeing you in warm San Antonio in February! The program section chairs and symposium organizers are working hard to develop a strong program for the meeting. Please see the registration brochure and registration materials posted at <a href="http://www.wssa.net/">http://www.wssa.net/</a> for additional information. I hope you will make your plans to attend.

Jill Schroeder, Program Chair

## POSITION ANNOUNCEMENTS

Field Agronomist wanted — Farmers Inc. in Greenville, MS has a Field Agronomist/Salesman opening. BS in Agronomy or related field required. Contact Floyd Trammell at 662-332-7264.

The Agronomy and Soils Department of Auburn University is seeking applicants for an Invasive Plant Management Extension Specialist and Assistant Professor. This is a 9month, tenure-track position with a 75% extension and 25% research appointment. The successful candidate is expected to develop a nationally recognized extension program addressing invasive plant management in Alabama. Cooperative interactions with other faculty, state and Federal agencies, organizations, and individuals will be required for training extension personnel and other stakeholders to identify invasive plants and to establish and coordinate a reporting and mapping system for Alabama. In addition, the incumbent will be expected to establish a statewide system for early detection; establish best management practices to limit introduction of invasive species; identify pathways which allow the introduction and spread of invasive species; and develop a funding base through competitive grants, private grants, and cost-share funds for invasive plant management. Other responsibilities include, plant identification, establishing field trials, and developing training materials and publications. The successful candidate will be expected to procure extramural funds to support programs and provide summer salary.

Required qualifications include: 1) earned Ph.D. in weed science, plant ecology, plant taxonomy, or a closely related discipline (all requirements for the PhD must be completed by 16 August 2007); 2) formal education or extensive experience in field research; 3) formal education or extensive experience in plant identification; 4) effective communication and computer usage skills; candidate must demonstrate the ability to communicate effectively in English, both in writing and verbally, and 5) meet eligibility requirements for work in the United States at the time of appointment.

For detailed application procedures contact Kay Holloway:

e-mail – <u>hollokm@auburn.edu</u> fax: 334-844-3945

phone: 334-844-3899

or mail:

Agronomy and Soils Department, Auburn Univ, AL 36849-5412

Active review of applications will begin on 15 January 2007, but the search will continue until the position is filled. To ensure consideration for the position, applications must be received by end of business on 15 January 2007.

Minorities and women are encouraged to apply. Auburn University is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Florida Weed Science Society Annual Meeting / February 26–27 / Maitland, Florida For more information see: <a href="https://www.floridaweedsciencesociety.com">www.floridaweedsciencesociety.com</a>
- 9th World Congress on Parasitic Plants
   A meeting of the International Parasitic Plant Society (IPPS) / June 3-7, 2007 / Omni Hotel, Charlottesville, Virginia USA

This is a meeting of the International Parasitic Plant Society (IPPS) and all researchers interested in parasitic plants are invited to participate. The program will consist of oral presentations and posters. Oral presentations will be selected from submitted abstracts. Featured speakers include Maria Harrison, Fred Kanampiu, Jeffrey Palmer, Alejandro Perez de Luque, Julie Scholes, Koichi Yoneyama.

For further information, to register and submit abstracts go to <a href="www.cpe.vt.edu/wcopp">www.cpe.vt.edu/wcopp</a> Please direct comments or questions to Jim Westwood (<a href="www.cpe.vt.edu/wcopp">www.cpe.vt.edu/wcopp</a> Please direct comments or questions to Jim Westwood (<a href="www.cpe.vt.edu/wcopp">www.cpe.vt.edu/wcopp</a> Please direct comments or questions to Jim Westwood (<a href="www.cpe.vt.edu/wcopp">www.cpe.vt.edu/wcopp</a> Please direct comments or questions to Jim Westwood (<a href="www.cpe.vt.edu/wcopp">www.cpe.vt.edu/wcopp</a> Deadline for abstract submission is March 1, 2007.

# PEOPLE PLACES

Marc Alan Cohn is the recipient of the 2006 Seed Science Award, presented by the Crop Science



Society of America. Dr. Cohn is a Professor and Seed Biologist in the Department of Plant Pathology & Crop Physiology at the Louisiana State University Agricultural Center in Baton Rouge, where he has conducted research and taught since 1978. He is the Editor-in-Chief of the journal, Seed Science Research. Dr. Cohn earned his B.A. from Northeastern University in Boston, and his M.S. and Ph.D. degrees from Cornell University in the laboratory of Ralph Obendorf. His research program focuses upon a chemical biology approach to weed seed dormancy and seed recalcitrance of marsh plants important for coastal stabilization.

\* \* \* \* \*

Dr. Eric Palmer, formally Research and Development Scientist with Syngenta at the Southern Region Technical Center near Leland, MS, is now the R&D Representative for Mississippi. Eric assumes statewide R&D responsibilities in Mississippi for Syngenta.

\* \* \* \* \*

## Necrology

Dr. Larry Nelson, Associate Professor and Extension Specialist, Department of Forestry and Natural Resources, passed away unexpectedly in late August. Dr. Nelson was a forest vegetation management expert. He began his career at Clemson University in 1984. His contributions in the field of vegetation management have contributed greatly to the intensive management of southern forests. Dr. Nelson graduated from Ohio University with a B.S. in Botany, from Duke University with a M.S. in forest pathology and from Auburn University with a Ph.D. in Tree Physiology. He was a member of Southern Weed Science Society, Weed Science Society of America, South Carolina Exotic Pest Plant Council, South Carolina Forestry Association and the past chair of the S.C. Forestry Council.

## NEWSLETTER SUBMISSION Instructions and Deadlines

May 2007 ..... April 1, 2007

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

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