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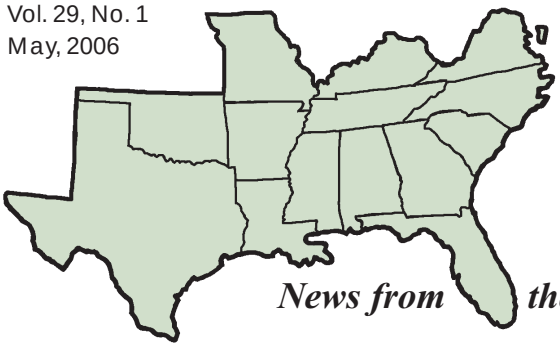

News from the SWSS Southern Weed Science Society

What's Inside

President's Message

JACKIE DRIVER

I believe that nothing compares with the personal growth one can experience by sharing time and ideas with others. I hope at the end of the 2006 Annual Conference you experienced beneficial exchanges of information and were rejuvenated in your enthusiasm to continue your pursuit of innovative approaches to weed management. It was a pleasure to see everyone in San Antonio. The feedback I received indicated the program was an overall success. This does not happen without the time commitment and efforts of many. The Program Committee did an exceptional job in organizing the sessions and symposia. They were very instrumental in making sure all sessions were on schedule and according to the program.

A special thank you is again extended to Paul Baumann and the entire Local Arrangements Committee for an outstanding job coordinating activities with the hotel staff to assure all programs needs were met. Chris Tingle and the Graduate Student Program Committee did an excellent job running the paper and poster contest. Two members sacrificed a great deal of time during the meeting to make sure papers were appropriately loaded for each session and available for presentation. Sometimes this meant tracking down presenters at the last minute. Nonetheless Dan Reynolds and Andy Kendig kept the presentations running smoothly and according to the program. Thanks!

This year the General Session and Awards Luncheon were combined. We are most grateful to Bayer CropScience, DuPont, Monsanto, and Syngenta for their support of the luncheon. Several of you provided feedback and suggestions regarding the luncheon and how it could be combined with the Awards Banquet. The Board discussed this during the Thursday morning meeting and encouraged the program committee to begin the 2007 annual meeting on Monday and conclude afternoon on Wednesday.

The Endowment Foundation received several contributions at this year's meeting. Your contributions are always needed and appreciated. The Memorabilia Room set up by Ken Smith and Bob Scott was a great success. Many of you spent time in the room reminiscing and walking down memory lane. Thanks to these gentlemen and others for the idea and to BASF for sponsoring the mixer. Randy Ratliff was instrumental in collecting a sizeable amount for the Foundation with his innovative exercise at the Awards Luncheon.

Departing members from the Board were Luke Etheredge (Graduate Student Rep.), Fred Strachan (Industry), and Scott Senseman (Academia). The Society thanks

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE *continued from page 1*

you for your contributions and commitment to moving SWSS forward. New members joining the Board are Darrin Dodds (Graduate Student Rep.), Brad Minton (Industry), and Andy Kendig (Academia). We welcome you to the Board and look forward to your contributions.

During the Thursday morning meeting several topics were discussed. As I mentioned the Board discussed and agreed to combine the Awards Luncheon and Banquet in addition to starting the meeting on Monday morning and ending during the afternoon on Wednesday. David Monks and the 2007 Program Committee are already working on the meeting plans for 2007. Several of you have exchanged ideas with David Monks and other members of the program committee regarding the upcoming meeting. I am sure he welcomes any additional inputs from the membership. A topic of continued discussion is in regard to increasing the membership. The Board requested the Long Range Planning Committee to identify organizations that can be approached and encouraged to participate in the SWSS and potentially become members of the Society. In addition, several members have exchanged ideas regarding this topic. Chad Brommer presented some interesting thoughts to the membership last year regarding outreach activities to other groups. Chad has since agreed to chair the Membership Committee. We look forward to future activities of this committee.

As the program format continues to evolve and the Society continues to face the challenges of a declining membership and maintaining a balanced budget, I encourage all of you to keep thinking of ways to keep the Society moving forward. As your president, I welcome any and all ideas.

I hope all of you have a safe and productive season. Have a Great Summer!

New SWSS Board of Directors

(L-R) Front: Alan York, Darrin Dodds, Jackie Driver, David Monks, and David Shaw.
Back: Peter Dotray, David Jorkan, Andy Kendig, and Sue Rick.
Not pictured: John Byrd, Ann Thurston, Brad Minton and William Vencill.

2006 SWSS AWARDS

Distinguished Service Award Academia

Charles T. Bryson

Dr. Charles T. Bryson was raised on a small farm southwest of Tupelo, MS. He received a B.S. in Entomology in 1972, M.S. in Entomology with a minor in Botany in 1974, and a Ph.D. in Botany with a minor in Entomology in 1980 from Mississippi State University. Dr. Bryson was initially employed with USDA to research long-term effects of herbicides and various tillage production systems on weed populations and on cotton growth and yield. Since 1996, Dr. Bryson's research has focused on non-native invasive weeds that threaten agricultural, forest, urban, and natural areas. He has been an active member of the SWSS, WSSA, and other professional organizations for over 20 years. He is a respected expert on identification, biology, ecology, and control of sedges, prickly nightshades, and cogongrass. During his tenure with USDA-ARS, Dr. Bryson has authored or co-authored over 250 peer reviewed journal manuscripts, book chapters, and abstracts. His research on weed biology and ecology has lead to a number of popular publications including senior editor of the recently published Interactive Encyclopedia of North American Weeds DVD by the Southern Weed Science Society. He has been an active member of the SWSS Weed Identification committee and has chaired the committee since 1995. This project has provided the society with high-quality, visible educational outreach program that has also provided a very significant source of funds for the society. He also assisted the "Forestry Weeds of the South" subcommittee with its very successful book. Charles has also graciously provided original paintings for auction at the SWSS as a fund-raising activity for several years that have also contributed significant funds to the SWSS Endowment Foundation.

2006 Outstanding Educator Award

Don S. Murray

Dr. Don S. Murray was born May 3, 1944, in Beaver, OK, the son of Glen E. and Betty L. Murray. He graduated from Pauls Valley High School in Pauls Valley, OK, in May 1962. He received his B.S. degree in Agronomy (Soils option) in 1966 and his M.S. degree in Agronomy (Soil microbiology) in 1968 from Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, OK. He then enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1968 and served until 1971 primarily in the Medical Corps in Europe. He returned to Oklahoma State University in 1971 to continue his graduate studies and received the Ph.D. degree in Crop Science (Weed Science) in 1974.

Following graduation, Dr. Murray joined CIBA-GEIGY Corp. as a Field Research Representative (assigned to North Dakota, South Dakota, and Montana). In 1975, he joined the faculty of Auburn University in the Department of Agronomy and Soils where he conducted weed science research with soybeans and developed and taught "Advanced Principles of Weed Science." In 1978, he joined the faculty of Oklahoma State University in the Department of Agronomy (later its name was changed to Plant and Soil Sciences) where he conducted weed science research with row crops (cotton, soybeans, peanuts, grain sorghum, etc.) and taught several junior, senior, and graduate weed sciences courses.

Dr. Murray's research (to date) has resulted in 55 published journal articles, 1 accepted for publication (with revision), and 3 in review; 3 book chapters; 4 bulletins; 8 miscellaneous publications; 2 software programs; and 159 presentations at professional meetings. In very popular classroom courses, he's taught 812 students at the junior level, 253 at the senior level, and 140 at the graduate level. He has served or is serving as the major advisor for 47 graduate students and on the committees of 31 others. His graduate students are in great demand on the job market because they are highly trained professionals.

Dr. Murry has held elective offices and/or served on committees in four weed science societies including the SWSS, NCWSS, WSSA, and the Alabama Society of Weed Science. He has been a member of SWSS since 1972, served on 30 SWSS committees (multiple times on

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many of them), and served SWSS on the Board of Directors, as Secretary-Treasurer, Representative to WSSA, Vice President, President Elect, President, and Past President. SWSS named him "Outstanding Young Weed Scientist" in 1984 and the recipient of its "Distinguished Service Award" in 2004. He was named "Fellow" of WSSA in 1999. At Oklahoma State University, he has held the P.E. Harrill Distinguished Professorship in Crop Science since 1999 and the title of Regents Professor since 1998.

Weed Scientist of the Year

James L.Griffin

James L. "Jim" Griffin is the Lee F. Mason LSU Alumni Association Professor in the Department of Agronomy and Environmental Management at Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA. He grew up on a row crop and livestock farm in Greenville, MS and as a youth was active in 4-H. He received his B.S. in Agronomy (1975) and M.S. in Agronomy/Weed Science (1976) from Mississippi State University. In 1979, he completed a Ph.D. in Agronomy/Crop Management and Physiology with a minor in Animal Nutrition at Pennsylvania State University. From 1979 until 1987 while at the Rice Research Station in Crowley, LA, his research program emphasized crop and weed management in soybean, rice, grain sorghum, and wheat. In 1988 he joined the Department of Plant Pathology and Crop Physiology with responsibility for weed management research in soybeans, sugarcane, and corn, and in 2001 moved to the Department of Agronomy and Environmental Management. His research interests include integrated weed management, weed-crop competition, weed biology, herbicide persistence, and weed-pathogen-herbicide and weed-insect interactions.

His research program has been strongly supported by commodity groups including the Louisiana Soybean and Grain Research and Promotion Board, the American Sugarcane League, and the Louisiana Rice Research Board as well as agri-chemical companies. Efforts with colleagues also have resulted in competitive grant funding from USDA, EPA, and Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality. Over the last 22 years, he has generated around 2.36 million dollars in extramural support. He holds a research and extension appointment with the LSU AgCenter and a teaching appointment with the College of Agriculture and is a Full Member of the LSU Graduate Faculty. Jim has chaired or co-chaired 30 graduate committees and currently has four graduate students. He has served as committee member for 29 other graduate students. He has served as a coach for the LSU weed team and his students have participated in the Southern Weed Science Society weed contest since 1990. Formal teaching responsibilities include courses in introductory weed science and field research methods. Jim was actively involved in the development of the undergraduate Environmental Management Systems curriculum and Agricultural Pest Management and Urban Entomology concentrations within the College of Agriculture. Jim was recognized for his teaching contributions by being named to the Teaching Merit Honor Roll by the College of Agriculture and Gamma Sigma Delta. In 1995 he received the Joe E. Sedberry Award as the Outstanding Graduate Teacher in the College of Agriculture at Louisiana State University. Jim was recognized as the Outstanding Teacher by the Weed Science Society of America in 2000 and was named the Outstanding Educator by the Southern Weed Science Society in 2001.

During his career Jim has published four book chapters, 97 refereed journal articles, 10 Experiment Station bulletins, and 274 abstracts co-authored with graduate students and colleagues. He is active in the Louisiana Plant Protection Association having served as President and Treasurer. Jim served as Executive Board member of the Southern Weed Science Society and is active on various committees in both the Southern Weed Science Society and the Weed Science Society of America. He has served as Associate Editor for *Weed Technology* journal and on numerous peer review panels for competitive grants. Jim was the recipient of the First Mississippi Corporation Award in 1990 for outstanding research in the Louisiana Agricultural Experiment Station and in 1993 was named the Outstanding Young Weed Scientist by the Southern Weed Science Society. He was recipient of the Research Award for the Louisiana State University Chapter of Gamma Sigma Delta in 1998 and in 1999 received the Doyle Chambers Research Award for career contributions to Louisiana Agriculture. In 2000, he was one of several scientists in the Louisiana Agricultural Experiment Station to receive the Tipton Team Research Award, which recognized team contributions in sugarcane breeding and variety development. Jim was recipient of the Distinguished Service Award in the Southern Weed Science Society in 2003 and in 2004 was named a Fellow in the Weed Science Society of America.

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Outstanding Young Weed Scientist Award

Todd A. Baughman

Todd Baughman is a native of southwestern Oklahoma growing up in the small town of Cache. He received his B.S. in Agronomy from Oklahoma State University and his M.S. in Agronomy/Weed Science at Oklahoma State University under the direction of Dr. Thomas F. Peeper. He completed his Ph.D. in Weed Science at Mississippi State University under the direction of Dr. David R. Shaw.

After graduation, Todd worked shortly as a Post-Doctoral Research and Extension Assistant at Mississippi State University and as a Product Development Representative with Sandoz Agro, Inc. in the V-C Region. Todd then accepted a position with Texas A&M University as an Agronomist for the Rolling Plains of Texas located at the Texas A&M University Agricultural Research and Extension Center near Vernon, TX. In his position, Todd is responsible for conducting research and educational training in all aspects of crop production for the Rolling Plains of Texas. Major crops include cotton, wheat, peanut, and forages. Todd assumed the additional responsibilities of State Extension Peanut Specialist in 2002. This job entails providing statewide leadership for peanut extension agronomy programs, along with conducting research, educational programs, and training in peanut throughout the state of Texas. Todd's research and extension programs have centered on providing useful information to producers especially in the area of weed management. He has authored or co-authored 16 journal articles, 128 abstracts and proceedings, 71 technical publications, 38 popular press articles, and 4 plant material releases. Todd is an adjunct Professor in the Plant and Soil Science Department at Texas Tech University and has served on the committee of 11 graduate students.

Todd has been active member of the Southern Weed Science Society since 1990. As a student, he has participated and placed in the SWSS Student Paper and Poster Contest and the Southern Weed Contest. Todd has served on the Student Program Committee for 9 years and as the chairperson of that committee three different times. He has also served as a program section chair, session moderator, student paper or poster judge, and member or chair of several other committees. Todd has served as an Associate Editor for *Weed Science*. Todd has been awarded with the Soil and Crop Science Department's Special Achievement Award for Extension and with the Syngenta Crop Protection Recognition Award from the American Society of Agronomy.

Outstanding Young Weed Scientist Award

John V. Altom

John V. Altom was born on September 22, 1966 in Ardmore, OK. He Graduated from Plainview High School in 1984 and then attended Oklahoma State University. John graduated there with a B.S. in Agronomy (Plant Protection option) in 1988, a M.S. in Agronomy (Forage Weed Science) in 1990, and a Ph.D. in Crop Science (row Crop Weed Science) in 1994. John is married to Melinda and they have two boys, Jake (9) and Eli (7). Since graduating from Oklahoma State University, John has worked for Valent USA Corporation. From April 1994 to January 1996, he worked at a research farm located near Champaign, IL. Since February 1996, John has been located in Gainesville, FL working as a Field Market Development Specialist. His role as an FMD Specialist includes a research and development role as well as a market support role throughout Alabama, Georgia, and Florida. John has been an active member of numerous societies and has received numerous awards throughout his collegiate and professional career including Outstanding Senior awards, Outstanding Ph.D. award, and the Spirit of Valent award.

Outstanding Graduate Student Award (PhD)

Marcos J. Oliveira

Marcos J. Oliveira was born in Ribeirao Preto, San Paulo, Brazil, on February 25, 1978, the second of three sons of Marcos A. Oliveira and Celia R.M. Oliveira. He grew up close to the largest production regions of sugarcane and oranges in Brazil. From an early age, he was interested in areas related to agriculture, and in February of 1997, he entered the Sao Paulo State University (UNESP) in Agronomy Engineering. After the first semester of college, he began in internship in the Department of

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Technology (UNESP) where he investigated the use of limestone and sewage sludge as a source of silicate and alternative fertilization in corn. After his freshman year, he was selected to take part in the Special Training Program, which stressed the practical application in the field of agronomic techniques learned in class. He was also active during the months when school was not in session, participating in conferences, workshops, and internships in different companies related to extension and crop production. In 1999, due to academic merit, leadership potential, and language skills, he received a one-year Fulbright Scholarship to study at Clemson University in the U.S. In July 2002, he returned to the U.S. to do his internship in the Soybean Breeding Program of Clemson University, and in December 2002, he obtained his B.S. in Agronomy Engineering from UNESP. He then accepted a graduate assistantship at Clemson University under the direction of Dr. Jason K. Norsworthy and began research in August 2003. During his Master's study, his responsibilities included conducting laboratory and greenhouse experiments involving environmental factors affecting seed germination and emergence, and conducting field research under different tillage systems in the absence and presence of soybean to describe the temporal emergence of important weeds of the southern U.S.

He was a member of the Clemson University Weed Teams that placed third (2004) and second (2005) at the Southern and Northeastern Weed Contests, respectively. He is an active member of Alpha Epsilon Lambda (AEL), Honor Society of graduate and Professional School Students; the International Weed Science Society; the Weed science Society of America; the Southern Weed Science Society (SWSS) and the SWSS Graduate Student Organization-Clemson University representative; the American Society of Agronomy; the Crop Science Society of America; and the Soil Science Society of America. He has given eight posters (two at the SWSS) and two oral presentations and has authored or co-authored ten abstracts from these presentations. He was awarded the First Place Graduate Oral Presentation from the SWSS in 2005. He has co-authored two referred journal articles with an additional one in review under his authority.

Outstanding Graduate Student Award (MS)

Christopher L. Main

Christopher L. Main was born April 10, 1976, in Hillsboro, OH. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Gary Main. He attended Hillsboro High School and graduated in June 1994. He entered the University of Tennessee in August 1994 and received a B.S. in Agriculture, majoring in plant and soil science. Upon graduation, he accepted the position of Graduate Research Assistant in the graduate program at the University of Florida and was awarded a M.S. in agronomy with a concentration in weed science in 2001. Chris returned to the University of Tennessee in 2001 to pursue a Ph.D. in Plants, Soils, and Insects. Chris is the author of 11 published manuscripts. He has made presentations at the Weed Science Society of America, the Southern Weed Science Society, the Florida Weed Science Society, the Tennessee Agricultural Production Association, and the Milan No-Till Field Day. Chris is married to the former Ms. Shelly Hughes of Germantown, TN and is father to one son, Christopher 'Hayden' Main. Chris enjoys spending time with his family, playing golf, and relaxing with a good book. Chris is currently employed as the state-wide weed management extension specialist for Clemson University located at the Pee Dee Research and Education Center near Florence, SC.

2006 SWSS Student Contest Results

POSTER CONTEST

Masters Student Section

1st Place *(tie)*

Management systems for ivyleaf morningglory in Roundup Ready Flex cotton. **M. A. Batla,** J. W. Keeling, P. A. Dotray, and J. D. Everitt; Texas Agricultural Experiment Station.

Utilization of remote sensing tools for Roundup drift detection in non-Roundup Ready corn. **J. T. Irby,** D. B. Reynolds, M. T. Kirkpatrick, J. A. Huff, and D. M. Dodds; Mississippi State University.

PhD Student Section

1st Place

Effects of pesticide programs for cotton on soil microbial activity. **S. R. Lancaster,** R. L. Haney, F. M. Hons, and J. M. Chandler; Texas Agricultural Experiment Station.

2nd Place

Biochemical and physiological studies on fluridone resistant hydrilla. **A. Puri,** G. E. MacDonald, W. T. Haller, and D. G. Schilling; University of Florida.

Pictured L to R: T. J. Irby, A. Puri, S. R. Lancaster, and M. A. Batla

PAPER CONTEST

Masters Student Section I

1st Place

Nitrogen uptake by selected weed species from microsites throughout compacted soil layers. **G. T. Place,** M. G. Burton, D. C. Bowman, and T. W. Ruffy; North Carolina State University.

2nd Place

Alternative herbicides for controlling imazethapyr-tolerant red rice and carryover effects. **B. A. Pearson** and N. R. Burgos; University of Arkansas.

Masters Student Section II

1st Place

Glufosinate antagonizes postemergence graminicides. **A. P. Gardner** and A. C. York; North Carolina State University.

2nd Place

Horseweed management. **C. L. Smith,** J. A. Kendig, J. W. Heiser, and P. M. Ezell; University of Missouri Delta Center.

Pictured L to R: G. T. Place, B. A. Pearson, A. P. Gardner, and C. L. Smith

PhD Student Section I

1st Place

Adsorption and translocation of bispyribac-sodium in barnyardgrass. **D. M. Dodds,** D. B. Reynolds, J. H. Massey, and M. C. Smith; Mississippi State University.

2nd Place

Influence of spray water pH on adsorption and translocation of trifloxysulfuron in Palmer amaranth and Texasweed. **M. A. Matocha,** L. J. Krutz, S. A. Senseman, K. N. Reddy, and C. H. Koger; Texas A&M University and USDA-ARS.

PhD Student Section II

1st Place

Interference and control of nutsedge in Louisiana sugarcane. **L. M. Etheredge,** J. L. Griffin, and C. A. Jones; Louisiana State University Ag Center.

2nd Place

Soybean row width and glyphosate timing influence sicklepod survival and fecundity. **P. Jha,** J. J Norswothy, M. S. Malik, S. Bangarwa, and M. J. Oliveria; Clemson University.

Pictured L to R: L. M. Etheredge, D. M. Dodds, and P. Jha
Not Pictured: M. A. Matocha

A dynamic interactive reference for plant identification

Interactive Encyclopedia of North American Weeds

Version 3.0

Features

- **85 additional weed and crop species (447 total)**
- **Over 2,400 full-color photos**
- **Interactive identification key to all weeds**
- **U.S. and Canada distribution maps and habitats**
- ***World of Weeds:* Weed histories**
- **Descriptions of 67 plant families**
- **Professionally narrated lessons on plant taxonomy**
- **Interactive educational quizzes and games**
- **Presentation maker for customized navigation**

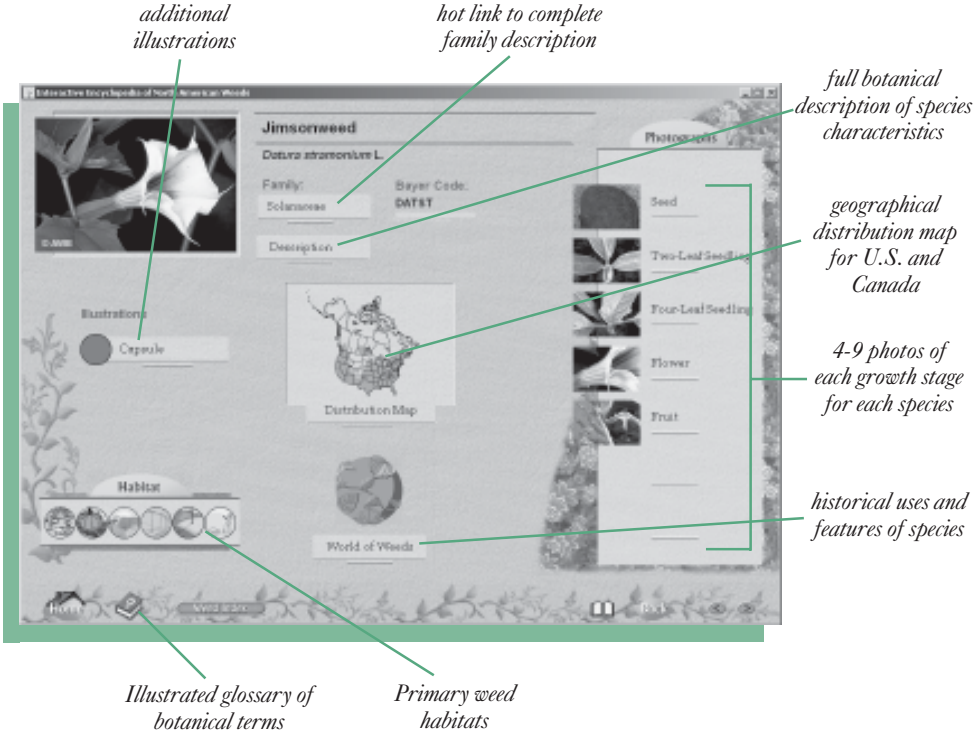
Windows©
DVD

What's New in the Third Edition

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

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

Sample Entry: Jimsonweed (Species Screen)



WASHINGTON REPORT

by Lee Van Wychen, Director of Science Policy

Since my last report in December, I have logged in over 8000 miles and spent over 10 solid days in board meetings at the regional and national weed science meetings. It has been an immense pleasure getting to rekindle old relationships and establish new ones in each of the weed science societies. The weed science societies have much to be proud of both individually and collectively. There are also opportunities and challenges for each of the societies.

Weed Science Research Funding

The President released his FY2007 federal budget on February 6, 2006. The proposed budget for USDA has several significant changes that could impact weed science and will depend on the actions Congress takes during this year's appropriation cycle. The FY2007 USDA Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service (CSREES) budget for the National Research Initiative (NRI) competitive grants program is $247 million, a $66 million increase over FY2006. Of this $66 million increase, $42.3 million is from Section 406 activities that will be transferred dollar for dollar and Program Leader for Program Leader to the NRI. Section 406 Programs include the Regional Pest Management Centers, Crops at Risk from the Food Quality Protection Act (FQPA) Implementation; FQPA Risk Mitigation Program for Major Food Crop Systems; and the Methyl Bromide Transition Program.

The USDA CSREES budget for NRI includes: 1) increasing the amount of the grant that may be used for competitive integrated activities from 22 to 30 percent; 2) eliminating the cap on indirect costs for competitively awarded grants; and 3) an increase of $3 million for the Biology of Weedy and Invasive Species grant program.

A new USDA program for invasive species is proposed that includes $10 million for competitive grants to private groups for eradication and control of invasive species through the use of new and innovative methodologies. Unfortunately though, no FY2007 funds were allocated for the 2004 Noxious Weed Control and Eradication Act.

Hatch Act and McIntire-Stennis Act Proposed Changes

USDA CSREES FY2007 budget proposes an alternative approach to the ag formula funds that would redirect a portion of the Hatch Act and the McIntire-Stennis programs to nationally, competitively awarded multi-state/-institution projects. This is a critical distinction from the FY2006 budget proposal, which proposed a 50% cut in formula funds. The FY2007 budget maintains nearly level funding for the Hatch and McIntire-Stennis Acts sustaining a substantial state formula base for the programs while emphasizing multi-institutional efforts to address issues of mutual importance to states and the nation.

The **Hatch Act** formula provides for each state to receive what it received in 1955 as a base amount. Sums appropriated in excess of the 1955 level are distributed as follows: 20% is allotted equally to each state; 52% is allocated on the basis of a state's share of U.S. rural and farm population; a maximum of 25% is allocated to multi-state/-institution research projects; and 3% is reserved for administration. The FY2007 USDA CSREES proposal would increase the Hatch Act multi-state/-institution share to about 55%, phased in over a four-year period as current multi-state projects are completed. The remaining funds would be allocated on the state formula base, phasing down over time to about 45% of the appropriation.

The McIntire-Stennis Act of 1962 makes funding available to state agricultural experiment stations, forestry schools, and programs at the land universities for forestry research. McIntire-Stennis funds are distributed by a formula that allocates $10,000 to each state, with 40% of the remainder being distributed according to a state's share of the nation's total commercial forest land, 40% according to the value of its timber cut annually, and 20% according to its state appropriation for forestry research. In the case of the McIntire-Stennis program for FY2007, in which there is no current multi-state/-institution program, there would be no phase-in period. However, slightly more that 40% of the appropriation would continue to be allocated on the basis of the state formula base.

The WSSA is not in favor of the reallocation of formula funds within Hatch and McIntire-Stennis Acts. The WSSA has always been a strong supporter of USDA formula funds given the amount of applied extension work that is done by our members. On the other hand, there has been a slow but constant push towards more competitive funding, the argument being that it results in more accountability and better research. In the academic food chain, the higher up someone is in administration, the more likely there is the push for competitive funding. If

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WASHINGTON REPORT

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a university gets $4 million in formula funds, they have to match it at the state level. If they get $4 million in competitive funds, they get to keep half or more. However, the WSSA believes that the more applied a scientist (including those in Extension) the more the need for formula funding. The WSSA will remain determined and vigilant as the President's FY2007 budget moves through Congress.

New USDA Under Secretary for Research, Education, and Economics

Gale A. Buchanan has been nominated by President Bush to Serve as USDA Under Secretary for Research, Education and Economics. His Senate confirmation hearing is expected sometime before May 2006. Dr. Buchanan is dean and director emeritus at the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences at the University of Georgia. Earlier in his career, he served as associate director for the Georgia Agricultural Experiment Station, resident director of the Coastal Plain Experiment Station, and president of the Southern Weed Science Society. Dr. Buchanan served as a colonel in the Alabama Army National Guard for over 25 years. He received his bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Florida and his PhD from Iowa State University. The WSSA applauds Dr. Buchanan's nomination and looks forward to working with him upon his Senate confirmation.

The WSSA and EPA

The WSSA and the EPA have been working to increase their interaction on a number of weed science issues. This can be a very symbiotic relationship for both the WSSA and EPA. Many thanks go out to WSSA members John Jachetta and Don Stubbs for their work in initiating this endeavor. Four main themes that have emerged from our meetings together are: 1) Capitalize on EPA's need for rangeland and rights-of-way management information by inviting WSSA members with expertise in these areas to come to DC to present seminars on these topics; 2) Develop a program for EPA field visits to a host member's institutions; 3) Develop WSSA expert panels on herbicide families for re-registration; and 4) Develop an EPA Fellowship where WSSA members could work on EPA's Staff for at least 6-months at a time.

The WSSA would like to thank Dr. George Beck, Colorado State, for taking time during the 7th National Invasive Weeds Awareness Week to organize and present a seminar at EPA on March 2, 2006 titled "Invasive Weeds: Thieves that Require an Ecologically-based Battle Plan." Nearly 30 EPA staff attended this hour long seminar that addressed a variety of rangeland weed management issues such as spray-drift buffers and endangered species.

The 2007 Farm Bill

The Coalition for Funding Agricultural Research Missions (CoFARM) submitted comments to USDA Secretary Johanns in December which included: 1) Reauthorizing the National Research Initiative (NRI) at $500 million a year; 2) Eliminating USDA's NRI indirect cost ceiling; 3) Maintaining a maximum 5-year duration for competitive grants; 4) Reauthorizing the Initiative for Future Agriculture & Food Systems (IFAFS) at $200 million; and 5) Provide the Secretary of Agriculture with the ability to apply up to 30 percent of funding to conduct integrated research, education and extension within the NRI. The term "integrated" within USDA means that a project has to contain a "research, education, and extension" component.

World Trade Organization (WTO) issues will continue to impact the Farm Bill commodity support programs. A question that is being asked in Washington, DC is: If Farm Bill commodity support programs are reduced, can non-trade distorting (Green Box) programs such as agricultural research step up to help provide America's farmers and ranchers with the tools necessary to ensure their success and profitability. Weed science research, education, and extension needs a unified voice and effort to promote our benefits.

Federal Government Job Series for Weed Science

The Office of Personnel Management (OPM), the federal government's human resources agency, has been slow to respond to the WSSA's request for implementing a Federal Job series for weed science.The WSSA would like to thank the considerable effort from Rob Hedberg, Hilda Diaz-Soltero, Ernest Delfosse, and Doug Holy who helped draft a complete weed science job series outline. OPM staff members that are familiar with the proposal have moved on to other jobs, thus, it will take a new effort by the WSSA and OPM to successfully implement this job series.

NIWAW 7 a Huge Success

We have just completed another successful National Invasive Weed Awareness Week. Over 175 people from nearly 40 states and one Canadian province traveled to Washington, DC to increase the national awareness of invasive weeds and weed science in general. The National and Regional Weed Science Societies need to continue to support and build upon this important effort for our discipline. NIWAW 7 participants visited about 100 Congressional offices during the week where they educated Congressional members and staff on two official NIWAW posi-

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WASHINGTON REPORT

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tions: 1) Working to secure $15 million in funding for the 2004 Noxious Weed Control and Eradication Act; and 2) Working to secure passage of the National Aquatic Invasive Species Act.

The WSSA wishes to thank Dr. Nelroy Jackson for his tireless work as chairman of the Invasive Weed Awareness Coalition, which organized and conducted NIWAW 7. Other main events during NIWAW 7 included Kid's Fun Day at the U.S. Botanic Gardens which was attended by over 800 people, briefings by the USDA, Dept. of Interior, EPA, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and National Invasive Species Council (NISC), and numerous other board meetings for non-governmental organizations concerned with the management of noxious and invasive weeds. (See pictures at the end of this article.)

WSSA Submits Comments to BLM EIS

In January and February, many weed scientists and weed science societies, along with the WSSA, submitted comments to the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) regarding their Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) that addresses vegetation treatment on BLM lands. There was an organized effort by certain groups to submit a disproportionate share of comments on the EIS that would prevent the use of herbicides on BLM lands in the future. The WSSA supports the use of all weed management tools, whether chemical, cultural, or biological.

WSSA Endorses Biological Science Funding for NSF

On February 28, 2006, 42 scientific organizations endorsed a letter to Congressman Bart Gordon, Ranking Minority Member on the House Science Committee, that stressed the importance of funding for the biological and social sciences within the National Science Foundation (NSF). The following letter was submitted:

The basic science community is extremely appreciative and supportive of your recent legislative initiatives to put the United States back on track with its dual competitiveness and innovativeness engines, basic research and technology. Your commitment to basic science is critically important to all Americans, and the 42 organizations that have signed onto this letter are already working to support your efforts.

We write now to express two things. First, we commend the goals of H.R. 4434, 4435, and 4596 and assure you that we will be working among our respective constituencies to promote initiatives that bolster the federal science and technology research enterprise. Second, we want to formally convey the extremely important sentiment that efforts to boost the national investment in our future competitiveness and innovation capabilities rely inclusively on all basic sciences and technologies. Just as it proves impossible to predict the potential of today's basic research findings, it is equally difficult to predict the synergies between seemingly disparate sciences and methodologies. It is key, therefore, that your efforts not be misconstrued as primarily a push for the "physical sciences," to the exclusion of other sciences providing critical scientific advances through NSF support. The division of sciences into disciplines is an arbitrary human invention that nature routinely ignores. In fact, as NSF Director Arden Bement publicly stated upon the release of the proposed FY 2007 NSF budget, there is a growing synergy among the biological, physical, and social sciences. The U.S. investment in science should likewise increasingly reflect such an inclusive organization.

The term "physical sciences" is not currently defined in H.R. 4596, and it is not used consistently in that the more inclusive "sciences" is sometimes used in its stead. We urge you to strongly consider the sentiment expressed in the Gathering Storm report, the impetus for your legislation: "... This special attention does not mean that there should be a disinvestment in such important fields as the life sciences or the social sciences. A balanced research portfolio in all fields of science and engineering research is critical to U.S. prosperity. Increasingly, the most significant new scientific and engineering advances are formed to cut across several disciplines."

Sincerely,

American Educational Research Association,
American Institute of Biological Sciences,
American Phytopathological Society,
American Psychological Association,
American Society for Microbiology,
American Society of Agronomy,
American Society of Plant Biologists,
American Sociological Association,
Association for Applied Psychophysiology and Biofeedback,
Association for Behavior Analysis,
Association for Psychological Science,
Association of American Geographers,
Association of Population Centers,
Behavior Genetics Association,
Biophysical Society,
Coalition for Funding Agricultural Research Missions,
Cognitive Science Society Consortium for Oceanographic Research and Education,
Consortium of Social Science Associations,
Crop Science Society of America,
Ecological Society of America,
Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology, Human Factors and Ergonomics
Society Institute of Food Technologists,
International Behavioral Neuroscience Society
International Society for Developmental Psychobiology,
National Academy of Neuropsychology,
National Council for Science and the Environment
Population Association of America,
Psychonomic Society
Society for Behavioral Neuroendocrinology,
Society for Computers in Psychology,
Society for Experimental Social Psychology,
Society for Judgment and Decision Making,
Society for Mathematical Psychology,

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Society for Personality and Social Psychology,
Society for Psychophysiological Research,
Society for Research in Child Development,
Society for Research in Psychopathology,
Society of Multivariate Experimental Psychology,
Soil Science Society of America,
Weed Science Society of America

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

In January, EPA announced it will provide financial support for Conferences, Workshops and/or Meetings on EPA mission related issues which include: 1) protecting human health and safeguarding the natural environment; 2) advancing the scientific and technical research that promotes environmental protection; 3) exploring current and emerging issues of importance to environmental protection; and/or 4) encouraging collaboration among the nation's best scientists and engineers in academia, business and nonprofit research institutes.

EPA expects $750,000 will be available in grant funds through 25 awards. Applications for grant funding will be due and approved on a quarterly basis through January 18, 2007. Eligible Applicants include city, county and state governments, public and private institutions of higher education and certain nonprofit organizations. Details are posted at http://www.epa.gov/ord/grants_funding/pdfs/BAA_conferences_011806.pdf
EPA Contact: Michael Bender at 202 564 6829;
e-mail: Bender.Michael@EPA.gov

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USDA BRIEFINGS DURING NIWAW 7

USDA briefing on February 28, 2006 during the 7th National Invasive Weed Awareness Week. The event was organized and moderated by Hilda Diaz-Soltero (seated, far left), USDA Senior Invasive Species Coordinator. Presentations were given by (seated from left to right) Dr. Mary Bohman, Director of the Resource Economics Division on behalf of Dr. Susan Offutt, Administrator, Economic Research Service, Dr. Ann Bartuska, Deputy Chief of Research on behalf of Dale Bosworth, Chief, U.S. Forest Service, Dr. Edward Knipling, Administrator, Agricultural Research Service, and Dr. Colien Hefferan, Administrator, Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service.

Question and answer session for NIWAW 7 participants during the USDA briefing on Febuary 28, 2006.

PEOPLE & PLACES

Keith Burnell recently completed requirements for a Ph.D. in weed science at Mississippi State University under the direction of Dr. John D. Byrd, Jr. Keith is currently an instructor in the Horticulture department at Louisiana State University.

* * * * *

Ken Hutto recently completed requirements for a Ph.D. in weed science at Mississippi State University under the direction of Drs. John D. Byrd, Jr. and David R. Shaw. Ken is currently conducting post-doctoral research at the University of Florida under the direction of Dr. Barry Brecke.

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSION Instructions and Deadlines

ISSUE	DEADLINE
August	July 1, 2006
December	November 1, 2006

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

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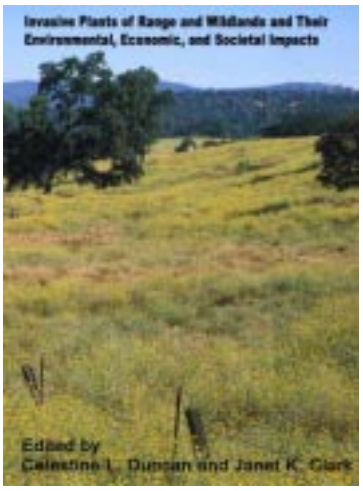

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Professionals in natural resource management, planning, research, or conservation disciplines who want to **strengthen environmental documents, validate project proposals, develop stewardship or management policies, prioritize research efforts, or 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.

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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.

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

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Southeastern Exotic Pest Plant Council Symposium

The 8th annual Southeastern Exotic Pest Plant Council Symposium is to be held May 23–25, 2006 at the North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences, Raleigh, NC. Agenda, registration information, and call for poster titles are available at the SE-EPPC web site:

http://www.se-eppc.org/

The Purpose of the Symposium

An exciting program of presentations and workshops will address invasive plant identification, risk assessment, ecosystem impacts, and educational opportunities – and, of course, the latest in management strategies. The program will have morning lectures from nationally recognized speakers followed by concurrent sessions. The afternoon will offer workshops and field trips. Volunteer poster presentations are invited and will be on display throughout the program with authors present to discuss their work during the poster session and reception.

They Can't Win If They Aren't Nominated!

Although the meetings have just ended, it's time right now to begin thinking about who in the SWSS is worthy of nominating for an award or office. We had an excellent slate of award recipients and nominees for office this past year; we need to be sure we continue to recognize those who have done so much for our society and for our discipline.

Often we get busy during the summertime, and the beginning of the new school year is hectic as well. September is closer than you think, so start putting nomination packages together. Take a look at the list of award recipients in this issue, look at the past list at the back of your program from this year, and think about the many worthy SWSS members who have not received an award or served in a particular office. Go ahead and start NOW contacting me about nominating someone for an office, or putting the award nomination package together. Our website has all the information you need regarding nomination requirements, forms, etc.

David Shaw
Nominating and Award Committee Chair