

SWSS

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SOUTHERN WEED SCIENCE SOCIETY

What's Inside

**2008 Meeting
Date Correction 2**

Announcements 2

**2007 Student
Contest Winners 3**

**2007 Award
Winners 5**

Washington Report 7

**Position
Announcement 10**

President's Message

David Monks



It seems like a lifetime since I attended my first Southern Weed Science Society annual meeting. I attended my first meeting in the late 1970's as a graduate student presenting my first paper. Through the years I have always appreciated the value that the Society has placed on graduate education and member participation, as I have benefited from both. These opportunities were very evident at the 2007 Annual Meeting in Nashville, TN this past January. Attendance at this meeting was approximately the same (over 300) as it was the previous year in San Antonio, TX. We hope to have at least this many and more for next years meeting which is at the Hyatt Regency in Jacksonville, Florida on **January 28-30, 2008**. Ann Thurston is the program chair for the 2008 meeting. If you have any ideas for the upcoming meeting please send Ann a note at ann.thurston@bayercropscience.com.

The Program Committee did an excellent job in organizing the sessions and symposiums at our recent meeting. We had a lot of interesting topics that were very timely. I had many positive comments on the program this year. We also thank the sponsors of the breaks, luncheon and banquet during the meeting. Sponsors included Monsanto, United Phosphorus, Gowan, Syngenta, Bayer, DuPont, BASF, FMC, and Valent. I want to express my appreciation to Tom Mueller (University of Tennessee) and the entire Local Arrangements Committee for an outstanding job of coordinating activities with the hotel staff to assure that all programs needs were met. Wilson Faircloth and the Graduate Student Program Committee also did an excellent job running the paper and poster contest. Special thanks to Andy Kendig and Dan Reynolds who took the time to load the presentations and keep them running according to the program. In addition, member awards were given out at the Monday's luncheon with one of the highlights being the Presidential Achievement Award going to Arlyn W. Evans for his many contributions and leadership in weed identification (Weed Identification Guides, etc). He has served the society over many years and we have benefited both financially and educationally from his superb photography.

Continued on page 2

President's Message *continued from page 1*

Awards received by other members included:

Distinguished Service - Academia: Barry Brecke
Distinguished Service - Industry: David Black
Weed Scientist of the Year: Alan York
Outstanding Educator: Tom Mueller
Outstanding Young Weed Scientist:

Trey Koger

Outstanding Graduate Student - Ph.D.:

Wesley Everman

Please take the time to congratulate them for their achievements.

We also thank the following departing members from the Board for their service to the society: John Byrd, Darrin Dodds, Sue Rick and David Shaw.

There are two items that I want to inform you about with regard to recent Board activity. For a number of reasons, the Board recently voted for the abstracts of presentations made at the 2007 annual meeting to be available via the web. Also, WSSA recently expressed a desire to have more interaction with the regional societies at the same time that the SWSS Board was interested in looking at new ways that would lead to more membership involvement. Thus, the Board voted for SWSS to participate in a joint meeting with WSSA in 2009 at Orlando, Florida. Dan Reynolds is the program chair for SWSS and David Shaw is the program chair for WSSA for this meeting. They have already begun to work on the program for this meeting. While this is a new endeavor for us as a society, it also gives us a chance to explore new opportunities for our members.

I want to conclude by encouraging you to become involved in the society if you are not already. I also hope you have a productive and enjoyable summer.

2008 Meeting Date Correction

The 2007 SWSS program listed the dates for the 2008 Meeting as **January 21-23, 2008**. The correct dates for the 2008 SWSS meeting are January 28-30.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

RYAN HUGHES has taken the position of Field Agronomist for Farmers Incorporated in Greenville, MS. He will be covering Bolivar and Washington Counties.



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NEWSLETTER SUBMISSION Instructions and Deadlines

ISSUE	DEADLINE
August 2007	July 1, 2007
December 2007	November 1, 2007

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

Al Rankins, Jr., Editor
Box 9555
Mississippi State, MS 39762
Phone 662-325-3341
Email:
arankins@pss.msstate.edu



STUDENT CONTEST WINNERS

M.S. Student Paper Contest

Section I

1st place

Persistence and carryover of imazethapyr, imazamox, and imazapyr to imidazolinone-sensitive rice. **J. W. Heiser**, J. A. Kendig, and C. L. Smith; University of Missouri Delta Center, Portageville, MO.

2nd place

Glyphosate tolerance in Roundup Ready Flex cotton. **J. A. Huff**, D. B. Reynolds, D. M. Dodds, and J. T. Irby; Mississippi State University, Mississippi State, MS.

Section II

1st place

Physiological aspects of glyphosate-resistant Palmer amaranth. **J. B. Haider**, W. K. Vencill, A. S. Culpepper, and T. L. Grey; University of Georgia, Athens and Tifton.

2nd place

Cogongrass and torpedograss: rhizome manipulation with growth regulators. **E. A. Ketterer**, G. E. MacDonald, J. A. Ferrell, K. J. Boote, and B. A. Sellers; University of Florida, Gainesville, FL.



J. W. Heiser

presented by Wilson Faircloth



J. A. Huff



J. B. Haider

Ph.D. Student Paper Contest

1st place

Environmental influence on efficacy of flazasulfuron, foramsulfuron, and trifloxysulfuron for perennial ryegrass control. **J. B. Willis**, B. C. Compton, and S. D. Askew; Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA.

2nd place

Physiological aspects of Arkansas glyphosate-resistant common ragweed. **C. E. Brewer** and L. R. Oliver; University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR.



J. B. Willis



C. E. Brewer

M.S. Student Poster Contest

1st place

Option and Equip for weed control in southern field corn. **F. H. Lyons**, L. R. Oliver, M. T. Barapour, and C. E. Brewer; University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR.

2nd place

Strip-till cotton: weed management and economics. **M. H. Schwertner** and P. A. Dotray; Texas Tech University and Texas Agricultural Experiment Station, Lubbock, TX; J. W. Keeling; Texas Agricultural Experiment Station, Lubbock, TX; B. Bean; Texas Agricultural Experiment Station, Lubbock, Amarillo, TX; L. V. Gilbert; Texas Agricultural Experiment Station, Lubbock, TX



F. H. Lyons



M. H. Schwertner

Ph.D. Student Poster Contest

1st place

Factors influencing ALS-resistant gene transfer from CL rice to red rice. **V. K. Shivrain**, N. R. Burgos, K. L. Smith, D. R. Gealy, and H. L. Black; University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR.

2nd place

Critical period of broadleaf versus grass control in peanut. **W. J. Everman**, S. B. Clewis, and J. W. Wilcut; North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC.



V. K. Shivrain



W. J. Everman

2007 Challenge Bowl Winning Team



Louisiana State University

(From left to right, team members: Joey Boudreaux, Justin Hensley, Rakesh Godara, and Sunny Bottoms, with President Jackie Driver)

2006 Southern Weed Contest Winners

Team Winners

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



Top Individual Winners

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

2007 Southern Weed Science Society AWARD WINNERS



Alan York
Weed Scientist of the Year
presented by Donnie Miller



Barry J. Brecke
Distinguished Service Academia
presented by Jason Norsworthy



David Black
Distinguished Service Industry
presented by Jason Norsworthy



Thomas C. Mueller
Outstanding Educator
presented by Dan Poston



Trey Koger
Outstanding Young Weed Scientist
presented by Barry J. Brecke



Wesley Everman
Outstanding Ph.D. Student
Presented by Wilson Faircloth

continued on page 6

PRESIDENTIAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD



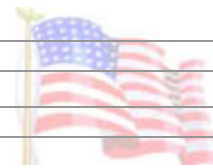
Arlyn W. Evans

Arlyn was born on December 20, 1916 and raised on a family homestead orchard farm in Mosier, Oregon. After completing high school in 1933 he attended the Oregon Agriculture College (now Oregon State) and graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Horticulture in 1938. He was then hired by the university to work on a Master of Science in Plant Pathology with a minor in entomology while researching a thesis on sour cherry leaf spot. He was awarded his M.S. in 1941 and volunteered for Army Officer Candidate School in 1942. While stationed in Italy he was offered an assistant professorship and the opportunity to work on a PhD from Oregon State in July, 1945. Arlyn later accepted a position as a technical sales representative for the Pacific Northwest with DuPont in 1947. Arlyn had several positions in the western and Midwestern United States within DuPont that eventually led him to the Research

Division for the Southern Mississippi River drainage area. He conducted research on johnsongrass control in sugarcane and railroad right-of-ways, herbicides and fungicides for rice, and herbicide and growth regulators for cotton until he retired in 1981.

Soon after retirement Chester McWhorter (then president of the SWSS) encouraged Arlyn to help with the Weed ID guide for the SWSS. Chester and Dennis Elmore grew weed seedlings and Arlyn did the photography. Arlyn also used a large library of photographs he had been taking throughout his career. Dennis was editor and coordinated the writing of descriptions and distribution maps, and worked with Arlyn on printing and publication. The Weed ID guide was a three-ring binder format and seven sets of 50 weeds (pages) were printed at intervals from 1985 through 2001. During this time Charles Bryson took over for Dennis as senior editor, and Michael DeFelice began production of an interactive software version of the project. Arlyn has now completed over 500 species that represent untold hours and many decades of work. All of these photographs will be included in the next interactive DVD. Best of all, 394 of his southern species will soon be published by the University of Georgia Press for the SWSS in a high quality cloth bound book to be called *Weeds of the South* in 2008. Arlyn has just celebrated his 90th birthday with Cecilia, his wife of 66 years, and his three daughters: Arlys, Eileen, and Rae.

WASHINGTON REPORT



by Lee Van Wychen, Director of Science Policy

Things inside the DC Beltway have never been busier! The Farm Bill reauthorization for 2007 is in full swing... A new Congress has been dealing with a new FY2008 budget... The National and Regional Weed Science Societies have been working to advance their member's objectives and have conducted annual meetings in Milwaukee, Baltimore, Nashville, San Antonio and Portland... We have just completed another successful National Invasive Weed Awareness Week... and I have been very busy working on a number of exciting initiatives that are part of the WSSA's Long Term Strategic Plan.

USDA Under Secretary Buchanan Addresses WSSA in San Antonio

Many of you had a chance to attend the Monday general session during the WSSA annual meeting in San Antonio, TX. We were very fortunate to have Dr. Gale Buchanan, USDA Undersecretary for the Research, Education, and Economics (REE), present the Administration's 2007 Farm Bill proposal. Dr. Buchanan discussed the highlights of the Administration's Farm Bill proposal and provided excellent insight on Title VII of the Farm Bill on how the USDA is working to reorganize and revitalize their research, education, and economics mission and increase investment in high priority areas of research such as specialty crops, bio-energy, and bio-based products. The WSSA greatly appreciates Dr. Buchanan's support and time and is honored that he is a member of the WSSA.

The Administration is recommending several reforms and new initiatives for future agricultural research and the following is a list of the major components of the package.

- Consolidate USDA's Agricultural Research Service (ARS) and the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service (CSREES) into a single agency named the Research, Education, and Extension Service (REES), which will coordinate both intramural and extramural research, extension, and education programs.
- Rename the Research, Education, and Economics (REE) mission area the Office of Science.
- Establish an annual \$50 million Agricultural Bio-Energy and Bio-Based Products Research Initiative to advance fundamental scientific knowledge for the improved production of renewable fuels and bio-based products.
- Establish an annual \$100 million Specialty Crop Research Initiative to provide science-based tools for the specialty crop industry.

Please visit www.usda.gov/documents/07finalfbp.pdf to view the USDA's full 2007 Farm Bill proposal.

WSSA Comments on Agriculture Research Title Proposals in 2007 Farm Bill

The Administration's 2007 Farm Bill proposal is mentioned above. The other two proposals that have various levels of support among different stakeholder groups are CREATE-21, which stand for Creating Research, Extension, and Teaching Excellence for the 21st Century (CREATE-21) and the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) proposal. The CREATE-21 proposal calls for the consolidation of elements currently within USDA's Research, Education, and Economics program area (and Forest Service R&D) within a new "National Institutes for Food and Agriculture" in order to enhance the integration, efficiency, and flexibility of programmatic efforts in research, extension, and education. While sustaining existing intramural and university capacity funding, the Institute will also provide substantial new funding for competitively-awarded research, extension, and education grants. Finally, the CREATE-21 proposal includes major elements of the Danforth proposal for the creation of a National Institute of Food and Agriculture to substantially increase fundamental research within USDA. For more information, please visit: www.create-21.org

On March 9, 2007 members of the WSSA Board of Directors, the WSSA Science Policy Committee, and the Regional Weed Science Society Presidents approved the following position statements regarding the various agricultural research title provisions in the 2007 Farm Bill. These position statements will help the National and Regional Weed Science Societies actively support legislation that meets these goals.

- **Reauthorize Strong Research Title.** The full range of research, extension & education (REE) provisions—including intramural (ARS, ERS, FS) and extramural [base funding (Formula Funds); competitive grants (NRI, CAP grants); and high priority/emergency needs]—is vital to meeting the challenges and opportunities that the U.S. food and agricultural sector face in the coming years. The integrated approach of the NRI and similar programs has been especially effective and should be strengthened.
- **Commit to Double Funding in Next 5 Years.** The provision in the current farm bill calling for agricultural research funding to be doubled over the next 5 fiscal years should be retained. The NIFA approach, the USDA farm bill proposal and the CREATE-21 proposals are unified in their call for enhanced public investment in food and agricultural REE.
 - WSSA endorses the stated objective of CREATE-21 to double federal funding for

food and agricultural REE, through mandatory spending of \$200 million annually combined with increases in discretionary spending.

- WSSA applauds the USDA proposal for recommending a significant increase in federal funding in the next research title, through both mandatory and discretionary spending. Targeted increases in biofuels and specialty crops research represent a strong beginning, but other chronically under funded areas remain to be addressed.

- **Authorize NIFA.** WSSA supports establishment of a National Institute for Food and Agriculture (NIFA) in USDA. NIFA was recommended by a USDA REE Task Force to address a significant gap in fundamental research. Funding must be in addition to critical funding for existing USDA REE programs.
- **Increase Funding for Existing Programs.** Chronic under funding in the NRI and other programs remains to be addressed through the authorization and appropriations process.
- **Encourage Interagency Partnerships.** Strengthen current authorities used by USDA to leverage funds by partnering with other agencies to fund critical projects (for example, DOE, NSF, NASA)
- **Strengthen Stakeholder Participation.** WSSA urges expanded public participation in the Administration's REE priority setting and funding decision process.
- **Debate Organizational Reform Proposals.** WSSA believes any consolidation or reorganization must preserve and enhance the level of cooperation among intramural and extramural REE functions of USDA and universities and other partners and retain institutional memory. Proposed reforms in the USDA and CREATE-21 proposals concerning the organization of USDA's research mission will help stimulate serious debate about how to optimize and maximize this critical federal investment in the future of the U.S. food and agriculture system and the public benefits such investments provide.

WSSA Biofuels and Invasive Plants white paper

In response to the major surge in renewable fuels initiatives going on at the Federal and State levels, the WSSA has formulated a white paper that addresses the concerns and issues occurring at the interface of invasive weeds and plants being grown for cellulosic biomass energy production. Special thanks to WSSA members Nelroy Jackson, Jodie Holt, and Joe DiTomaso for drafting these comments on a very short timeline.

Biofuels and Invasive Plant Species

A variety of plant species from a range of taxa, including crops and wild plants, are being considered for use as biofuels. It is important to consider not only the economic and social benefits of these species, but

the potential risks associated with their introduction and propagation.

Biofuel crops can have economic benefits, but in some cases can also have the potential to escape cultivation and become invasive in natural ecosystems. For example, of the many grasses being evaluated or considered as biofuels, most are rhizomatous perennials and a few have already been shown to be extremely invasive in many communities (e.g., giant reed [Arundo donax] and reed canarygrass [Phalaris arundinacea]). Similarly, woody species under consideration, such as Chinese tallow tree (Sapium sebiferum), are also very invasive in many southern states. These species threaten riparian areas and wetlands, alter fire cycles, and have a negative impact on wildlife habitat.

Ideally, plants used as an economically efficient source of biofuel should be easily propagated in highly managed agricultural systems, but should not be capable of surviving outside of such cultivation. This is true for nearly all of the major crops currently grown in the US, including rice, wheat, corn, soybean, cotton, tomato and alfalfa. Similar expectations should apply to biofuel crops. Without this expectation, the benefits of crop-based biofuel production may be offset by far greater economic and ecological damage caused by their invasion into sensitive natural ecosystems, as well as drainage and irrigation canals.

Although introducing some plant species as biofuel sources may be safe and beneficial to society, the environmental and ecological risks associated with their potential escape and invasion into natural systems must be evaluated along with the agronomic or economic benefits. Similar evaluations and analyses are already mandatory for biological control agents and transgenic plants, and should be in place before decisions are made regarding the use of biofuel plants.

8th National Invasive Weeds Awareness Week (NIWAW 8) a Success

Despite Mother Nature's attempt to thwart us, we had 170 people participate for the 8th National Invasive Weed Awareness Week. I would like to personally thank the outstanding efforts by Nelroy Jackson for helping coordinate and plan NIWAW activities. Also, many thanks to Jill Schroeder and Jeff Derr for traveling to Washington DC to participate in the weeks events and helping out with all the planning. Jeff Derr submitted the following comments to the WSSA Board of Directors. I have modified them slightly for the newsletter, but felt they very accurately reflect NIWAW! Thanks Jeff!

I wanted to update you on our activities in Washington D.C. during the 8th National Invasive Weed Awareness Week (NIWAW). We accomplished a lot during our time there!

First of all, the participants: Jill Schroeder and I formally represented the WSSA board during the week.

Linda Nelson, John Madsen, Kurt Getsinger, Janet Clark, Mike Chandler, Al Tasker, Jen Vollmer, and George Beck also participated. Nelroy Jackson chaired the Invasive Weed Awareness Coalition (IWAC) that organized NIWAW and Lee Van Wychen organized our visits during the week, as well as helping Nelroy with meeting planning.

I would like to thank Nelroy and Lee for all their hard work on NIWAW. They both did a tremendous amount to prepare for the week, as well as ensuring that all events went smoothly. They also made sure that Jill, I, and WSSA were formally recognized during the various events. WSSA was mentioned frequently during the week, which was nice to see.

I thought I would let you know about the events in which Jill and I participated. We had an orientation session Sunday evening. Lee, Nelroy and I met with the North American Weed Management Association (NAWMA) board. They, as well as others during the week, expressed keen interest in the new journal.

On Monday morning, we heard presentations from the Army Corps of Engineers, the Nature Conservancy, the Council of Environmental Quality, and EPA, among others. What was amazing to me was that the EPA official, Debbie Edwards, specifically mentioned WSSA in her talk. That afternoon, Jill, Lee, John Jachetta, and I met with 12 EPA officials, including Debbie Edwards, Don Stubbs, John Leahy, and Bill Chism, among others, in regards to us providing assistance to them through a liaison, plus other possibilities. We heard about EPA's timeline for herbicide reregistration and registration review assessments. This was a productive meeting and I am sure we will follow up with further dialogue with EPA.

On Tuesday morning, we heard presentations from a variety of USDA agencies involved in invasive plant management, including APHIS, ARS, CSREES, and NRCS, among others. We had an opportunity to interact with Del Delfosse and John Lydon, among others. John and I discussed the possibility of ARS having their stakeholder/ARS planning meeting at the 2008 WSSA meeting (I had discussed this with some of you in San Antonio). Tuesday afternoon, Lee, Jill and I met staffers for Senators Domenici, Bingaman, and Webb. We presented 3 position papers (National Parks Service agreements with landowners, Salt Cedar, and Noxious Weed Control bills), along with a white paper on biofuels and invasive plants that was developed by Joe DiTomaso, Jodie Holt, and Nelroy.

Wednesday morning we heard reports from various agencies in the Department of the Interior. Jill, Lee and I met with Colien Hefferan, Administrator for CSREES. Rob Hedberg set up this meeting and sat in. She was very interested in our white paper on the biofuels/invasive plant issue. We had hoped to discuss NRI funding but did not have time. Wednesday afternoon we listened to reports from various non-government agencies, including the Nature Conservancy, Wildlife forever, Union of Concerned Scientists, and the State Depts. of Agriculture, among others.

Wednesday evening we had a reception at the US Botanic Garden with yours truly as m.c. for the awards presentation (Jill had the honor last year). George Beck was one of the awardees. About 240 people attended the reception, including 3 congressional staffers and members from a range of government agencies. Excellent place for a reception with time for informal discussions.

Thursday morning we heard presentations from FICMNEW (Federal Interagency Committee for the Management of Noxious and Exotic Weeds), including APHIS, USGS, and DOT/FHWA. For lunch, Nelroy arranged for Jill, Lee, and me to meet with the Garden Club of America board. They are a large group and thus it would be good to partner with them wherever possible. Thursday afternoon included a briefing from the National Invasive Species Council, and there was a debriefing meeting run by Nelroy.

I feel we made some excellent contacts during our week in DC. I am sure we will discuss during the summer board meetings some of the ideas we talked about at NIWAW. I feel it was very worthwhile for Jill and I to participate in NIWAW and I think the time Nelroy and Lee devoted to this activity was time well spent.

Jeff Derr

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**Assistant Professor
(Weed Science/Vegetation Management)**

The Agronomy and Soils Department of Auburn University is seeking applicants for an Assistant Professor in the area of vegetation management. This is a 9-month, tenure-track position with a 75% research and 25% instruction appointment. The expected position starting date is January 1, 2008.

Responsibilities: The successful candidate is expected to develop a research program for effective and efficient vegetation management methods on highway and utility rights of way in Alabama. A successful research program will include the ability to identify sources and secure extramural funding to help support programs and provide summer salary. Candidate must cooperatively interact with other faculty, staff, organizations, state and Federal agencies. In addition, the candidate will be expected to teach undergraduate and graduate level weed science courses and develop training materials and manuals for teaching highway and utility workers safe and effective vegetation management practices. The candidate will be expected to develop a program for training weed science graduate students and serve as an educational advisor for vegetation management organizations.

Qualifications include: 1) earned Ph.D. in weed science, herbicide chemistry, or herbicide physiology. (degree must be completed by January 1, 2008); 2) formal education or extensive experience in field research; 3) effective communication and computer usage skills; candidate must demonstrate the ability to communicate effectively in English, both in writing and verbally, and 4) meet eligibility requirements for work in the United States at the time of appointment.

For detailed application procedures contact: Kay Holloway: e-mail – [hollok@auburn.edu](mailto:hollokm@auburn.edu); 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 June 15, 2007. The search will continue until the position is filled, but to ensure consideration for the position, applicants are encouraged to apply by June 15, 2007.

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