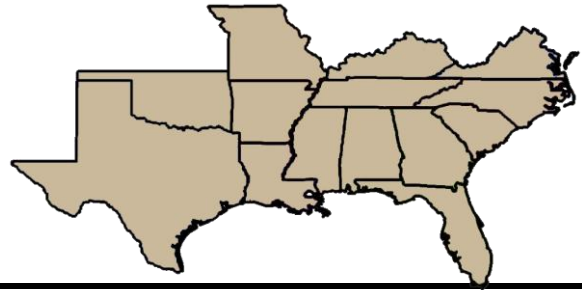


SWSS



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President's Message Mr. Tom Holt

Greetings to all of you! I hope this letter finds all of you having a good and productive season. A LOT has been happening in the Southern Weed Science Society since the last newsletter. Here are some highlights:



Phil Banks, as of June 1st, is now officially serving as our Business Manager. Phil's experience with other societies and his dedication to the SWSS will undoubtedly be a positive long term benefit for our society.

Hopefully all of you are finding the new website www.swss.ws a significant improvement. Congratulations and thanks to **Mr. Tony White** for getting our website on-line and operating in great shape. I went on-line this morning and registered using American Express, the new system worked great. Tony will be attending the meeting in Puerto Rico, so be sure to extend your thanks to him in person.

Our **President Elect, Barry Brecke** (aka Program Chairman), is working hard to develop a strong program with several new sections being added; more from Barry below.

Committee Chairmen:

As mentioned in the May Newsletter, one of my goals is to have all of our committees with active chairmen dedicated to working on the responsibilities of their committees as outlined in the Manual of Operating Procedures (MOPs) and to ensure a proper succession plan. It "seems" we have made some progress as demonstrated by John Richburg's (Chair of the Sustaining Membership Committee) note below. By default, if the Program and Local Arrangements Committees are not functional, we have no meeting. The numerous other committees help spread the responsibilities around and are foundational for a strong society. Please see the list of Committee Chairs on the website. If you are interested in helping move the SWSS forward as a chairman or member of a committee, please let one of the Board Members know.

Travelling home from the SWSS summer board meeting in San Juan, Puerto Rico, I had the nagging thought of how great this upcoming meeting could be - in many ways, AND what a mistake it would be not to take advantage of this opportunity. The opportunity, of course, is that the meeting will be in a unique and different place with so much to offer our members.

We already have a strong indication that a lot of people from our society are planning to attend the meeting. We are reaching out to all the countries south of us from Mexico to Brazil and every country in between. We are receiving positive indications from Brazil and Argentina that they will participate in our 2011 meeting. We are expecting a strong showing from Puerto Rico as we have people on our Local Arrangements Committee from the University of Puerto Rico. We are contacting a variety of businesses in Puerto Rico from golf resorts, to landscape, ornamental and research farms to encourage participation. We are also inviting the Puerto Rican state FFA officers. Additionally, a lot of people are indicating that their spouse will be making this trip.

Dearl Sanders and his Local Arrangements Committee have been working diligently to make the Puerto Rico SWSS meeting a unique experience. Dearl is in the progress of putting together some tours on Sunday, January 23rd. See Dearl's note for details.

The Spouses Program:

We plan to take full advantage of our meeting being in Puerto Rico to organize a great time for our spouses. In fact, we have a person working specifically on the **Spouses Events**. We have a Spouses Meeting room for people to meet each other and sign up to participate in events including such things as snorkeling, a visit to the (beautiful) Tropical Rain Forest, shopping, and tours of Old San Juan. We will make it easy for our spouses to participate in small groups. We also want the spouses to attend the banquet Wednesday night, so we will be asking industry to subsidize the spouses' banquet tickets. The "Honorable" Scott Senseman is the MC again – you know they will have a ball.

Hospitality/Trade Show:

We have a team headed by Renee Keese putting together a Joint Hospitality Suite - Trade Show event for Monday and Tuesday nights. Just like the "old days," this will be a place where university and industry can meet – one of the greatest values of our annual meeting. Our belief is that we can have a great networking event, at a reasonable cost to everyone if we pool our funds. Don't miss out on this opportunity. Renee's contact information is renee.keese@BASF.com. Please contact Renee if you would like to participate in this event.

Golf Tournament – Sunday January 23rd:

We will have a golf tournament Sunday afternoon at the **Dorado Resort and Country Club** <http://www.doradobeachclubs.com>. This is the resort where the Ritz Carlton is building its new hotel and condos. The day will start off with a tour of the new course and a discussion on the building activities. We will then have a 4 person Best Ball followed by a reception at the new and beautiful Beach Pavilion, which is actually being constructed now. Companies are coming together to pay for much of the tournament with Value-In-Kind and will also support the Endowment fund with "Hole-Sponsorships." Companies sponsorships will be structured as follows: \$500, \$750 and \$1000 sponsorships will be allowed "free play" for 2, 3 or 4 players, respectively, from the sponsoring companies. With industry support, we will limit entry fees to \$25 for students and \$50 for non-students. We are also planning to have a bus bring spouses who don't play golf from the Caribe Hilton to the Dorado Resort Beach Pavilion before the reception begins. We will be mixing the teams to include students, industry and university players to begin the networking process. There will only be room for 18 teams; if you want to participate, you better "get on it." Tony White will be adding the Golf Tournament sign up to the website for payment of individual entry fees.

Industry will hear more from **Renee Keese** (Chair of Tradeshow/Hospitality Suite event), **John Richburg** (Chairman of the Sustaining Members Committee) and me (Golf Tournament).

Travel to San Juan:

You do not need a visa to travel to Puerto Rico. Airline flights are very reasonable, but I would recommend you make your travel plans early. Today, we can fly round-trip from Raleigh for about \$300.00. If you have not done so yet, I hope you register soon and make your travel plans to attend our next annual meeting San Juan, Puerto Rico. Your attendance and participation is needed to make this meeting a success.

JOIN US IN PUERTO RICO!



<http://www.hiltoncaribbean.com/index.php?destination=sanjuan&page=gallery>

A word from Local Arrangements Co-Chair Dearl Sanders

Fellow SWSS members:

The local arrangements committee for the upcoming SWSS annual meeting in San Juan, PR is a joint venture between Louisiana and the University of Puerto Rico. This will be the first time the SWSS has met outside of the southern states and an outstanding opportunity to meet in a truly tropical climate in January. Many of you have traveled to Puerto Rico in the past, but for those who have never visited the island we have included some FAQ's and answers that may be on interest:

What makes Puerto Rico an interesting meeting location? For a meeting in January the first thing that I think of is the climate. Daytime temperatures will average 80-85 degrees and night time temps will be in the mid to low 70's. January is the considered to be in the dry season (think sunscreen), but afternoon showers (5-10 minutes) are not uncommon on the north side (San Juan) of the island. San Juan is a medium sized city by US standard with a



population of about 500,000. The airport and airline connections are excellent for a city of this size (due to the cruise line and tourist business). For history buffs San Juan was founded in 1521 (it was already a 300 year old city when Atlanta was founded) by Ponce De Leon. Lots of forts, museums, historical sites can be found throughout the island. One of the oldest churches in the western hemisphere is in the western town of San German. For naturalists the only rain forest in the US Forest Service inventory is at El Yunque, about an hour southeast of San Juan. They have an excellent web site at www.elyunque.com.

Do I need a passport? No, Puerto Rico is a Commonwealth of the United States and is considered domestic air-travel (at this time).

What about money? Again, being a Commonwealth of the US the dollar is the currency of the island. ATM's abound around the island and I have never had a problem, although you might check with your personal bank prior to the trip to check.



What about pre and post meeting tours? The meeting hotel, Caribe Hilton, has its own tour desk and can facilitate most interests (sailing, fishing, snorkeling, golf, etc). In addition the University of Puerto Rico has a tropical agriculture research station about an hour west of San Juan that will be available for tours after the meeting (Thursday/Friday) for those interested. We are currently checking on tour bus prices for a Sunday (pre-meeting) tour of the rain forest (more on that later). The hotel is about a 10 minute cab ride from the old historical district of San Juan which has US Park Service fort, shops, restaurants, etc.



What other places to go? There are day trip ferries to Vieques Island with one of the top 10 beaches in the world. There is world class sport fishing out of the southwest towns of La Parguera, Bouqueron and Joyuda. There are coffee plantations along the central spine of the island (some with tours). American Airlines hubs out of San Juan and provides services to the other islands (30 minute flight to St. Thomas, 45 minute flight to St. Croix). There are bargains to be had from the



cruise lines, many cruise lines operate out of San Juan and last minute open cabins are very reasonable.

Contact me with other questions? Sure, either Dearl Sanders dsanders@agcenter.lsu.edu or Wilfredo Robles Wilfredo.Robles2@upr.edu. See you in PR!

Sustaining Membership Committee needs your help!

We are excited that for the first time in our society's history, we will be holding our annual meeting in San Juan, Puerto Rico. The program and local arrangement committees have put together what should be an outstanding 2011 meeting and we hope to see you there. I'm sure you are well aware that the meeting is scheduled for January 24-27, 2011, but how many of you know how many Sustaining Members we had last year or what it takes to be a member? It might surprise you to know we had only seventeen! We certainly appreciate the support from our Sustaining Members in the past, but would like to see this number grow in the future. My guess is we have companies in attendance that are not Sustaining Members and others that are a key part of our Industry that we all interact with that need to be involved in the SWSS for the many benefits, opportunities and information it offers. On behalf of the Sustaining Membership Committee we're requesting that our membership help us identify potential companies to become Sustaining Members to help us grow our Society. Our upcoming meeting is right around the corner, so please send all potential company names and contact information to John Richburg (jsrichburg@dow.com) and Robin Bond (RBond@drec.msstate.edu) by October 1st.

Thank you and we look forward to seeing you in San Juan.

John Richburg

People & Places

Leethaniel Brumfield recently began working on a Ph.D. in weed science at North Carolina State University under Drs. Katie Jennings and David Monks. Leethaniel's project will involve determining the effect of herbicides and other factors on sweetpotato root initiation.

Brandon Smith began working on a M.S. in weed science at North Carolina State University under the direction of Dr. Katie Jennings, Dr. David Monks, and Wayne Mitchem. His project will focus on the influence of herbicide strip width and summer weed competition on wine grape vigor, yield, and juice quality.

Nominations Needed!!!

The SWSS has many deserving members, take time to nominate your deserving fellow members for these awards. See awards at (www.swss.ws). Please consider sending in nominations for awards this year.

**Dan Reynolds
SWSS - Past President**

Call for Award Nominations

All too often in life we don't take the time to recognize those who have given so much of themselves to help others and the profession of Weed Science. I encourage you to nominate your deserving students and colleagues for the various awards. This is an important component of our annual meeting in which we all can and should participate. Last year we had a couple of awards for which no one was nominated. My goal for this year is to have multiple nominations for each of the awards. In order to accomplish this goal I need your assistance. If you are going to nominate someone for a specific award I am asking that you notify that respective chair-person immediately of your intentions. You do not have to supply any supporting information until the submission deadline. I will be relying upon the chair-persons to keep me informed of the number of nominations so we can encourage more participation if needed.

Awards Nominations are due September 30, 2010 to the respective Chairs of each award Sub-committee.

The awards and sub-committee chairpersons are as follows:

- **Distinguished Service Award, Academia**
- **Distinguished Service Award, Industry**

This award is the highest honor that the Society can bestow upon a member. It is given to honor members, one (1) from the industrial sector and one (1) from the academic sector, for outstanding service to the Society.

Chairperson – Brad Minton brad.minton@syngenta.com Phone:281-304-0609

- **Weed Scientist of the Year**

This award is presented annually to a weed scientist in recognition of outstanding performance in teaching, research, extension, and/or other service to weed science

Chairperson - Carroll Johnson Carroll.Johnson@ars.usda.gov

- **Outstanding Educator**

This award is presented annually to a weed scientist in recognition of outstanding contributions to the Society and Weed Science through education. The Award is to be given in recognition of a broad range of activities including formal classroom teaching; outreach and public service or extension including workshops, seminars, short courses, or other means of communication; mentoring undergraduate and graduate students; publication of scholarly work in journals, books, or reviews.

Chairperson - Peter Dotray p-dotray@tamu.edu Phone:806-742-1634

- **Outstanding Young Weed Scientist, Academia**

- **Outstanding Young Weed Scientist, Industry**

These awards are presented annually to a young weed scientist one from academia (teaching, research, extension) to be sponsored by BASF and one from Industry to be sponsored by the SWSS in recognition of outstanding service to weed science. The recipients must have been a voting member of the Society for at least three of the last five (5) years and must be a voting member of the Society in the year that the person is nominated for the award. They must be 40 years of age or younger on January 31 of the year she or he receives the award. They also must have completed at least five (5) years' work in weed science other than that related to academic studies.

Chairperson - Jason Norsworthy jnorswor@uark.edu Phone:479-575-8740

- **Outstanding Graduate Student, M.S.**

- **Outstanding Graduate Student, Ph.D.**

Must be enrolled as a graduate student in the degree program for which she/he is nominated within the calendar year for which the nomination is made and has actively participated in SWSS sponsored activities such as the annual meeting, weed contest, student paper contest, or committee work during the past two years including the year nominated and the previous year. The winners of the MS level Outstanding Graduate Student Award are not eligible for the PhD level Outstanding Graduate Student Award.

Chairperson - Daniel Stephenson dstephenson@agcenter.lsu.edu Phone:318-473-6590

Complete qualification and nomination forms may be found on the SWSS website (www.swss.ws). Please take the time to nominate someone for these awards. Contact Dan Reynolds should you have questions at dreynolds@pss.msstate.edu or 662-325-0519.

WASHINGTON UPDATE

By Lee Van Wychen

April 2010



Weed Resistance to Biotech Crops Stressed in NRC Report

The National Research Council (NRC) report, *The Impact of Genetically Engineered Crops on Farm Sustainability in the United States*, says that glyphosate resistant crops "could lose their effectiveness unless farmers also use other proven weed management practices." NRC Panel Chairman David Ervin, a Portland State University agricultural economist, said it's a "pivotal time" for genetically engineered crops. "Now's the time to take stock and document the weed resistance problem." Dr. Mike Owen from Iowa State was one of 12 authors on the report, but the only weed scientist.

The report includes 10 key findings and makes the following recommendations:

Recommendation 1. Federal and state government agencies, private-sector technology developers, universities, farmer organizations, and other relevant stakeholders should collaborate to document emerging weed-resistance problems and to develop cost-effective resistance-management programs and practices that preserve effective weed control in HR crops.

Recommendation 2. The U.S. Geological Survey and companion federal and state environmental agencies should receive the financial resources necessary to document the water quality effects related to the adoption of GE crops.

Recommendation 3. Public and private research institutions should allocate sufficient resources to monitor and assess the substantial environmental, economic, and social effects of current and emerging agricultural biotechnology on U.S. farms so that technology developers, policymakers, and farmers can make decisions that ensure genetic engineering is a technology that contributes to sustainable agriculture.

Recommendation 4. Public and private research institutions should be eligible for government support to develop GE crops that can deliver valuable public goods but have insufficient market potential to justify private investment. Intellectual property patented in the course of developing major crops should continue to be made available for such public goods purposes to the extent possible. Furthermore, support should be focused on expanding the purview of genetic engineering technology in both the private and public sectors to address public goods issues. Examples of GE-crop developments that could deliver such public goods include but are not limited to:

- plants that reduce pollution of off-farm waterways through improved use of nitrogen and phosphorus fertilizers,
- plants that fix their own nitrogen and reduce pollution caused by fertilizer application,
- plants that improve feedstocks for renewable energy,
- plants with reduced water requirements that slow the depletion of regional water resources,
- plants with improved nutritional quality that deliver health benefits, and
- plants resilient to changing climate conditions.

The report is the first comprehensive assessment of how GE crops are affecting all U.S. farmers, including farmers that do not use biotechnology and is available for free download from the NRC at

EPA Releases Draft NPDES Permit Language

The Environmental Protection Agency released a draft **pesticide general permit** (PGP) that would set general conditions for point source discharges from the application of pesticides to “waters of the United States”, defined by EPA to be:

- 1) Navigable waters
- 2) Tributaries of navigable waters
- 3) Interstate waters
- 4) Intrastate lakes, rivers, and streams:
 - a. Used by interstate travelers for recreation and other purposes; or
 - i. Which are the source of fish or shellfish sold in Interstate commerce; or
 - ii. Which are utilized for industrial purposes by industries engaged in interstate commerce to include:

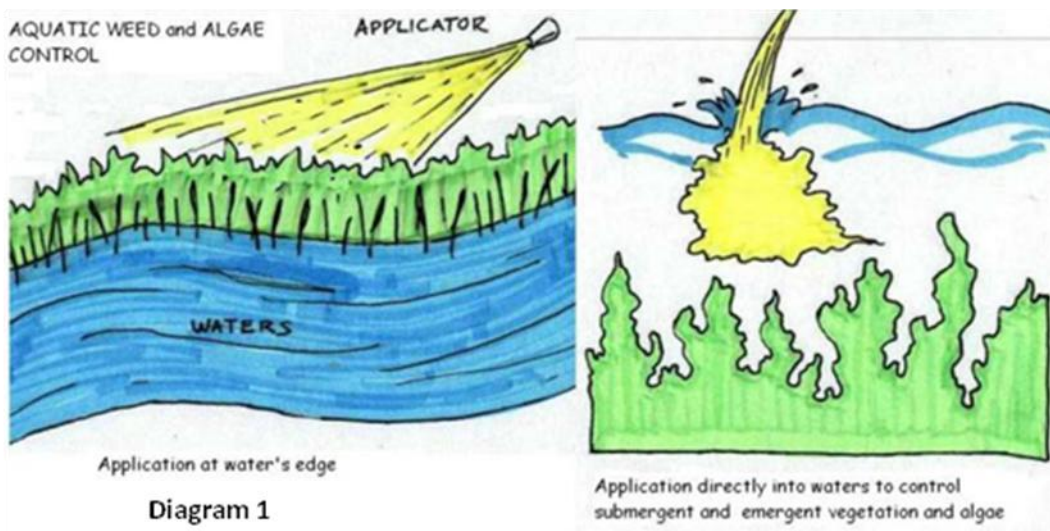
This definition has been interpreted to cover virtually all types of surface waters including: Rivers and streams; lakes and ponds; wetlands; sloughs; prairie potholes; intermittent streams; territorial seas, etc.

The draft PGP would cover discharges in areas where EPA is the permitting authority for the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) program. These areas include Alaska, Idaho, New Hampshire, New Mexico, Massachusetts and Oklahoma, 6 of the 7 U.S. Territories, Indian Country lands, and certain federal facilities. The remaining 44 states, which are authorized to administer NPDES permits, will issue their own permits. State-issued general permits must meet all Clean Water Act requirements that the Federally-issued permit must meet but can be more stringent. EPA received comments on its draft permit through July 19 and intends to issue a final general permit by December. The 44 NPDES authorized states will need to have permits issued and effective by April 9, 2011.

EPA estimated the permit program will affect approximately 365,000 pesticide applicators nationwide that perform 5.6 million pesticide applications annually.

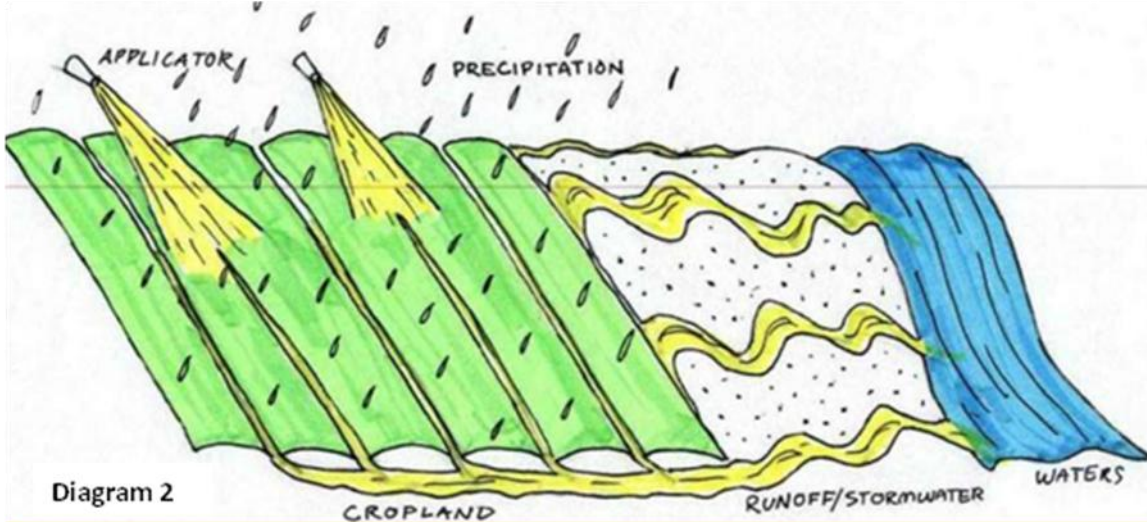
Pesticide uses covered under the draft PGP:

- 1) Mosquito and Other Flying Insect Control (in or above “standing or flowing water”)
- 2) Aquatic Weed and Algae Control (in “waters of the US” as well as “water’s edge,” including irrigation ditches/canals (see diagram 1))
- 3) Aquatic Nuisance Animal Control (in “water and at water’s edge”)
- 4) Forest Canopy Pest Control (where a portion of the pesticide will unavoidably be deposited to “water” below the canopy)



Pesticide uses outside the scope of the draft PGP:

- 1) Terrestrial applications to control pests on agricultural crops or forest floors
- 2) Off target spray drift
- 3) Activities exempt from permitting under the Clean Water Act:
 - a. Irrigation Return Flow
 - b. Agricultural Stormwater Runoff (see diagram 2)



The application of pesticides for control of terrestrial pests associated with crop production is **not** covered under EPA’s NPDES draft PGP. Farmers that apply pesticides in any of the four use patterns that discharge to U.S. waters may need permit coverage. Example: application of pesticides in or along the sides of irrigation canals or ditches to control vegetation.

Who Has to File a Notice of Intent (NOI)?

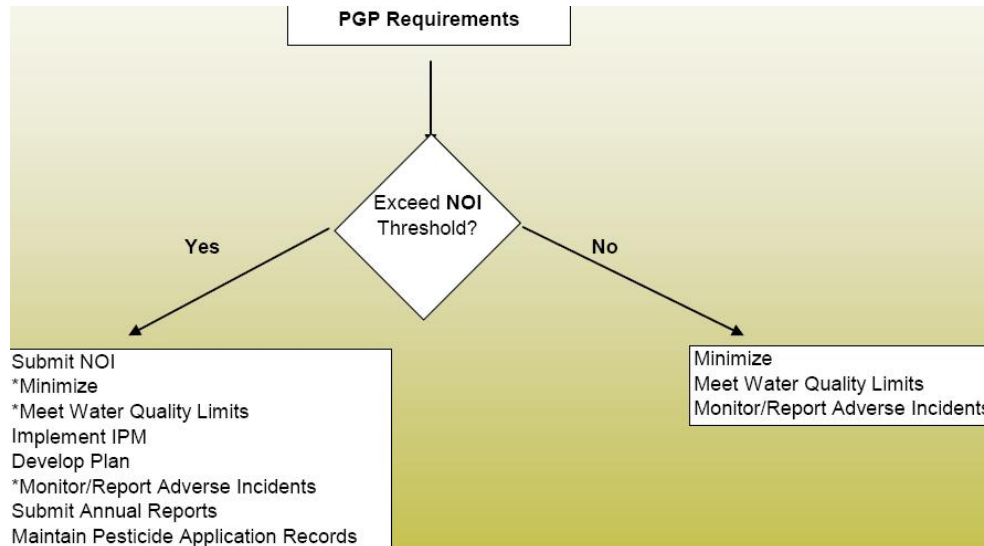
NOIs will be required for entities that know or reasonably should have known that they will exceed any of the pesticide application thresholds. The NOI filer, in most cases, would be the entity with control over financing for or the decision to perform pesticide applications, as opposed to the person performing the applications that result in a discharge, if different. However, any contract applicator would need to file an NOI, if it exceeds the application threshold for any applications not already covered under another NOI

What are the Annual Treatment Thresholds?

Pesticide Use	Annual Threshold
Mosquitoes and Other Flying Insect Pest Control	640 acres of treatment
Aquatic Weed and Algae Control	
In Water	20 acres of water treatment area (1)
At Water’s Edge	20 linear miles at water’s edge (2)
Aquatic Nuisance Animal Control	
In Water	20 acres of water treatment area (1)
At Water’s Edge	20 linear miles at water’s edge (2)
Forest Canopy Pest Control	640 acres of forest canopy

(1) Calculations should include the area the applications made to: (a) waters of the US, and (b) “conveyances with a hydrologic surface connection to waters of the US at the time of pesticide application”. For calculating annual treatment area totals, count each application as separate activity. For example, applying pesticides twice a year to a 10 acre site should be counted as 20 acres of treatment.

(2) Calculations are identical as above and each application counts as a separate activity. Thus, if you were treating both sides of a 10 mile ditch, that would equal 20 miles of linear water treatment.



While EPA is proposing an NOI framework to "obtain NOIs from the largest dischargers", the annual treatment threshold triggering an NOI submission for aquatic weed and algae management is only 20 acres of total treatment area or 20 linear miles of treatment area at the water's edge. The 20 acre threshold for aquatics is extremely low given EPA's stated intent to exclude small area operators. Operators that do not exceed an annual treatment area threshold are covered automatically under the PGP without the need to submit an NOI.

The agency asks for feedback on whether the framework "strikes an appropriate balance between capturing information on discharges from the largest pesticide application activities and avoiding the imposition of unreasonable burdens on operators whose pesticide application activities affect smaller areas," as well as comments on whether the threshold will result in EPA receiving NOIs from "an appropriately targeted set of large dischargers."

EPA is also seeking comment on other significant issues, including input on how many entities will be covered under the permit as written, limitations on coverage, technology-based effluent limitations, and water quality-based effluent limitations, as well as monitoring and reporting issues.

The National and Regional Weed Science Societies comments included:

- 1) EPA should ask 6th Circuit Court for additional time (at least 2 more years)
- 2) Application rate objectives are best met by directing the applicator to follow the FIFRA prescriptive label, rather than requiring research-based judgments the applicator is unqualified to make in order to "minimize" application rates.
- 3) EPA is incorrect that reduced rates are effective for resistance prevention (Note- EPA Office of Water staff assured me that this is not their objective, but that is not how the draft PGP currently reads.). Again, the PGP stresses "MINIMIZE" and makes it sound like you will be in violation of your permit if you DO NOT USE LESS than the labeled rate.
- 4) Increased jurisdictional clarity would help others determine if their pesticide use(s) warrant inclusion under this general NPDES permit. It's plausible that an applicator could be sued for applying a herbicide in their field where that field has a ditch with water in it at the time of application. While Agricultural Stormwater runoff and Irrigation Return Flow are exempt from Clean Water Act permitting, the application of pesticides for control of terrestrial pests associated with crop production is not covered under EPA's NPDES draft PGP.
- 5) Make Outstanding National Resources Water (Tier 3) eligible for PGP.
- 6) Pesticide R&D (such as that done at Land Grant colleges or Industry) should be automatically covered by this permit and not be required to submit an NOI and be subject to "citizen lawsuits"

More information on the NPDES requirements for discharges from pesticide applications is available at [http://www.epa.gov/npdes/pesticides/](#). Copies of the draft PGP, the PGP fact sheet and Federal Register notice can be downloaded from that site as well as details on how to provide public comment through EPA's website at [http://www.epa.gov/npdes/pesticides/](#) (for docket number EPA-HQ-OW-2010-0257). The Federal Register comment period closed on Monday, July 19, but if you have comments that you would like to relay to EPA, please contact me directly.

WSSA Appeal to USDA to Restore Weed Science Funding

The restructuring of the old CSREES into the new National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) has resulted in many changes in programs and priorities. While the National and Regional Weed Science Societies have been very vocal supporters of increasing the Agricultural and Food Research Initiative (AFRI) competitive grant money and maintaining the Land Grant formula funding, we were very disappointed when the AFRI request for applications (RFA's) were released in March. Since that time, we have had many meetings with USDA-NIFA and I have coordinated comments submitted jointly by the National and Regional Weed Science Societies. The National and Regional Weed Science Societies appealed to USDA to make three changes: **1)** Add a Foundational program within AFRI to address weedy plant biology, ecology and management, similar to those focused on phytopathology and entomology; **2)** Reconfigure larger AFRI research programs to encompass the full breadth of the agricultural sciences. Currently, program objectives are written so narrowly as to exclude not only weed science, but many other important areas of study; and **3)** Restore funding for integrated activities under the Section 406 Legislative Authority. Section 406 supports integrated weed management research through initiatives like the Regional IPM Centers, Risk Avoidance and Mitigation Program, Crops at Risk and Organic Transitions Program. Funding for these programs was zeroed out in the President's FY 2011 budget. I'd like to give special thanks to Dave Mortensen and Adam Davis on the WSSA Research and Competitive Grants Committee as well as Mike Barrett for substantial comments and editing. In addition, both Mortensen and Barrett traveled to Washington DC to represent the WSSA in separate USDA-NIFA stakeholder workshops in April and June. The NIFA response to the Weed Science Societies letter indicates that money will be directed to weed resistance issues and that slightly more money will go to foundational programs rather than the five "pipeline" initiatives. The letter from Roger Beachy also indicated that NIFA will not support separate funding lines for the Section 406 programs (which has been the USDA position for a number of years), thus I will continue to lobby House and Senate appropriators to restore that funding through the appropriations process (which they have done up to last year). The 2011 AFRI RFA's are tentatively scheduled to be announced in December.

2012 Farm Bill Hearings Begin

The House and Senate Agriculture Committees have begun holding hearings on the reauthorization of the Farm Bill. House Ag Committee Chairman Collin Peterson, MN, noted that a mere 14% of the 2008 Farm Bill was targeted on actual farming. He stressed that existing support for small farmers must be maintained or large corporate farms would further dominate agricultural production. Likewise, the House Ag Committee Ranking Member Frank Lucas, OK, noted that 75% of the 2008 Farm Bill was devoted to nutrition programs. He also mentioned that increased regulations by the EPA are driving farmers and ranchers out of business by subjecting them to financial burdens to comply with new regulations.

Spray Drift Comments Submitted

The WSSA, Entomological Society of America -Plant-Insect Ecosystems Section (ESA P-IE), and the American Phytopathological Society (APS) jointly submitted Federal Register comments on the EPA Spray Drift Pesticide Registration Notice in March. One of our main recommendations included removing the word "could" from "could cause" (compared to the existing "causes adverse observable effects") on the proposed spray drift label language. "Could cause" is very subjective and could attract frivolous complaints, leading to

difficult, confusing and uneven drift enforcement decisions. Obvious and off-label drift occurrences that might not have readily observable adverse effects are already enforceable as application violations (residues, species decline, etc).

Another important recommendation was to only use downwind buffers between target and sensitive sites instead of uniform buffers around all sites regardless of wind direction. USDA determined with the previous EPA drift PR notice in 2000 that if buffers were not made wind-directional, the economic loss would be on the order of \$1-2 billion dollars due to the large amount of irreplaceable acreage removed from production.

Finally, I am working with Jill Schroeder and John Jachetta to bring Bob Wolf into Washington DC this fall to give a presentation to federal staff on the progress made in spray drift reduction technologies.

Tamarisk Can Use More Water than Natives – It Depends on the Site!

By Tim Carlson, Research and Policy Director, The Tamarisk Coalition

The U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) and the Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) recently released a report on the impacts of tamarisk and Russian olive to riparian systems. The full report, USGS Scientific Investigations Report 2009-5247, is available online along with USGS Fact Sheet 2009-3110 that summarizes the findings. This information complements the Colorado River Basin Tamarisk and Russian Olive Assessment and Evapotranspiration Peer Panel Report. Findings from both studies are nearly identical; i.e., tamarisk and Russian olive use about the same amount of water as native phreatophytes, cottonwood and willow. This is not new information – scientists have known this for decades. The bigger issue, identified in both reports, was that deep rooted tamarisk and Russian olive, when growing in the higher terraces of a floodplain, will use more water than dryland species (grasses and native shrubs). Cottonwoods and willows do not grow in these areas because the groundwater is deeper and is not accessible to their shallow root systems. Thus, the greatest opportunity for meaningful water savings will occur on upper terraces within the floodplain where more xeric vegetation is appropriate as replacement vegetation.

What is not known is whether any of this saved water can be recovered. The Tamarisk Coalition is in absolute agreement with USGS that large-scale demonstrations coupled with detailed research are critical to answering this question. In 2006 Congress passed legislation (PL 109-320) with overwhelming bi-partisan support that authorized funding to help answer these types of questions. The Tamarisk Coalition therefore encourages states to pursue carefully designed demonstration projects that can be coordinated with USGS and other scientists.

Both the Tamarisk Coalition and USGS also found similar impacts to wildlife from tamarisk and Russian olive. Effects on wildlife are diverse and depend on the species considered, but again both reports identify that native vegetation provides superior habitat and affords greater biodiversity than do dense stands of tamarisk and Russian olive.

The Tamarisk Coalition supports this research as it can be considered along with other research and site-specific information for restoration and land management decisions.

USDA APHIS PPQ Ends *Diorhabda* Biological Control Program for Salt Cedar

The saltcedar leaf beetle, *Diorhabda* species, (including all species, subspecies, or ecotypes in the *Diorhabda elongata* complex) was previously permitted for environmental release for the biological control of salt cedar (*Tamarix* spp. L.) in the US by USDA APHIS. Concerns about the potential effects to the critical habitat of the federally-listed, endangered southwestern willow flycatcher have resulted in the following actions by USDA APHIS on June 15:

1. The APHIS PPQ saltcedar biological control program in 13 states has been terminated. Survey and evaluation of PPQ program releases will continue to assess the impact on saltcedar density and reestablishment of native vegetation.

2. The PPQ Permit Unit has discontinued issuing new permits for field cage or greenhouse studies using the saltcedar leaf beetle outside of a containment facility.
3. The PPQ Permit Unit has discontinued issuing new permits for interstate movement and environmental release of *Diorhabda* spp.
4. The PPQ Permit Unit has cancelled all issued (Le., active) permits for interstate movement and environmental release of *Diorhabda* spp.
1. PPQ will not authorize the release of *Diorhabda* spp. from containment or caged field study sites. However, the PPQ Permit Unit will authorize continuation of existing *Diorhabda* spp. activities in containment facilities.

In the event that endangered species issues are resolved, consultation between USDA APHIS and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service may be initiated to allow resumption of APHIS *Diorhabda* spp. permitting and biological control program activities. Until these concerns are alleviated and the program activities are officially reinitiated, any unauthorized human assisted movement of *Diorhabda* spp., particularly into the critical habitat of the southwestern willow flycatcher, is not authorized by APHIS, and may constitute a violation of the Endangered Species Act which could result in criminal punishment and/or fines. Additionally, the unauthorized collection, interstate transportation, and release of *Diorhabda* spp. in the U.S. may constitute a criminal and/or civil violation of the Plant Protection Act, with criminal penalties and/or fines assessed up to \$250,000 per violation. APHIS does not permit unauthorized provision of *Diorhabda* spp. or access to them to parties who intend to move, transport and/or release the beetles. For information on the PPQ Biological Control Program please visit:

Lee Van Wychen, Ph.D.
 Science Policy Director
 National and Regional Weed Science Societies
 900 2nd St. NE, Suite 205
 Washington, DC 20002

cell: 202-746-4686
www.wssa.net

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR(C30NN) or ASSISTANT PROFESSOR(C40NN)

Degree and area of specialization:

Ph.D. required in Agronomy, Weed Science or a closely related discipline.

Minimum number of years and type of relevant work experience:

Tenure track position. Associate Professor candidates must possess experience and scholarly credentials suitable for appointment with tenure at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Candidates must have 1) a Ph.D. in Agronomy, Weed Science, or a closely related discipline, 2) a strong understanding of crop and weed ecology, 3) a strong understanding of weed management practices, 4) a demonstrated ability to organize and lead extension/outreach activities, 5) an ability and self-motivation to communicate effectively and work cooperatively with agricultural producers and professionals, research and extension faculty, and regulatory agency personnel, and 6) a demonstrated ability to secure extramural funding.

Principal duties:

Tenure/Tenure-Track Faculty Position in the Department of Agronomy
University of Wisconsin-Madison

The Department of Agronomy at the University of Wisconsin-Madison invites applications for a Faculty position in Cropping Systems Weed Scientist. This Faculty position, at the Assistant or Associate Professor level, carries a commitment to the three important functions of resident instruction, research, and outreach/extension, as well as professional and university service as appropriate to Faculty rank.

The successful candidate will provide critical design and delivery of extension programming related to weed science in agronomic cropping systems. They will be expected to integrate agroecological principles into new approaches for weed management in corn, soybean, and small grain crops, and to generate novel information on herbicide-resistant weed management, water quality, food security, and other agroecosystem services. The individual's approaches must encompass the economic, ecological, and social aspects of the farm and local community, the biodiversity of our agroecosystems, and use cropping system design (e.g. crop diversity, cropping sequence, and tillage system) to impose multiple tactics on weeds for their effective, long-term management. Research efforts are expected to form the foundation for a strong extension program that aids county extension faculty members in the Agricultural and Natural Resources program area, in the Community, Natural Resources, and Economic Development program area, with federal and state agencies, and with Wisconsin growers. Research efforts are also expected to significantly contribute to graduate student training in agronomy and agroecology. The incumbent will also provide instruction in cropping system weed science as needed for undergraduate and graduate courses.

A criminal background check will be conducted prior to hiring.

Appointment type: Faculty
Department(s): AG&LSC/AGRONOMY
Full time salary rate: **Minimum** \$70,000 ANNUAL (12 months)
Depending on Qualifications

Appointment percent: 100%

Anticipated begin date: **NOVEMBER** 01, 2010

Number of positions: 1

TO ENSURE CONSIDERATION

Application must be received by: **OCTOBER** 01, 2010

HOW TO APPLY:

Unless another application procedure has been specified above, please send resume and cover letter referring to Position Vacancy Listing #64923 to

WILLIAM TRACY Phone:
DEPARTMENT OF AGRONOMY Fax: N/A
1575 LINDEN DRIVE Email:
MADISON WI 53706

The University of Florida is advertising for an Invasive Plant Ecologist (70% research/30% teaching – tenure track) in the Agronomy Dept.

The full position description can be found on the IFAS website (http://personnel.ifas.ufl.edu/jobs_statevacancies_tenure.shtml). To apply, follow the link under requisition and go thru the personnel web site. Please feel free to contact Greg MacDonald, Search Committee Chair, pineacre@ufl.edu or phone 352-392-1811.

Paladin® Soil Fumigant Receives U.S. Registration

King of Prussia, Pa. (August 13, 2010) Paladin®, a novel, preplant soil fumigant that controls weeds, soil-borne plant pathogens and nematodes, has received U.S. registration by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

Developed and distributed by United Phosphorus, Inc. (UPI) in partnership with Arkema Inc., Paladin® is a new and effective soil fumigant that contains the active ingredient dimethyl disulfide (DMDS). DMDS is naturally occurring in the environment and produced biologically in plants, animals and processed foods, making Paladin® an excellent replacement of methyl bromide. Paladin® is the only soil fumigant on the market that contains an EPA signal word of "WARNING", and Paladin® has no ozone depletion potential, a low global-warming potential, and is short-lived in the atmosphere.

Paladin® soil fumigant is registered for preplant use on tomatoes, peppers, eggplants, cucumbers, melons, squash, blueberries, strawberries, field-grown ornamentals and forest nursery crops.

Since 2004, Paladin® soil fumigant's efficacy and crop safety have been assessed and confirmed through extensive R&D studies and over 250 field trials in 15 countries. From 2007–2010, extensive research was conducted on the use of Paladin® through EPA-approved Experimental Use Permits (EUP). More than 20 cooperators in three states were involved in these studies. There were 39 different EUP sites with field trial results collected over a treated area of 117 acres.

"We are excited to bring this new, innovative product to the market and have Paladin® as a part of our continuing efforts to bring real value to our customers," says Jeff Allison, president UPI, North America. "Paladin® is an effective alternative to methyl bromide, and UPI is proud to be a part of this groundbreaking technology."

A Paladin® soil fumigant program will consist of a tank mixture of 79 percent Paladin® and 21 percent chloropicrin (79:21 wt/wt). This program will enhance the effectiveness for soil-borne diseases and weed control. UPI also recommends that Paladin® is followed by a preplant non-incorporated bed surface application of a herbicide, such as Devrinol®, just prior to laying the plastic mulch to increase the control of small-seeded broadleaf and grass escapes.

"This Paladin® program shows the depth of the UPI portfolio and the value options we bring to growers," says Allison.

Paladin® is a Restricted Use Pesticide. Always refer to and follow the federal label requirements for crops, specific use rates, REI, PHI and application directions. Paladin is a registered trademark of Arkema Inc. Devrinol® is registered trademark of United Phosphorus, Inc.

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSION Instructions and Deadlines

<u>ISSUE</u>	<u>DEADLINE</u>
December 2010	November 1, 2010
May 2011	April 1, 2011
August 2010	July 1, 2011

Please send text information as Microsoft Word and pictures as JPEG or BMP files to: bscott@uaex.edu

Southern Weed Science Society

Pre-registration for the 64th Annual Meeting – January 24-26, 2011 Caribe Hilton, San Juan, Puerto Rico

Return before January 12, 2011 (a late registration fee of \$50.00 will be charged at the meeting).

To pay by credit card, please go to <http://www.swss.ws> and click on Annual Meeting or call Phil Banks 575-527-1888)

Please Print

Name

Affiliation

Address

City, State, Zip code

Telephone: _____ FAX: _____

E-mail address: _____ (must have for meeting notifications, newsletter, etc.)

Registration: (Registration at the meeting will be \$50.00 more.)

Regular Member: \$275.00 (includes banquet and coffee breaks) US \$ _____

Student (Graduate or Undergraduate): \$ 100.00 (includes banquet and coffee breaks). US \$ _____

Spouse Registration: \$30.00 (coffee and pastries) US \$ _____

Can't attend the meeting? Annual Dues for 2011: \$ 40.00 US \$ _____

Total due: US \$ _____
(make all checks to SWSS)

Send to: Phil Banks, SWSS Business Manager
205 W. Boutz Rd. Bldg 4, Ste 5
Las Cruces, NM 88005

A receipt will be included with your registration packet at the meeting. To make Hotel Reservations go to the SWSS website 0303 (room rate is \$165.00/night plus fees and taxes).

or call 1-787-721-

The Deadline for submissions for the August newsletter is July 15th, 2010. Please submit files as word documents and pictures as Jpg or equivalent to the Newsletter editor prior to this date. Submit information to:

Bob Scott, bscott@uaex.edu

SWSS, Newsletter Editor