



President's Message

When I first started attending the Southern Meeting (in 1986), we all used 2*2 inch slides, and the posters were carefully prepared with lots of artsy formatting (picture frames, etc...). As time progressed, we eventually changed to using computer projection and powerpoint "slides", which were "loaded" at the meeting. This meant someone had to sit at a table all meeting long waiting for people to load their files.

SWSS is changing.

Now, you can upload your file to the website ahead of the meeting. I suggest you do this (load your files to the website before the meeting), or maybe you can see how well you can talk without your slides.



Dr. Thomas C. (& Sara) Mueller

Program Chair Steve Kelly has assembled an excellent program. Please see his report for details. The deadline for meeting preregistration and room reservation is December 21.

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Future Meeting Site:
2013 Houston, Texas
Royal Sonesta Hotel
January 28-30, 2013



www.swss.ws

Local Arrangements Chair Gary Schwarzlose and his Committee are working hard to make the Houston meeting a success. If you are a golfer, don't forget to register for the 2013 SWSS Golf Tournament. This year the event will be held at the Memorial Park Golf Course in downtown Houston, Texas. (<http://www.memorialparkgolf.com>) Tom Holt is working to make this a successful outing. The proceeds from this event go to the SWSS Endowment Fund. More information is available on the SWSS website.

I am not sure if the newly elected officers have been announced, so I am happy to share those results with you. Your new vice president is Brad Minton, new board member (industry) is John Richburg, new board member (academia) is Jason Bond, and Brent Sellers is the board member to the Endowment fund.

I coordinate several events at each SWSS meeting. Many of you know about our student quiz bowl on Tuesday night. Attendance is usually pretty good, and we have a good time. I also cordially invite you to our Christian Fellowship Breakfast, to be held in the Founders Ballroom III, starting at 6:30 AM on Wednesday, January 30, 2013. I realize this time of day is very early, but I hope each of you would please consider joining us. All SWSS attendees, their spouses and other guests, are welcome to visit and share our thoughts. A light breakfast is provided.

Other comments I have to share I will make at my presidential address on Monday afternoon at the SWSS meeting. I hope to see you there.

Thanks for reading,
Tom Mueller, SWSS President

Program update

Steve Kelly, Program Chair

The program for the 2013 is shaping up to be a nice one. Although we had submissions fall off in some sections compared to 2012, the total number of submissions is equal. The theme for the 2013 annual meeting is: Biotechnology & Weed Science: The Road We've Traveled Since 1984. This may seem like an odd theme, but the term "Biotechnology" first appeared in a meeting theme in 1984. Perhaps we have a couple of members still around that were at that meeting that can share their thoughts about what they envisioned at that time. There is little doubt that the biotechnology I was first exposed to in graduate school has changed tremendously in recent years.

The meeting program will be available online soon with printed programs to follow. We have a great venue in the Royal Sonesta Hotel with plenty of room to stretch out and move around. Hope to see you there.

Section	Chairperson	Number of papers
Poster	Bob Scotts	101
Agronomic crops	Darrin Dodds	62
Turf	Michael Flessner	27
Graduate student paper contest	Matt Goddard	35
Pasture & rangeland	Jay Ferrell	7
Physiological & biological aspects	Chad Brommer	8
Horticultural crops	Mark Shankle	11
Regulatory aspects	Ralph Lassiter	3
Symposium: Auxin drift, a summary of what we know	Jason Norsworthy	10
Forestry	Jimmie Yeiser	5
Vegetation management/noncrop	Vernon Langston	4
Symposium: graduate student	Kelly Barnett	1
Total presentations		274

The Program for the upcoming SWSS meeting in Houston has been posted on the website. You can access the Program by following this link: <http://www.swss.ws/NewWebDesign/Meeting/2013%20Meeting/SWSS-2013-Program%20Final.pdf> or by visiting the website at www.swss.ws.

Instructions for Abstracts and PowerPoint files for SWSS 2013 meeting

Important dates

Abstract submission begins	November 26, 2012
Presentation submission begins	December 3, 2012
Deadline for presentation submission	January 23, 2013
Deadline for abstract submission	January 25, 2013

Instructions to Authors

Typing Instructions-Format

1. Margins, spacing, etc.: Use 8-1/2 x 11" paper. **Leave 1" margins on all sides.** Use 10 point type with a ragged right margin, **do not justify and do not use hard carriage returns** in the body of the text. Single space with double space between paragraphs and major divisions. **Do not indent paragraphs.**

2. Content:

Abstracts - Title, Author(s), Organization(s) Location, the heading ABSTRACT, text of the Abstract, and Acknowledgments. Use double spacing before and after the heading, ABSTRACT.

Papers - Title, Author(s), Organization(s), Location, Abstract, Introduction, Methods and Materials (Procedures), Results and Discussion, Literature Citations, Tables and/or Figures, Acknowledgements.

Each section of an abstract or paper should be clearly defined. The heading of each section should be typed in the center of the page in capital letters with double spacing before and after. Pertinent comments regarding some of these sections are listed below:

Title - All in capital letters and bold. Start at the upper left hand corner leaving a one-inch margin from the top and all sides.

Author(s), Organizations(s), Location: - Start immediately after title. Use lower case except for initials, first letters of words, etc. Do not include titles, positions, etc. of authors.

Example: **WEED CONTROL SYSTEMS IN SPRINKLER-IRRIGATED RICE.** K.H. Akkari, R.F. Talbot, J.A. Ferguson and J.T. Gilmour; Department of Agronomy, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR 72701.

ABSTRACT

First line of abstract begins at left margin. **Do not indent paragraphs.**

Acknowledgements - Show as a footnote at the end of the abstract (not end of the page) or the bottom of the first page of papers.

Literature Citations - Number citations and list separately at the end of the text.

Table and Figures - Place these after literature citations. Single space all tables. Tables should be positioned vertically on the page. Charts and figures must be in black and white.

When submitting your abstract, all you should have to do is copy from your word document and paste into the corresponding space on the abstract submission section of the website.

PRESENTATION SUBMISSION

New for the 2013 meeting

All presentations must be submitted electronically via the title and abstract submission website on or before midnight eastern standard time on January 23, 2013. No exceptions.

The following points will govern the style and delivery of presentations at the 2013 Meeting:

- All presentations MUST be in PowerPoint for MSWindows (PC compatible). MacIntosh/Apple formats will NOT be supported.
- Your presentation must be saved as a PowerPoint 1997-2003 show file (.pps). It would be wise to also bring your original .ppt file to the meeting in case you need to make minor changes.

You **must** upload to the website before January 23, 2013

- Please limit the size of presentations to less than 50 MB.
- No audio clips or sounds will be allowed.
- Please contact the section chair PRIOR to the meeting if you need to use a video clip or unusual animation or have any questions on your file.
- Limit fonts used in the presentation to basic ones, as not all machines may have the same choice of fonts. Examples of standard fonts are Times New Roman, Arial, Courier, and Tahoma. Section chairs and computer operators are not responsible for changes in fonts, bullets, and other formatting at the time of presentation.
- Use up-to-date virus protection software to avoid infecting the computers provided by the section chairs.
- A Windows PC laptop computer and projector will be provided for each session.
- Presenters will NOT be allowed to use their own computers in the sessions.

Steve Kelly

SWSS program chair, 2013

steven.kelly@scotts.com

Dates to Remember

Pre-Registration: **December 21, 2012**

Abstract Upload: **January 1, 2013**

Hotel Pre-Book: **December 21, 2012**

Annual Meeting: **January 28-30, 2013**



A photo of the Charles T. Bryson painting to be sold at the 2013 SWSS Endowment Auction during the Annual Meeting Houston

SWSS Spouses Program – Houston, TX, Larry Newsom and Lisa Smith (lisathemom@yahoo.com)

We hope to re-unite with old friends and make many new ones January 28-30, 2013, in Houston, TX. Make plans to join us in our nation's fourth largest city – it's filled with award-winning restaurants, theaters, arts, museums, historical sites and shopping. Remember that registering for the spouses program also includes admission to the SWSS Awards Banquet on Wednesday evening.

We'll be staying at the [Royal Sonesta Hotel](#), just blocks from the nation's 6th largest mall. The Galleria Mall and its 375 stores, restaurants and ice rink is one of Houston's top tourist destinations and will be close enough for a leisurely walk anytime during your stay. Monday afternoon will be a great time to explore the mall.

Tuesday morning we'll depart as a group for a tour of the Blue Bell Creamery in Brenham, TX. Our favorite part – the tour includes eating some ice cream!

If you plan to bring your kids, you might enjoy the Houston Zoo, the Downtown Aquarium or a day trip to the Johnson Space Center. The Houston Museum of Natural Science features many permanent exhibits and the Cockrell Butterfly Center where you can walk through a living butterfly habitat. There are also walking and historical tours of Houston, and if you're interested in those we'll see that you get all the information you need to have an enjoyable time.

Looking forward to seeing everyone in Houston!

Graduate Student Contest Matt Goddard

The SWSS Annual Meeting is only a couple of months away and as graduate student contest chair, I would like to ask for anyone who is interested in judging either paper or poster contests to please volunteer. There has been a great turnout this year with over 50 titles submitted to be entered into either paper or poster contests. All paper sections will occur on Tuesday morning (Jan 29) and will not require your attention the entire day. There will be 3 poster sections with each section finishing by 11:30am. Like last year, our Program Chair, Steve Kelly, has arranged the schedule where no presentations will be given Tuesday morning other than the graduate student talks. Many thanks to Steve and his hard work arranging this schedule!

If you are willing to judge a paper section (again will only occur on Tuesday morning) or poster section, please email Hunter Perry (dhperry@dow.com - Vice Chair of the 2013 contest) with your interest. Let Hunter know if you are interested in judging a paper or poster (or both, also an acceptable answer!) and if you have any specific area of weed science in which you are more comfortable. Note that we will try to accommodate everyone's requests, but we may ask you to step out of your comfort zone if need be.

Finally, the SWSS annual meeting provides an avenue to relay our research to one another across our region, but even more importantly it is an opportunity for graduate students to learn and develop their skills as presenters by delivering their research findings amongst their peers. Your assistance as judges is of great value. Volunteering your time and support helps to insure we are providing the students every opportunity to excel in Weed Science.

Southern Weed Science Society
Directory of Officers
Executive Board Members
Committees and Committee Members
2012-2013

Note: Duties of each Committee are detailed in the Manual of Operating Procedures, which is posted on the SWSS web site at <http://www.swss.ws>

100. SOUTHERN WEED SCIENCE SOCIETY OFFICERS AND EXECUTIVE BOARD

100a. OFFICERS

President - Tom Mueller- 2013
President Elect - Steve Kelly- 2014
Vice-President - Scott Senseman- 2015
Secretary-Treasurer - Greg MacDonald
Editor - Ted Webster -
Immediate Past President - Barry Brecke - 2013

100b. ADDITIONAL EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS

Member-at-Large - Academia - Larry Steckel - 2013
Member-at-Large - Academia - Peter Dotray - 2014
Member-at-Large - Industry - Eric Palmer - 2013
Member-at-Large- Industry - Drew Ellis - 2014
Representative to WSSA - Darrin Dodds -

100c. EX-OFFICIO BOARD MEMBERS

Constitution and Operating Procedures - John Byrd 2013
Business Manager - Phil Banks
Student Representative - Kelly Barnett- 2013
Web Master - Tony White
Newsletter Editor - Bob Scott

101. SWSS ENDOWMENT FOUNDATION

101a. BOARD OF TRUSTEES - ELECTED

Stanley Culpepper - President - 2013
David Jordan - Vice President - 2014
Nilda Burgos - Secretary - 2015
Renee Keese - 2016
James Holloway - 2017
John Byrd - Past President - 2012

101b. BOARD OF TRUSTEES - EX-OFFICIO

Greg MacDonald (SWSS Secretary-Treasurer)
Scott Senseman (SWSS Finance Committee Chair)
Phil Banks (SWSS Business Manager)
John Byrd (SWSS Constitution & Operating Proc. Committee Chair)
Kelly Barnett (SWSS Student Representative)

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

Brad Minton - 2014	Jay Ferrell - 2014
Jason Bond - 2014	Barry Brecke* - 2013
Don Murray – 2014	Tom Mueller** 2014
Daniel Stephenson - 2014	

The Awards Subcommittees shall consist of six members including the Chair, serving staggered three-year terms with two rotating off each year.

102a. Distinguished Service Award Subcommittee

B. Minton* 2014	F. Carey 2015	Brent Sellers 2016
J. Richburg 2014	E. Prostko 2015	Bob Scott 2016

102b. Outstanding Young Weed Scientist Award Subcommittee

Jason Bond* 2014	David Shaw 2015	David Gealy 2016
S. McElroy 2014	G. Stapleton 2015	Nilda Burgos 2016

102c. Weed Scientist of the Year Award Subcommittee

Randall Ratliff*2014	D. Jordan 2015	John Byrd 2016
Barry Brecke 2014	W. Keeling 2015	Bob Hayes 2016

102d. Outstanding Educator Award Subcommittee

Jay Ferrell* 2014	Stephen Enloe 2015	S. Culpepper 2016
Eric Webster 2014	Shea Murdock 2015	Peter Dittmar 2016

102e. Outstanding Graduate Student Award Subcommittee

Daniel Stephenson* 2014	Vern Langston 2015	Neil Rhodes 2016
Eric Palmer 2014	Mike Barrett 2015	Stephen Enloe 2016

102f. Life Time Achievement Award Subcommittee

Barry Brecke* 2013

103. COMPUTER APPLICATION COMMITTEE (STANDING)

Shawn Askew* 2013 Angela Post 2013 Michael Cox 2013

104. CONSTITUTION AND OPERATING PROCEDURES COMMITTEE (STANDING)

John Byrd* 2013 Wiley C. Johnson** 2016 (starts as chair at summer board meeting of 2013)

105. FINANCE COMMITTEE (STANDING) - *Shall consist of the Vice President as Chair and President-Elect, Secretary-Treasurer, Chair of Sustaining Membership Committee, and others of the President so chooses, with the Editor serving as ex-officio member.*

Scott Senseman* 2013	Stanley Culpepper 2013
Steve Kelly 2013	Ted Webster (ex-officio)
Greg MacDonald 2013	

106. GRADUATE STUDENT ORGANIZATION
 President – Kelly Barnett (Tenn)
 Vice President – Trevor Israel (Tenn)
 Secretary – Brit Gaban (Tenn)
 Herbicide Resistant Committee rep – Blake Edwards (Miss. State)
 Student Program Committee Rep – James McCurdy (Auburn)
 Endowment Committee rep – Michael Flessner (Auburn)
107. HERBICIDE RESISTANT WEEDS COMMITTEE (STANDING)
 Ramon Leon 2016
108. HISTORICAL COMMITTEE (STANDING)
 William Witt* 2016
109. LEGISLATIVE AND REGULATORY COMMITTEE (STANDING)
 Don Shilling* 2013 Lee Van Wychen Bob Nichols**2016
 Angela Post 2013
110. LOCAL ARRANGEMENTS COMMITTEE - 2013 MEETING (STANDING)
 G. Schwarzlose* 2013
 Scott McElroy *2014 Joyce Ducar 2014
111. LONG-RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEE (STANDING) - *Shall consist of the previous five presidents with the most recent past-president serving as Chair.*
 Barry Brecke* 2017 Tom Holt 2016 Dan Reynolds 2015
 Ann Thurston 2014 David Monks 2013
112. MEETING SITE SELECTION COMMITTEE (STANDING) - *Shall consist of six members and the SWSS Business Manager. The members will be appointed by the President on a rotating basis with one member appointed each year and members shall serve six-year terms. The Chairmanship will rotate to the senior committee member from the geographical area where the meeting will be held.*
 C. Yeomans* 2014 G. Schwarzlose 2019 T. Grey 2015
 J. Norsworthy 2016 M. Edwards 2017 G. Oliver 2018
 P. Banks - Business Mgr. Ex-officio
113. NOMINATING COMMITTEE (STANDING) - *Shall be composed of the Past President as Chair in addition to nine individuals each chosen to represent one of the three geographical regions and disciplines of the Society. The members will serve staggered three-year terms with three new members each year.*
 Barry Brecke* 2013 Tom Mueller** 2014
114. PROGRAM COMMITTEE - 2013 MEETING (STANDING)
 Steve Kelly* - 2013
115. PROGRAM COMMITTEE - 2014 MEETING (STANDING)
 Scott Senseman* - 2014

116. RESEARCH COMMITTEE (STANDING) – under revision
117. RESOLUTIONS AND NECROLOGY COMMITTEE (STANDING)
David Black* 2016 Peter Dittmar 2016 Larry Walton 2016
118. SOUTHERN WEED CONTEST COMMITTEE (STANDING)
T. Eubank* S. Askew N. Burgos
P Dotray J. Griffin G. MacDonald
T. Mueller D. Reynolds S. Senseman
W. Vencill E. Webster W. Everman
S. McElroy open to all SWSS members
119. STUDENT PROGRAM COMMITTEE (STANDING)
Matt Goddard*2013 Hunter Perry** 2014 James McCurdy 2013
120. WEED IDENTIFICATION COMMITTEE (STANDING)
Angela Post 2013 Katelyn Venner 2013
121. SUSTAINING MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE (STANDING)
John Richburg 2013 Bruce Kirksey* 2015 Cheryl Dunne 2015
David Black 2014 Daniel Stephenson 2015 Hunter Perry 2015
122. CONTINUING EDUCATION UNITS COMMITTEE (SPECIAL)
Bobby Walls* 2016 Travis Gannon 2016 Alan Estes 2016
Ken Muzyk 2016 Scott McElroy 2016 Mike Harrell 2016
Pat McCullough 2016 Tim Adcock 2016 Shawn Askew 2016
Jim Taylor 2016 Matt Mathocha 2016 Louisiana rep?
Oklahoma rep? Bob Scott 2016
123. MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE (SPECIAL)
Chad Brommer* 2013

Quick Links:

- ✓ Link to the [Manual of Operating Procedures](#) July 012 Version
- ✓ Preregister through the SWSS website or : [Sonesta Hotel Registration](#)

2012 Officer Voting Results

Vice-President	Brad Minton
Member-at-Large (Industry)	John Richburg
Member-at-Large (Academia)	Jason Bond
Endowment Board Trustee	Brent Sellers

See you in Houston!



Southern Weed Science Society

Pre-registration for the 66th Annual Meeting – January 28-30, 2013 Royal Sonesta Hotel, Houston, TX

Return before December 21, 2012 (a late registration fee of \$50.00 will be charged at the meeting).

To pay by credit card, go to the SWSS website (<http://www.swss.ws/>) and click on "Pre-Register for the Annual Meeting Now!"

Please Print

Name to appear on badge

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 2013: \$ 40.00 US \$ _____

Donation to the SWSS Endowment Foundation 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
575-527-8853

A receipt will be included with your registration packet at the meeting. To make Hotel Reservations go to the SWSS website <http://www.swss.ws/> or call 1.713.627.7600. The deadline for hotel reservations is Dec. 21, 2012.

SWSS Golf Tournament Sunday January 27, 2013 Memorial Park Golf Course

The **2013 SWSS Golf Tournament** will be held Sunday, January 27, at the beautiful **Memorial Park Golf Course** in downtown Houston, Texas. <http://www.memorialparkgolf.com/>

The Memorial Park Golf Course began in 1923 as a 9-hole sand green course built near the hospital at Camp Logan for use by convalescent soldiers. In an ambitious effort to enhance parks across the city, the Parks and Recreation Department began construction to turn the 9-hole course into an illustrious 18-hole golf course. In July of the following year, the first ball was teed off on what architect John Bredemus called his "greatest golf course ever." Through the years, Memorial Park Golf Course hosted many famous golfers such as Babe Didrikson Zaharias, Jack Nicklaus, Arnold Palmer and Jimmy Demaret. It was also the home of the Houston Open from 1951 to 1963. In 1994 a campaign to restore the golf course to its original grandeur began. Great detail was given to preserving the historical quality as well as to allowing for proper maintenance for the future of the course. In 1995, the newly renovated 600-acre course opened with a lighted driving range, putting and chipping greens, a beautiful new clubhouse facility and a golf museum create from the original clubhouse structure. Today, the Memorial Park Golf Course is known as one of the best municipal courses in the nation and is visited by more than 60,000 patrons each year. Houston is proud to call Memorial Park Golf Course the crown jewel of Memorial Park.

General (Tentative) Schedule:

8:30 – 9:00 AM	Depart hotel for Memorial Park We are working with the hotel shuttle service regarding transportation
8:45 – 9:15	Arrive at the golf course
9:15 10:25	Warm up and get into your carts
10:00	Golf Tournament begins
~4:30-5:30	Awards and Reception at the Memorial Park Club House

This will be a Scramble tournament. We will be mixing the teams to include students, industry and university players to begin the networking process.

With industry support, we will be able to limit entry fees to **\$25 for students** and **\$50 for non-students**.

Hole sponsorships will allow "free play" for 2, 3 or 4 players, respectively, from the sponsoring companies.

Hole Sponsorships will be structured as follows:

Silver	500,00
Gold	750,00
Platinum	\$1,000,00

Companies are coming together to pay a portion of the tournament with **Value-In-Kind (VIK)**.

If you are interested in becoming a "Hole Sponsor" or would like to donate via VIK, please contact Phil Banks swss@marathonag.com or Tom Holt thomas.holt@BASF.com.

All proceeds (ie hole sponsorships, entry fees, etc.) will go to the **SWSS Endowment Fund**.

Reception and Awards:

A small reception and awards banquet will be held in a reception room at the Memorial Park Club House

Sign up for Golf Tournament:

Please see the golf sign up form at <http://www.swss.ws/index.htm>

WSSA Graduate Student Travel Award 2013

The Weed Science Society of America is offering up to (6) Annual Meeting Grants to qualifying graduate student members for their first attendance at the WSSA annual meeting. These grants will provide for annual meeting registration fees as well as up to four nights lodging while at the meeting. Students and/or their graduate advisor are responsible for all remaining costs incurred to attend the WSSA annual meeting, including travel and meals.

This travel grant program is intended to encourage graduate student involvement in the WSSA annual meeting while students are in their early portion of their graduate program. Therefore, this grant is limited to students who have not yet attended a WSSA annual meeting. Students not in traditional weed science graduate programs are encouraged to apply for these travel grants. The WSSA F4 committee "Membership and Professional Development" will screen applicants based on a written application, details listed below. Names of awardees will be announced at the WSSA awards ceremony.

Application Requirements:

1. Applicant must be a graduate student in good standing from an accredited institution with an interest in weed science and a desire to become a contributing member of the WSSA and attend the WSSA annual meeting.
2. Applicants must have written support from a faculty member at their current university.
3. The applicant must be willing to work at the 2013 WSSA annual meeting in a responsible and professional manner as directed in a designated area and/or with a designated responsibility for a portion of the WSSA annual meeting. Work responsibilities may include assisting with session operations, supporting the registration desk, poster session set-up or teardown, or other related duties involved in the operations of the WSSA annual meeting.

Application Materials:

1. Name
2. Address and full name of the Institution of graduate studies.
3. Beginning date of the student's current graduate degree program
4. A brief description the student's current research activities
5. Current GPA
6. Anticipated date of graduation and degree to be conferred.
7. Provide the title and abstract for any presentations planned for WSSA, 2013.
8. Applicant's objectives from attending WSSA, 2013. 200 words or less
9. Letter of support from the applicant's supporting faculty member.

The letter should address the applicant's reason for participation in the 2013 WSSA annual meeting as well as the likelihood that the applicant's goals for attending the 2013 WSSA annual meeting can be met. The letter of support should be no more than 200 words.

Applications should be submitted by the graduate student as an email attachment. Letters of support sent by faculty members and not directed through the students.

PDF files or Word files only via email to Chad Brommer (chad.brommer@basf.com) by November 1st, 2012.

PRESS RELEASE

Three Leading Scientific Societies Take an Objective Look at the Issues Associated with “Least Toxic Pesticides” Applied as a “Last Resort”

LAWRENCE, Kansas – November 12, 2012 – Recommendations and decisions to use “least toxic pesticides” and “pesticides as a last resort” have flourished in the last decade, but according to three scientific organizations – the Weed Science Society of America (WSSA), the American Phytopathological Society (APS) and the Plant-Insect Ecosystems Section of the Entomological Society of America (P-IE ESA) – these are not the correct approaches to the pesticide component of an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) program.

The three organizations have joined to take an objective look at the problems associated with “least toxic pesticides” applied as a “last resort” and today issued the following statement:

IPM is Fundamental Wherever Pests Must Be Controlled

It is essential to practice IPM, whether managing weeds, insect pests or plant diseases – on the farm, on commercial sites, on public lands, or in or around the home. Key components of IPM include making the habitat unfavorable for pests, excluding pests where feasible, using proper sanitation practices, monitoring the infestation level, knowing the pest tolerance level for the specific situation and implementing the necessary management practices.

Judicious use of pesticides is a critical component of many IPM programs. Judicious (careful) use refers to various practices – following all label directions and making all appropriate stewardship decisions required in the particular situation. This includes applying a product registered for the target pest(s) after accurate pest identification, and consideration of the level of infestation and the potential for economic, health or other negative pest impacts. Careful use extends beyond pesticides to household chemicals, automobiles, medicines, alcoholic beverages, and countless other products that are part of our daily lives.

The Problem with Selecting Only “Least Toxic Pesticides”

- “Least toxic” implies there are pesticides available for every pest spectrum that are least toxic to everything else. This is not true. The toxicity of a pesticide depends on what is being evaluated – short-term or long-term toxicity – and who or what may be affected (e.g. applicators, farmworkers, livestock, wildlife, pets, birds, fish, beneficial insects, earthworms, sediment-dwelling organisms, crops). It is also important to remember that toxicity is not the same as risk, which is dependent on both toxicity and exposure.
- The risk associated with the use of pesticides and other chemicals is managed by establishing safe exposure levels based on the toxicity specific to each product. Assigning a “most” or “least” toxic rating does not equate to actual risk when the product is properly applied. For example, the label of a pesticide product that may cause skin irritation will also contain requirements for personal protective

equipment that safeguards the skin, while a product that may affect fish will contain use directions, precautions and possibly even restrictions intended to protect fish. This is why the EPA-approved label instructions must be followed.

- All pesticides – including those referred to as “least toxic,” “organic” and “natural” – are toxic to one or more pests and possibly humans and other organisms as well. Use of these terms can lead to false security regarding the need for careful handling of pesticides and proper environmental stewardship.
- Over-reliance on a “least toxic” pesticide can cause new problems. For example, glyphosate is considered a “least toxic” herbicide choice, but overreliance on it has led to significant weed resistance problems. Over-use or misuse of any pest management tactic can cause problems – for example, cultivation to control weeds on hilly land can cause soil erosion, and excessive hand-hoeing can cause back injuries and increase the risk of skin cancer.
- Often, “least toxic” products do not work as well on the pest(s), leading to the need for re-treatment with another pesticide on larger and/or harder-to-control pest infestations. This can result in higher costs, reduced control and undesirable environmental effects attributable to the pest.

The Problem with Using Pesticides Only “As a Last Resort”

- “Last resort” implies that pesticides will work as well when every non-chemical control technique is attempted first. However, delaying application of a pesticide can cause buildup of the pest(s) in crops, gardens, buildings and other sites, with negative impacts on yield, quality and/or health. In fact, delaying treatment can significantly increase the ecological and economic damage to crop and non-crop areas.
- Using pesticides as the last line of defense can result in a more limited choice of pesticides, as well as reduced crop tolerance, the need for higher rates, and less effective control because of higher infestation levels and/or more tolerant pest stages. For example, seedling weeds and early-stage insect larvae and diseases are usually more easily controlled than later pest stages.
- Effective pesticide choices, when they are applied as a “last resort,” means fewer options to rotate pesticides, which is a critical step in preventing a pest from becoming resistant to a pesticide. “Last resort” pesticide strategies may also increase the need for multiple products and higher application rates to control the pest effectively.
- “Last resort” suggests pesticides are always the worst choice, which is not true. First using non-chemical techniques that are ineffective or inefficient has the potential to add to the cost of pest management, intensify the pest problem or create new problems.
- Branding pesticides as the “last resort” choice certainly does not stimulate a strong public interest in funding education on their proper use. Pesticides are widely used, but discretionary federal funding of the U.S. Pesticide Safety Education Program has been eliminated in 2011 and 2012. This program is

vital to educate pesticide users and dealers who must be certified to apply or sell pesticides, and to teach the public how to use pesticides safely.

There is no benefit or scientific basis to simplistic messages like “use least toxic pesticides as a last resort” for the large number of pesticide users who apply pesticides according to the label and practice good stewardship. Nor are these messages beneficial for those who neither seek training nor adequately read the label—believing instead that it is safe, practical, and effective to simply choose a product considered a “least toxic pesticide” and apply it only as a “last resort.” These messages hinder pesticide safety and stewardship education and practices that are in the best interest of the pesticide user, our food supply, public health and ecosystem preservation.

The WSSA, APS and P-IE ESA do not promote the use of pesticides above other pest management techniques. Pesticides should ONLY be used when needed, when risks to non-target organisms and habitats have been carefully considered, and when diligent attention will be given to following all label directions and other applicable laws. In addition, general and product-specific stewardship must always be practiced to prevent undesired effects under the particular application conditions.

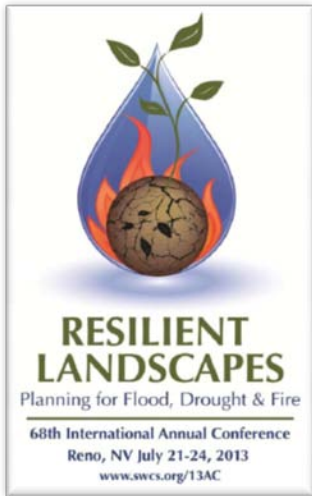
Pesticides are an important component of many IPM programs for a variety of reasons. A fungicide, for example, may prevent disease, have curative effects, induce plant resistance to disease or promote plant health and yield. The most important message is to follow the label – the entire label, including all safety and other precautions – and practice good stewardship. Suggesting that only “least toxic pesticides” be used, as a “last resort,” ignores the extensive research, regulatory, educational and stewardship efforts that make important pesticide tools available and define their proper and safe use in Integrated Pest Management programs.

Societies Renew Their Endorsement of IPM Definition in USDA “National Road Map for Integrated Pest Management”

No pest management-related term has been defined in so many different ways as “Integrated Pest Management.” WSSA, APS and P-IE ESA strongly oppose a non-scientific approach to IPM and re-endorse the USDA National Road Map definition:

“Integrated Pest Management, or IPM, is a long-standing, science-based, decision-making process that identifies and reduces risks from pests and pest management related strategies. It coordinates the use of pest biology, environmental information and available technology to prevent unacceptable levels of pest damage by the most economical means, while posing the least possible risk to people, property, resources and the environment. IPM provides an effective strategy for managing pests in all arenas, from developed agricultural, residential, and public areas to wild lands. IPM serves as an umbrella to provide an effective, all encompassing, low-risk approach to protect resources and people from pests.” USDA National Road Map for Integrated Pest Management

Real examples of the risks when pesticides are used only as a “last resort” and the benefits of using appropriately timed pesticides as part of an integrated pest management program, as well as common questions and answers, are available online.



Soil and Water Conservation Society (SWCS)

“Invasive Plants: Managing Controversy, Creativity, and Conservation” July 21, 2013

A 1-day special session entitled, “Invasive Plants: Managing Controversy, Creativity, and Conservation”, will focus on the challenges and issues associated with invasive plant species. In all parts of the world, invasive plants are establishing in natural areas and wild lands and are changing many of the cycles (e.g., fire, hydrological) and affecting many of the processes (e.g., succession, nutrient turnover) that once supported biologically diverse communities. There are many unknowns on the long-term impacts of invasive plant species and this has spurred numerous debates related to management approaches and even the necessity of

human intervention. Alternatively, the short-term effects of invasive plants can be seen at small and large scales and has resulted in much thought by researchers, land managers, and policymakers on how to develop and find innovative/alternative approaches to address what should be done and how best to do it. Ultimately, a price will be paid if dialogue does not continue and new ways are not developed to preserve our current landscapes and at the same time allow for dynamic change in these systems, which includes invasive plant species. It is with this focus that this 1-day special session is taking place at the 2013 SWCS annual meetings in Reno, NV. The intent is to create an environment with a diverse audience that through discussion and presentation will continue to advance what is best for the environment and its constituents in relation to invasive plants species both now and into the future. Make plans to attend this special session in July 2013. Symposia organizers are seeking contributed oral and poster presentation to complement three invited plenary speakers. For registration details, go to www.swcs.org/13AC.

New Graduate Student Award

The Southern IPM Center (SIPMC) is pleased to announce the new “Friends of Southern IPM Graduate Student Award.” This award program recognizes graduate students with extraordinary potential to contribute to the development and implementation of research, extension, or implementation of Integrated Pest Management (IPM) in the Southern Region of the United States.

The program will recognize two graduate students: one in a Masters (M.S. or M.A.) program and one in a Ph.D program. Winners will receive a plaque and a generous honorarium (after writing an article describing their work).

Graduate students enrolled at a college or university located within the Southern Region of the United States and working in IPM and related disciplines (including entomology, plant pathology, and weed science) are eligible for the award. Attached is the call for nomination. A few points to clarify about the nomination process:

1) Each department can submit two nominations (1 Masters and 1 Ph.D.).

2) The Department Head/Chair or his/her designee is requested to help screen multiple nominations within the department and submit only two nominations signed by the Department Head or his/her designee.

3) Nomination packets consisting of: i) a nomination form (down loadable at <http://www.sripmc.org/friendsofipm/>), ii) nomination letter by the candidate's head of department or faculty member (signed by the Department Head or a designee, limit to 2 pages), and iii) candidate's CV - emailed as a PDF file to rhallberg@sripmc.org by **November 30, 2012**.

Please e-mail Rosemary Hallberg at rhallberg@sripmc.org if you have any questions.

Thank you for your support in nominating appropriate candidates for this new award.

**FACULTY Position Announcement, GRAIN CROPS EXTENSION AGRONOMIST
Department of Plant and Soil Sciences, University of Kentucky**

Justification:

Corn, soybean and wheat produce about \$1.4 billion, or 80% of the total crops value and 35% of all agriculture in Kentucky. The western half of Kentucky contains about 80% of the corn, soybean and wheat acres. The University of Kentucky Research and Education Center is located in the heart of this grain crops production, and a new faculty member is needed to support this grain crops agriculture.

POSITION:

Assistant Extension Professor – Grain Crops Agronomist located at the University of Kentucky Research and Education Center, Princeton, Kentucky

This is a full time (12-month) tenure track position with an initial appointment of 80% extension and 20% research.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

This person will provide leadership in developing an extension and applied research program for corn, soybean and small grains production and management that is coordinated with and complimentary to existing efforts in these areas. Extension duties include: 1) develop and deliver comprehensive agronomic training programs for county agents, producers, crop consultants and agribusiness personnel; 2) communicate with citizens, public officials and others on the relationship between crop management practices and environmental quality; 3) collaborate with other extension and research faculty to deliver relevant management technologies; 4) provide expertise in diagnosing plant and environmental problems; and 5) provide technical expertise to grower commodity groups. Research responsibilities include the development of applied investigations in crop management and production and securing extramural research support for those investigations. The primary goal of this research will be to refine current and develop new guidelines and recommendations. Research results will be transferred to stakeholders using the most appropriate means, including extension publications, newsletters, blogs and other digital media, and refereed journal articles. Research topics could include, but would not be limited to, management changes relative to a changing climate, precision agriculture as it relates to stress tolerance and yield variability, sustainability and efficiency of cropping systems, and use of irrigation as a risk management tool. These applied research projects may be conducted on university farms or on private farms with cooperating growers and county agents. The successful applicant is expected to be actively involved in graduate student

education, either by advising students or serving on student committees, to fill service roles in the department, and to pursue professional development in a scientific society.

Qualifications:

A Ph.D. degree in Agronomy, Crop Science, Soil Science, or a related discipline is required, and an emphasis on production agriculture is preferred. This person must demonstrate excellent communication (oral and written) skills including the ability to convey scientific findings to extension agents, producers, crop consultants and colleagues.

RANK AND SALARY: The position will be filled at the Assistant Extension Professor level. Experienced candidates with appropriate qualifications may be considered for appointment at a higher rank. Salary, fringe benefits, and initial operating support are competitive with other leading land-grant universities.

APPLICATION PROCEDURES: Applications will be accepted until February 1, 2013, or until a suitable applicant is selected. The position is available July 1, 2013. To apply for this position (50150128), a UK Online Application must be submitted at <https://ukjobs.uky.edu> then click 'Custom Job Search' and enter the requisition number (SM543487). The application should include: a cover letter and curriculum vitae with the names and contact information of three references, university transcripts (scanned copies acceptable for application review), a statement of extension philosophy (up to 1 page), and a 1 to 2 page statement of extension programming and research interests. If you have any questions concerning how to apply, contact HR/Employment, phone 859.257.9555 press 2, or email ukjobs@email.uky.edu. Questions about the position can be directed to: Dr. Todd Pfeiffer (Chair), Department of Plant and Soil Sciences, 105 Plant Science Building, Lexington, KY 40546-0312 (tpfeiffe@uky.edu) telephone 859.218.0709.

Applications and inquiries from women and minorities are encouraged. The University of Kentucky is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Applications will be accepted without regard to race, color, age, sex, religion, disability or national origin. The address of the College of Agriculture EEO Coordinator is Room S-101 Agriculture Science-North, Lexington, KY 40546-0091.

EXTENSION ASSISTANT , Oklahoma State University

Extension Assistant position available in the Turfgrass & Roadside Vegetation Management Program in the Horticulture and Landscape Architecture Department at Oklahoma State University-Stillwater. Responsibilities include assisting in developing/conducting initial pesticide applicator certification and continuing education workshops for Oklahoma Department of Transportation vegetation managers. Research roll includes field and lab trials, data analysis as well as monthly and yearly written reports. A B.S. degree in Horticulture, Crop Science, Plant Science, Soil Science, Agricultural Engineering or related field and 1 year of relevant experience are required. Must be able to lift at least 50 pounds, have excellent written and verbal communication skills, understand and implement sound scientific research and experimental design practices. Ability and desire to travel statewide and work flexible hours to accommodate extension programming and research activities are required. For full consideration, application materials must be received by November 15, 2012; however, position will remain open until filled. Apply online at <https://jobs.okstate.edu> for Listing Number 08688.

Oklahoma State University is an affirmative action/equal opportunity/e-verify employer committed to diversity. The OSU-Stillwater campus is tobacco-free.