



Western Society of Weed Science Newsletter

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Winter 2017

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President's Report by Kirk Howatt

The election results are in! Congratulations to all candidates for a well-represented ballot. Strong support was received for each candidate, and we appreciate your willingness to serve the society. Our incoming President-Elect is Andrew Kniss with Research Section Chair-Elect Gustavo Sbatella and Education and Regulatory Chair-Elect Brian Schutte.

We welcome these members to the board. Please congratulate and thank them as you have occasion. They officially take office at the end of the 2017 Annual Meeting in March.

That's right, the Annual Meeting is right around the corner. And what a full week it will be with joint activities for WSWS and the Western Aquatic Plant Management Society. Program Chairs Monte Anderson and Amy Ferriter, respectively, have pulled together arrangements of a busy schedule with support from Section Chairs, Project Chairs, and Local Arrangements. I am grateful to everyone involved in the planning and implementation to accommodate our typical complement of project and discussion sessions, the additional concurrent session for Aquatic Weeds, and three symposia into the meetings. There is something for everyone in the program.

The ample accommodations and beautiful setting of the resort provide a welcome venue for our professional and social discussions. Please save your seat and hotel room today (<http://www.wsweedscience.org/annual-meeting/>). Timely pre-registration will save you \$100 and who knows what the non-block room rate will be.

The Board of Directors will meet Monday, March 13, from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm in the Kidd Island Bay room (sorry, no waterslide). All members may attend, but we especially anticipate reports from all officers and committee chairs. A form and instructions will be sent separately. If your travel allows, please attend the Welcome and Retirees Reception also held Monday but starting at 6:00 pm. Immediate Past President Joe Yenish should be provided names of recent or pending retirements to be announced.

In my last article, I mentioned that after 10 years Phil Banks is stepping down as our Business Manager. The Board has selected Interactive Management Incorporated under direction of Gary Leeper in Westminster, CO to fill these duties. Tara Steinke will be our direct contact and will be attending the meetings in Coeur d'Alene. Please help me welcome her to our society.

You may recall the announcement that long-time WSWS member and supporter Rita Beard passed away last October. The family wishes to create an endowment in her memory and honor which will be administered through WSWS. Details of the endowment are still under construction, but I wanted to make the endowment known for those who might wish to make a charitable contribution to it in her memory.

I have appreciated the opportunity to serve as your President and the support I have received to complete our activities the past year. Thanks for your involvement and see you soon.

Program Highlights for Coeur d'Alene

Monte Anderson, Program Chair

This meeting on weeds of all types is coming on fast and if you haven't done so yet, now is the time for finalizing your travel plans to Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. The joint meeting of the Western Society of Weed Science and the Western Aquatic Plant Management Society has taken shape with solid, round numbers. A total of 175 submissions (125 papers and 50 posters) have been received representing 75% WSWs and 25% WAPMS. There are a total of 40 graduate student contest presentations.

Posters will be on display all day Tuesday and Wednesday with odd/even authors present in the mornings during the poster sessions. A large area for the posters will include WAPMS exhibitors and any WSWs sponsor tables in addition to our conference breaks. Papers in any of the five projects and aquatics will be on 15 minute schedules to facilitate movement between sessions. There will be discussion topics as well. Besides the wide diversity of sessions/topics, there will be three symposia to consider attending. So come prepared to make some difficult decisions on what to attend; everything will be in close proximity.

Important deadlines to remember:

- February 11 - block room reservation
- February 11 - reduced meeting pre-registration fee
- February 28 - abstract and keyword submission
- March 3- submit slides via wssaabstracts.com. After this date, contact the project chair.

On Wednesday afternoon of the conference there is a risk communication symposia by Kaci Buhl that was rescheduled from last year's meeting. A smaller symposia is later Wednesday afternoon by Robert Norris covering macro photography. Then on Thursday morning running through noon will be the climate change symposia. Erik Lehnhoff is moderating this session including multiple speakers followed by discussion.

The General Session on Tuesday morning will feature addresses by WSWs and WAPMS presidents, a Washington DC report on weed science policy, a geologist talk on ice age floods effect on agriculture, and an entomologist/private contractor presentation on growing and regulating cannabis as a crop. Now that's agricultural diversity!

So make plans to attend this unique meeting of WSWs and WAPMS members and encourage coauthors and non members to attend as well. Be thinking of new symposia topics as well so that we don't have a "drought" at next year's meeting. Come and enjoy the meeting at the Coeur d'Alene resort in Idaho!

Contact Us

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Awards, Site Selection

President-Elect

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Program, Poster,
Publications, Student Paper
Judging, Local Arrangements

Immediate Past President

Joe Yenish

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Members, Sustaining
Members, Nominations

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Coeur d'Alene Local Arrangements – Scott Cook

Hard to believe in a little over a month this meeting will take place! The meeting is at **The Coeur d'Alene Resort** in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho:

The Coeur d'Alene Resort
115 S. 2nd Street
Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814

To reserve rooms at the meeting block rate, use the following link:

[Reservations Coeur d'Alene Resort](#) or call 855-999-7998 and mention WSWS. The Deadline to get the group pricing on rooms is **February 11**.

I have outlined the best travel forms of travels in the Fall Newsletter (**Fall 2016**)

I still feel your best bet is to rent a car to see all of the awesome sites and great ski resorts North Idaho has to offer. You can set up a shuttle or simply get a taxi, refer to the Fall Newsletter.

So, a problem I ran into the other day was parking my 1 ton Ford Pickup. Turns out the parking garage is only 6'9" tall and I'm about 7' tall. So, options for this are the Resort will valet park these oversized vehicles for \$30 a night. The other option is to park in the lot East of the Resort, it is based on a per hour rate of \$1 - \$3 or about \$24 per day. Hopefully not many of you will have to deal with this.

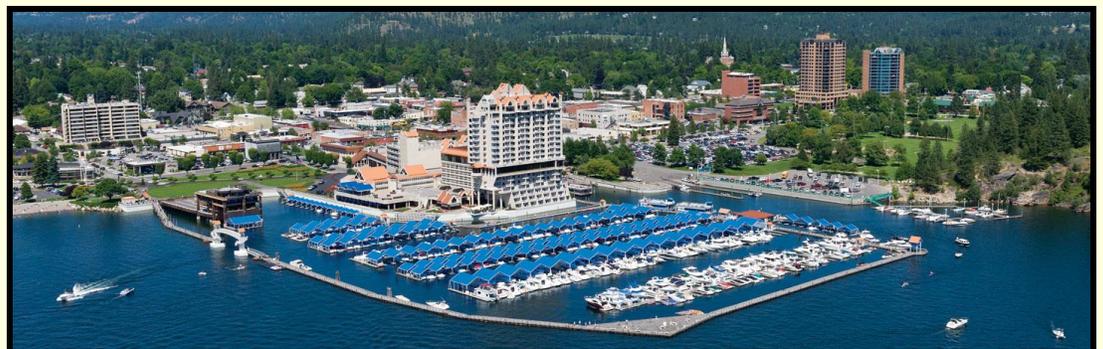
Coeur d'Alene Attractions

There are several sites to see even just right near the Resort. Even just taking a small stroll around you can see several interesting things from the moose (statues) that pepper the city to historical markers here and there. You can simply get onto a Boat and go looking for eagles or several of the historically large houses found along the shores of Lake Coeur d'Alene.

There are several dining options available either in the Resort or a short walk. Please make sure to try all the wonderful food the city of Coeur d'Alene has to offer, you won't regret it!

If you have any other concerns about anything refer back to the previous newsletters. I hope that everything you need has been covered there. Otherwise send me an email and I'll try my best to help.

Scott Cook – scott@hubbardagscience.com



Student Liaison Report - by Breanne Tidemann

It won't be long until we're visiting in person in Coeur d'Alene. One of the big events each year for the student liaisons is the silent auction which raises funds for student scholarships. Caio and I are working hard to secure items for the silent auction in Coeur d'Alene but we could use your help. Last year we raised enough funds to fully fund the student scholarships; without your support we won't be able to repeat last year's success. If you have any items or services that society members may be interested in bidding on, we would greatly appreciate your donation. Easy to travel with items can be brought to the registration desk at the meeting and Caio or I will gladly take it from you there (please let us know ahead of time if you'll be bringing something!). If it's a more difficult item to travel with please contact myself (blaturnu@ualberta.ca) or Caio (cabrunharo@ucdavis.edu) and we can arrange delivery. Please consider supporting this endeavour... we are only successful with your help.

Don't forget to get those abstracts submitted for the meeting by February 28th, and your slides in by March 3rd. The program for the meeting is now posted online, so make sure to check out when your talk/poster is. Students, we will have our Student Luncheon and business meeting on Tuesday, March 14 in Boardroom 5 ABC on the 7th floor and our Student reception that evening from 5-6:30pm in the same room. A big thank you to Bayer CropScience and Syngenta for sponsoring those events. The Student Night Out will be Wednesday night; it's a fantastic informal event to get your questions about post-grad school careers answered. I highly recommend you take advantage of the opportunity! More details about the Student Night Out will be coming over the upcoming weeks in the lead up to the meeting. Make sure you are registered if you want to participate!

At our Student Luncheon we will be electing our new Student Liaison Chair Elect. Being the student representative has been a fantastic opportunity and an incredible experience. It gives you a chance to see the inner workings of the society, and network with more people than you would otherwise get to. I highly recommend the position to all you students out there. If you are interested in applying for the position please send an email to Caio and myself with *two* paragraphs: one with a brief biography and another one explaining why you want to be the student representative. We will vote for our new Liaison Chair Elect during the Student Luncheon. Emails describing the position have been sent out in the last couple of months; if you still have questions or have not received those emails please get in touch.

Don't forget to follow us on Twitter ([@WSWSstudents](https://twitter.com/WSWSstudents)) and the WSWS Student Section on Twitter. We are looking forward to catching up at the upcoming meeting!

Breanne Tidemann, Student Liaison Chair (blaturnu@ualberta.ca)

Caio Brunharo, Student Liaison Chair Elect (cabrunharo@ucdavis.edu)

Just a reminder that we are looking for donations for the Silent Auction that will be held at Coeur d'Alene! If you have items to contribute please contact Caio or Breanne to let them know. Your support of the Silent Auction would be greatly appreciated!

A Note from the Business Office

Hello! I would like to introduce myself to everyone, I am Tara Steinke and I am the incoming Business Manager/Treasurer for the Western Society of Weed Science. I am very excited to be working with the WSWS and look forward to meeting many of you at the meeting in Coeur d'Alene. I grew up in Eastern Colorado where my family ran a small fertilizer and agriculture chemical application business. I have a Soil and Crop Science Degree from Colorado State University where I worked with Dr. Sandra McDonald in the Pesticide Education Program. My husband and I currently live in Eaton, CO with our 11 and 12 year old boys. I work for Integrated Management Inc. and our office is located in Westminster, CO. The business hours are 8:00 am – 5:00 pm MST. To get ahold of me please call (303) 327-8016 or email tara@imigroup.org. IMI is excited to continue the tradition of excellent service that Phil Banks has provided to the organization for the last ten years.

Treasurer / Business Manager

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Lee Van Wychen

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Weed Science Societies

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Publications

WSWS ONLINE EDUCATION

<http://passel.unl.edu/pages/index2col.php?category=weedscience#>

WSSA Journals Website Online

www.WSSAJournals.org

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Western Society of Weed Science Annual Meeting

March 13-16, 2017
Coeur d'Alene, Idaho
www.wsweedscience.org

Western Invasive Weed Short Course

April 17-20, 2017
Loveland, Colorado
www.mountainwestpest.com/ShortCourse.html

2nd Global Herbicide Resistance Challenge

May 14-18, 2017
Denver, Colorado
www.ghrc2017.org

26th Asian Pacific Weed Science Society Conference 'Weed Science for People, Agriculture, and Nature'

September 19-22, 2017
Kyoto, Japan
www.c-linkage.co.jp/apwss2017/

Reminder: Please register for the 2017 joint WSWs/WAPMS Annual Meeting if you have not done so yet. You can go to our website (<http://www.wsweedscience.org/annual-meeting/>) to conveniently register online or you can use the registration form found in this newsletter. The Annual Meeting page on the website also has information for making a room reservation at the Coeur d'Alene Resort Hotel. The meeting preregistration and hotel reservation deadline is February 11, 2017. Please read through all the registration information carefully since the joint meeting options are a little more complicated than usual.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact Phil Banks or myself. We will both be at the Annual Meeting along with Ed who has been assisting Phil for many years.

Tara Steinke, Incoming WSWs Business Manager/Treasurer



Global Herbicide Resistance Challenge May 14-18, 2017 in Denver, Colorado

The Scientific Program Committee has developed a program that will bring together academic and industry weed researchers, land managers, policy makers, and communications experts. The program includes invited speakers in plant molecular genetics, non-chemical weed management, communications, socio-economics, as well as experts from insecticide, fungicide, and antibiotic resistance for an inter-disciplinary program.

The program has expanded to include:

- The **Research Methods Workshop** (Sunday, May 14; 1-5 pm) will cover basic methods for conducting herbicide resistance research. The target audience is graduate students and researchers new to the field.
- The **Global Initiative for Harvest Weed Seed Control (HWSC) Symposium** (Thursday, May 18; 1-5 pm) is a coordinated approach to establishing the potential, evaluating the technologies, and implementing the practices needed for HWSC in cropping systems.

We hope you and your colleagues will participate in this event. It is a great opportunity to interact with other scientist and professionals in research, education, government, and industry for four days of oral paper and poster presentations and networking on key herbicide resistance issues spanning the spectrum from genomics to management.

Visit the official website (www.ghrc2017.org) for detailed information about the program, registration, hotel accommodations, travel, sponsor/exhibitor opportunities and much more!

Please contact ghrc@ghrc2017.org if you have any questions.

WASHINGTON REPORT

January 29, 2017

Lee Van Wychen

Trump Administration Starting to Take Shape

Washington DC is abuzz with all the activities that come about with a change in the office of the President and leadership among all the federal government agencies. Here's a quick look at his nominees for USDA, EPA and Interior.



Sonny Perdue was nominated for Secretary of Agriculture. Perdue, 70, was born and raised on a diversified row crop and dairy operation in central Georgia and earned a doctorate in veterinary medicine from the University of Georgia in 1971, while also serving in the U.S. Air Force. Following a brief tenure as a practicing veterinarian, Perdue started two businesses from the ground up, concentrating in agribusiness and transportation. His public service began in the 1980s when he served on the Houston County Planning and Zoning Board. He then successfully ran for the state senate, becoming majority leader in just four years, followed by his election as president pro tempore. Purdue served as Georgia's governor from 2003 to 2011. His cousin David Perdue is a U.S. Senator from Georgia and a member of the Senate Ag Committee. More info on Sonny is at:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sonny_Perdue



Scott Pruitt, Oklahoma Attorney General, has been nominated to lead **EPA**. The 49 year old Pruitt was born and raised in Kentucky where he graduated from Georgetown College in 1990. After that, he moved to Oklahoma where he earned his law degree at the University of Tulsa specializing in constitutional law. More info about Scott can be found at:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Scott_Pruitt and <http://scottpruitt.com/meet-scott/>



Ryan Zinke, Montana's sole Representative in the U.S. House, was nominated for the position of **Interior Secretary**. The 55 year old former Navy Seal has a B.S. in Geology from Oregon and a Masters in Business Finance and Masters in Global Leadership from the University of San Diego. More info about Ryan can be found at: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ryan_Zinke and

<http://www.ryanzinke.com/>

Senate Ag Committee Members in 115th Congress

There will be 11 Republicans and 10 Democrats on the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry in the 115th Congress, which has jurisdiction over all matters relating to the nation's agriculture industry, farming programs, forestry and logging, and legislation relating to nutrition and health. The chairman of the Senate Ag Committee, Pat Roberts from Kansas, and ranking member, Debbie Stabenow from Michigan, will remain in their same roles as the 114th Congress. They will conduct the very first field hearing in preparation for the 2018 Farm Bill at Kansas State University on February 23, 2017. Committee members, in order of seniority (**WSWS states bolded**):

| Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry – 115 th Congress | | | |
|--|-----------|----------------------------------|-----------|
| Republicans (11) | | Democrats (10) | |
| Pat Roberts - Chair | KS | Debbie Stabenow - Ranking Member | MI |
| Thad Cochran | MS | Patrick Leahy | VT |
| Mitch McConnell | KY | Sherrod Brown | OH |
| John Boozman | AR | Amy Klobuchar | MN |
| John Hoeven | ND | Michael Bennett | CO |
| Joni Ernst | IA | Kirsten Gillibrand | NY |
| Charles E. Grassley | IA | Joe Donnelly | IN |
| Jeff Sessions | AL | Heidi Heitkamp | ND |
| John Thune | SD | Bob Casey | PA |
| Steve Daines | MT | Chris Van Hollen | MD |
| David Perdue | GA | | |

House Ag Committee Members in 115th Congress

There will be 26 Republicans and 20 Democrats on the House Agriculture Committee in the 115th Congress. Mike Conaway, Texas, will remain chair and Collin Peterson, Minnesota, will remain the ranking member. Members, in order of seniority (**WSWS states bolded**):

| House Committee on Agriculture – 115 th Congress | | | |
|---|-----------|---------------------------------|-----------|
| Republicans (26) | | Democrats (20) | |
| Michael Conaway- Chair | TX | Collin Peterson- Ranking Member | MN |
| Glenn 'GT' Thompson | PA | David Scott | GA |
| Bob Goodlatte | VA | Jim Costa | CA |
| Frank D. Lucas | OK | Tim Walz | MN |
| Steven King | IA | Marcia Fudge | OH |
| Mike Rogers | AL | Jim McGovern | MA |
| Bob Gibbs | OH | Filemon Vela | TX |
| Austin Scott | GA | Michelle Lujan Grisham | NM |
| Rick Crawford | AR | Ann Kuster | NH |
| Scott DesJarlais | TN | Rick Nolan | MN |
| Vicky Hartzler | MO | Cheri Bustos | IL |
| Jeff Denham | CA | Sean Patrick Maloney | NY |
| Doug LaMalfa | CA | Stacey Plaskett | VI |
| Rodney Davis | IL | Alma Adams | NC |
| Ted Yoho | FL | Dwight Evans | PA |
| Rick Allen | GA | Al Lawson | FL |
| Mike Bost | IL | Tom O'Halleran | AZ |
| David Rouzer | NC | Jimmy Panetta | CA |
| Ralph Abraham | LA | Darren Soto | FL |

| | |
|------------------------|-----------|
| Trent Kelly | MS |
| James Cormer | KY |
| Roger Marshall | KS |
| Don Bacon | NE |
| John Faso | NY |
| Neal Dunn | FL |
| Jodey Arrington | TX |

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|----------------------|----|
| Lisa Blunt Rochester | DE |
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Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee Members in 115th Congress

There are 12 Republicans and 11 Democrats on the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources in the 115th Congress. The committee has jurisdiction over matters related to energy and nuclear waste policy, territorial policy, and public lands, which includes the National Park System, Wild and Scenic Rivers System, National Trails System, Bureau of Land Management, and U.S. Forest Service. The chair of the committee will remain Lisa Murkowski of Alaska and the ranking member will remain Maria Cantwell of Washington. Members, in order of seniority (**WSWS states bolded**):

| Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources – 115th Congress | | | |
|---|-----------|--|-----------|
| Republicans (12) | | Democrats/Independents (11) | |
| Lisa Murkowski - Chair | AK | Maria Cantwell - Ranking Member | WA |
| John Barrasso | WY | Ron Wyden | OR |
| Jim Risch | ID | Bernard Sanders-I | VT |
| Mike Lee | UT | Debbie Stabenow | MI |
| Jeff Flake | AZ | Al Franken | MN |
| Steve Daines | MT | Joe Manchin | WV |
| Cory Gardner | CO | Martin Heinrich | NM |
| Jeff Session | AL | Mazie Hirono | HI |
| Lamar Alexander | TN | Angus King-I | ME |
| John Hoeven | ND | Tammy Duckworth | IL |
| Bill Cassidy | LA | Catherine Cortez Masto | NV |
| Rob Portman | OH | | |

House Natural Resources Committee Members in 115th Congress

There will be 25 Republicans and 18 Democrats on the House Natural Resources Committee in the 115th Congress. Rob Bishop, Utah, will remain chair and Raul Grijalva, Arizona, will remain the ranking member. Members, in order of seniority (**WSWS states/territories bolded**):

| House Committee on Natural Resources – 115th Congress | | | |
|---|-----------|---------------------------------------|-----------|
| Republicans (25) | | Democrats (18) | |
| Rob Bishop- Chair | UT | Raul Grijalva- Ranking Member | AZ |
| Don Young | AK | Grace Napolitano | CA |
| Louie Gohmert | TX | Madeleine Bordallo | GU |
| Doug Lamborn | CO | Jim Costa | CA |
| Rob Wittman | VA | Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan | MP |

| | |
|--------------------------------|-----------|
| Tom McClintock | CA |
| Steve Pearce | NM |
| Glenn 'GT' Thompson | PA |
| Paul Gosar | AZ |
| Raul Labrador | ID |
| Scott Tipton | CO |
| Doug LaMalfa | CA |
| Jeff Denham | CA |
| Paul Cook | CA |
| Bruce Westerman | AR |
| Garret Graves | LA |
| Jody Hice | GA |
| Amata Coleman Radewagen | AS |
| Darin LaHood | IL |
| Daniel Webster | FL |
| David Rouzer | NC |
| Jack Bergman | MI |
| Liz Cheney | WY |
| Mike Johnson | LA |
| Jennifer Gonzalez-Colon | PR |

| | |
|-------------------------|-----------|
| Niki Tsongas | MA |
| Jared Huffman | CA |
| Alan Lowenthal | CA |
| Don Beyer | VA |
| Norma Torres | CA |
| Ruben Gallego | AZ |
| Colleen Hanabusa | HI |
| Nanette Barragan | CA |
| Darren Soto | FL |
| Jimmy Panetta | CA |
| A. Donald McEachin | VA |
| Anthony Brown | MD |
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Federal Government Funded on CR Through April 28

Congress passed a continuing resolution (CR) just before midnight on December 9, funding the government at FY 2016 levels through April 28, 2017. The new 115th Congress of the United States will have to deal with the remainder of FY 2017 funding as well as start on FY 2018 federal funding where sequestration will kick back in for discretionary spending. There will be much debate over how those recessions will be distributed between defense and non-defense programs or if there will be another budget deal to “raise the caps”. Most federal research dollars depend on non-defense discretionary funding.

Most Common and Troublesome Weeds in Broadleaf Crops, Fruits and Vegetables

In 2016, the National and Regional Weed Science Societies conducted a survey of the most common and troublesome weeds in the following broadleaf crop categories: 1) alfalfa, 2) canola, 3) cotton, 4) fruits & nuts, 5) peanuts, 6) pulse crops, 7) soybean, 8) sugar beets, 9) vegetables-cole crops, 10) vegetables-cucurbits, 11) vegetables-fruited, and 12) vegetables-other.

Common weeds refer to those weeds you most frequently see, while **troublesome weeds** are those that are most difficult to control (but may not be widespread). There were approximately 200 responses from weed scientists across the U.S. and Canada. **Nationwide-**the three most common weeds in broadleaf crops were: 1) Chenopodium album, 2) Setaria spp. and 3) Ipomoea spp.; while the three most troublesome weeds were 1) Amaranthus palmeri, 2) Chenopodium album, and 3) Conyza canadensis.

The “top 10” lists below for the WSWR Region are an aggregation of the number of survey respondents who listed that weed as one of their top five weed species in any of the 12 broadleaf crop categories in the U.S. or Canada. In some cases, I chose to combine species like

purple and yellow nutsedge into one category since their biology and management is fairly similar.

| Top 10 Weeds in Broadleaf Crops, Fruits & Vegetables in the WSWs Region | | | | | |
|---|-----------------------|---------------|------|-----------------------|--------------|
| Rank | Most Troublesome | *Times Listed | Rank | Most Common | Times Listed |
| 1 | kochia | 32 | 1 | common lambsquarters | 30 |
| 2 | common lambsquarters | 21 | T2 | redroot pigweed | 25 |
| 3 | Palmer amaranth | 19 | T2 | kochia | 25 |
| 4 | nutsedge spp. | 18 | 4 | foxtail spp. | 20 |
| 5 | waterhemp | 14 | 5 | Palmer amaranth | 17 |
| T6 | Canada thistle | 13 | 6 | waterhemp | 16 |
| T6 | field bindweed | 13 | 7 | nutsedge spp. | 12 |
| T8 | horseweed (marestail) | 12 | T8 | horseweed (marestail) | 11 |
| T8 | hairy nightshade | 12 | T8 | hairy nightshade | 11 |
| 10 | redroot pigweed | 11 | 10 | wild oats | 10 |

As you would expect, there were no grass weed species listed as “troublesome” in the top 10 weeds in broadleaf crops. Eight weed species appeared on both the “most troublesome” and “most common” lists. Canada thistle and field bindweed, two notoriously difficult weeds to control, were on the most troublesome list, but not on the most common list. Four of the top five most troublesome weeds above have documented resistance to multiple herbicide mechanisms of action in the United States. The 2016 data set is available at:

<http://wssa.net/wssa/weed/surveys/>

2017 National Weed Survey Now Available

The National and Regional Weed Science Societies 2017 survey for the most common and troublesome weeds is now available at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2017weeds>

The survey focuses on weeds in grass crops, specifically: 1) corn 2) rice, 3) sorghum, 4) spring grains, 5) winter grains, 6) pastures, and 7) turf.

Please take a few minutes to complete the survey now!

New Paraquat Risk Mitigation Measures Final, EPA Grants Research Exemption

As part of the registration review process for paraquat, EPA proposed additional mitigation measures last year, such as paraquat-specific applicator training material and prohibiting backpack applications, in order to minimize human health incidents from paraquat. These proposals were open for a 60 day comment period that closed last May. The WSSA Science Policy Committee had several concerns related to the costs and requirements of some of the proposed mitigation measures, but our **greatest concern** was that prohibiting paraquat applications from hand-held equipment would essentially eliminate the weed science

community's ability to do small plot research with paraquat. WSSA's comments are at: http://wssa.net/wp-content/uploads/WSSA-comments-on-paraquat-mitigation_FINAL.pdf

On Dec. 15, 2016, EPA finalized its mitigation decisions and implementation plan which can be found at: <https://www.regulations.gov/document?D=EPA-HQ-OPP-2011-0855-0112>

I am happy to report that EPA addressed many of our concerns with their final decision. Most importantly, they included the following provision:

f. RESEARCH EXEMPTION

The Agency recognizes that paraquat is widely used in agricultural research as a standard burndown and desiccant treatment, to which other herbicides and desiccants are compared. Because of its use as a standard treatment, it has high benefits for use in small scale research trials. Based on these facts and the comments received regarding the importance of paraquat for research purposes, EPA will grant a **research exemption from the closed system requirement and the 'certified applicator only' requirement.**

In order to allow researchers to use paraquat while ensuring the overall safe use of the pesticide, EPA will consider, on a case-by-case basis, applications for products which are specific for research use. These products should contain appropriate labeling, be of an appropriate size, and should include registrant assurance of controlled distribution.

This decision does not preclude research uses of paraquat consistent with existing regulations at 40 CFR 172.3.

Other key provisions in the paraquat mitigation decisions include:

- All paraquat non-bulk (less than 120 gallon) end use product containers must comply with EPA-approved **closed system** standards (e.g Lock and Load type systems). Registrants must comply with these standards by **March, 30 2019.**
- Paraquat products are **only to be used by certified applicators** who have met the applicator competency standards established by states, tribal, and federal agencies to use or handle paraquat. They are not to be used by uncertified individuals working under the supervision of a certified applicator.
- EPA is permitting the **continued use of handheld and backpack application equipment**, so long as it complies with EPA-approved closed system technology. Additionally, paraquat products intended for handheld and backpack equipment should contain an indicator dye to aid in early detection of paraquat leaks and spills, effective **March 30, 2019.**

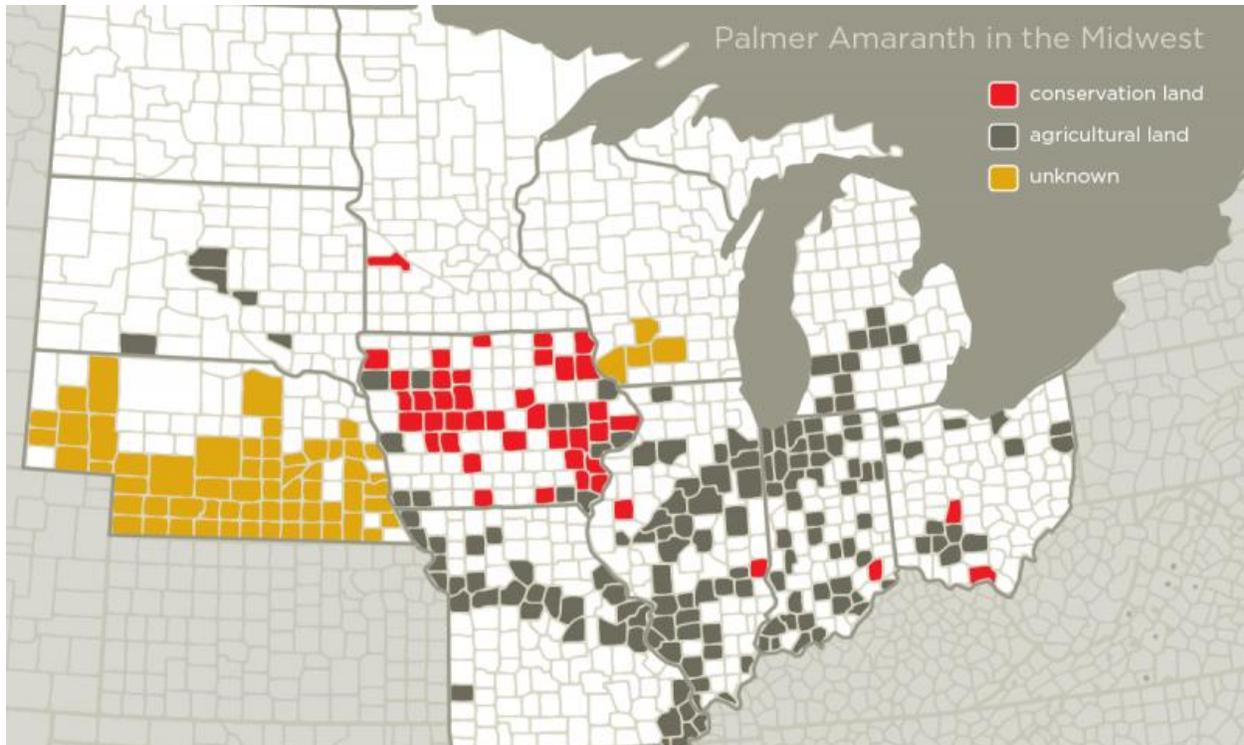
Education and Awareness of Auxin BMPs Will Be Critical

After the fallout from last summer's off label applications of dicamba, it is very clear that the weed science community will need to work extra hard on educating growers and applicators about appropriate best management practices (BMPs) for auxin herbicides. The products Extendimax with VaporGrip, Engenia, and Enlist Duo have been approved for use in 34 states, which includes the WSWS states of **ND, NE, KS, OK, TX, NM, CO, and parts of AZ.** There is a lot of excellent work going on already in many states across the country, but we must continue to get those auxin herbicide BMPs out there anyway we can. The WSSA Public Awareness Committee will be issuing a couple press releases this winter highlighting the auxin herbicide BMP's that were developed for www.TakeActionOnWeeds.com

Kevin Bradley gave a great **presentation** at the NCWSS annual meeting about his experiences with off-label dicamba applications in Missouri. One of the biggest eye-opening pieces of information that I took away was that were 24 days with temperature inversions in June 2016 in the Missouri Bootheel. 24 days out of 30! *Successful Farming* magazine had a nice summary

of his talk titled “10 Dicamba Damage Takeaways From Missouri” at <http://www.agriculture.com/crops/soybeans/10-dicamba-damage-takeaways-from-missouri>

“100% Weed-Free” Pollinator Habitat Seed Spreading Palmer Amaranth in CRP Land



Weed scientists are finding Palmer amaranth across the Midwest. Counties in black indicate Palmer amaranth was first found in an agricultural field, whereas red indicates it was first detected on conservation program land. Yellow signifies the source of introduction was not identified. Credit: Graphic by Julie McMahon, University of Illinois

Read more at: <https://phys.org/news/2016-12-effort-seeds-destruction-midwest.html#jCp>

Three Weed Scientists on First EPA Agricultural Science Committee

Pursuant to the 2014 Farm Bill, the EPA has established the first ever Agricultural Science Committee that will provide advice to EPA’s chartered Science Advisory Board (SAB) on matters that have been determined to have a significant direct impact on farming and agriculture-related industries. Congratulations to the following weed scientists who were among the 19 members of the **first Agricultural Science Committee**:

- Dr. Stanley Culpepper, University of Georgia
- Dr. Peter Dotray, Texas Tech University
- Dr. Andrew Kniss, University of Wyoming

Scientific Society Leaders Discuss NAS Genetically Engineered Crops Report

On December 7, representatives of 15 scientific societies, including WSSA, met to explore the findings, conclusions, and recommendations of the National Academy of Sciences (NAS) report, **Genetically Engineered Crops: Experiences and Prospects**, which was released in May 2016. In addition to commenting on the reports’ conclusions and recommendations, scientific society

panelists explored how the report might be used in the societies' academic education and public communication activities. The forum panels focused on different sections of the report such as human health effects, social and economic effects, agronomic and environmental effects, and the promise of next generation biotechnology. I'd like to especially thank Dr. Carol Mallory-Smith who moderated the panel on "Agronomic and Environmental Effects of GE Crops" and Dr. Michael Barrett for representing WSSA on that panel. Both are past-presidents of WSSA. The entire forum was recorded and is available at: <http://dels.nas.edu/Past-Events/Forum-Scientific-Society-Leaders/AUTO-5-80-52-G>

2017 USDA State Fact Sheets Available

The USDA Economic Research Service (ERS) has updated its data sets on Jan. 27, 2017, which provide information on "... population, income, poverty, food security, education, employment, organic agriculture, farm characteristics, farm financial indicators, top commodities, and agricultural exports ..."

2017 State Fact Sheets: <http://www.ers.usda.gov/data-products/state-fact-sheets/>
Summary of the State Fact Sheets: <http://data.ers.usda.gov/reports.aspx?ID=10633>

National Invasive Species Awareness Week (NISAW)

NISAW will be held February 27 to March 3, 2017 in Washington DC with the overall theme- **Invasive Species Reality Check: Where Are We and Where Do We Need to Go?** Each day will have a subtheme that features seminars on Capitol Hill as well as a webinars available to all. The highlight event will be a Congressional Fair and Reception on Wednesday evening, March 1. We'll update www.nisaw.org with information as it's finalized.

Feb. 27: Impacts and Prevention of Invasives.

- Capitol Hill Seminars: Dr. Gary Lovett. SMART Trade Concept; Dr. Faith Campbell, CISP. Forest Pest Insects and Pathogens: Detected Late with Little Information: how should we respond?
- Webinar: Aquatic species talks - Snail Kite/western aquatic species (John Lane)

Feb. 28: Early Detection/Rapid Response.

- Capitol Hill Seminar: (Tentative) DOI or NISC. National Framework for Early Detection; Chuck Barger. Early Detection Distribution Mapping System.
- Webinars: Valerie Pasquarella - Use of LandSat imagery for large-scale mapping of invasive species distributions; Chuck Barger. Early Detection Efforts and Needs across the U.S.

Mar. 1: New Horizons in Control Technology.

- Capitol Hill Seminar: (Tentative) Drone technology.
- Webinars: Dr. Jian Duan, USDA APHIS - Emerald ash borer biological control efforts; (Tentative) Dick Reardon, US Forest Service - Research update on biological controls for invasive plants.

Mar. 2: Creating Behavior Change.

- Capitol Hill Seminar: Steve Manning - Weed Wranglers.
- Webinars: Leigh Greenwood - Eleven Years of Firewood Behavior Change Research- What is working, and where should we go from here?; Susan Burks - PlayCleanGo: Research on the power of positive messaging.

Mar. 3: Public-Private Partnerships.

- Webinar : (Proposed) European Grapevine Moth eradication success.

The first ever **NISAW in the Field** will be **July 9 – 15, 2017**. Stay tuned for more information on state-led weed pulls, field days, seminars, and more.

Finally, the **House Invasive Species Caucus** has a new co-chair: Rep. Elise Stefanik (R-NY). She was first elected to Congress in 2015 and is the youngest member in the House of Representatives at 32. She represents the northern 1/3 of New York. Mike Thompson (D-CA)

will remain the other co-chair of the Invasive Species Caucus. He was the original founder of the caucus a few years ago and has represented California's wine country just north of San Francisco since 1998.

Invasive Species Farm Bill Task Force Team

I am working with a group of invasive species management stakeholders, led by Scott Cameron, President of Reduce Risks from Invasive Species Coalition (RRISC) to draft invasive species management language for the 2018 Farm Bill. Stakeholders include: American Forest & Paper Association, American Hort, Center for Invasive Species Prevention, Davey Tree Expert Company, Kansas State, Lone Tree Cattle Company, Lost Coast Forest Products, NACD, NASDA, NCBA, National Wooden Pallet & Container Association, Noble Foundation, Northeast-Midwest Institute, Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission, SRM, Society of American Foresters, State of Colorado, Syngenta, TNC, University of Georgia, US Chamber of Commerce, Vermont Woodlands Association, and WSSA.

Here are a few examples of invasive weed policies we are considering:

- Adding weed treatment area designations under Healthy Forest Restoration Act
- Promoting Areawide IPM language and funding through USDA NIFA
- Preventing NRCS program participants from planting "invasive plant species" on "reserve" lands
- Initiating pilot projects for landscape-scale testing of grazing as a tool for rangeland invasive species control
- Adding "invasive species" to the Foundation of Food and Agricultural Research's list of national priorities

Invasive Species Executive Order Amended

On December 5th, President Obama issued an Executive Order amending President Clinton's Executive Order 13112 on Invasive Species issued in 1999. This new order:

- directs actions to continue coordinated Federal prevention and control efforts related to invasive species
- maintains the National Invasive Species Council (NISC) and the Invasive Species Advisory Committee (ISAC)
- expands the membership of NISC
- clarifies the operations of NISC
- incorporates considerations of human and environmental health, climate change, technological innovation, and other emerging priorities into Federal efforts to address invasive species; and
- strengthens coordinated, cost-efficient Federal action

For details, please see: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2016/12/05/executive-order-safeguarding-nation-impacts-invasive-species>

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WESTERN INVASIVE WEED



April 17-20, 2017
Loveland, Colorado



The 7th Annual Western Invasive Weed Short Course will be held at Sylvan Dale Guest Ranch in Loveland, Colorado. The WIWSC is an intensive study of current technologies and best management practices associated with noxious and invasive weeds in the western United States. The course includes classroom lecture, hands-on demonstration, field plots, live weed and herbicide symptomology specimens, facilitated discussion, small group projects, educational games, and time for individual interaction with instructors.



What previous participants have said:

- "Outside plant ID with a botanist who knows what they are looking at is AWESOME training for plant community managers."
- "Great campus, food, and instructors. Good learning environment."
- "Very fun training. The trainers were entertaining and got the information to us in a fun way."
- "Great training and location."
- "Environment is awesome for the course."
- "Great trainers and very knowledgeable staff. Enjoyed the interactive session the most."

The registration fee (\$825.00 by January 31, 2017; \$925.00 on February 1, 2017) includes the educational program and daily refreshment breaks. Three lunches and three dinners are also included in the registration. Lodging at either Sylvan Dale Guest Ranch or La Quinta Inn & Suites is not included in the registration fee.

For more information:

www.mountainwestpest.com/ShortCourse.html

To register for the course, contact:

Sandra McDonald
970-266-9573

Sandra@MountainWestPEST.com



REGISTRATION FORM
**70th ANNUAL Western Society of Weed Science/Western Aquatic Plant
Management Society joint meeting**
Coeur d'Alene Resort, Coeur d'Alene, ID
(see the WSWS website www.wsweedscience.org for hotel room booking details)

Deadline: Mail-in registration must be postmarked by February 11, 2017. PAYMENT MUST ACCOMPANY REGISTRATION-NO EXCEPTIONS. Check or Money Order (U.S. Dollars) Only. Credit card payments may be made with online registration. Visit: www.wsweedscience.org No refunds after March 1, 2017.
Questions? wsws@marathonag.com or (57) 649-7157

| <u>Registration</u> | <u>Mail by 2/11/17</u> | <u>After 2/11/17</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|--|------------------------|----------------------|--------------|
| _____ Regular meeting (includes symposium) | \$ 250.00 | \$ 350.00 | _____ |
| _____ Student | \$ 125.00 | \$ 125.00 | _____ |
| _____ Spouse/Guest | \$ 50.00 | \$ 50.00 | _____ |
| _____ Climate Change Symposium (only) | \$ 35.00 | \$ 70.00 | _____ |
| | Total Remittance | | \$ _____ |

WSWS member only? _____ Yes (check only one)
WAPMS member only? _____ Yes
Member of both? _____ Yes

Do you want to participate in Student Night Out? _____ Yes _____ No
The Student Night Out program matches students with weed science professionals for an evening out to dinner during the Annual Meeting. If you checked Yes, someone will follow-up with you before the meeting.

Note: Onsite registration at the meeting is at the higher rates noted above. The full program will be posted at the website in mid January.
IF NOT ATTENDING, BUT WANT TO REMAIN A MEMBER, FILL IN THE INFORMATION BELOW AND SEND \$ 30.00 FOR DUES \$ _____

| | | |
|-----------|------------|-------------|
| Last name | First name | Affiliation |
|-----------|------------|-------------|

| | | | |
|-----------------|------|-------|----------|
| Mailing address | City | State | Zip code |
|-----------------|------|-------|----------|

| | |
|---------------------|----------------|
| Phone # w/area code | e-mail address |
|---------------------|----------------|

| | |
|-----------------------|------------------------------|
| Name Desired on Badge | Spouse name (if registering) |
|-----------------------|------------------------------|

Classification: Student ___ University ___ Federal Agency ___ State Agency ___
Industry ___ Industry (consulting) ___ Unemployed ___ Retired ___ Other (specify) _____

Send to: WSWS/Phil Banks
205 W. Boutz Rd., Bldg 4, Ste 5
Las Cruces, NM 88005

Publications Available From the Western Society of Weed Science

(All prices include shipping and handling; bulk orders may be discounted, see below)

| | |
|--|---------|
| _____ Weeds of the West..... | \$34.00 |
| _____ Aquatic and Riparian Weeds of the West..... | \$45.00 |
| _____ Weeds of California and Other Western States..... | \$85.00 |
| _____ Weed Control in Natural Areas in the Western United States | \$40.00 |
| _____ Interactive Encyclopedia of North American Weeds DVD..... | \$50.00 |

Total _____

All publications can be ordered online at www.wsweedscience.org (click on **WEED BOOKS**)

To order by mail and pay by check, send this completed form with payment to:
WSWS Business Manager, 205 W. Boutz Rd, Bldg 4, Ste 5, Las Cruces, NM 88005.

Contact the Business Manager (Phil Banks) at (575) 649-7157 for bulk order prices.

Shipping Information:

Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____ Telephone: _____

e-mail: _____

WSWS Objectives

- ❖ To foster and encourage education and research in weed science.
- ❖ To foster cooperation among state, federal and private agencies in matters of weed science.
- ❖ To aid and support commercial, private and public agencies in the solution of weed problems.
- ❖ To support legislation governing weed control programs and weed research and education programs.
- ❖ To support the Weed Science Society of America and foster state and regional organizations and agencies interested in weed control.



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