

WERA-60 Annual Meeting Minutes
February 2-3, 2014 – Room Georgia A
Vancouver, Canada

AGENDA

February 2 1:00 – 5: 00 pm

Introductions

Webinar Discussion

Speakers / Topics

Meet with Tony Ballard (WSSA)

New Initiatives

February 3 8:00 – 12:00 am

State reports

Meet with WSSA Herbicide Resistance Education Committee

Cross-disciplinary Discussion of Resistance Issues

Adjourn official WERA meeting

February 3 1:00-3:00 pm

Meet jointly with WSSA Herbicide Resistant Plants Committee

Attendance

Todd Gaines

Mike Marshall

Mike Owen

Carol Mallory-Smith

Meg McGrath

Bob Nichols

Bill Vencill

Phil Westra

some members were unable to attend because bad weather affected flights.

Introductions and Committee History

The meeting started with attendees introducing themselves.

Carol provided an overview of the committee's history.

Webinar Discussion

The major activity of the WERA60 meeting in 2014 was to make decisions about the webinar on pest resistance. The committee obtained funding to conduct this webinar from WSSA (Weed Science Society of America).

Tony Ballard (WSSA) attended part of the meeting and described options of programs that could be used to do the webinar.

The goals of the webinar were discussed. The main goal is to cover resistance terminology across the three disciplines (weed science, entomology and plant pathology). EPA staff had voiced a need for understanding and harmonization of definitions of

resistance terminology across the disciplines. There is need to determine what other goals EPA has for the webinar to ensure we meet their needs.

Audience for the webinar was discussed. EPA staff is the main audience. APHIS staff and legislators are also important to target. A key to success of the webinar will be working with people in each of our societies who have formal connections in DC including with EPA.

The ideal format for the webinar was concluded to be a webinar with the speakers present in person along with key audience members, which will enable following the webinar with an in-person discussion. It might not be possible to have all speakers physically present, but we will try to find a date to achieve this. The formal presentation portion of the webinar should not be too long so that there is ample time for answering questions of participants and for a follow-up work session with those who attend the webinar in person.

The best location for the webinar was concluded to be Washington, DC, with EPA hosting. This will enable more government employees to be able to attend in person and thus participate more actively than is possible from remotely attending a webinar (their travel funding is very limited). Additionally, EPA has a lot of experience hosting webinars.

April was identified as a good time.

Possible products from the webinar were discussed. The webinar needs to be recorded and posted on the web at YouTube so that it is available to those who cannot attend or want to review what was presented. The information presented would be a good topic for an article for the journal *Pest Management Science*. A Technical Summary or White Paper should be prepared afterwards as this is the most appropriate method for providing to EPA information from the webinar as well as the work session that follows. Committee members feel it is important to make sure the webinar leads to action, solving issues EPA staff have identified.

Three potential speakers were identified for each of the pest disciplines. They are Carol Mallory-Smith (weed science), Mark Whalon (entomology), and Meg McGrath (plant pathology). These scientists have years of experience studying applied aspects of resistance and working with growers, are long-time members of WERA60, and the first two have experience interacting with EPA staff and legislators. Other potential speakers were mentioned and will be contacted about participating. Multiple speakers might be desirable to adequately cover the subject matter.

Draft Outline of Webinar Content developed during meeting:

Bill Chism, EPA, give description of the issue and purpose of the webinar. Why there is a need to harmonize definitions.

Next need to at least briefly cover pest management generally including why resistance develops (evolution); how we got to where we are.

Discipline presentations about terminology, why the terms are defined and used as they are. Biology behind. Which ones could be modified to achieve harmonization.

At least one discipline scientist will present.

Wrap out about why resistance is important and what it means. What terms can be harmonized and what needs to remain different.

Panel discussion. Additional discipline scientists will be included. All members of WERA60 will be invited to join.

Webinar could be followed by a work session.

New Initiatives

Webinar geared for growers and extension specialists explaining terminology and resistance management across disciplines, highlighting similarities and differences.

NSF Project supporting industry-university collaborative research centers. Pesticide resistance would be a good topic.

State reports

Attendees described their recent research activities and recent resistance occurrences of note in their state or region.

Meet with WSSA Herbicide Resistance Education Committee

Following introductions of all in attendance, Carol described what WERA60 was and our plans for the webinar. The education committee members described two resources they have developed or are currently working on with content (including terminology definitions) that might be useful for the webinar: training modules and FAQ documents. They are also working on Herbicide Resistance Summit 2. WERA60 will work with discipline representatives at EPA.

Cross-disciplinary Discussion of Resistance Issues

The opportunity to discuss resistance issues and share information about current hot topics across disciplines is a valuable aspect of this committee. Some topics covered were:

- Resistance terminology.

- European situation pertaining to regulation of pesticides and resistance. Todd had a lot to share from his recent experience working in Germany.

- Occurrence of multiple resistance, mode of resistance, and resistance management.

- Resistance management with crops having GE tolerance to multiple herbicides.

- Management and potential use restrictions of new crops with engineered tolerance of herbicides with potential for drift to sensitive crops.

- Response to detection of Roundup Ready wheat.

- Bt resistance developing to engineered crops.

- Current situation with Roundup Ready creeping bentgrass.

Selection of Next Chair

It was decided to have co-chairs. Todd Gaines and Mike Marshall agreed to serve in 2015. Meg McGrath agreed to serve in 2016.

Suggestions made for Future Meetings

2014 – if permitted, have another meeting of WERA60 coinciding with the webinar for members unable to attend the February meeting.

2015 – meet in conjunction with the annual meeting of the American Phytopathological Society, which will be held Aug 1 - 5 in Pasadena, California

2016 - meet in conjunction with the annual meeting of WSSA, which will be February 8 - 11 in San Juan, Puerto Rico.

WERA meeting was adjourned at 11:50 am.
Notes prepared by Meg McGrath