



July 2004 Newsletter

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**The IWSS Newsletter is available on the
Internet at:**

www.olemiss.edu/orgs/iws/DEFAULT.HTM

President's Message



This is my first message to you as president of IWSS. I feel much honored to have this opportunity to serve such a select group of scientists and to contribute to advance our discipline internationally, especially in the developing world. IWSS has come a long way in the past

few years thanks to the commitment and effort of many devoted officers, collaborators and members who see the organization as a means to strengthen professional relationships, share information and establish new contacts.

One of our main tasks is to organize every four years the International Weed Science Congress. This year we successfully held our fourth congress in Durban, South Africa. The Local Organizing Committee, chaired by Chris Mulder did an excellent job and we are all grateful for their efforts. Baruch Rubin, our new Vice-President, put together an excellent scientific program with the collaboration of Charles Reinhardt, PJ Piterse and the Main Topic Organizers. Jeanetta Saayman du Toit had the difficult task of handling the congress finances, a key element in the success of our congress. Many more contributed time and intellectual efforts, particularly the team of Turners Conferences and Conventions (Pty) Ltd. We also received the kind financial support of many organizations and companies. We are indebted to all of them. An electronic version of the Abstracts Book is now available for downloading at our website.

A very rewarding experience was to have 16 graduate students participating in the congress through the sponsorship of the Weed Science Society of America and IWSS. They were selected by a Committee formed by Jens Streibig, Phil Banks and Baruch Rubin based on merit and innovation. Their presentations were superb and we all enjoyed having them among us. The Western Australian Weed Science Society offered a nice surprise by selecting the best posters and presenting the winners a copy of the book *Western Weeds, A guide to the weeds of Western Australia*.

I am also pleased to announce that our next venue is the beautiful city of Vancouver, Canada. China also presented a bid and those who attended the General Assembly in Durban know that they also offered an excellent venue and that we were faced with a very hard decision. I hope they will be encouraged to propose their country again as a venue in the near future.

During the past four years I served the society as its Secretary-Treasurer, a position that is now in the good hands of Albert Fischer. In this capacity I had the opportunity and pleasure to interact almost on a daily basis with our former President, Steve Duke. I would like to express the gratitude of IWSS for his outstanding services. He will continue being part of the Board of Directors giving me the chance to learn more from him and the benefit of counting on his capabilities to improve our society. Both Anis Rahman, our former Vice-president, and Ricardo Labrada as Past-president, were very cooperative and committed to serve the society. I am also grateful to Jerry Doll, Editor of our Newsletter, for his services during the past four years and for accepting continuing on this important function.

I have great hope for the future of the society. We maintain an active membership of over 800 weed scientists and many have recently become lifetime members. Please encourage your colleagues to join IWSS. I also count on you to help me in making the society attractive and rewarding.

Bernal E. Valverde, President



Zulu performers gave delegates a taste of their culture during the opening session of the Congress

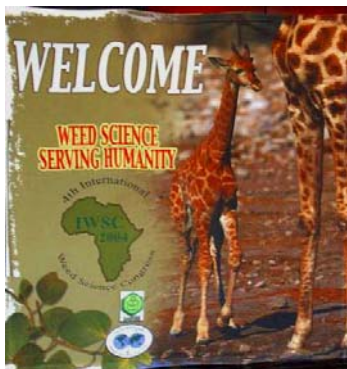
Local Arrangements for the Congress were Excellent

Delegates to the 4th International Congress marveled at the efficiency of all aspects of the congress. This is result of the excellent team effort put forth by the Local Arrangements committee chaired by Chris Mulder and Charlie Reinhardt. We thank and congratulate the committee for their excellent performance. We also commend Turner Conferences for also giving us excellent service in all aspects: before, during and after the Congress.

Loc. Arrangements Comm. 4th IWSC



left to right: Suzette Bezuidenhout, Jacques Louw, Gill Slaughter, Wayne Lotter, Charles Reinhardt, Graham Harding, Steve Duke, Jeanette Saayman-Du Toit, Baruch Rubin, Chris Mulder, Keith Little, PJ Pieterse



Congress Highlights

Attendance at the 2004 was solid with a total number of registered delegates at 439. Fifty countries were represented. A total of 492 papers posters were presented as well as outstanding plenary session speakers to start each day of the Congress.

The students who received travel awards are listed in the following table. Congratulations to each of you!

Name	Institution	Country
Wilson Avila	Universidad Autonoma de Chapingo	Mexico
Tienke Cowan	Univ. of New England	Australia
Anna Golisz	Warsaw Agric. Univ.	Poland
Matola Tunde	Institute of Chemistry, Hungarian Academy Sci	Hungary
Bolette Pedersen	Univ. Western Australia	Australia
Santiago Poggio	Univ. de Buenos Aires	Argentina
Fabrice Roux	Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique	France
Julio Scursoni	Univ. de Buenos Aires	Argentina
Cody J. Gray	Mississippi State Univ.	USA
Mithila Jugulam	University of Guelph	Canada
Kevin Kelley	University of Illinois	USA
Eric Page	Washington State Univ.	USA
William Patzoldt	University of Illinois	USA
Vinod Shivrain	University of Arkansas	USA
Tsafir Weinberg	University of Guelph	Canada
Hagai Yasuor	Hebrew Univ. Jerusalem	Israel

Comments on 2004 Scientific Program

Now, after the 4th IWSC is successfully over I would like to summarize the scientific program and ask all members of IWSS to send me their impressions, comments and suggestions for improvement. I am sure that many of you who actively participated in the

Congress in Durban as poster presenters, speakers or audience, may have some ideas or complains about the program. We must learn from our own experience and now is the time. All positive and negative comments will be analyzed and transferred to the Scientific Program Committee of the coming 5th IWSC in Vancouver.

Please e-mail your comments to rubin@agri.huji.ac.il

Many thanks,

Baruch Rubin



Four of the graduate students sponsored by IWSS to participate in the IWSC. Left to right: Wilson Avila, Tienke Cowan, Julio Scursoni, and Anna Golisz.

Congress Security Issues

Several delegates attending the Congress experienced security difficulties and one member had a serious incident. This prompted our current and past presidents to send a letter to Durban City officials and tourist groups in the city. Following is the text of the letter.

July 6, 2004

Durban is a beautiful city. The International Conference Centre (ICC) in Durban is a wonderful and unique convention center. Turner Conferences is a fantastic and reliable company to help organize conferences. We doubt that anyone of the more than 400 scientists who attended our recent (June 20-24, 2004) international congress at the ICC in Durban would disagree with these statements. However, we also doubt that anyone who attended wants to return or would recommend anyone else coming to Durban because of the incredible lack of security that our members experienced. This included multiple muggings and at last one serious stabbing. Most of

these incidents occurred in broad daylight near the ICC or near hotels along your tourist beach.

It is false economy to not spend what is needed to prevent these terrible incidents. Not doing so will eventually destroy your tourist trade, causing the entire city to suffer economic loss many times what is saved by not doing what is needed to prevent the reputation your city is acquiring.

In our careers, we have attended hundreds of conferences all over the world. All of the incidents in all of the conferences do not add up to those experienced by our group in one week in Durban. The International Weed Science Society is an organization of more than 800 scientists. Our members will spread out over the world and spread the unfortunate word as well. They have many colleagues in many disciplines that might be considering Durban or other cities in South Africa as a venue for an upcoming international meeting. We highly recommend that your city does what is necessary to remedy your unfortunate situation. To do otherwise would be self-inflicted injury to your city and its entire population.

Sincerely,



Stephen O. Duke
Past President



Bernal Valverde
President

City Manager Responds

Dear Messrs Duke and Valverde,

4TH IWSC DURBAN, 2004

Thank you for your letter of July 6 2004. At the outset may I say how sorry I am to hear of the terrible experiences some of your conference delegates had. I live on the beachfront within 300 metres of where most of those incidents occurred and find it difficult to understand what happened. I walk through that area on almost a daily basis and have never experienced anything like that.

I have received a full report on the events surrounding your congress and must agree that the situation that occurred is entirely unacceptable. The repercussions of a repetition of these events are inconceivable and I have already instituted measures to eliminate what appears to be an organised, targeted campaign against some

delegates at some of the conferences held in our city. Of the many international conferences we are privileged to host over the past year three of them have had a similar spate of incidents 24-48 hours before conference begins whilst the rest have not.

Your comments coincide with the results from the customary survey of delegates' impressions carried out by ICC staff. By all accounts, our visitors enjoyed the organisation of the event and the services and facilities offered by the centre. However, there were a number that felt insecure and afraid to enjoy the attractions of the city. I know that this has left the ICC staff demoralized and, as you both have expressed, has done incalculable damage to the City's reputation.

The City Council has invested a great deal in promoting Durban as an International Conference Destination (including the construction of the ICC). I cannot allow that investment to be jeopardized and would like to assure you that the matter is being taken very seriously and is being addressed at the highest level as a top priority by Council.

In addition I have met with the Minister of Safety and Security and we are devising plans to address these matters. All of the cases we are dealing with have a few things in common: occurring just before an international conference starts, within a 4-6 block area and appearing to target some delegates. I am also examining pre-conference preparation by the conference organiser.

By way of comparison, we have just concluded a hugely successful beach festival attracting over 1 million people and in the whole of that festival we had not one serious incident. In this case regular JOCs (Joint Operational Command meetings of security and organisers) were held to ensure that people enjoyed themselves safely. That is why I have also asked my staff to look at what work was done by your conference organiser to ensure our city was best prepared to ensure delegates had an enjoyable and safe experience.

I would therefore earnestly request that you copy my letter to the IWSS Board of Directors and members of the Local Organising Committee of the 4th IWSC.

On behalf of the people of Durban, I would also like to apologise to you and your members for the unfortunate experiences you had in our city and I hope in time you will return.

Thank you in anticipation.

Yours sincerely,
Dr Michael Sutcliffe
City Manager

Welcome to Vancouver, Canada in 2008

The 5th International Weed Science Congress will be held in Vancouver, Canada in 2008. This conference is being jointly hosted by the Canadian Weed Science Society and the Weed Science Society of America. The venue will be the Westin Bayshore Resort and Marina located right on the harbour waterfront. All meeting rooms plus a commercial display area are conveniently part of the hotel complex. Exact dates of this meeting will be determined shortly and conveyed to you through this newsletter and on the IWSS website. In the meantime, a warm invitation is extended to everyone to attend the next IWSS Congress in Vancouver.

Local Arrangements Committee Co-Chairs
Bob Blackshaw, blackshaw@agr.gc.ca
Carol Mallory-Smith, carol.mallory-smith@oregonstate.edu

FAO Workshop in Bolivia

FAO with the support of DANIDA conducted a workshop on Ecological Risk Assessment of Herbicide Resistant Crops (HRC), 17-20 February 2004, in Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia. Total number of participants was 38, including invited representatives from 16 countries (Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay, and Venezuela). Additional participants included a volunteer representative from Argentina, 19 Bolivians, FAO Weed Officer Ricardo Labrada, and Instructor/Facilitator Bernal Valverde. Local arrangements were made by ANAPO, the Oil-Crops Growers Association in cooperation with the Danish Embassy and the FAO Representation in Bolivia.

The main goal of the workshop was to present the Procedures for Ecological Risk Assessment of Herbicide and Insect Resistant Crops that were developed by the Weed Science group at the Royal Veterinary and Agricultural University (Denmark) for FAO and to promote information exchange among participating countries. The program included lectures on key aspects related to the use of transgenic crops worldwide, herbicide resistance and mode of action, biotechnological approaches for transgenesis, gene flow, and regulatory protocols. Participants presented and discussed the current legal and use situation of HRCs in their countries. Additional activities included a practice session to become familiar and conduct a hypothetical assessment of the introduction of a HRC

using the keys developed as part of FAO Procedures and a field trip and meeting with soybean/rice farmers in Chane (north of Santa Cruz).

Aldo Alves WSSA Honorary Member

Aldo Alves of Brazil received the Weed Sci. Soc. of America's Honorary Member award in February, 2004. This is the WSSA's highest honor given to someone outside the North American region. Aldo received his B.S. in Agronomy at the Escola Superior de Agricultura Luiz de Queiróz of São Paulo University in 1949 and his M.Sc. in Agronomy at Purdue University in 1965. Mr. Alves joined the Instituto Agrônomico at Campinas and became Head of the Experimental Center. Mr. Alves was co-responsible for the development of two weed science courses and published a basic text book on Chemical Control of Weeds. As Manager and Plant Science Research Director of Eli Lilly do Brazil, Mr. Alves established the Elanco Plant Science Center, with a research program on agrochemicals covering the major Brazilian crops. From 1981 to 1998, Mr. Alves served with the Empresa Brasileira de Pesquisas Agropecuária and was the first head of the Centro Nacional de Pesquisa de Defensivos Agrícolas. In 1984, Mr. Alves joined the "FAO Panel of Experts on Improved Weed Management." In 1993, Aldo was elected Honorary Member of the Asociación Argentina de Malezas (ASAM). Mr. Alves served as President of Asociación Latino Americana de Malezas (ALAM) for three terms and as President of the Brazilian Weed Science Society twice. Congratulations, Aldo!

Editor's Comments

First an explanation/apology for the late arrival of this edition of the Newsletter. The past officers and I decided to wait until after the 4th Congress to publish our July issue so that information from that major event would be shared with our members soon after it occurred. It took longer to assemble the content and obtain the updated membership list following the Congress than anticipated. We trust you will understand and I will do my best to keep future issues on schedule.

And as you read in President Valverde's comments, I have agreed to continue as editor of our Newsletter. Please send me your suggestions for improving the Newsletter and any articles you have to share with the international weed science community. These are welcome at any time.

J. Doll

Coming Events

2004

Aug. 31-Sept. 2 XIIth International Conference on Weed Biology; Dijon, France. Dr J. Gasque
email: gasquez@dijon.inra.fr Fax: +33 (0)3 69 32 62
Web site: <http://www.dijon.inra.fr/malherbo/AccueilF1.htm>

Sept. 6-10. 14th Australian Weeds Conference, "Weed Management: Balancing People, Planet, Profit," Wagga Wagga, NSW, AUSTRALIA. Contact: R. Farnham, 14th AWC Secretariat, Charles Sturt Univ., Locked Bag 699, Wagga Wagga, NSW 2678, AUSTRALIA.
Fax: 61-2-6933-4977. Email: eventsww@csu.edu.au .
Web: <http://www.csu.edu.au/special/weedsconference/>

Nov. 2-4 XI Congreso Venezolano de Malezas. Universidad Nacional Experimental del Tachira. San Cristbal, Venezuela. The Congress will also commemorate the 30th anniversary of this university. The theme of the congress is "Weed Management with an Ecological Vision".
Contact: Universidad Nacional Experimental del Tachira. Decanato de Extension; Tel: 0276-3530422; Fax: 0276-3531213
E-mail: malezas@unet.edu.ve; web page: <http://www.unet.edu.ve/malezas>

Nov. 8-12 7th International Symposium on Adjuvants for Agrochemicals, Cape Town, South Africa
Contact: Deidre Cloete, E-mail: deidre@iafrica.com tel: 27 21 886-4496

2005

Jan. 21-24 The First International Weed Science Seminar on "Innovative approaches for eco-safety Weed management" and Biennial Conference of "Indian Society of Weed Science" to be held at Bidhan Chandra Krishi Viswavidyalaya (BCKV), Mohanpur, West Bengal, India. Organizing Secretary : Dr. R.K. Ghosh, FAPS, Professor of Agronomy and Secretary, WBWSS E-mail : rkgbckv@yahoo.com; website www.bckv-wss-is2005.org

Feb. 7-10 Weed Science Society of America Annual Meeting, Honolulu, HI, USA.
Contact: Joyce Lancaster, Exec. Sec. WSSA, P.O. Box 7050 Lawrence, KS 66044 USA
Web: <http://www.wssa.net>. Email: jlancaster@allenpress.com
tel: 785 843-1235, extn. 250 FAX: 785-843-1274

June 20-23 13th Symposium of the European Weed Res. Soc. Villa Romanazzi Carducci Hotel, Bari, Italy.
Contact Paolo Barberi: Email: barberi@sssup.it; Tel: +39-050-883.449; Fax: +39-050-883.215; web site: www.erwr-symposium.com

Nov. 8-11 17th Latin America Weed Association (ALAM), 4th National Weed Congress of Cuba and the 1st Iberoamerican Weed Science Congress. Centro de Convenciones, Plaza America, Varadero, Matanzas, Cuba. Contact Dr. Juan Carlos Diaz, President of the Organizing Committee; Email: jcdiaz@inica.edu.cu Web: <http://grec.ifas.ufl.edu/Weed%20Science/Alam/Web%20page/ALAM01.htm>

Nov. 7-11 20th APWSS Conference – Rex Hotel, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam. Dr. Duong Van Chin, Chair, Organizing Com. 20th APWSS Conf., Dept. of Weed Science & Farming System, Cuulong Delta Rice Research Institute, Omon Cantho, VIETNAM. E-mail: duongvanchin@hcm.vnn.vn

The **IWSS Newsletter** is published in January and July to foster communication among and give information to our members and others around the globe interested in Weed Science.

Thanks to these contributors to the July 2004 issue: Bernal Valverde, Steve Duke, Baruch Rubin, Robert Blackshaw, Chris Mulder, Dudley Randall and Jerry Doll.

Deadline for items for the next Newsletter is 15 December 2004

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