
EPA/IR-4 Technical Working Group Meeting (2001-1)

The next meeting shall be on January 30, 2001, in Crystal City, Virginia. This meeting will be followed the next day by a tour of a greenhouse tomato-growing facility in Virginia.

Additional Technical Working Group meetings are being planned for late March, June and September 2001, with another agricultural tour in June.

Article by Ken Samoil

2000 Expert Committee on Weeds (ECW) - Canada

The 2000 Canadian Experts Committee on Weeds Meeting was held in Banff, Alberta, Canada, November 26 to 30, 2000. More than 200 scientists participated in the meeting. The meeting provided a forum for researchers to present their work on a broad range of weed science topics. The meeting was organized in sessions and working groups.

The sessions included Herbicides and the Environment, Integrated Weed Management - Explore the Potential and Graduate Student Paper Presentation. Several working group meetings were scheduled: Application Technology, Herbicide Resistance, New Pesticide Product and Herbicide Characterization, Site Specific Weed Management, Forestry and Industrial Vegetation Management, Biological Control, Extension and Teaching, Integrated Weed Management and Noxious Weeds. The sessions included many excellent papers, especially those that addressed future trends in Integrated Weed Management, Herbicide Resistance and Biological Control.

The attendees were from the Pest Management Regulatory Agencies, University of Guelph, University of Manitoba, University of Saskatchewan, Nova Scotia Agricultural College, Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, Canadian Food Inspection Agency, chemical companies, private research and consulting services, and the growers.

IR-4 Headquarters was represented at the Meeting. Marija Arsenovic, Dan Kunkel and Jerry Baron presented a poster entitled "The IR-4 Project - a U.S. National Agricultural Program for Pest Management Solutions in the United States". The poster generated several newsletter subscription re-

quests and discussion with attendees about the IR-4 Project and pesticide registration in minor crops in Canada and the U.S. IR-4 has worked cooperatively with Canada in the development and exchange of food crop residue and performance data over the last several years. Residue field trials have been conducted in Canada as a regular part of IR-4's studies. These trials have been used to supplement and replace U.S. trials in similar growing regions. Data packages developed for U.S. registrations have been provided to the Pest Management Regulatory Agency of Canada in support of MRLs that allow use in Canada and for MRL's that support the importation of U.S. agricultural commodities.

The meeting was an excellent opportunity to meet Canadian weed scientists from the provinces of Ontario/Dr. Christopher Hall, Dr. John O'Sullivan, Dr. A.S. Al Hamill, Leslie Huffman, Dr. Peter Sikkema's research assoc. Dave Bitye, Quebec/Danielle Bernier, Dr. Diane Lyse Benoa, Dr. Daniel Cloutier, British Columbia/Victoria Brookes, and Alberta/Dan Cole to discuss WSSA "Herbicide for Minor Use Committee"/IR-4 Project initiatives on the herbicide screening program in minor crops. Canadian weed scientists agree that there is a need for better cooperation and information flow between Canada and the U.S. in order to obtain valuable information on potential uses and crop safety data of new herbicide chemistry, reduced risk herbicides, as well as new uses of old herbicides, prior to the decision making process for field residue trials.

We are looking forward to working together with Canadian weed scientists and receiving more data regarding weed management in minor crops.

Article by Marija Arsenovic