Lunch~N~Learn SEMINAR

NATIONAL C-FAR

THE NATIONAL COALITION FOR FOOD & AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH

BATTLING THE WICKED PROBLEM OF HERBICIDE RESISTANCE

THE HUMAN DIMENSIONS OF HERBICIDE RESISTANCE EVOLUTION

December 4, 2015
PROGRAM

Welcome and Introduction
LEE VAN WYCHEN
NATIONAL C-FAR REPRESENTATIVE

Distinguished Speaker
DR. DAVID SHAW
VICE PRESIDENT FOR RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY

Open Forum

Closing
DR. DALLAS PETERSON
PRESIDENT
WEED SCIENCE SOCIETY OF AMERICA

NATIONAL C-FAR IS a nonprofit, nonpartisan, consensus-based and customer-led coalition that brings food, agriculture, nutrition, conservation and natural resource stakeholders together with the food and agriculture research and extension community, serving as a forum and a unified voice in support of sustaining and increasing public investment at the national level in food and agricultural research, extension, and education. For additional information, go to www.ncfar.org; or contact Tom Van Arsdall, Executive Director, at tom@vanarsdall.com.
ABSTRACT
Despite decades of work to raise awareness and promote better management practices, the list of herbicide resistant weeds continues to grow and their grip on farmers' fields continues to spread. While a series of best management practices has been developed for herbicide resistance management, growers are not adopting diverse practices due to a complex interaction of social, economic, and regulatory barriers. Sociologists refer to this as a “wicked problem”, one that has multiple and complex causes that defy simple solutions. Albert Einstein has been widely quoted in defining insanity as “doing the same thing over and over again and expecting a different result.” This concept is no better portrayed than with the current situation we are in with herbicide resistance. Continuing to take the same approaches, doing “more of the same” surely will have a predictable outcome. Therefore, an interdisciplinary research and outreach effort will be required to overcome the barriers to adoption of diverse production practices required to ensure sustainable crop production into the future. A combination of community-based approaches, regulations and incentives, educational programs, new management technologies, and an overall integrated approach to weed management will be essential if we are to begin to effectively address managing the threat of herbicide resistance. It will require partnerships with growers, NGOs, the science community, commodity groups, landowners, lenders – everyone involved in the decision-making process – if we are to be successful.

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHY
David Shaw, Ph.D., is Vice President for Research and Economic Development at Mississippi State University (MSU). He began his career at MSU in 1985 as an Assistant Professor of Weed Science. His research focused particularly on optimizing pest management practices to maintain farm productivity while improving surface water protection and management and development of Best Management Practices for protection of surface waters from pesticides. Dr. Shaw is a Past-President of the Weed Science Society of America (WSSA) and chairs WSSA’s Herbicide Resistance Education Committee. He chaired the task force that developed a USDA-APHIS report on Herbicide Resistance Best Management Practices and Recommendations. He also chaired the Council for Agricultural Science and Technology (CAST) task force on Impacts of Herbicide Resistant Weeds on Tillage Systems. Dr. Shaw served on two planning committees for national summits on herbicide resistance management, jointly conducted by the WSSA and the National Academies of Sciences.
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R. Thomas Van Arsdall, Executive Director
Phone: (703) 509-4746
E-mail: tom@vanarsdall.com