

PLANT SCIENCE NEWSLETTER

August 2009, Vol. 20, Issue 08

Holding the Heartland Together

South Dakota State University

IPM Field School for Agronomy Professionals held at SE Experiment Farm . . .

The first SDSU IPM Field School for Agronomy Professionals was held at the SESD Experiment Farm near Beresford, SD, on July 9-10, 2009. Over 100 agronomists from across the state attended the two-day training. In-field, hands-on training sessions were conducted by SDSU Plant Science staff; including **Ron Gelderman, Mike Moechnig, Mike Catanguai, Larry Osborne, Connie Tande, Gregg Carlson, Bob Berg, Jim Wilson** and **Darrell Deneke**. Area Extension Agronomy Educators also assisted with presenting and organizing the event. Special thanks goes to **Darrell Deneke** for his work spearheading a successful event.

Authorization Required for Out-of-State Travel . . .

Out-of-State travel (OST) continues to be scrutinized carefully. The practice of submitting *'blanket'* OST requests is now being questioned routinely and follow-up information has been required to justify these requests. Please refrain from submitting blanket requests in the future unless you receive permission beforehand. Adequate justification will be needed, not only for the travel itself, but also for why a blanket request is preferable to separate requests. Please continue to provide adequate justification for all OST requests. Be specific and avoid using unfamiliar acronyms. Use of state dollars, in particular, for OST is being closely scrutinized so everyone is encouraged to use other funding sources as much as possible.

Drought Tolerance Center Symposium . . .

A symposium entitled "United for a Challenging Future: Merging Applied and Basic Agricultural Sciences for Agriculture Intensification" is being held August 26-27 at SDSU Northern Plains Biostress Laboratory, Room 103. Several prominent scientists as well as representatives from commodity groups, government, and industry have been invited to participate in presentations and roundtable discussions. Full registration costs is \$35, which includes admittance to all sessions and roundtables, all breaks, lunches both days, and an evening meal on Wednesday night. Symposium Only Registration is \$28, identical to the above privileges, without the evening meal. Any questions should be directed to Stephanie Hansen.

ABS College Fall Kickoff . . .

All ABS College employees are invited to a Fall Kickoff event on Friday, August 28. The event begins with a 10:30 a.m. Forum in Rotunda D. A picnic on the South Lawn will be served from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Innovation Campus Dedication . . .

September 4 will mark the dedication of the Innovation Center and Miller Parkway, the initial building projects that made the idea for the 125-acre Innovation Campus a reality. Ceremonies for the building and parkway leading to the facility begin at 1:00 p.m. The dedication will include a flag-raising ceremony and remarks from national, state, regional and local dignitaries. The public is invited. The Innovation Center is the first of potentially 60 buildings on the site next to the largest research university in the state. Nine companies or business partners are currently housed in the Innovation Center, and construction is in progress on a second building, the 30,000 square-foot Seed Technology Laboratory to the north. The Seed Laboratory is scheduled to open July 2010.

Fall 2009 Plant Science/NCARL Seminar Series . . .

The Plant Science/NCARL Seminar Series will resume on Monday afternoons at 3:00 p.m. beginning September 21 and continuing to December 7 at the NCARL Technology Transfer Room. If anyone has recommendations for seminar speakers, please contact Mike Catanguai.

SDSU Cereal Bowl Scheduled for September 12 . . .

The 14th Annual SDSU Cereal Bowl football game will be held on Saturday, September 12. The Jackrabbits will be taking on Georgia Southern with kickoff scheduled for 6:00 p.m. Plant Science will meet with commodity partners that afternoon and host the group for a meal prior to the game. A special half-time ceremony will recognize the contributions commodity organizations make to our research and scholarship programs. **New this year will be an agronomy alumni get together with faculty in the Northern Plains Biostress atrium from 1:00-4:30 p.m. the same day. Plan to stop by for a visit and enjoy some refreshments.** For game ticket information go to <http://www.gojacks.com> or call 1-866-GOJACKS (405-2257).

Research Regulations Compliance Course . . .

The Office of Research has suggested that graduate students and new faculty members may benefit from taking the course, GSR 601 Research Regulations Compliance (1 credit). The course meets on Wednesday afternoons, 3:30-5:00 p.m. in SNF 124, and the first meeting of the class is September 2. Class content consists of lecture/seminars on Animal Care and Use, Human Subjects, Recombinant DNA, Radioactive Materials and Radiation Safety, Laboratory/Biological Safety, Research Integrity, Conflict of Interest, Financial Accountability, and Intellectual Property.

IPNI Science Award . . .

This award was established in 2006 with the purpose of recognizing the promoting distinguished contributions by scientists involved with development of high-yield crop production systems that protect soil and environmental quality and conserve natural resources. The Award is presented each year to one agronomic scientist; the recipient receives a plaque and a monetary award of \$5,000. Deadline for receipt of nominations is 09/30/09. Send completed nomination, including attachments, to IPNI Science Award Committee, International Plant Nutrition Institute, 3500 Parkway Lane, Suite 550, Norcross, Georgia 30092-2806. Application guidelines and a PDF file of the nomination form are available at: www.ipni.net/science-award

Congratulations . . .

Cheryl Reese successfully completed her PhD defense on August 21.

Staff Changes . . .

Assistant Professor of Quantitative Genetics/Biostatistician, **Jixiang Wu**, began his new duties effective August 3. Dr. Wu will have shared responsibilities in Plant Science, Animal and Range Science, and Mathematics/Statistics. Office contact for Professor Wu is SNP 284, telephone 5947.

Leon Wrage comes out of retirement again Fall Semester to provide temporary teaching duties for PS 103 labs.

Cheryl Reese will continue to teach labs for PS 213 Soils class for Fall Semester.

Ms. **Can Yan** began a M.S. program of study with Arvid Boe effective 08/22/09. Her assistantship will be supported by NC Sun Grant funds.

Mike Catangui and Louis Hesler (USDA-ARS) are jointly advising new M.S. entomology graduate students, **Pamela Johnson** and **Danielle Brandt**.

Chase Mowry began a M.S. graduate assistantship with Xiugyou Gu effective 08/22/09.

Beverly Klein (soil chemistry) leaves the Department August 30 to assume the position of Senior Chemist with the Water and Environmental Research Center at SDSU.

Chris Nelson (small grains pathology) resigned August 14 to accept a position with the USDA –ARS NCARL .

Pat Wieland (plant virology) has accepted a position with the SDSU Graduate School; her last day with Plant Science is September 4.

Rokebul Anower and **Teshal Mamo** are new graduate research assistants who started M.S. programs with Fedora Sutton effective 08/22/09.

The winter wheat breeding program welcomes new graduate research assistant **William Wyant, III**, who began his M.S. studies 08/22/09. Bill Berzonsky serves as William's advisor.

Staff Concerns . . .

Cindy Silva remains hospitalized at the Cancer Treatment Center of America in Oklahoma. Please keep Cindy and her family in your thoughts and prayers.

QUOTE OF THE DAY . . .

"Wit makes its own welcome and levels all distinctions. No dignity, no learning, no force of character can make any stand against good wit."
-- Ralph Waldo Emerson -- (1803-82)

Job Listings . . . (posted at each building)

SDSU Plant Science – Grad Res Asst – Biological Science or Plant Science with background in insect taxonomy/ecology desired, MS/PhD, Open until filled

SDSU CES-Brown Co, Agron Educ, BS/MS, 09/03/09
Texas A&M – Professor/Endowed Chair in Cotton Ent., PhD-Entomology or related biological science, 01/01/10

Calendar Dates . . .

Aug 28 ABS College Fall Kickoff
Aug 31 Jackrabbit Convocation, Coughlin Stadium, 4:30
Sept 3-7 SD State Fair, Huron
Sept 09 SESD Research Farm Fall Tour, Beresford
Sept 12 SDSU Cereal Bowl (Georgia Southern)
Sept 18 PS Faculty Lunch/Meeting, SAG 238
Sept 19 SDSU Beef Bowl (Indiana State)
Sept 23 ABS College Scholarship Banquet
Oct 12 Native American Day Holiday
Oct 13-16 CES Annual Conference, Brookings (Swiftel)
Oct 21 Ag-Bio College Careers Day
Oct 23 PS Faculty Meeting, SAG 238
Oct 24 Hobo Day (Northern Iowa)
04/30/10 PS Recognition Banquet-Volstorff

