

PLANT SCIENCE NEWSLETTER

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Holding the Heartland Together

South Dakota State University

The 2nd Annual SDSU **Plant Molecular Biology Workshop** was presented by Dr. Xingyou Gu's lab June 15-29th. A select group of 4 South Dakota high school science teachers received over 32 hours of training. Intense, hands-on lab exercises and lectures brought the teachers up to date on the latest technology used in plant molecular biology. Coordinators were Stephanie Hansen, Chase Mowry, and Drs. Jiujuan Feng and Xingyou Gu. Instructors were Dr. Jiujuan Feng, Heng Ye, and Lihua Zhang. This workshop was supported by National Science Foundation grant #0641376.

A SDSU publication updated for 2009 offers tips on using fungicides as a management tool. **SDSU Extension Fact Sheet 917, "Managing Crop Diseases with Fungicides,"** is available online at

<http://agbiopubs.sdstate.edu/articles/FS917.pdf>

Updated by **Kay Ruden** and **Larry Osborne**, the 34-page publication discusses in detail the different foliar fungicides available in South Dakota for treating diseases in wheat, barley, oats, rye, grasses grown for seed, corn, soybeans, sunflower, safflower, chickpea and field pea. The publication discusses the diseases that can be treated by different fungicide products, the dosage and interval, limitations and special notes about usage.

Another new SDSU publication can help producers estimate the amounts of nutrients lost in crop residue fires. **SDSU Extension Extra 8164, "Estimating Nutrient Loss from Crop Residue Fires,"** is available at this link:

<http://agbiopubs.sdstate.edu/articles/ExEx8164.pdf>

Professor **Ron Gelderman** wrote the publication, which provides specific guidelines for estimating the value of lost nutrients in fields where fire has occurred. A guide to estimate residue nutrient content is also included, giving dollar values on lost nutrients for producers who suffer fire losses in fields with crop residue.

NC Sun Grant Center Competitive Grants Program is accepting Pre-proposals until August 1, 2009. Submit applications to <http://ncsungrant.sdstate.org>

NSF has an upcoming due date for their **Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Talent Program (STEP)**. Information can be obtained from <http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2008/nsf09569/nsf08569.pdf>
A letter of intent is due to NSF by August 18, 2009, and a

full proposal is due by September 29. Dr. Kevin Kephart and Dr. John Ruffolo will review the summaries and make selections on behalf of SDSU.

The **Association of Women Soil Scientists (AWSS)** is sponsoring a program to provide funding for an undergraduate or graduate woman to travel to the Soil Science Society of American Annual Meeting to present the results of her research. Please see the application guidelines for more information at <http://www.womeninsoils.org>

Abstracts for the 2009 Eastern SD Water Conference (ESDWC) are being accepted through August 14, 2009. Submissions should be directed to Denise.Hovland@sdstate.edu (in Microsoft Word format as email attachments). The 2009 ESDWC will be held in Brookings at the SDSU Student Union November 2-3, 2009.

Hourly Minimum Wage rate increases to \$7.25/hour effective July 24, 2009.

Winter Wheat project leader, **Bill Berzonsky**, has had a busy travel schedule this summer having participated in the following field tours and meetings:

June: Regional Winter Wheat field tour – Mead, NE
Winter Wheat field tour – Winner, SD
White Wheat Forum – Pierre, SD (sponsored by SD Wheat Commission)

July: Ducks Unlimited/Bayer Crop Science Winter Wheat field tour – Roscoe, SD
NE Farm field tour – South Shore, SD
Geddes Winter Wheat field tour – Geddes, SD
SE Farm field tour – Beresford, SD

Congratulations . . .

Sharon Clay was elected Fellow by the American Society of Agronomy.

Seed Lab Manager, **Brent Turnipseed**, was awarded the 2009 Anna Lute Award given by the Colorado-based group, Front Range Seed Analysts, and presented during the joint annual meeting of SCST and AOSA in Ft. Collins, CO. Dr. Turnipseed received the award for his passion and dedication to seed analysis. His nomination letter reads: "Dr. Turnipseed is a seed analyst you can

count on for assistance, guidance and sound technical advice whatever your questions may be. He is dedicated to upholding the highest standards of the Society of Commercial Seed Technologists and the Association of Official Seed Analysts while promoting professionalism and proficiency in the laboratory."

Make plans now to attend the **Plant Science Department summer picnic** scheduled for Thursday, July 30, 6:00 pm at the Hillcrest picnic shelters. A catered meal will be provided. Those attending are asked to bring a dessert to share and beverages of their choice.

TRAVEL REMINDERS . . .

When you travel In-State remember that the state only allows lodging cost of \$46.50 + tax. Linda Jelly has a list of motels that will cover the state rate. On any motel bill watch for a "safe warranty charge"; request that the fee be removed because you didn't use it and the state will not cover the charge. Contact Linda at 688-5122 if you have any questions.

Staff Changes . . .

Denise Pike resigned as Program Assistant in the PS accounting department effective 07/02/09.

Hema Prasad Damecharla began a PhD program of study with the winter wheat breeding program July 1; he is advised by Bill Berzonsky.

GRA Jacob Ness resigned June 25 and has relocated to Illinois.

Amrit Karki was appointed to a PhD graduate assistantship 06/22/09; he will be advised by Fedora Sutton.

The Department welcomes **Dr. Guo-Liang Jiang** as Assistant Professor in Soybean Breeding and Genetics. Dr. Jiang arrived 07/22/09 and now occupies SNP room 248A. His telephone contact is 4749.

Staff Concerns . . .

Sincere sympathy is extended to **Larry and Shannon Osborne** and family on the death of Larry's father. Funeral services were held in Laurel, NE, on June 24.

Tom, Doris, Hannah, and Joe Schumacher are thankful for the continued cards, photos, email messages, and phone calls sent to their son/brother/nephew, **Glenn Schumacher**, as he continues his rehabilitation in Omaha, NE. While Glenn is making progress, he faces many challenges on his road to recovery. He and his family will continue to find solace in the support and encouragement of friends and colleagues in the Brookings community.

In Appreciation . . .

'Thank you to everyone who expressed sympathy on the death of my brother, John. Your thoughts and prayers are greatly appreciated.'

Mary Thompson

'Our thanks to all who sent flowers, cards, memorials or passed on condolences after the death of my father. Your thoughts are all very much appreciated.'

Larry & Shannon Osborne Family

QUOTE OF THE DAY . . .

"No race can prosper until it learns there is as much dignity in tilling a field as in writing a poem."

-- Booker T. Washington -- (1856-1915)

Job Listings . . . (posted at each building)

SDSU Plant Science – Program Asst I, PS Administration, 07/30/09

SDSU CES Edmunds Co – Ext. Agron Educ, BS/MS, 7/23/09

U of NE– Asst/Assoc Prof-Plant Quantitative

Genetics/Statistical Genomics; PhD; 08/14/09

U of MN – Asst Prof/Fungal Biologist, PhD, 08/15/09.

Calendar Dates . . .

July 30 PS Summer Picnic, Hillcrest Shelters, 6 pm

Aug 12 SD Soybean Council Research Tour

Aug 18-20 Dakota Fest, Mitchell

Aug 21 McCrory Garden Party

Aug 25 Fall Faculty Development Workshop

Aug 28 ABS College Fall Kickoff

Sept 3-7 SD State Fair, Huron

Sept 09 SESD Research Farm Fall Tour, Beresford

Sept 12 SDSU Cereal Bowl (Georgia Southern)

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 ABS College Careers Day

Oct 24 Hobo Day (Northern Iowa)

2010

Apr 30 PS Recognition Banquet-Volstorff

