

1999 CWSS Executive Board



Left to Right: Steve Wright, President; Matt Ehlhardt, Vice President; Lars Anderson, Secretary; Scott Johnson, Past President; Wanda Graves, Business Manager; Louis Hearn, Director; Not in Picture: Pam Geisel, Director



President Scott Johnson (right) receiving award of appreciation from Program Chair Steve Wright.

1999 CWSS Honorary Member - Jack Orr



Jack Orr (right) receiving the Honorary Member Award from Past President Ron Vargas.

Jack received his B.S. degree in Soil Science at Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo in 1962. He then took a position as a Research Biologist at Stauffer Chemical Company's research facility in Mountain View, CA and worked there from 1962 to 1967. Jack returned to school and received a M.S. degree in Plant Science from California State University Fresno in 1969. In 1969, Jack began his career with the University of California Cooperative Extension as a Weed Science Farm Advisor for vegetables and field crops in Sacramento County.

Jack is recognized for his many contributions to Weed Science in tomatoes, alfalfa, wheat, field corn and sugar beets. For years he was the team leader for the U.C. processing tomato weed group which created effective weed management programs for California growers. Jack played a major role in the development and registration of PURSUIT herbicide for use in alfalfa and Shadeout in tomatoes.

In recent years he has also served as County Director of Sacramento County Cooperative Extension Office while maintaining an active research and educational program in weed science. He also served as a mentor to many U.C. Farm Advisors in the Sacramento Valley. Jack served as President of the California Weed Science Society in 1990 and over the years has been an active participant in the society as presenter and committee services. Jack has also been involved in the Western Society of Weed Science and the Weed Science Society of America. Through his record of accomplishments, Jack is recognized by his peers as a forthright, hard working individual who has made significant contributions to California agriculture. He is truly deserving to be named an Honorary Member of the California Weed Science Society.

1999 CWSS Honorary Member - Jack Schlesselman



Jack Schlesselman (left) receiving receiving the Honorary Member Award from Past President Ron Vargas.

Jack received his B.S. at Fresno State University in Zoology in 1971 and immediately went to work for Dr. Art Lange at the UC Kearney Ag Center in Parlier. He worked on Dr. Lange's weed science project for the next eight years. While working at the Kearney Ag Center, Jack was also pursuing his Master's Degree at Fresno State University in Weed Science which he completed in 1979. In 1980 Jack accepted a position with Rohm and Haas Company as a Field Research & Development Representative where he is currently employed.

During his career as a field biologist at Rohm and Haas, Jack has made many significant contributions. His knowledge, expertise and professionalism in the area of field research have led directly to business success for the company. Jack has been instrumental in the continued development of Goal Herbicide as an important tool for western agricultural. He has led many efforts to expand and enhance uses for Goal. He has also sought out and conducted work to develop many new and interesting opportunities for Goal in minor crops. His early work with Goal on onions for example has earned him the affectionate title of "Captain Onion" within Romn and Haas. Jack's commitment to the development of Goal on both large and small acreage crops has been at the heart of his success. More recently he has played a key leadership role in the development of the new herbicide Visor for the California TNV market and has conducted a great deal of field research on two new development insecticides, Confirm and Aphistar.

Jack has been very active in the California Weed Science Society. The most successful "What's New in Industry" is a direct result of Jack's untiring dedication to weed science as well as our Society. Jack's interest in photography has not only benefited the disciple of weed science but he has become the official photographer of the CWSS allowing us to better record and capture the history of the Society. It is with great pleasure that we welcome Jack as an Honorary Member of the California Weed Science Society.

1999 CWSS Award of Excellence - JOSEPH M. DiTOMASO



Joseph M. DiTomaso (left) receiving receiving the Award of Excellence from Past President Ron Vargas.

Joe is a native Californian, raised in the Los Angeles area. He received a Ph.D. in Botany from the University of California, Davis in 1987. After completing a short Postdoc at Montana State University he was hired as an Assistant Professor at Cornell University in 1987. In 1995, he left Cornell to accept his current position as an Extension Weed Ecologist at the University of California, Davis working in noncrop weed control. In addition, Joe also serves as the director of the Weed Research and Information Center and as organizer and moderator of the UC Weed School.

Joe's record as a researcher is truly outstanding, especially considering his short career. He has published over 40 Refereed manuscripts. He received a DANR Distinguished Achievement Award in 1998 for Outstanding Research by a Specialist. His major focus since joining UC Davis has been on yellow starthistle control. He has made major strides in assessing the biology, cultural and chemical control of this problem weed. While at Cornell, he jointly published a weed identification book, which won an award for the best new extension publication. He is currently working on a "Weeds of California" book which will include over 600 weed species.

Joe has been very active in the California Weed Science Society. As a graduate student, he won the Student Paper contest three times (1983, 1984 and 1986). More recently, Joe's students have won the Student Poster contest. Joe also has served on the Program Committee, and has been a regular speaker at the annual meetings of the California Weed Science Society. Joe's accomplishments are truly outstanding and we are fortunate to have a member like Joe in our Society.