



# Ohio State HCS News

HORTICULTURE & CROP SCIENCE IN VIRTUAL PERSPECTIVE - THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

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## Another Win for Ohio State Weed Science Team



Ohio State University students placed well in the annual Weed Science Contest sponsored by NCWSS and hosted by Bennett Ag Research Corp. in Iowa.

On July 19, The Ohio State University Weed Science Teams finished first and second in the undergraduate division at the 2007 North Central Weed Science Society's (NCWSS) Weed Science Contest. Sponsored by NCWSS and hosted by Bennett Ag Research Corporation in Richland, IA, the annual event provides students an opportunity to apply what they have learned using a contest to measure their capabilities.

This is the seventh year in a row an Ohio State undergraduate team has finished first place. The team members of the winning team consisted of **Nathan Miller, Nic Miller, Kar-Lyn Lambert, and Ryan Edwards**. The second place team consisted of **Melinda Hoffman, Becky Schoellman, Jason Greve, and Tim McCormick**.



Ohio State 2007 NCWSS Weed Science Contest 1st Place Undergraduate Team: Ryan Edwards, Nathan Miller, Nic Miller, and Kar-Lyn Lambert.

**Jason Parrish** competed as an individual and earned first place in the graduate division of the contest. He also placed first in Weed Identification and Unknown Herbicide Identification events and was a finalist for the Farmer Problem event. Jason also represented OSU while pursuing his bachelors degree and was the individual winner of the undergraduate division of the contest in 2005 and 2006.

**Nathan Miller** placed first and **Melinda Hoffman** placed third individually in the undergraduate division of the

contest. This was the first year that Nathan and Melinda competed in the contest with Nathan only being a freshman. Nathan also finished first in Weed Identification in the undergraduate division. The second place team also finished first in the Team Sprayer Calibration event of the contest for undergraduates.



Ohio State 2007 NCWSS Weed Science Contest 2nd Place Undergraduate Team: Tim McCormick, Becky Schoellman, Jason Greve, and Melinda Hoffman.

Students from five universities with five teams competed in the undergraduate contest and approximately 30 graduate students from eight universities with six teams competed in the graduate contest.

The contest has five events, Weed Identification, Unknown Herbicide Identification, Problem Solving, Written Sprayer Calibration, and Team Sprayer Calibration. The students must identify 25 out of a list of 75 weed species for Weed Identification, identify 15 out of a list of 25 herbicides for Unknown Herbicide Identification, solve an herbicide related problem that has previously been observed in the field for Problem Solving, answer questions on a test about sprayer calibration and mixing herbicides for Written Sprayer Calibration, and calibrate a research sprayer as a team in ten minutes for Team Sprayer Calibration.

The students prepare for the contest by taking a course entitled Professional Development in Horticulture and Crop Science (H&CS 488) during Winter and Spring Quarters. The team also gets together during the summer for some practices before the contest.

Funding for the team is provided by the Horticulture and Crop Science Department, Crops and Soils Club (an undergraduate student organization), and the Weed Science Group. The team is coached by **Jeff Stachler**, Weed Science Extension Program Specialist, in the Horticulture and Crop Science Department.

Story and photos by Jeff Stachler. Web publishing by [Victor van Buchem](mailto:Victor.van.Buchem).  
Published August 09 2007 - <http://HCS.OSU.EDU>