

2006-2007 Annual Report Synopsis

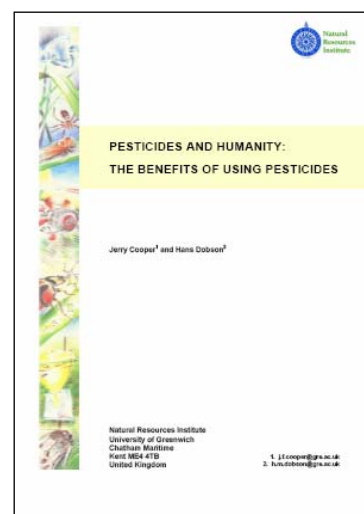
The Crop Protection Research Institute (CPRI) is a non-advocacy research unit of the CropLife Foundation. Established in January 2004, CPRI focuses on the economic analysis of agricultural pests, pest management, and pesticide use and regulation in the United States. CPRI's goal is to inform the public discussion surrounding pest management policy, employing written reports, presentations, panel discussions, and web-based media to reach as broad an audience as possible. CPRI's work in 2006-2007 focused around four major areas: domestic pesticide benefits quantification, international pesticide benefits, exotic plant pathogens and outreach.



CPRI Director Leonard Gianessi presents *War of the Weeds* at CLA's Annual Meeting.

Exotic Plant Pathogens CPRI staff completed a study funded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture identifying potential chemical controls for exotic plant pathogens. This study was part of the National Plant Disease Recovery System mandated by the Office of Homeland Security.

International Pesticide Benefits With financial support from CropLife International (CLI), CPRI assembled an electronic library of 300 reports and articles that document the benefits of using pesticides. This library formed the basis of a report on pesticide benefits prepared by UK researchers. CPRI is currently working with CLI to expand the library and to make it publicly available.



Domestic Pesticide Benefits Quantification CPRI staff have assembled 35 case studies documenting the benefits of insecticide use in U.S. crop production. These case studies are part of a forthcoming report which will include 50 case studies. CPRI has prepared a PowerPoint slide show, *Bug Busters*, which summarizes the first group of insecticide benefit case studies.

Outreach CPRI staff made 41 presentations summarizing pesticide benefits including *War of the Weeds*, *Spore Wars*, and *Bug Busters*. The audiences have included CLA member companies, scientific societies, state regulatory agencies, federal agencies, congressional staff, conferences, and university/high school classes/seminars. These three talks have been filmed and converted into DVDs by federal agencies.

UK report based on pesticide benefits library assembled by CPRI, available at <http://www.croplife.org>.



Reports and Articles

CPRI staff prepared three articles for peer-reviewed journals documenting the benefits of fungicides (published in *Outlooks on Pest Management*-October 2006) and herbicides (accepted for publication in *Weed Technology*). A paper on the *Economic Impacts of Glyphosate-Resistant Crops* has been accepted for publication in *Pest Management Science*.

Leonard Gianessi's letter to the editor on organic farming was published in the *New York Times Magazine* on June 18, 2006. Leonard had a guest column on herbicides published in *The Shepherdstown Chronicle* on May 25, 2007.

CPRI prepared a Research Note which critically analyzed a study from Washington State University which compared organic and conventional apple systems. The CPRI critique received extensive coverage in *Pesticide.Net Insider*.

In testimony to the House Agriculture Committee on the 2007 Farm Bill, September 28, 2006, Jay Vroom included data from the CPRI herbicide and fungicide benefit reports, subsequently published as a part of the permanent hearing record, available at: <http://agriculture.house.gov/hearings/109/10940.pdf>.



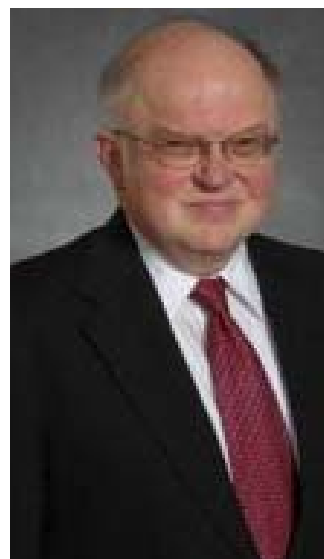
Jay Vroom presents CPRI's pesticide benefit data in congressional testimony.

CPRI's paper on the importance of chemical pesticides presented at the Third International Conference on the Future of Agriculture was published in a proceedings volume available at <http://www.engg.ksu.edu/chsr/events/ag/200608/>.

Commentary...from the Director

We began 2007 in transition following the leaving of Nathan Reigner who returned to graduate school. His school research project involves collecting recreational data in Hawaii—seriously. For three years Nathan made the CPRI program better and is largely responsible for kick-starting me into the modern world of communication and outreach. We made 41 outreach presentations last year which equaled the combined total for our first two years. Nathan regularly challenged me to do more and to seek out more diverse audiences. Outreach and communication, particularly for students and teachers, are hallmarks of CPRI's program and I believe strongly that we will do even more to reach these audiences in the coming year.

I still greatly enjoy doing the library research work and learn new things every day. I have taken it on myself to educate young people (like Nathan) about the value of perusing the stacks instead of just Googling for information. We have collected an enormous amount of information on the benefits of insecticides. I am looking forward to summarizing this research work in reports, articles, and outreach presentations during the coming year.



Thanks for the support,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "L. Gianessi".

Outreach

General support funds from CropLife America member companies have enabled CPRI staff to conduct an outreach program, including 41 presentations delivered to diverse audiences during the last year. CPRI's primary talk for the past year was *War of the Weeds*, an overview of herbicide benefits. CPRI staff also delivered *Spore Wars* (about fungicide benefits) and a new talk *Bug Busters* about the benefits of insecticides. Other talks were tailor-made as conference presentations.

Leonard Gianessi made the following presentations in 2006 and 2007:

Bug Busters

- *Valent*, Dublin, CA, 1/17/2007
- *UC Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources*, Davis, CA, 1/18/2007
- *EPA Headquarters Staff, Office of Pesticide Programs*, Arlington, VA, 5/17/2007
- *United Phosphorus Inc.*, King of Prussia, PA, 5/18/2007

Spore Wars

- *BASF*, Research Triangle Park, NC, 6/28/2006
- *USDA, Foreign Agricultural Service*, Washington, D.C., 8/24/2006
- *Plant Medicine Program, University of Florida*, Gainesville, FL, 3/8/2007
- *FMC*, Princeton, NJ, 3/19/2007

War of the Weeds

- *USDA IPM Centers Directors Meeting*, Washington, D.C., 6/14/2006
- *Makhteshim-Agan*, Raleigh, NC, 6/19/2006
- *EPA Headquarters Staff, Office of Pesticide Programs*, Arlington, VA, 6/22/2006
- *Arysta*, Cary, NC, 6/27/2006
- *Monsanto*, St. Louis, MO, 7/12/2006
- *CropLife America Annual Meeting*, Orlando, FL, 9/25/2006
- *National Science Teachers Association*, Baltimore, MD, 11/02/2006
- *Dupont*, Wilmington, DE, 11/06/2006
- *Southern Crop Production Association*, Amelia Island, FL, 11/14/2006
- *USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service*, Washington, D.C., 11/15/2006
- *Nufarm*, Tinley Park, IL, 12/13/2006
- *Illinois Certified Crop Advisors*, Springfield, IL, 12/14/2006
- *Northeastern Weed Science Society*, Baltimore, MD, 1/03/2007
- *California Department of Pesticide Regulation*, Sacramento, CA, 1/18/2007
- *USGS, Water Resources Division*, Sacramento, CA, 1/19/2007
- *Bethesda Chevy Chase High School*, Bethesda, MD, 2/5/2007
- *Cedar Lane Unitarian Church*, Bethesda, MD, 2/25/2007
- *Syngenta*, Greensboro, NC, 3/2/2007
- *USFWS*, National Conservation Training Center, Shepherdstown, WV, 4/12/2007, 4/23/2007
- *U.S. Senate Staff, U.S. House Staff*, Washington, D.C., 4/26/2007

Other Presentations

- "The Benefits of Fungicides in U.S. Crop Production," *Meeting of the American Phytopathological Society*, Quebec, Canada, 8/1/2006
- "Spore Wars / War of the Weeds," *Dow AgroSciences*, Indianapolis, IN, 1/11/2007
- "Economic Impacts of Glyphosate Resistant Crops," *233rd American Chemical Society National Meeting*, Chicago, IL, 3/25/2007
- "Role of Chemical Pesticides in Sustaining Crop Production," *Mid-Atlantic Regional Meeting of the American Chemical Society*, Ursinus College, Colledgeville, PA, 5/18/2007

Nathan Reigner made the following presentations in 2006:

War of the Weeds

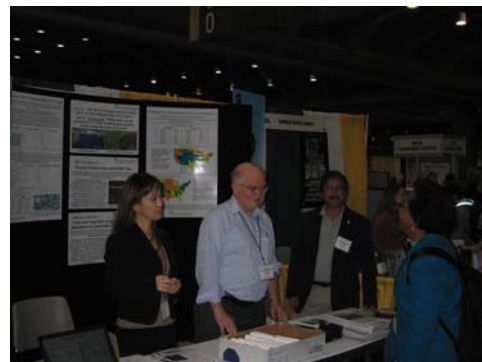
- *Northeastern Weed Science Society, Collegiate Weed Science Contest*, Wilmington, DE, 8/1/2006
- *Valent*, Walnut Creek, CA, 9/11/2006
- *Virginia Polytechnic Institute, Department of Forestry*, Blacksburg, VA, 10/16/2006
- *National Science Teachers Association*, Baltimore, MD, 11/04/2006
- *Kansas Agri Business Expo*, Wichita, KS, 11/16/2006

Other Presentations

- “Barriers to Widespread Conversion from Chemical Pest Management to Non-Chemical Methods in U.S. Agriculture,” *Third International Conference on the Future of Agriculture: Science, Stewardship, & Sustainability*, Sacramento, CA, 8/7/2006
- “Importance of Pesticides in Crop Production for the Foreseeable Future,” Symposium on the Future Role of Pesticides in Agriculture, *American Chemical Society Annual Meeting*, San Francisco, CA, 9/12/2006

National Science Teachers Association Meeting

In November, CPRI personnel staffed an exhibition booth at the Baltimore meeting of the National Science Teachers Association. More than 1,000 teachers stopped at the CPRI booth and were given lesson plans, posters, DVDs, CDs, and reports that document pesticide benefits. In addition, CPRI staff conducted two workshops for teachers which showcased *War of the Weeds* as a teaching tool.



Grace Oh, Leonard Gianessi, and Paul Reibach staff the CPRI exhibition booth at the 2006 NSTA meeting.

Website

CropLife Foundation’s website, www.croplifefoundation.org, serves as the primary vehicle through which the Crop Protection Research Institute communicates its work.

Crop Protection Research Institute Funders 2006-2007

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CropLife Foundation

1156 15th Street NW, Suite 400
Washington DC, 20005

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