

CA Weed Science Society honors top students at symposium

In January, the California Weed Science Society held its annual symposium in Sacramento. This year's conference theme was "New Challenges and Opportunities for Weed Management in California." The program was full of content showcasing the latest research in weed management in many of California's abundant cropping systems as well as aquatics, roadsides, utilities and industrial sites, and forestry, range, and natural areas.

This year's student competition featured students representing California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo; California State University, Chico; California State University, Fresno; and University of California, Davis.



In the poster competition, 1st Place was given to two deserving students: **Idalia Navarro** of CSU Fresno for her poster titled "Effect of Moisture and Salt Stress on Germination of Bindweed (*Convolvulus arvensis* L.)" and **Drew Wolter** from UC Davis for his work in "The Management and Control of *Eleusine tristachya* in California Orchards." 2nd Place went to CSU Fresno student **Priyanka Chaudhari** for her work titled "Characterizing the Expression of Candidate Genes for Herbicide Resistance in the Agricultural Weed Hairy Fleabane (*Erigeron bonariensis*)."

UC Davis students swept the awards in the paper/oral competition with 1st place going to **Alex Ceseski** for his presentation titled "Drilling Depth Effects on Crop Stand and Weed Control in California Rice," 2nd place to **Liberty Galvin** for her work titled "Flooding Depth and Burial Effect on Emergence of Five California Weedy Rice Biotypes," and 3rd place to **Katie Driver** for her presentation titled "Bearded Sprangletop Flooding Tolerance in California Rice."



Pictured from LF to RT: Alex Ceseski, Katie Driver, Mikayla Loucks, Liberty Galvin, Steve Haring, CWSS Director Whitney Brim-DeForest. Not pictured: Maribel Portilla