

This month's profile is of Kristina Polziehn, an agronomist and owner of Axiom Agronomy Ltd. Get to know a bit more about Kristina below!

**Work and volunteer experience in Weed Science:**

I have an MSc in Plant Science from the University of Alberta which looked at integrated weed management for wild oats. I studied under Dr. Linda Hall and Dr. Neil Harker during my MSc.

I gained experience in the agriculture industry from working 10+ years in agronomy, research, grain marketing and sales. I spent two years with BASF Canada as a Technical Specialist covering southern Saskatchewan and four years with Viterra as Manager of Agronomic Services in northern Alberta/BC and a Regional Account manager in the Edmonton/Camrose area. Currently, I work as an independent agronomist with clients in Sturgeon County and Peace Country. I began my company, Axiom Agronomy Ltd., in 2014 providing crop consulting, soil sampling and prescription nutrient mapping. In addition, I assist customers in acquiring, processing, and analyzing aerial agricultural data from manned aircraft systems.



**How did you become involved with CWSS and when?**

I first became involved in CWSS as a graduate student, where I presented at the 2007 and 2008 annual meetings in Mont Tremblant, QC and Banff, AB, respectively. Since 2012 I have attended numerous CWSS meetings.

**What has the extent of your involvement been?**

In 2015 I served on the 2015 local arrangements committee (LAC) for CWSS in Edmonton, assisting with the graduate student presentations. Currently, I am Secretary of the CWSS executive board, serving since 2016.

**Favorite memory/experience in your weed science career to date?**

Working with farmers to manage fields with high weed populations. It is rewarding to watch difficult weed populations like wild oat decrease over time when you start using a number of integrated management tools.

**What is your favorite weed and why?**

Goat's Beard (*Tragopogon dubius*). It has some unique characteristics for a weed, such as a beautiful large mature seed head, resembles a grass but is a broadleaf and is a biennial.

**What are your career goals/future plans in weed science?**

I will keep working with farmers in my business to help manage weed populations on their farms. Lastly, I have enjoyed my time on the CWSS executive and will continue to attend meetings and work with the committees once my term is up.