

**Name: Marie-Josée Simard**

**Occupation: Research Scientist in weed ecology**

**Previous work and volunteer experience in Weed Science:**

I have a Ph D. in Environmental Science from the Université du Québec à Montréal. I was hired as a biologist in weed science at Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada in Québec City in 2000. In 2006 I took on a position of weed scientist. In 2014, I moved to the research centre in Saint-Jean-sur-Richelieu (near Montreal) who's core mandate is plant protection. My research activities include the evaluation of the distribution, dynamic and fitness of problem weeds (hybrids with transgenic crops, allergenic weeds, herbicide resistant weeds and regulated weeds).

I was Associate Editor for the Canadian Journal of Plant Science from 2010 to 2014. I am also adjunct professor at Université Laval since 2006.

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

My former boss (Anne Légère, a CWSS past president), got me to attend my first meeting in 2000. I attended most meetings since.

**What has the extent of your involvement been? (i.e. have you served on committees/executive?)**

I was member at large on the CWSS board from 2006 to 2008 and I am now second vice president on the CWSS executive board since 2018. I will co-chair the local arrangements committee in Gatineau in 2020 with Martin Laforest. I was also on the awards committee at least twice (I forget during what years exactly), I was on the local arrangement committee twice (Tremblant and Montreal meetings), I chaired a few sessions (including posters) and regularly judge student presentations.

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

I enjoy doing field work with technicians and students. Scouting for weeds in fields with a view of the St-Laurence river. Leading a crew of 10 students and two technicians to count weeds all day before herbicide application.

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

I have many favorite weeds. I am always impressed by the seed production and resilience of Amaranthus species. They are also native to the Americas and species were grown by the Aztecs.

**What are your career goals/future plans in weed science (if you are comfortable sharing)?**

I want to continue working on the ecology and biology of weeds, I love it, it's fascinating