

**Society for Range Management Annual Meetings, Wed., Feb. 10, 2010**

**Symposium #17: Biodiversity and Its Relationship to Plant Material Development for Rangeland Improvement**

Plant improvement has historically played an essential role in the enhancement of rangeland ecosystems. Novel native and genetically manipulated plants have been used successfully for rangeland repair in a diverse array of disturbed ecosystems. Concepts, methods, and issues underlying plant improvement with regards to rangelands are not common knowledge among SRM members. This lack of understanding has led to misconceptions regarding the use of improved plant materials for repair of rangeland ecosystems. This symposium seeks to provide society members with information regarding plant materials development in the backdrop of the repair of rangeland ecosystems in changing environments.

**Organizing Committee**

Jack Staub (Chair), Joe Robins, Kevin Jensen, Mike Peel, Doug Johnson, and Shaun Bushman

**Convener**

Jack Staub

**Program Agenda**

**8:00-8:40 am**

Mike Pellant – A Need for Plant Materials in the Western U.S.

**8:40-9:20 am**

Justin Derner, Jack Morgan, and Wayne Polley – Climate Change Effects on Plant Diversity in Rangelands

**9:20-9:40 am**

Jim Briggs, John Englert, and Joel Douglas – Historical Use and Development of Plant Materials for Western U.S. Rangelands

**9:40-10:00 am**

Blair Waldron – Strategic Use of Forage Kochia for Revegetation of Disturbed Rangelands

**10:00-10:20 am**

Break

**10:20-10:40 am**

Joe Robins and Kevin Jensen – Genetic and Environmental Effects on Reseeding Rangelands

**10:40-11:00 am**

Tom Jones – Genetic Considerations for North American Plant Materials for Difficult and Changing Environments

**11:00-11:20 am**

Shaun Bushman, Steve Larson, and Douglas A. Johnson – Using Genetic Diversity Analysis to Define Initial Seed Releases of North American Rangeland Legumes

**11:20-11:40 am**

Jim Free and Pam Motley – UP Colorado Plateau Native Plant Program

**11:40-12:00 noon**

Douglas A. Johnson and Jack E. Staub – Multiple Approaches Needed to Meet Complex Plant Materials Challenges for Western Rangelands



Blair Waldron



Justin Derner



Audience



Shaun Bushman