

**Report of the Economic Botany Section  
Botanical Society of America, Botany 2003**

For the 2003 Economic Botany Section of the Botanical Society of America Meeting in Mobile Alabama, a one-half day Symposium was organized by David Spooner entitled "Transgenic Plants: Science, Policy, Politics." In addition to the Economic Botany Section, the symposium is supported by funds from the Genetics, Tropical Biology, Ecological, Physiological, and Systematics Sections. Six speakers are included in this Session; the program will be held on Tuesday afternoon and is organized as follows:

1:00 SPOONER, DAVID M. USDA, Agricultural Research Service. Introduction.

1:15 BRETTING, PETER K.\*; J. W. RADIN. USDA/ARS, NPS, Beltsville, MD. Defining biotechnology: Increasingly important and increasingly difficult.

1:45 HORSCH, ROBERT B. Monsanto Corporation, St. Louis, MO. Development and use of transgenic plants.

2:15 ORTIZ-GARCÍA, SOL\*; EXEQUIEL EZCURRA. Instituto Nacional de Ecología, México D.F., México. Transgenic maize in Mexico: Risks and reality.

2:45 BREAK

3:00 SNOW, ALLISON. Ohio State University, Columbus, OH. A plant ecologist's view of genetically modified (GM) crops.

3:30 PAARLBERG, ROBERT L. Wellesley College, Wellesley, MA. The international policy struggle over GM crops.

4:00 RODEMEYER, MICHAEL. Pew Initiative on Food and Biotechnology, Washington, DC. Policy implications of transgenic crop gene flow.

4:30 DISCUSSION

Daniel K. Harder, Secretary-Treasurer, Economic Botany Section BSA, invited the following eight media to this talk:

1. Bioscience  
bioscience@aibs.org

2. Grain  
grain@grain.org, Henk@grain.org, Janet@grain.org, Alexis@grain.org

3. AAAS and Science Magazine  
mbradfor@aaas.org, bhanson@aaas.org, kkelner@aaas.org

4. Time Magazine

trippet@timeinc.com, debra\_richman@timeinc.com, nadine\_ferber@timeinc.com,  
jennifer\_zawadzinski@timeinc.com

5. Reuters

editor@reuters.com

6. Associated Press

pr@ap.org

7. The Chicago Tribune

ctc-editor@tribune.com

8. The Wall Street Journal

Wsj.ltrs@wsj.com

In addition, a Tuesday afternoon session will consist of two posters and four contributed papers.

Dr. Peter Bretting will provide the Tuesday Economic Botany luncheon talk entitled "Shifting International Norms for Scientific Germplasm Collection and for Recording Traditional Knowledge."

Submitted by,

David Spooner,  
Chair, Economic Botany Section