

AC Meeting February 20, 2014

Attending: Carrie Harmon, Christine Fortuin, Henry Fadamiro, Joe LaForest, Charles Allen, John Mayne, Scott Stewart, Ed Jones, Harold Lambert, Charles Bargeron, Caydee Savinelli, Ken McPherson, Michelle Samuel-Foo, Michael Bledsoe, Fudd Graham, Tom Samples, Tom Royer, Peter Ojiambo, Daniel Collins, Ryan Kurtz, Julio Bernal, Bill Hubbard, Denise Delaney, Blair Sampson, Don Parker

- IPM Involvement and where it's used with stakeholders
- Invasives
- Local and state awareness and adoption of IPM
- Sustainable agriculture
- More people
- Additional funding
- School IPM
- Collaboration of diverse groups
- Additional resources

What would be the best project that you could come up with that would contribute IPM? (Group discussion)

- Easy application process for grant
- Pull together data from EPA and others to promote IPM for sustainable ag
- Information transfer to the farmer to let them know how to do IPM and sustainable
- Training the next generation of IPM specialists
- Build a program position that would be a liaison to the general public
- Data does not support blanket spray of crops; Teach proper management
- School IPM, extend info to have better reach, school gardens and pollinator
- Developing a program or plan that focuses on the behavior change of the group we're trying to affect; involve someone outside of IPM specialty that is an expert in behavior change
- Revisit how IPM is marketed, make sure that people know what it is
- Let farmer track
- Develop a more effective and regular avenue of info exchange between research and application
- Online decision support tool based on crop type for farmers, forest specialist
- Educational campaign to remove volunteer cotton plants from yards that could hamper boll weevil eradication
- Heighten IPM training for small farmers

Southern IPM Center Updates

Funding Situation (Herb Bolton, USDA NIFA)

SIPMC was on a 4-year grant that had to be renewed every year. This year, the recent ag budget that was passed includes a consolidated IPM line that includes several IPM programs. As a result, all of the old programs have to end and then begin a new program. USDA has prepared a Request for Applications, which they will release.

Our assumption is that there will be some version of IPM Centers, and they will look like they do now.

USDA NIFA got what they asked for in terms of budget. Are even with sequester. Are about \$800,000 behind fiscal year 2012.

NIFA consolidated the lines to make it easier to argue for programs. APLU has been very active.

- NIFA plans to support state-based IPM programs
- Some items, like training the next generation of scientists, does not have enough funding.
- This program falls under the 406 integrated authority, which means that all programs must include indirect costs.
- The 406 authority expands the eligibility to all 4-year institutions in the US.
- Hope to have the RFA out by the end of March.
- NIFA will have a live webinar to answer people's questions soon after the RFA is released.
- There will be one single RFA called Crop protection/Pest Management
- Money must be awarded by September 30, 2014

FITT (Joe Laforest)

- Information is stored in a database
- Have been working with kudzu bug group
- Spotted wing drosophila is doing maps and graphs
- Brown marmorated stink bug is using EDDMap system
- Small Farms Working Group is trying to figure out how to disseminate information

Small Farms Working Group (Henry Fadamiro)

- Group was established in 2011
- First meeting was held in Clemson in 2012

- Second meeting was held in Kissimmee, FL in 2013
 - Group is using Basecamp
 - Defined small farms
 - Elected leaders for the group
 - Increased networking in the group
 - Will create regional IPM guides
 - Will create a map of farmers markets

Crop Profiles and PMSPs

- New database will take the content of the crop profiles and move them into a useable modern database that can generate its own reports.
- Hopefully the database will improve the way old documents are updated.

Regulatory Information Network (Danesha Seth Carley)

- Responds to Regulatory Requests
- Provides information flow among USDA, EPA, land-grant universities and other IPM stakeholders
- Gather/assemble technical content to address regulatory issues.
- Examples include methyl bromide re-nominations and registration of chlorpyrifos
- Want to work on getting more people to respond to information requests
- Regulatory Information Network Coordinator manages the national crop profile database; south is most up to date
- Are trying to get ahead of the requests for information
- Will also be using Doris to improve the surveys

Comment:

Some requests that are being sent out are sent to the wrong individuals, so no one answers the request.

Southern Nursery Working Group (Amy Fulcher)

- When Amy was in Kentucky, Doug Johnson told her about the IPM Center grants.
- First grant was for a pest management strategic plan and crop profile
- Also planned to survey growers
- Survey included 210 questions
- Second grant was for a manual; became an iBook
- Built IPMPro, which gives alerts to pests and the area that they may affect.
- Won Bright Idea award for 2014

Homework: If money were no object, what would you want SIPMC to focus on?

- Friends of IPM Awards with Directors presenting (8 votes)
- Small Farms
 - Collaboration among land grant (1 vote)
 - Small Farms IPM/improve feedback from stakeholder groups (4 votes)
- IPM Enhancement
 - Align with IR-4 (0 votes)
 - Multi state to regional projects (4 votes)
 - Collaboration among land grants (5 votes)
 - Invasive species (18 votes)
 - IPM tools for producers (8 votes)
 - Short term/immediate impact projects with national coordination (12 votes)
- Regulatory Information Network
 - Align with IR-4 (13 votes)
 - Continue regulatory support (12 votes)
 - Assist growers in transition after chemical loss (1 vote)
- Facilitation of Innovation Through Technology (FITT) (5 votes)
 - Collaboration among land grants (3 votes)
 - Explore new technologies like Google (14 votes)
 - Go to place for all things IPM (6 votes)
 - Consolidate resources (12 votes)
 - Foster exchange and implementation of IPM tools (24 votes)
- New stuff
 - Facilitate development of new IPM professionals (16 votes)
 - Revisit IPM fundamentals (5 votes)
 - University curriculum development (10 votes)
 - Monthly webinars (14 votes)
 - Farmer field schools (11 votes)
 - Align with climate hubs (7 votes)
- AC & SC
 - Economist should be on the AC (6 votes)
 - Get farmers and producers on the AC, perhaps current members can suggest names (6 votes)
 - More rigorous pesticide applicator training (PAT, PESP) (9 votes)
- Communication
 - Highlight success stories / narratives (3 votes)
 - Educate local agents on IPM (1 vote)
 - Information, outreach and awareness (1 vote)
 - Presence at regional professional meetings (3 votes)
 - Target non-traditional and emerging stakeholders (1 vote)
 - Pesticide resistance management education (12 votes)
 - Improve feedback from stakeholder groups (5 votes)

- Multi-lingual (2 votes)
- Stronger connection with research & extension directors (3 votes)
- Quarterly print/electronic newsletter (3 votes)
- Evaluation (1 vote)
 - IPM evaluation to justify both directions (3 votes)
 - Do impact evaluation to see whether IPM is actually adopted (18 votes)
 - Capture baseline knowledge / attitude of IPM by the public, producers and others (6 votes)
- IPM Documents – Crop profiles, PMSP
 - Align with IR-4 (3 votes)
 - Pesticide resistance management education (1 vote)
 - Update crop profiles and PMSPs on a continuing basis (11 votes)
 - IPM documents should be multi-lingual (5 votes)
 - Include profiles on biocontrol agents (8 votes)
 - Assist growers after the loss of a chemical (1 vote)

Priorities survey (Jim VanKirk)

- Received 159 valid responses
- Asked e-mail list about priorities
- The issue had to affect a lot of people
- Proposals that were funded for priorities would probably have been funded anyway except for one.
- Set priorities around issues rather than pests
- Sometimes you have to identify priorities even though no one else has mentioned it.
- Need a concise survey
- It's not a bad idea to pick a few ideas to focus on

Engagement with Advisory Council (Group discussion)

We used to have two meetings per year; they were two half days and we used to have a dinner together for networking. We are now doing this one time a year.

How do we communicate with each other better?

- If the AC had more responsibilities, they would be more engaged
- Most people would like to be more engaged
- It was helpful to get to know the other people on the committee; value in the informal time.
- Recommend having the face-to-face meeting over two days, from noon to noon.
- Might rotate the place of the meeting
- Maybe have a field trip

- PD reports should become monthly webinars

Peripheral issues

- Webinars for PD report

Engaging the AC (Group discussion)

- Periodic e-mails
- Find something as an alternative to Basecamp
- Assign something to AC and then get update on those assignments
- Ask AC members to comment on website
- Ask everyone to comment on some of the new items recommended in homework assignment
- Monthly message to the Advisory Council
- More periodic, issue-based teleconferences

Social network analysis

Doris Sande, our evaluation specialist, will be sending you a survey to ask who you communicate with. It indicates where the connections are and who the nodes of communication are.

Advisory Council recommendations

- Hold monthly webinars of funded PDs and award winners
- Annual meeting will be noon to noon
- Next face to face meeting: March (11 votes) or October (9 votes)