

Advisory Council Meeting June 24, 2008

Attending: Bob Bellinger, Carlos Bogran, Tom Brennan, Russell Duncan, Henry Fadamiro, Carrie Harmon, Ames Herbert, Clayton Hollier, Conrad Lavender, John Mayne, Mark McFarland, David Monks, Don Parker, James Parkman, Ryan Kurtz, Lora Lee Schroeder, Kathy Shay, Mike Weaver, Ples Spradley, Harold Coble, Jim Hudson, Pat O'Leary, Steve Toth, Jim VanKirk, Rosemary Hallberg, Janet Hurley, Charles Apperson, Wes Watson. Recording: Rosemary Hallberg

Center Update

Staff Changes

- Jeanne Bacheler, programmer, retired in October
- Yulu Xia has taken over programmer responsibilities. He also has entomology experience.
- Ron Stinner began phased retirement last year.
- NC State has appointed Tom Melton to be the Interim Director of CIPM until September.
- Steve Toth has agreed to be the North Carolina IPM Coordinator 30%.

LSU trip

Jim V. visited Louisiana State University in May and gave an hour and a half-long grant seminar that was attended by many of the younger faculty. We are hoping that next year they will submit a successful proposal for the state contact position.

Jim felt the visit was so positive that he and Steve Toth plan on making similar visits in the coming year. IPM Coordinator Clayton Hollier commented that the visit was positive for them as well. One of the states that Jim and Steve plan to visit is Mississippi.

Farm Bill

The Farm Bill was passed. Of note:

- CSREES will be called NIFA—National Institute for Food and Agriculture. The administrator will be a political appointee, but there seem to be few other changes.
- There will be a new grant opportunity called the Specialty Crops Initiative. Awards run about \$30 million dollars for the first year, then are reduced in the subsequent 3 or 4 years. There is \$100 million overall for 10 years. IPM will be included, but it is for specialty crops like fruits, vegetables and ornamentals. The RFA may be out in late July, and they are looking for large programs. Universities that submit must make 100% match on non-federal funds. The grant should be multi-disciplinary, multi-state and multi-grain.
- Other funding lines, such as RIPM and Smith-Lever, will not change.

Friends of IPM

We are in the midst of handing out awards. Staff agree that so far it has been a successful program.

SERA-3

Henry Fadamiro: The official name of the group, according to Eric Young, is SERA3-IPM. The group consists of all of the IPM Coordinators from the region and some of the researchers in the region. Members are heavily represented in our Advisory Council. In March, we went to St. Croix for our meeting. In addition to what we usually do, which is to give our reports, we also got to tour

farms and the research station. We also looked at tomato and papaya production. We finished out the meeting with a tour of the Botanical Gardens.

IPM Symposium

The regional IPM Coordinator groups are scheduled to meet during the IPM Symposium next year. The National Program Leaders over IPM Coordinators would come to that meeting. Last year, the representative didn't make it to our meeting. Next year, that person would definitely come to our meeting.

Other updates:

- There is a push this year to bring in some IPM implementers
- There is some interest in doing joint meetings such as Water Quality and IPM (Mark McFarland)
- Symposium coordinators are trying to have more varied sessions (Carrie)
- Funding and session information coming out July 15

Communications

Rosemary pointed out the articles in trade magazines in the folders.

IPM PIPE project

What it is: an information management system originally set up to deal with soybean rust. It has saved thousands of pounds of fungicides because the system helps growers know whether or not they need to spray depending on which way the disease is going.

What's new:

- There are 2 new components (cucurbits from NCSU and pecan casebearer from Texas A&M) that were funded through a grant competition last year.
- Risk Management Agency (RMA) will not fund the ipmPIPE after 2008. That means that there is no funding for the older components (soybean rust, soybean aphid and legumes) or for the web system.
- In April, we had a summit on the soybean rust PIPE, attended by the Secretary of Agriculture. The American Soybean Association drafted a letter about the current problem and sent it to Congress.

Discussion:

- National organizations should work outside of the states to keep it from looking like an earmark. (Don)
- Legumes may fit into the Specialty Crop Initiative (Carrie)

Enhancement Grants

Steve presented a Powerpoint on the new Enhancement Grant projects. A handout of the presentation can be found in the folders.

Regulatory Update

Steve presented a Powerpoint on the regulatory activities in the region. A handout of the presentation is in the folders.

Questions:

- How much is a crop profile vs a PMSP? (Pat O'Leary) Answer: Crop profile is \$5,000; PMSP is \$10,000. We have funded up to \$20,000 depending on how much travel is involved.
- Has the need for crop profiles remained the same? (Lora Lee). Yes, but in the next proposal year, you may need to consider endangered species.
- Is EPA revising the Worker Protection standards? (Don) Answer: There are some dramatic changes being considered; someone at EPA is looking at what they should be for the long-term (Lora Lee)

Conference on tick-borne diseases (Charles Apperson, NCSU)

Charles Apperson presented on his 2008 Enhancement Grant. He received an Enhancement Grant (part II) to hold a regional conference on tick-borne diseases. He presented reasons why the workshop was necessary (tick-borne diseases are often misdiagnosed). The workshop will help people recognize that this is a common problem and that the traditional approaches are not working, identify gaps in knowledge, identify important areas and develop resources.

The workshop will be divided into four focus groups:

- Case surveillance, laboratory diagnosis and case reporting. Staff come from Atlanta, California, Pittsboro NC, Georgia, Florida and South Carolina.
- Tick biology and ecology. Staff come from CDC, Colorado State university, Atlanta, Georgia, Virginia, Tennessee and Rickettsial Zoonoses Branch in Atlanta
- Pathogen biology and ecology. Staff come from Louisiana, Georgia, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Florida, Johns Hopkins University, Maryland and Colorado
- Tick bit prevention and tick control. Staff includes Tom Mather from University of Rhode Island, others from New Haven, Georgia, Virginia, Missouri, Maryland, Colorado and North Carolina.

The conference will take place January 21-22, 2009 at the CDD Conference facilities in Atlanta. Sponsors are SRIPMC and CDC. Workshop proceedings will be done. Need to expand the conference from 1 ½ days to 2 ½ days, so they are trying to leverage funds from EPA, Quest Diagnostics, and Bayer Environmental Science. Jim Hudson: some of the wildlife groups may be willing to fund it. Apperson's team has a coordinating committee made up of people from CSREES, people from NC, CDC, and the University of Illinois.

Questions:

- Is there any thought that climate change may be related to the rise in population? Apperson: if you look back 20 years, it could be related because of warmer winters. Now it is related to increased deer populations.
- This is a good opportunity to start sending messages about the risk of pests and pesticides together (Tom Brennan).
- What could this project become? (Jim V) Hopefully this will leverage state and university funds, or CDC and Agrimedecine Center funds and become a regional project or start other projects on tick-borne diseases.

School IPM Working Group (Janet Hurley, Texas AgriLife)

History: In December 2006, the Advisory Council and Steering Committee decided to fund a meeting of school IPM representatives in the Southern Region. That meeting occurred May 2007.

Janet presented the priorities that were developed during the May 2007 meeting.

Since May, the group has:

- Applied for and received a CSREES Extension IPM grant for \$78,432
- Implemented the EIPM project Marketing IPM as Green School Technology for Southern School. The project included:
 - A workshop in Dallas, TX, in February, gathering people with different interests such as educators, pest management professionals, architects and engineers.
 - Trips to market IPM at the National School Plant Management Association meeting and the Southeastern Association of School Business Officials (SASBO)
 - Translation of the ABCs of IPM DVD into Spanish (to be done)
 - Expansion of “An Introduction to IPM in Schools” manual

Future plans and needs:

- They have applied for another EIPM grant and would like to sponsor another IPM and Green Building workshop.
- They are hoping for financial support from the IPM Center because:
 - The group would like to meet more frequently to formulate priorities for the National Strategic Plan
 - The National Strategic Plan calls for the working groups to be sustainable.

Questions and comments:

- PESP program has grants for IPM in schools. (Tom Brennan)
- Is the information on the workshop going to be published? (Mike Weaver) Answer: there is an article to be published in Pest Control Magazine written by Mike Merchant and Rosemary Hallberg

Wednesday, June 25, 2008

IPM Enhancement project: Insect repellents in the management of horn flies (Wes Watson, NCSU)

Dr. Watson presented the results of a 2007 IPM Enhancement grant project involving a strategy called “push-pull” that uses repellants, attractants, antifeedants, pheromones and trap crops. Watson’s group experimented with Neem, Geraniol and Ivermectin to treat cattle for internal parasites for several weeks at a time.

- He originally submitted this project to SARE, but the panel was concerned that geraniol would flavor the milk because it is used in foods and cosmetics as a flavoring.
- The purpose of the Enhancement Grant project was to determine if the geraniol would flavor the milk.
- Treatments were applied every 2 weeks over 12 weeks. Analyzed milk for milk solids, fat and used micro extraction to try to find geraniol in the product.
- The analysis did not detect geraniol in any of the milk samples. The lack of detectable residues in milk would allow geraniol to be considered as a promising natural insect repellent. As a result of this project, Watson’s group received S-RIPM funding of a grant for push-pull fly management for deep bedded swine barns.

Question: how much does geraniol cost? It is a dollar a dose.

Various Enhancement Grants (Ames Herbert, Virginia Tech)

Ames explained that his group has used the funds to pay for stakeholder meetings and develop ways to get impact data and statements.

Examples of projects:

- Pocket Guide for mid-Atlantic insects. The guides have been so popular that they may need to do a second printing.
- They recently received an Enhancement grant to do a pocket guide for stinkbugs.
- Capstone project that ends a 3-year project in cotton funded by Cotton, Inc., focusing on sucking bugs. The project involved predicting damage based on the outside of the boll.

Questions:

- How much did the pocket guide cost? \$14,000 for 10,000 copies.
- Is the pocket guide available on the Web? No, we had copyright issues but we are going to work on it for second one.
- Have you thought about selling the guides? Didn't want to deal with that but wouldn't mind having someone else handle that.
- The Center will look into the issue of marketing publications and how other IPM Centers handle that.

IPM Documents (Mike Weaver, Virginia Tech)

The Virginia IPM Documents projects are combined with state contact project. They have developed a stakeholder network that is linked to VT Pesticide programs, regulatory expertise and contacts, IR-4, PM programs, etc. They also have IPM priorities broken down by category. They have done 7 PMSPs since 2000.

They are also beginning to work on IPM Elements, a guideline or best management IPM practices created by broad stakeholder group. They have a potential for revolutionizing pesticide safety education and IPM programs. Elements include growing practices, pest management practices and safety and storage issues. They are either in the form of a checklist or a scorecard.

Needs for IPM Elements:

- Beekeeping industry
- Christmas tree industry

Other documents:

- IPM handbook for vineyards
- Golf course handbook

Question: have you dealt with Audubon International on golf course? Answer: we haven't yet but probably will.

Harold: when you create the elements, could you create questions that you would ask about how many people are using them? Mike: have close cooperation with groups with elements.

Lora Lee: for crop profiles, there is no clarification about what a section 18 is and clarify that those are not ongoing. Mike: We can include a short warning in the crop profiles about that.

IPM Enhancement Grant project on management of yellowmargined leaf beetle (Henry Fadamiro, Auburn University)

The yellowmargined leaf beetle is an organic vegetable pest of cruciferous crops in SE states. Almost 90% of farmers listed this pest as their number 1 pest.

The project involved:

- Lab and field studies to evaluate some botanicals to see the efficiency of different formulations of *M. anisopliae* F52 and *B. bassiana* GHA.
- Results: In the field, Entrust was the only effective treatment. It is an organic formulation of spinosad. Have to spray every 2 weeks.
- Second objective is to identify the semiochemical cues mediating host location by YMLB. We have been able to get some other small grants and funding from Alabama Ag.

Funding for Working Groups

How, if at all, should we deal with funding for working groups? The bigger question is how, or if, we should fit them into the IPM Enhancement Program.

Issues:

- The other three IPM Centers currently fund working groups under separate RFAs
- Working groups in the beginning started with \$20,000 for 6 commodity organized groups. They developed regional priorities, but there was no accountability. Now each region requires their working groups to submit reports, and the groups have to reapply for funding every year.
- In the Southern region, a working group can get started under Enhancement Grant Part 2, but they can be funded for only one year.
- Therefore, we can't fund the School IPM Working Group or continue funding for Apperson's Tick working group if it lasts beyond this year.

Our proposal:

- To move the working groups into Type 1. They would be a 1-year project, limited funds. So Part 1 would include State Contacts, IPM Docs and Working Groups. That means that theoretically we could fund a working group and lose a state contact depending on the quality of the proposals.

Discussion:

The discussion produced several recommendations for this issue:

- The working group should be on a limited issue for a limited time (Russell Duncan)
- The working group should develop a strategic plan (Carlos)
- The working group should be clearly defined in its purpose and spell out what the deliverables are and what the activities will be. (Ames H.)
- The groups should be issue-based and have specific deliverables (Mark McFarland)
- You should decide how much research and outreach you want out of the working group (Tom Brennan)
- The working group should seek other funding sources as well (Jim V.)
- Perhaps add something that would allow a mid-stride project that could be funded for a second time (Carrie)

Concerns:

- We don't want to fund something forever; it should be done competitively (Clayton)
- We need to make sure the correct panel reviews these proposals (Steve Toth)
- This might take precedence over filling in one of the numbers on the state contact map (Mike Weaver)
- We would be diluting the funds we already have (Ames) Response: there are real expenses when you collaborate, and not everyone has the funds to cover travel.
- We could fund up to 2 a year as a seed grant (Henry)

- We are not asking for any specific project to be funded, but we're asking if we should make a place in our RFA for those proposals to be considered. Right now, a working group that is in its second year doesn't fit into either Part 1 or Part 2.

Friends of IPM

The Friends of IPM award presentations have begun. One for the Kentucky Wheat Science Group held in May went well. The awardees said that even though they originally felt awkward about arranging their own award ceremony, they said that it was the only award presentation in which the rest of their group could participate. They also appreciated receiving the award in front of the Extension specialists and growers that they worked with.

Texas awards will be presented in July, and Jennifer Gillett's award will be presented in August. We are still working on Glades' presentation.