Appendix B.14

B. Purpose and Priorities

The NC-IPM provides support for the continuum of research and extension projects to increase the implementation of IPM. Projects may span the spectrum from development to implementation of new IPM tactics and systems to 1) improve cost benefit analyses when adopting IPM practices; 2) reduce potential human health risks from pests and related management strategies; and 3) minimize adverse environmental effects from pests and related management strategies. Applications must involve one of the following topics or a combination of them. All of the following areas of emphasis have equal priority.

Research Needs – See National Road Map for IPM (May 17, 2004):
http://www.ncipmc.org/IPMRoadMap.pdf

Research needs in IPM range from basic investigations of pest biology to the development of new pest management tactics. This grants program concentrates on many of the problem-solving aspects of IPM including (as identified in the National Roadmap for IPM).

- Develop advanced management tactics for specific settings (e.g., crops, parks, the home, the workplace) that prevent or avoid pest attack.
- Develop economical high-resolution environmental and biological monitoring systems to enhance our capabilities to predict pest incidence, estimate damage, and identify valid action thresholds.
- Develop new diagnostic tools, particularly for plant diseases and for detection of pesticide resistance in pest populations, including weeds.
- Improve action thresholds for vector borne diseases; provide mechanisms for local vector borne disease control agencies to adequately monitor pest populations to predict possible outbreaks and implement low risk approaches to prevent outbreak levels.
- Improve the efficiency of suppression tactics and demonstrate least-cost options and pest management alternatives.
- Develop new delivery methods designed to expand the options for IPM implementation.

Implementation and Adoption of IPM – See National Road Map for IPM (May 17, 2004):
http://www.ncipmc.org/IPMRoadMap.pdf

Agricultural producers, natural resource managers, and homeowners must voluntarily adopt IPM practices for these programs to reach their full potential and the public must have information to fully evaluate and understand these programs (as identified in the National Road Map for IPM). Options for consideration include:

- Develop user incentives for IPM adoption reflecting the value of IPM to society and reduced risks to users. Work with existing risk management programs including federal crop insurance, and incentive programs such as the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP) and other farm program payments to fully incorporate IPM tactics as rewarded practices.

- Provide educational opportunities for IPM specialists to learn new communication skills that enable them to engage new and unique audiences having specific language, location, strategy, or other special needs.
- Create public awareness and understanding of IPM programs and their economic, health and environmental impacts, through education programs in schools, colleges, and the workplace, and through creative use of mass media.
- Leverage federal resources with state and local public and private efforts to implement collaborative projects.
- Ensure a multi-directional flow of pest management information by expanding existing and developing new collaborative relationships with public and private sector cooperators.
- Spotlight successful IPM Programs.

Each proposal must include an evaluation and measurement component (use of the Logic Model is strongly encouraged) to determine the impact of the project.