

## **Appendix B.54**

### **Minutes from NC IPM Center Steering Committee East Lansing, Michigan January 16, 2004**

Members in Attendance: Janet Andersen, Chuck Curtis, Randy Higgins, Al Jennings, William Ravlin, Wendy Wintersteen.

Members Absent: Ann Sorensen

North Central IPM Center Personnel in Attendance: Michael Gray, Lynnae Jess, Larry Olsen, Susan Ratcliffe

The North Central IPM Center Steering Committee meeting was held at the Kellogg Center, East Lansing, Michigan on Friday, January 16, 2004. The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m. by Larry Olsen, Co-Director of the NC IPM Center.

Following introductions, Dr. Olsen presented a PowerPoint presentation entitled: "North Central Integrated Pest Management Center: Goals, Objectives, Management and Grants". The NC IPM Center Mission Statement was discussed and it was suggested that slight wording changes may be made with feedback from the NC IPM Center Advisory Committee. The diversity of the region's crops and stakeholders must be conveyed in the presentation, including food processors, golf courses and urban IPM. The committee suggested members of CARAT should be included in the Center's 2-year review and evaluation.

A brief review of NC IPM Center staff and responsibilities was provided to the Steering Committee.

Dr. Gray led a discussion on the Role of the Steering Committee. Members believe their role is to gather information from stakeholders. State Contacts, IPM Coordinators, Center's Advisory Committee, Working Groups and other state-based representatives can forward stakeholder issues to the Steering Committee. The Center needs to increase the political support for IPM. It was suggested the NC IPM Center explore new partnerships with the IPM School Center at Purdue. The Steering Committee will help develop a strategic plan for outreach to non-traditional stakeholder groups. It was suggested additional non-agricultural based members should be added to the Steering Committee. Dr. Gray will prepare a list of potential members and circulate this information to the Steering Committee for their input. The Steering Committee will review the NC Region IPM Grants RFA, but will not review each proposal. This represents a departure from previous years in which members of NCR-201 reviewed and recommended changes to the RIPM RFA. This change was directed from CSREES to avoid potential conflicts of interest. They will rely on the recommendations of the External Peer Review Panel and will not become involved unless a conflict arises that requires their input. The Steering Committee suggested two face-to-face meetings each year. One of these meetings would try to bring all four IPM Center Steering Committees together to meet jointly and provide a day for each Steering

Committee to meet independently. The other meeting would only include the NC IPM Center Steering Committee, perhaps in conjunction with the Advisory Committee meeting.

The Steering Committee will suggest changes to the Center's year 2 proposal as necessary to meet their recommendations. These changes will be submitted to CSREES in the form of a modified proposal for review. The second year proposal will need to provide a continuation report to CSREES with goals redefined, as necessary.

The NC IPM Center Advisory Committee membership should include approximately 25-30 individuals. Members may be drawn eventually from Working Group Advisory Committees and may include representation from NCR-201, US EPA, NRCS, IR-4, NASS, Water Quality, SARE, PSEP, USDA Forest Service, Regional Plant Diagnostic Network, State Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Independent Crop Consultants, Purdue School IPM Center, Homeland Security Committee, APHIS, Department of Defense, pest control operators and National Foundation for IPM. These individuals should meet as a group for one day and then meet with the Steering Committee the following day on an annual basis.

The Steering Committee believes the GAO report on IPM should be used to foster IPM practices. The National IPM Roadmap is a living document that is currently under review by the Federal IPM Coordinating Committee. It has been suggested changing the document's title to the National IPM Roadmap to Federal Investments in IPM.

The Steering Committee was provided information on the development of Crop Profiles and Pest Management Strategic Plans. A policy should be developed to convey to the members of NCR-201 and the Center State Contacts regarding priority, expertise, review process, funding opportunities and content of these documents. EPA uses the information from these documents to enhance their evaluation of pesticides, but does not have access to other data.

The Steering Committee voted to fund the State Contacts for 1 year at approximately \$25,000. The Committee agreed that crop profiles and strategic plans were important but perhaps should be included in the Center's competitive grants process. The Committee also agreed that a point of contact in each state regarding IPM and pesticide issues was important but agreed to investigate if this role could be the responsibility of each State's IPM Extension Coordinator. The Administrative Advisor of NCR-201 will contact the Experiment Station Directors and/or the Deans and Extension Directors regarding the opportunity for the IPM Coordinators to serve as IPM contacts with the NC IPM Center.

The NCR-201 Committee members will meet April 6-7, 2004 in Indianapolis. A motion was made that the meeting will include official members of NCR-201, committee affiliates, NC IPM Center personnel, Steering Committee members, USDA-CSREES representatives and invited speakers. The motion was passed unanimously. The meeting will focus on the future role of the committee, including clarification of the NC RIPM grants program RFA, NC IPM Center Steering Committee and the new role of the IPM Coordinators with the NCR IPM Center.

The Working Group concept was discussed briefly and it was suggested that solicitation of pre-proposals for a maximum of 3 years would be requested for the development of these groups. Matching funds and partnerships should be strongly encouraged as part of the pre-proposals. This process and program requires further discussion with the Steering Committee prior to the NCR-201 meeting in April.

The meeting was adjourned by Mike Gray at 3:50 p.m.