

## North Central IPM Center Stakeholder Panel

### Minutes

University of Minnesota Arboretum

Chaska, Minnesota

October 29-30, 2008

**Members in Attendance:** Sue Blodgett, Chris Boerboom, Todd DeKryger, Dan Dinelli, Frank Ellis, Mike Fitzner, Rick Foster, Tom Green, Jim Jasinski, Lynnae Jess, Linda Kleinschmit, Greg Lang (for David Epstein), Mary Meyer, Susan Ratcliffe, Ed Ready, Lowell Sandell, Kevin Steffey (for Marlin Rice), Andrew Thostenson, Kelley Tilmon, Wendy Wintersteen, and Bob Wright

**Special Guests:** Mark Ascerno, Mike McDonough, and Bill Wilke

**Members Absent:** Mike Carter, Mark Gleason, Deana Knuteson, Vickie Kujawa, Ian MacRae, Dave Margolies, Tom Novak, Larry Olsen, Peg Perreault, Carol Pilcher, Brad Ruden, and Ann Sorensen

The 2008 annual meeting of the North Central IPM Center Stakeholder Panel was held in Chaska, Minnesota on Wednesday, October 29 and Thursday, October 30, 2008. The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m. on October 29<sup>th</sup>. The agenda was reviewed and approved.

**CSREES Update** - Mike Fitzner, Director of Plant and Animal Systems for the United States Department of Agriculture Cooperative State Research, Education and Extension Service (USDA-CSREES), provided an update on the changes in Smith Lever 3d funding as a result of the 2008 Farm Bill. These changes include the program distributing funds competitively rather than through a formula process and the inclusion of 1890 Institutions. The 406 Integrated Programs were not moved to NRI, but due to language in the 2008 Farm Bill regarding the inclusion of Hispanic serving institutions the request for applications for these programs will be delayed. Other changes as a result of the new Farm Bill are the creation of Research, Education and Extension (REE) and the National Institute of Food and Agriculture.

**EPA Update** – Frank Ellis, National EPA representative, provided an update on activities involving agency stewardship activities and the creation of Pestwise designed to promote environmental stewardship through various grant programs including the Strategic Ag Initiative, Pesticide Environmental Stewardship and Pesticide Registration Improvement Renewal Act (PRIA2).

**Land Grant University Administrative Update** - Wendy Wintersteen, Iowa State University's Dean of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, provided an update on regional Land Grant University administrative issues including Create 21 which is

supported by both ECOP and ESCOP. The reorganization of CSREES and ARS will result in a more inclusive program and \$600,000 million in funding will be provided for this initiative. However, ECOP and EXCOP believe there is still a need to provide a balanced portfolio that includes a mix of competitive and formula-based funding for both research and extension programs.

**NCERA-201 Update** - Bob Wright and Rick Foster, NCERA-201 Chair and Chair-Elect-(incoming March 2009) respectively, provided an update on activities of the NC IPM Coordinating Committee comprised of regional IPM research and Extension faculty. The committee continues to address the goals outlined in their renewal application that includes prioritization of regional IPM needs, increased regional communication about IPM, preparation of annual white papers to raise awareness of important IPM issues, and identification of IPM expertise to provide regional programming in light of the reduced number of research and extension personnel in the North Central region. Bob Wright and Susan Ratcliffe are co-coordinating a session for the 6<sup>th</sup> International IPM Symposium that will focus on the successes of the region's working groups. In addition, the NCERA-201 Committee and the NCIPMC have developed several outreach publications to meet the needs of the region.

**Smith Lever 3d Funding Discussion** - Bob Wright and Rick Foster lead the discussion on the changes for IPM Smith Lever 3d funding including the shift from formula to competitive and the inclusion of the 1890 Institutions. The main concern is the abrupt shift in the funding appropriation process since the formula option ended October 1, 2008 with only about two weeks notice to 1862 Land Grant Institutions and IPM state-based programs. Currently, the IPM community is working to correct Section 7403 of the 2008 Farm Bill that resulted in the funds shifting to competitive distribution. It is hopeful that these efforts will be successful in correcting the legislative mistake. However, since USDA is developing a request for application for the competitive distribution of the Smith Lever 3d IPM funds, the IPM community also is providing input through listening sessions and written comments regarding the process used to award the IPM funds. Several commodity groups and professional societies have written position papers regarding the changes and recommended the return to formula funds. The comment period closes on November 15, 2008 and it is anticipated the request for applications will be released the following week. Proposals will be due around January 5, 2009.

**IPM Symposium Travel Support for IPM Coordinators** – Susan Ratcliffe, Director of the NCIPMC lead a discussion regarding the impact of the current Smith Lever 3d funding changes may have on attendance at the 6<sup>th</sup> International IPM Symposium which will be held in March 2009 in Portland, Oregon. During the October, 2009 Regional IPM Centers Directors' meeting this topic was discussed and suggested that Regional IPM Centers might want to provide funds to assist with travel to the meeting. This information was shared with the Stakeholder Panel and after discussion it was agreed that each state IPM coordinator would be offered up to \$1,000 to assist with travel expenses incurred by a state-based IPM specialist designated by the IPM coordinators. The funds to cover this non-budgeted expense will come from the 2008 mini-grant program.

**Overview of NCIPMC Activities** - Susan Ratcliffe and Lynnae Jess, Director and Associate Director of the NCIPMC respectively, provided an overview of Center's new programming efforts and personnel changes. As Director of the NCIPMC, Susan is responsible for the day-to-day management and oversight of Center activities and grant programs. Lynnae Jess, Associate Director of the NCIPMC has assumed new responsibilities including liaison to the NCIPMC Working Groups. Mike Gray resigned his position as Co-Director to pursue new projects. Larry Olsen, Co-Director of the NCIPMC has provided oversight for the one year no cost extension activities on the previous Center grant. Mike Greifenkamp is employed part-time to provide information technology support and web development. Scott Martin is our part-time communication and marketing specialist. We also have a part-time administrative assistant, Kris Ritter, who assists with account management and coordination of NCIPMC related meetings and grant panels. The NCIPMC continues to promote IPM adoption in many diverse areas and collaborates on numerous regional and national projects including the 1994/1862 Tribal IPM project, HUD Healthy Homes project, Growing Green Lawns publications and public awareness campaign, the SCRI proposal to standardize IPM, ipmPIPE project, the display at the U.S. Botanic Gardens, recovery and transition plans in collaboration with the Office of Pest Management Policy, and evaluation and measurement activities.

**Overview of Final Year of NCIPMC Grant** – Lynnae Jess, Associate Director of NCIPMC, provided an update on the final year of the 2003-2007 NCIPMC grant. The final invoices and reports are being processed.

**North Central SARE Update** – Bill Wilke, Program Coordinator, provided an overview of regional SARE activities and grants programs. Discussion followed regarding opportunities for collaboration.

**Working Group Updates** - Working Group updates were provided for eight of the ten groups currently funded by the NCIPMC. Following the updates, the Stakeholder Panel indicated strong support for continued funding for this program. During FY08, the NCIPMC will provide approximately \$300,000 for support of working groups.

**IPM3** – Mark Ascerno and Mike McDonough, University of Minnesota, provided an update on their development of training modules to assist governmental officials implement IPM on public and governmentally controlled property. This project has received funding from USDA and the NCRIPM grants programs.

**Golf Course Superintendents' Association IPM Efforts** – Dan Dinelli, Superintendent of the North Shore Golf and Country Club, provided an overview of efforts to evaluate the use of IPM in golf course settings and many successes in IPM implementation.

**NCIPMC Grants Management Portfolio Discussion** – The Panel discussed the current grant opportunities provided by the NCIPMC. It was agreed to continue providing current funding levels of \$100,000 to the on-going mini-grants program and \$300,000 to the region working group grants program.

The process for identifying North Central region IPM stakeholder priorities was discussed and the panel agreed an annual review together with the ability to add new and emerging issues, as needed, was an effective method. Each year, the NCIPMC Steering Committee will discuss allocation of NCIPMC funds to the internal grants programs that now include the working groups and mini-grants programs. Availability of additional funds should be communicated broadly throughout the region, as well as any funding opportunities using the NC IPM Administrators, NCERA-201 members and the NCIPMC Stakeholder Panel list serve.

**Future meetings** - The dates for the next face-to-face Stakeholder Panel meeting are Wednesday, October 14 and Thursday, October 15, 2009. The panel suggested conducting this meeting at the University of Illinois.

**Turning Point Technology IPM Survey Pilot Project** – Susan Ratcliffe provided an update on the project. Carol Pilcher has resigned from Iowa State University and accepted a position at Monsanto. As a result of this change, the pilot project will be administered through the NCIPMC until an alternative approach is developed. The pilot project will ask program participants to continue to ask the standard three questions, but additional questions and testing approaches (pre and post tests, etc.) will be selected by participants. This will allow greater flexibility for states while still maintaining data aggregation options.

**Pesticide Evaluation Tool Project** – Tom Green, President of the IPM Institute of America, provided an overview of the new tool under development to assist in pesticide selection. This project is funded through a grant from NRCS. The pilot project is for apples and uses google earth to map sites. The NRCS soil survey provides acreage and soil type information to assist with analyzing mitigation measures and selection of site specific compounds.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m. on Thursday, October 30, 2008.