



IPM Training Taken to Heart

In the current environment of documenting accountability, it has become essential to determine the impact that programs have on participants. Describing outcomes from extension programs is often a challenge. The School Integrated Pest Management (IPM) program at Iowa State University has been able to track outputs and outcomes from a recent workshop in the Midwest.

In March 2004, a 3-day workshop, funded by an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Pesticide Environmental Stewardship Program grant, was held at Iowa State University to provide materials to initiate and perpetuate school IPM programs. The “teachers” were from states where School IPM Programs had been implemented and the “students” were from states where implementation of School IPM was either nonexistent or just developing. The approach for presentations and discussions was to not only provide information, but also to develop networking opportunities between participants. Thirty-four people from ten states and two EPA regions participated in the training.



Participants in the regional School IPM Training Program

Participants in the School Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Program

Dugan L. Bad Warrior, Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe, South Dakota

Donald Baumgartner, EPA Region V

Joe Bennett, Grandview Consolidated #4 Schools, Missouri

Gary Boutz, Kansas Department of Agriculture

Clifford Burke, Leavenworth Schools, Kansas

Mark Burns, Dubuque Community Schools, Iowa

Jean Ciborowski, Minnesota Department of Agriculture

Bobby Corrigan, RMC Pest Management Consultants

Darrell Deneke, South Dakota State University

Sharon Dobesh, Kansas State University

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Jim Ellerhoff, Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship
 Al Fournier, Purdue University, Indiana
 Judy Grundler, Missouri Department of Agriculture
 George Haws, Cooperative Extension, University of Nebraska
 Bruce Hokel, Iowa Department of Public Health
 Maureen Hunt, EPA Region VII
 Howard Johnson, Fredonia USD 484, Kansas
 Shripat Kamble, University of Nebraska-Lincoln
 Patricia Kandziora, Wisconsin Dept. of Agriculture, Trade & Consumer Protection
 Mark K. Leshner, EPA Region VII
 Michael Merchant, Texas A&M University
 Dave Minner, Iowa State University
 Clyde Ogg, University of Nebraska-Lincoln
 Shelly Peterson, Iowa Department of Natural Resources
 Carol Pilcher, Iowa State University
 Rachel Rosenberg, Safer Pest Control Project, Illinois
 Susan Schoneweis, University of Nebraska-Lincoln
 Mark Shour, Iowa State University
 Brad Smith, Iowa Pest Management Association
 Mike Thomas, Fredonia USD 484, Kansas
 Russell Thompson, Missouri Center for Safe Schools
 Matt Westgate, Iowa State University
 Jim Wilson, South Dakota State University
 Doug Woodley, West Des Moines Community Schools, Iowa



Participants listening to Bobby Corrigan during Ames High School Food Service tour.



Participants outside the small dishwashing area.

An electronic tool kit from this training event, including workshop notes, presentation slides, and video, were posted to ISU's new School IPM Web site (<http://school.ipm.iastate.edu>) in April 2004. This site had 29,270 total pages viewed from April 2004 through March 2005. Of these visits, 565 visits were made to the Midwest School IPM Workshop web site.

In addition, an email survey was sent to each participant in April 2005, approximately 1 year after this in-depth training event. Fifteen of the original 34 attendees re-

sponded (44%). Some of the results from the survey were:

- 100% of respondents had visited the ISU School IPM Web site, with most referring another person to the site during the year. Eighty percent of respondents also visited other school IPM Web sites.
- Materials were printed off (67% respondents) the ISU Web site or listened to archived video presentations (47% respondents).
- Almost all of the respondents reviewed materials received at the workshop (87%) and carefully studied one or more aspects of school IPM (93%).
- The network interaction between colleagues in other states continued during the year for 87% of respondents.
- Respondents had met one or more times with key persons in their state about school IPM (87%).

- Many of the detailed aspects of school IPM implementation (pesticide use survey, policy statements, checklists, facility audits, landscape audits, new pest control contract, pilot programs, and Web site) had been conducted by respondents.
- Many presentations on school IPM had been given in the Midwest since the train-the-trainer workshop.

Several outcomes were evident from the workshop:

- Judy Grundler (MO Department of Agriculture) used the knowledge she obtained to develop and receive an EPA Region 7 grant for \$40,000. "Implementing Integrated Pest Management Practices in Missouri Schools." Judy Grundler and Russ Thompson (MO Center for Safe Schools) will be working together to reach the 525 public school districts in Missouri with IPM. A summary of their project is listed in a newsletter [<http://www.umkc.edu/education/safe-school/documents/Nov04nl.doc> (page 3)].



Nonperishable food is stored off the floor using cement blocks and wood planks. The blocks create harborage areas and the wood can absorb food spills to provide nourishment for pests.

- Jim Wilson, Darrell Deneke and Dugan Bad Warrior used the knowledge gained from the workshop to encourage implementation of school IPM in two tribal schools in South Dakota. In an effort to expand interest in School IPM training, a set of school IPM videos and workbooks from Texas A&M and Iowa State University Extension school IPM newsletters were provided to additional tribal schools (December 1, 2004).
- Howard Johnson and Mike Thomas of the United School District 484, Fredonia, Kansas, used their workshop experience to conduct a landscape audit for all five properties in the district, the beginning of a landscape IPM program for the school district.
- Sharon Dobesh (KSU) used the information gained at the workshop for a presentation on school IPM to the Kansas Association of Directors of Plant Facilities, where she received ten requests for follow-up information. Sharon Dobesh also received requests for interior/facility audits in several districts.
- Mark Leshner (EPA Region VII) shared his new knowledge on school IPM with a planning committee for the 1st Annual Healthy Indoor Environments Conference. Mark Shour was asked to present on the school IPM program in Iowa at this conference on September 2004, in Kansas City, Kansas.
- One of the speakers, Mark Burns, had participated in an earlier Iowa State University Extension school IPM training (July 2003). Mr. Burns took the training to heart and became an active supporter of the program. His school district, Dubuque Community Schools, Dubuque, IA, was the 11th in the nation to receive STAR status from the IPM Institute of America (December 2004). This school system also was given a "2005 Children's Environmental Health Recognition Award" by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

This survey provided Iowa State University Extension with a unique perspective on the outcomes of one in-depth workshop. As a result of this workshop, school IPM has been initiated in several Midwest states.