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Michigan State University's Putting the Farm Bill to Work Project

Mike Brewer, Michigan's IPM Coordinator and Joy Landis, Michigan's Assistant IPM Coordinator, located at Michigan State University collaborated with Larry Elworth from the Center for Agricultural Partnerships and numerous Michigan commodity organizations to form the Putting the Farm Bill to Work Project. The goal of the project is to increase IPM adoption by encouraging specialty growers to apply to the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) administered by the National Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). The EQIP program offers incentive payments to participants for adoption of IPM practices, erosion control, water conservation, and nutrient management. Extension agents, USDA NRCS staff and commodity/industry representatives joined together to assist growers in participating in the program. In 2004, Michigan growers in five pilot counties who implement a variety of conservation practices will receive over \$1.6 million during the next three years. For more information regarding this project, please visit www.ipm.msu.edu/farmbill.htm and www.agcenter.org.

Michigan's 2004 NRCS EQIP Funding Structure

\$3.00 per acre for field crops (2005 proposal: \$4.00 per acre)

\$10.00 per acre for vegetable crops (2005 proposal: \$30.00 per acre)

\$20.00 per acre for fruit, nursery, and Christmas tree crops (2005 proposal: \$55.00 per acre)

Partners in the Putting the Farm Bill to Work Project

- MSU IPM Program
- The Center for Agricultural Partnerships
- MSU Extension
- Project GREEN
- Natural Resources Conservation Service
- The Joyce Foundation
- Environmental Protection Agency
- American Farmland Trust
- Cherry Marketing Institute
- Michigan Asparagus Advisory Board
- Gerber Products
- Michigan Apple Committee
- Michigan Nursery and Landscape Association



North Central Region IPM Center IPM Implementation Grants

Closing date: January 28, 2005

The NC-IPM Center provides support for the continuum of IPM demonstration and implementation projects or measurement of adoption of new IPM tactics and systems. Applications must involve one or more of the following topics. All of the following areas of emphasis have equal priority. Applicants should include how the project will be evaluated to determine if it is helping advance IPM and implementation of the IPM Roadmap.

Economics/Risk Assessment for IPM Systems

Key decisions about using IPM involve questions of economical, biological, and ecological benefits, time requirements, and production risks. Extension and demonstration projects should quantify their contribution to improved economic viability of the production system and/or to the reduction of risk to users, consumers, farm operations, or the environment.

Alternatives to Pesticides in Pest Management Systems

Many pest management systems remain dependent on pesticides. It is important to identify how the alternative strategies could fit into systems. A multi-tactic and/or multi-disciplinary approach should be considered to enhance the development of comprehensive pest management systems. An objective is to reduce reliance on pesticides. Applications that focus solely on the development and/or evaluation of chemical pesticides will not be considered for funding.

Alternative Production Systems

Projects should emphasize implications of alternatives to conventional production systems. There is a need to demonstrate and implement IPM systems where alternative approaches are important to the overall profitability, risk reduction, and environmental impacts.

Decision and Diagnostic Tools

Innovative decision and diagnostic tools are urgently needed that are easily used, yet generate reliable pest management decisions.

Pest Detection, Identification, and/or Monitoring

Innovative approaches for pest detection, identification, and monitoring are needed for better site-specific management programs. The ultimate goal is implementation of assessment and monitoring techniques that are both practical at the field level and cost effective.

Measurement of IPM Adoption

Evaluating IPM implementation and adoption has not kept pace with development of IPM tactics and strategies. Measurement on IPM implementation and adoption must include measurement of economic and social constraints in IPM adoption. A relevant question is, "What can be done to enhance adoption?" There is a need to identify points in users' decisions where education, social dynamics, incentives, and regulation could encourage IPM adoption.

For more information, please visit <http://www.ncipmc.org/extrfa/index.html>

Other Regional and National Funding Opportunities

Integrated Pest Management Collaborative Research Support Program (IPM CRSP)

Closing date for PPGs and Impact Assessment (IA) GTP: Jan. 20, 2005

Announcement of Selections for PPGs and IA GTP: March 1, 2005

Closing date for RPs and GTPs: June 1, 2005

Announcement of Selections for RPs and GTPs: Aug. 1, 2005

For more information, please visit <http://www.ag.vt.edu/ipmcrsp/index.asp>

National Research Initiative: Biology of Weedy and Invasive Plants

Closing date: January 7, 2005

For more information, please visit <http://www.csrees.usda.gov/fo/fundview.cfm?fonum=1123>

National Research Initiative: Managed Ecosystems

Closing date: January 10, 2005

For more information, please visit <http://www.csrees.usda.gov/fo/fundview.cfm?fonum=1104>

National Research Initiative: Agricultural Plant Biochemistry

Closing date: January 11, 2005

For more information, please visit <http://www.csrees.usda.gov/fo/fundview.cfm?fonum=1115>

National Research Initiative: Developmental Processes of Crop Plants

Closing date: January 11, 2005

For more information, please visit <http://www.csrees.usda.gov/fo/fundview.cfm?fonum=1116>

FQPA/Strategic Agricultural Initiative Program Grants

Closing date: February 1, 2005

For more information, please visit http://www.aftresearch.org/grant/grant_info.php

National Research Initiative: Arthropod and Nematode Gateways to Genomics

Closing date: February 1, 2005

For more information, please visit <http://www.csrees.usda.gov/fo/fundview.cfm?fonum=1072>

National Research Initiative: Interagency Microbial Genome Sequencing Program

Closing date: February 4, 2005

For more information, please visit <http://www.csrees.usda.gov/fo/fundview.cfm?fonum=1108>

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NRI: Maize Genome Sequencing Project: A NSF/DOE/USDA Joint Program

Closing date: February 18, 2005

For more information, please visit <http://www.csrees.usda.gov/fo/fundview.cfm?fonum=1300>

Biotechnology Risk Assessment Research Grants Program

Closing date: February 24, 2004

For more information, please visit <http://www.csrees.usda.gov/fo/fundview.cfm?fonum=1075>

National Research Initiative: Watershed Processes and Water Resources

Closing date: March 1, 2005

For more information, please visit <http://www.csrees.usda.gov/fo/fundview.cfm?fonum=1135>

Integrated Organic Program

Closing date: May 2, 2005

For more information, please visit <http://www.csrees.usda.gov/fo/fundview.cfm?fonum=1141>

National Research Initiative: Functional Genomics of Agriculturally Important Organisms

Closing date: June 15, 2005

For more information, please visit <http://www.csrees.usda.gov/fo/fundview.cfm?fonum=1091>

Diabrotica Conference

An International Conference on *Diabrotica* Genetics was held December 13–15, 2004 in Kansas City, Missouri. Organizers of the conference were Thomas Sappington, USDA-ARS Corn Insects & Crop Genetics Research Unit, Iowa State University, Blair Siegfried, Department of Entomology, University of Nebraska—Lincoln, and Thomas Guillemaud, National Institute for Agricultural Research, Universite de Nice—Sophia Antipolis. Participants included European researchers from Albania, Croatia, France, Germany, Hungary, and Romania. North American researchers and Extension Specialists from Canada and the United States also were in attendance. Representatives from several governmental agencies such as the Environmental Protection Agency, USDA—Agricultural Research Services, USDA—Integrated Pest Management Centers participated in the conference, as well as individuals from the private sector.

To learn more about the International Conference on *Diabrotica* Genetics and the *Diabrotica* Genetics Consortium, please contact Thomas Sappington via email (tsapping@iastate.edu) or by phone at (515) 294-9759.

Soybean Rust Identification Card Now Available

A Soybean Rust Identification Card has been developed by USDA, APHIS, Land-Grant Universities in cooperation with NC-504, the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food, and the Soybean Check-off Board. Drs. Anne Dorrance, The Ohio State University, Loren Giesler, University of Nebraska, and Claude Knighten from APHIS provided leadership for this project. If you wish to receive copies of the ID card, please contact your state's Soybean Plant Pathologist. The ID card also is available for download at <http://www.ncipmc.org/soyrust.pdf>. Please be patient, it take a while for the file to download due to the resolution of the images in the file. Funding for this project was provide by USDA APHIS.