

## Literature Review, Previous Work, and Related Experience

The Maryland Information Network for Pesticides and Alternative Strategies (MINPAS) has functioned for the past four years as a network to gather and distribute information on pest management and pesticide use. Faculty and staff of the Maryland Cooperative Extension IPM and Pesticide Education and Assessment Program units have cooperated informally to facilitate the project, which has been led by the PEAP Coordinator. Key elements of Maryland's network (MINPAS) over the previous grant-funded period include the following.

### **Organization and cooperation**

An Advisory Committee (Appendix A), comprised of a diverse group of interests, was established to direct and review the activities of MINPAS. The Advisory Committee constitutes representatives from Maryland Cooperative Extension, the Maryland Department of Agriculture, grower interests from both conventional and alternative agriculture, and environmentally-oriented non-profits.

The Coordinators of the PEAP, IR-4 (Minor Use Pesticide Program), and IPM Programs all were appointed in the Department of Entomology at the University of Maryland. During the previous grant period, the Coordinators worked closely on projects and issues of significance to all programs. The programs are already strongly linked, with both formal and informal avenues of communication. Contact has been maintained through electronic mail and telephone communication, regular faculty meetings, and frequent personal contact. Beginning in 2000 and continuing annually, the Maryland PEAP has contributed year-end reports to the University of Maryland IPM Progress Report as an allied program. In 2004, designation of Ms. Sandra Sardanelli and Ms. Carol Holko as co-PDs significantly strengthened the cooperation between these units. The principals met formally in January and October of 2004, and maintained contact throughout the year by frequent email, telephone, and informal office visits.

In June 2004, the University of Maryland SNP leaders met with the Entomology Department Chair and IPM Faculty and staff to consider the direction of the Maryland IPM Program and to propose and discuss a re-structuring around core functions. This re-structuring, with modest new investment, is seen as an attempt to position Maryland IPM for increased support and thereby continue its innovative, highly popular and increasingly self-supporting service to the state. This group submitted an Extension Initiative "White Paper" to the Dean of the College of Agriculture.

During its first three years, MINPAS was a member of the Mid-Atlantic Information Network for Pesticides and Alternative Strategies (MAinPAS). MAinPAS constituted the State Network Projects for New Jersey (which coordinated the work of the group), Delaware, New York, West Virginia, and Maryland. To facilitate project communication, NJinPAS set up a closed listserv for the Mid-Atlantic Information Network for Pesticides & Alternative Strategies (MAinPAS) as "MAinPAS Partners." During the previous grant period, members used the MAinPAS Partners listserv to transmit meeting minutes; announce and coordinate pesticide surveys, crop profiles, and pest management strategy plans; and to announce the monthly release of state newsletters including Maryland's *Pesticide Notes*. Although MAinPAS was formally disbanded in 2004, the states in the midAtlantic region continue to maintain close contact and to cooperate in much

the same way as they did previously. Information generated is still transmitted to each of the midAtlantic states, web sites have been linked, and SNP directors met to discuss progress and common objectives during the 2004 TriAgency Meeting in Dewey Beach, Delaware.

### **Information collection and dissemination**

MINPAS distributed the monthly newsletter *Agricultural Chemical News* to Extension personnel in 2003 to assist them in making pest management recommendations. The newsletter concentrates on product developments in the U.S. agricultural chemical industry.

The IPM coordinator, as a member of the College of Agriculture Emergency/Agro Security Focus Team, prepared 5 “Agro Tip Sheets” (brief fact sheets on emerging pest management issues in Maryland). These sheets were reviewed by the co-PD at MDA and submitted for Focus Team Director’s use. Tip sheets include: plum pox virus, sudden oak death, marmorated stink bug, soybean rust, and emerald ash borer.

Maryland IPMC SNP Leaders are contacts for the National Sudden Oak Death Program in the state team effort (MDA, Home and Garden Information Center, Master Gardeners Program, MCE IPM Specialists, Maryland Components of the Northeast Plant Diagnostic Network). Ongoing components include diagnostic lab activities, web based information contacts ([http://www.hgic.umd.edu/sod/sod\\_news.htm](http://www.hgic.umd.edu/sod/sod_news.htm)), training sessions and conference presentations for Master Gardeners, Extension specialists and stakeholders.

Maryland set up its own home pages for IPM (<http://www.agnr.umd.edu/users/nrsl/entm/>) and MINPAS (<http://pesticide.umd.edu>), with links between the two, as well as links to the MAinPAS web page. These sites serve as the primary information dissemination methods, although print media and oral presentations are also important methods of delivery. The sites provide access to the SNP’s primary information dissemination media *PestNet*, *Pesticide Notes*, and *Just-in-Time Info*, and allow users to self-subscribe to each of the free services (see below). Web site statistics for FFY 2004 show 67,073 hits on the PEAP site. Within the site, the top locations accessed included *Pesticide Notes* and *Just-in-Time Pesticide Info* (see below).

The MINPAS site has been undergoing revision throughout 2004. The newly designed site will be better integrated with the web site for the University of Maryland Department of Entomology, which serves as the home unit for both PEAP and IPM in Maryland. Navigation throughout the site has been significantly redesigned, resulting in a more user-friendly interface. Changes to incorporate required elements for SNPs were requested in June 2004 and are being implemented. The changes include adding a link to the Northeastern IPM Center, providing contact information for the program and project leader, and adding date of site creation and last update. University administrative responsibilities for the web designers have created delays in implementation.

One of the regular postings to the MINPAS web site is the monthly newsletter, *Pesticide Notes*. This publication, issued in electronic form only, addresses topical issues surrounding pesticides. The newsletter concentrates on new regulations and policies; safety, health, and environmental issues; and other new pesticide developments (example, Appendix B).

Throughout 2004, MINPAS continued to use the *Just-In-Time Pesticide Info* listserv to provide notice to Maryland stakeholders on pesticide issues. Many of the items currently published in the newsletter, *Pesticide Notes*, are time-sensitive, particularly requests for comment on proposed regulatory actions. Subscribers to the service are notified of upcoming pesticide policy-related meetings; requests for comment on proposed actions such as cancellations, restrictions, or changes in registrations; and other time-sensitive pesticide issues within days of receipt of the notice at the MINPAS office. Being on the free Listserv maximizes the time subscribers have to plan for meetings, learn about possible actions, or prepare comments. In FY 2004, twenty-eight *Just-In-Time Pesticide Info* notices were sent to subscribers (Appendix C).

In the summer of 2004, the SNP Project Investigator met with Mss. Claire Gesalman and Carol Stangel of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Ms. Gesalman and Ms. Claire are responsible for issuing public pesticide information and soliciting feedback from stakeholders. Over the past several years, MINPAS has incorporated the information sent out by EPA in the frequent OPP Reports into the MINPAS-distributed *Pesticide Notes* and *Just-in-Time Pesticide Info*. However, the information is not always received from EPA in a form that is easily transmissible to stakeholders. The purpose of the meeting was to improve communication between SNPs and EPA with the ultimate goal of improving stakeholder input into pesticide regulatory and policy decisions within the Agency. The MINPAS Coordinator solicited suggestions from other MAINPAS states prior to the meeting. The meeting resulted in a series of suggested improvements (Appendix D), and the MINPAS Coordinator informed other states in the northeast region of the results of the meeting through the NE IPMC *via* email. Subsequently, Ms. Gesalman and Ms. Stangel were invited to make a presentation to the northeastern region states during the 2004 TriAgency meeting held in Dewey Beach, Delaware in October of 2004.

### **Pesticide and pest management needs analysis**

Links have been established and maintained between federal partners and agricultural researchers, extension specialists, and other stakeholders to ensure information on pest management practices can be made available to federal partners in a timely manner in response to issues raised by FQPA or other regulatory decisions. In keeping with the expressed wishes of the Advisory Committee, no meeting was held in 2004, but members were kept informed through email and the U.S. mail. A report of SNP accomplishments (Appendix E) was sent to the MINPAS Advisory Committee in the fall of 2004. Members were solicited for suggestions on future improvements to the program.

MINPAS has provided the mechanism by which to request information from primary sources and to transmit it back to federal agencies including USDA and U.S. EPA. Requests for information on pesticide use and needs in Maryland have been transmitted by the MINPAS Project Director to Extension faculty, consultants, and other appropriate individuals and groups. Pesticides addressed through this process in FY 2004 included simazine, thiram, 2,4-D, ferbam, captan, and cycloate.

Pest management and pesticide-related information, publications, and reports were circulated to

Maryland pesticide researchers and Extension personnel. Two days of In-Service Training annually for Maryland Extension agents and specialists conducted by the Maryland PEAP have provided an update on pesticide issues. The purpose was to ensure that Extension personnel have the most current information on pesticides, pest management, and alternative strategies before they begin planning grower meetings, plant clinics, recertification meetings, and other opportunities for interaction with producers, dealers, crop consultants, etc. These meetings typically are clustered during the late fall and winter months when field work is not ongoing. Information and training tools presented during In-Service help them to keep their clientele informed. Extension educators use the meetings to educate clientele on new pesticides and/or new uses; new alternatives to control pests; new pest management thresholds, sampling techniques, and strategies; and new policies on pesticides and pest management. In-Service Training sessions serve as a means to distribute new and revised leaflets, bulletins, teaching tools, etc. so that Extension faculty can transmit the information easily to their own clientele. The agenda typically includes both safety and regulatory/policy information. At the 2004 In-Service Training, a session on State Network Project accomplishments and goals was included on the agenda (Appendix F). The report of SNP accomplishments referred to above (Appendix E) was disseminated during the meeting. Discussion was led by the Maryland SNP Project Coordinator and the co-PD / IPM Coordinator).

The IPM Coordinator met with the MCE Assistant Dean of Programs for Fall 2004 and Winter 2005 advisory sessions. These sessions planned IPM Coordinator and IPM Specialist participation in two MCE In-service Training Programs to inform and prepare regional and county level personnel for IPMC participation and provide presentations on pest management updates. The IPM Coordinator also met with an MCE Critical Issues Working Group (MCE Plant Diagnostic Laboratory, Regional IPM Specialist and County Educator) to discuss and plan proposal submission for IPMC Critical Issues.

Maryland is not currently leading any crop profile development or SPMPs. However, MINPAS does solicit participation by campus and field faculty and other stakeholders to participate in projects led by surrounding states. In 2004, two Extension field agents responded positively to a request for participation in the pickle SPMP led by Delaware.

### **Objectives**

1. Serve as the primary information source for federal and state regulatory agencies and other agencies regarding use and usage of all IPM tactics, including pesticides, in all IPM settings in the state.
2. Serve as a liaison among the NE IPMC, the land grant institution, and other key agencies in the state.
3. Enhance knowledge of IPM components, and promote informed decision-making by state clientele.

### **Procedures**

MINPAS will serve as the primary information source for federal and state regulatory agencies and other agencies regarding use and usage of all IPM tactics, including pesticides, in all IPM settings throughout the state. MINPAS will consistently respond in a timely fashion to requests for information from these agencies. MINPAS will coordinate the activities of the PEAP and IPM programs in the state through a formal linkage of the Project Director and two co-Directors, exponentially increasing networking and team-building potential between traditional and non-traditional IPM stakeholders. The membership of the existing MINPAS Advisory Committee will be reviewed and reappointed, if appropriate, and additional representatives may be added. The Advisory Committee will be kept apprized of new developments, and will be asked for comment at least once during the project year.

Particulars of how objectives will be accomplished are described below.

1. Serve as the primary information source on use and usage of all IPM tactics, including pesticides

1. Upon receipt of a request for information from USDA or other state or federal agencies, MINPAS will direct the request to appropriate parties within the state. These parties may include Extension field and campus faculty, consultants, individual growers, grower cooperatives, personnel at other state agencies, and other appropriate individuals or groups. MINPAS will assist in gathering information necessary for informed decisions at the state and federal levels.
2. MINPAS will continue to solicit cooperators for Crop Profile or Pest Management Strategic Plan projects being conducted in the mid-Atlantic states in 2005. Two Extension field agents will participate in the pickle SPMP to be led by Delaware. The PD's will encourage other appropriate entities in Maryland to take the lead in these types of projects. Solicitation will be made through email and through a formal presentation during the 2005 In-Service Training.

2. Serve as a liaison

3. The IPM and PEAP Program Directors have coordinated inter-agency IPM related activities and state reports for the previous three years. These activities will continue. Additionally, the IPM and PEAP Programs will combine efforts, thereby consolidating and maximizing organizational efforts to
  - represent IPM interests via increasing information transfer to and from the NE IPMC in regards to stakeholder involvement in IPM decision making thereby increasing the opportunities for successful IPM implementation;
  - identify and familiarize non-profit and consumer groups with the NE IPMC mission via direct contact, project development, and IPM listserv membership;
  - directly and/or indirectly inform and encourage Maryland Cooperative Extension (MCE) personnel, state agencies, non-profit organizations and stake-

holders regarding knowledge of and participation in the NE IPMC Working Groups, Crop Profiles and Pest Management Strategic Plan activities;

-- identify additional MCE resources to strengthen and expand existing stakeholder partnerships.

4. One of the three co-PDs will attend the Northeastern IPMC meeting in 2005 to report on progress and discuss future developments.
5. The PEAP Coordinator / MINPAS Project Director will serve as the principal liaison to federal and state agencies and to the land grant institution on pesticide issues.
6. The Extension IPM Coordinator will serve as the principal liaison to federal and state agencies and to the land grant institution on IPM.
7. The MINPAS Project Director will serve as principal liaison to MAinPAS and will attend the yearly meeting of the group to report on progress and plan for future developments.
8. IPM and pesticide issues will be brought to the attention of state regulators directly through presentation to the MDA Pesticide Advisory Committee.
9. MINPAS principals will encourage and participate in the initiation of additional IPM networking/team building strategies among interested IPM entities within Maryland, to facilitate active engagement in NE IPMC partnership projects. Discussion of goals and possible strategies will be held during the 2005 In-Service Training.

### 3. Enhance knowledge of IPM and promote informed decision-making

10. The existing MINPAS web site will be maintained and enhanced. Both the Maryland IPM and the PEAP web sites are integral parts of the site and are interlinked to the MINPAS site so that clientele can receive information seamlessly. Many of the components described in the 2004 grant guidance are already in place or are currently being added. As is common at many universities, web support at the universities is less than desirable, and priorities are largely determined by higher level administrators. Three web site developers at the University of Maryland are currently working on upgrading the MINPAS and IPM sites, and this will continue into 2005 until the sites are fully in compliance with required elements under the grant. The co-PDs will continue to work together to improve the web sites.

· A report of IPM programs in the state will be produced and posted on the IPM web site. Visitors to the site will continue to be able to access information on the use and usage of all IPM tactics in all IPM settings in the state. Maryland programs and reports, IPM Program events, special topics, links topical to general IPM tactics and strategies, and regional issues will be priorities.

· The PEAP web site will continue to provide information and links on pesticide use,

policy and regulations, as well as safe use of pesticides, a component of many IPM programs. The newsletter *Pesticide Notes* will be posted on the PEAP web site.

- The Project Director and co-PDs will offer presentations during the year on a variety of topics related to IPM, pesticides, and initiatives of the NE IPMC. Campus and field faculty at the University of Maryland will provide information through plant clinics, pesticide certification and recertification meetings, short courses, and other venues.
- Extension specialists, pesticide applicators, pest management consultants, health care providers, and other clientele will be updated on pesticide regulations and policy developments through electronic distribution of the newsletter, *Pesticide Notes*. MINPAS will review sources of information including federal resources, professional journals, and other states' newsletters in order to stay current and transmit the information to clientele within the state through *Pesticide Notes*.
- Clientele will be informed of opportunities for input into pesticide regulatory and policy decisions through implementation of *Just-In-Time Pesticide Info*, the electronic listserv-based information delivery system designed to inform interested parties within one to a few days. MINPAS will maintain a subscription to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's *OPP Update* and other electronic and print services in order to stay current and transmit the information to clientele within the state through *Just-In-Time Pesticide Info*.
- MINPAS will distribute the monthly newsletter *Agricultural Chemical News* to Extension personnel to assist them in making pest management recommendations.
- In September 2005, the PEAP Coordinator will offer an In-Service Training session for Extension faculty on pesticide issues. Representatives from MDA will be included as presenters. Extension personnel will be updated on pesticide regulations and policies, new initiatives for the next growing season, and teaching materials so that Agents and Specialists can extend the information to their own clientele. A session devoted to MINPAS objectives will be included, and the session will serve as a leading forum for exchange of input between project co-PDs and field faculty within Maryland Extension.
- MINPAS will maintain an email list of appropriate State regulatory personnel, as well as the USDA-APHIS State Plant Health Director, to provide a direct conduit for information exchange from MINPAS and the NE IPMC to the regulatory community.

### **Probable Duration**

### **Evaluation Plans**

As the project develops, the MINPAS Advisory Committee will monitor progress and evaluate success. Marks of progress will include successful transmission of information to stakeholders *via* newsletter and Just-In-Time subscriptions; availability of pest management information on-line; and use of the IPM and PEAP web sites.

### **Cooperation and Institutional Units Involved**

The PEAP, IPM, and pesticide regulatory units in Maryland Cooperative Extension (MCE) and the Maryland Department of Agriculture (MDA) will maintain the close cooperation developed under the restructuring of MINPAS in 2004. The MINPAS and Maryland IPM web sites will be linked more closely, and sections will be co-planned by the Project Director and co-Principal Directors (PDs). Dr. Amy Brown, PEAP Coordinator, will direct MINPAS, maintain the MINPAS web site, serve as liaison to the land grant institution and other key agencies in the state on pesticide issues, and maintain contact and coordination of the overall program with the other states in the mid-Atlantic region (Delaware, New Jersey, New York, and West Virginia). Approximately 20% of Dr. Brown's time will be devoted to this project. Ms. Sandra Sardanelli, IPM Coordinator, MCE, will serve as liaison to the NE IPMC, the land grant institution, and other key agencies in the state on IPM issues. Ms. Carol Holko, IPM, MDA will be the principal liaison between branches of MDA and other state agencies dealing with IPM and pesticide issues. Although Ms. Sardanelli will have technical responsibility for maintaining the Maryland IPM web site, both Ms. Sardanelli and Ms. Holko will provide extensive input to the site from their respective agencies. Approximately 10% of Mss. Sardanelli's and Holko's time will be devoted to this project.

The three principals will meet at least twice during the funded year to assess progress and discuss possible improvements or enhancements to the web sites and to the overall program. In addition, the Advisory Committee now in existence for MINPAS will be expanded.

A graduate student will be hired to work on the MINPAS as Project Assistant. Approximately 50% of the Project Assistant's time will be devoted to supporting MINPAS goals and objectives. The Project Assistant will be responsible for

- assisting in the development of the newsletter, *Pesticide Notes*
- expanding the subscription list for *Pesticide Notes*
- maintaining the listserv for "just-in-time" delivery of pesticide information
- facilitating meetings and correspondence with the MINPAS Advisory Committee
- maintaining and updating the PEAP web site
- preparing materials for posting on the PEAP web site
- checking and adding links on the PEAP web site
- assisting with maintenance and updating of the IPM web site

### **Key Personnel**

#### **Project Director:**

Dr. Amy E. Brown  
PEAP Coordinator  
and  
MINPAS Director  
Department of Entomology  
University of Maryland  
College Park, MD 20742  
301-405-3928

#### **Co-Project Directors:**

Ms. Sandra Sardanelli  
IPM Coordinator  
and  
Director, Nematology Lab  
Department of Entomology  
University of Maryland  
College Park, MD 20742  
301-405-7877

Ms. Carol Holko  
Chief (acting)  
Plant Protection and Weed Management Section  
Maryland Department of Agriculture  
50 Harry S Truman Parkway  
Annapolis, MD 21401  
410-841-5927

### **Collaborative Arrangements**

The key personnel listed above will collaborate with representatives from the Maryland Depart-

ment of Agriculture (MDA), the Maryland Department of Natural Resources (MDNR), Future Harvest - Chesapeake Area Sustainable Agriculture (FH-CASA), and the Maryland Organic Certification Advisory Committee (MOCAC). County level participation in organized state IPM and PEAP activity is strategic for increasing stakeholder awareness and subsequent participation in the NE IPMC agenda. Therefore, besides the above described collaborative network, the opportunities for MCE county level active involvement in the NE IPMC will be vigorously pursued in the following systematic pattern:

- Meet with the MCE Assistant Dean of Programs for advisory and planning sessions.
- Regularly participate in MCE In-Service Training Programs to inform and prepare regional and county level personnel for NE IPMC participation.
- Prepare an MCE Logic Model for the Maryland IPM Program Coordinator's overall planning and implementation.
- Initiate an IPM Focus Team with the MCE Administration to gain additional program support and to plan activities, such as workshops, that will generate team collaboration in pursuing NE IPMC activities and grant funding.

**APPENDIX A. MINPAS Advisory Committee Members, 2004**

<b>NAME</b>	<b>AFFILIATION</b>	<b>CONTACT INFORMATION</b>
Mr. Norman Bennett	NASS	202-720-0684 nbennett@nass.usda.gov
Dr. John Bouwcamp	MD Vegetable Growers Assn.	301-405-4334 jb65@umail.umd.edu
Ms. Valerie Connelly	Maryland Farm Bureau	410-922-3426 valeriec.mdfb@erols.com
Dr. Galen Dively	Maryland Cooperative Extension (specialist)	301-405-7523 gd7@umail.umd.edu
Ms. Betsy Gallagher	Maryland Cooperative Extension (agent)	410-228-8800 lg2@umail.umd.edu
Mr. Michael Heller	Chesapeake Bay Foundation Clagett Farm	301-627-4393
Ms. Betty Marose	Maryland Cooperative Extension	301-405-3929 bm7@umail.umd.edu
Mr. Bruce Mertz	Future Harvest – Chesapeake Alliance for Sustainable Agriculture	410-604-2681 fhcasa@umail.umd.edu
		301-652-9188 x. 19

Ms. Dolores Milmoe	Audubon Naturalist Society	dmilmoe@audobonnaturalist.org
Ms. Sandra Sardanelli	Maryland Cooperative Extension (IPM Coordinator)	301-405-7877 ss1@uemail.umd.edu
Mrs. Mary Ellen Setting	Maryland Dept. of Agriculture	410-841-5710 settingm@mda.state.md.us

**APPENDIX B:** Recent issue, *Pesticide Notes*.

**APPENDIX C.** *Just-in-Time Pesticide Info* notices issued, 01/01/04 - 12/31/04

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Issuance Date</b>	<b>Action Date</b>
Lactofen	38020	38043
Sodium Acifluorfen	38020	38043
Thiram	38020	38071
Endangered Species Meeting	38032	38047
Propanil	38047	38102
Benfluralin	38053	38102
Amitraz (Ovasyn)	38075	38092
Wood Preservatives	38075	38123
Pesticide Applicator Certification	38081	38138
Mosquito Labeling	38105	38194
Metam Sodium (Vapam)	38193	38200
Pesticide Containers and Storage	38193	38214
MCPA	38193	38221
Amitraz	38193	38222
Zinc Pyrethione	38193	38228
Thiram	38193	38229
E-Rulemaking Open Forums	38194	38202
2,4-D	38194	38221
Ziram	38201	38249
2,4-DB	38214	38256
2,4-DB-DMAS	38214	38256
Global Pesticide Label System	38229	38284
Emergency Exemption Provisions	38237	N.A.
Oxadiazon (Chipco, Ronstar)	38237	38288
Chlorsulfuron	38270	38313
Carbaryl (Sevin)	38295	38347
Chorimuron Ethyl	38295	38309
Cyhexatin	38309	38361

Deadline for submission of comment, date of meeting, or other actionable date.

**APPENDIX D:** Recommendations for improvement of information transfer from OPP Updates.

July 28, 2004

TO: Claire Gesalman (Chief, Communications Branch, EPA-OPP-FEAD) and Carol Stangel Communications Specialist, EPA-OPP)  
FROM: Amy E. Brown, Ph.D., Coordinator , Maryland Information Network for Pesticides & Alternative Strategies (MINPAS)  
RE: Suggested improvements for OPP Update

State Network Projects (SNP) active in many states serve as a connector on pesticide and pest management issues between state and federal agencies and growers, consultants, pesticide applicators, and other concerned citizens in a state. Communication methods used by the Networks include newsletters, meetings, information posted to web sites, and -- especially important for time-sensitive information such as requests for comment -- use of electronic listservs to transmit information to potentially interested clientele. These clientele need information in laymen's terms in order to decide whether a proposed action would be likely to affect their operations. The SNPs try to answer this need for translation of information from state and federal agencies onto terminology that the public can understand.

The OPP Update has been a useful tool in the Maryland SNP (known as the Maryland Information Network for Pesticides and Alternative Strategies, or MINPAS). Yet, the efficiency of the SNPs and the objectives of EPA in disseminating information and soliciting/collecting comment would be well served by improving the content of the information contained in the OPP Updates. Information essential to end users' ability to determine whether a proposed action is of interest to them, and thus to result in the likelihood of informed comment, includes the following:

**Essential Elements:**

- trade name(s) of the active ingredient(s)
- major crop uses
- type of pesticide -- fungicide, insecticide, herbicide, etc.
- identification of the main considerations under the proposed action (i.e., sources of dietary or other risks found to be unacceptable, occupational uses with unacceptable risk, proposed risk mitigation measures, specific uses to be canceled, etc.)
- particularly in the case of a voluntary cancellation, users need to know whether the request will result in their being unable to obtain the product at all for certain uses, or whether other formulators' products will remain available
- the URL for the actual document to be reviewed and commented on

**Desirable Elements:**

- major pests for which the product is used
- reminder that additional /background information can be found on EPA's web site (list appropriate URL)

**APPENDIX E:** State Network Project bulletin, 2004.

**APPENDIX F: In-Service Pesticide Education & Assessment Program meeting agenda.**

**Wye Research & Education Center  
September 20, 2004**

**Washington County Extension Facility  
September 23, 2004**

**9 AM - Noon**

Introductions

Amy Brown -- Pesticide Education & Assessment Program, Dept. of Entomology, UM Coop. Extension

Maryland Regulatory and Policy Update

Ed Crow, Dennis Howard, and Rob Hofstetter – Pesticide Regulation Sec., MD Dept. of Agric.

- Ongoing initiatives
- New developments
- Enforcement trends

Federal Regulatory and Policy Update

Ed Crow and Amy Brown

- Global Harmonization System (GHS)
- Endangered Species
- Emergency exemption process
- Revised glove requirements for WPS
- Storage & container regulations
- Methyl bromide critical use exemption (CUE)
- Internet sales enforcement alert
- Reregistration and registration review -- timelines, public comment period schedule

Pesticide Education and Training Initiatives

Amy Brown and Ed Crow

- National manual and exam
- Maryland training and certification outlook for 2004-2005
- Required subjects for Maryland Pesticide Applicator Training 2004-2005
- New materials: drift, security, protecting bees, resistance management
- Web resources
- Northeast Region TriAgency Meeting
- International Conference on Pesticide Application for Drift Management

Maryland Information Network for Pesticides & Alternative Strategies (MINPAS)

Amy Brown and Sandra Sardanelli -- IPM Coordinator, UM Coop. Extension

- Progress report
- Planning for the 2005 cycle: Crop Profiles and Strategic Pest Management Plans

Maryland Agromedicine

Cyndi Slacum, Eastern Shore Area Health Education Center (AHEC), Sally Van Schaik, Delmarva AgrAbility, and Amy Brown

- Cooperation between AgrAbility, Agromedicine, and Pesticide Safety Education
- Agricultural Health Study Update