

**MID-ATLANTIC INFORMATION NETWORK FOR PESTICIDES
AND ALTERNATIVE STRATEGIES - WV (WVInPAS)
State Network Projects Grant Proposal**

Non-technical Summary

Stakeholders in agriculture need to be kept abreast of current trends in pest management. It is important for their livelihood. Pest management strategies are ever changing with restrictions on long term used chemical pesticides and need for replacement. Alternative methods are moving to the forefront. In West Virginia, crops requiring pest management are apples, peaches, small fruit, tomatoes, potatoes, sweet corn, and alfalfa and field corn associated with livestock. More chemical pesticides are applied to apples than any other crop. The West Virginia pesticide and alternative strategies program has provided reliable information, linking to stakeholders and West Virginia researchers by maintaining contact with neighboring partner universities with pesticide and alternative programs, the agricultural industries, and the West Virginia and federal regulatory agencies. Current information is provided by direct contact, mail, e-mail, newsletter, and website information. Developed crop profiles and the Mid-Atlantic apple pest management strategic plan are currently used as information to Extension agents and consequently, stakeholders.

West Virginia Network Project- 2006

Objectives and Procedures

Objective 1. Serve as the primary information source for federal and West Virginia regulatory agencies and other agencies regarding use and usage of all IPM tactics, including pesticides, in all IPM settings in the state. Respond in a timely fashion to requests for information from these agencies.

Procedures: The project director will forward requests for information to the appropriate discipline specialist noting the date for which the information is needed. A reply will be made to the requesting agency with the response. Commodity meetings and pesticide-user meetings will be attended to stay abreast of pest control measures used in the state. Coordination will be maintained with the West Virginia University IPM program, the West Virginia University SARE program, the West Virginia University Organic Farm Research project, the Pesticide Safety Education Program, and IR- 4 Project Periodical contacts will be held with the West Virginia Department of Agriculture to discuss pesticide registrations and regulatory activities in the state.

The web site listing direct links to West Virginia Extension professionals will be maintained at: <http://www.wvu.edu/~agexten/ipm/contacts.htm> making this site known to other agencies.

Commodity meetings and pesticide-user meetings will be attended to stay abreast of pest control measures used in the state. Coordination will be maintained with the West Virginia IPM program, the Pesticide Safety Education Program, IR- 4 Project, and the West Virginia Department of Agriculture.

Program activities will be included on the State Network Project website.
<http://www.wvu.edu/~agexten/ipm/pestprog/WVINPAS/index.htm>

Objective 2: Link the Northeastern IPM Center, state Extension IPM coordinators, the land grant institution, and other key agencies in the state. Connect stakeholders to appropriate working groups and other components of the Northeastern IPM Center. Provide information such as release of RFAs and meeting dates in a timely fashion to all appropriate contacts. Solicit and facilitate applications from qualified individuals or groups in West Virginia for funds available from the NE IPM Center. Participate in all subcontracts between the Northeastern IPM Center and other entities of West Virginia University in order to minimize total indirect costs for the Center. Pass funds from the Northeastern IPM Center to any programs or individuals of West Virginia University that have contracts with the Center.

Procedures: The project director will meet with members of MAinPAS at the Annual NE TriAgency Meeting in 2006. Cooperation across state lines and sharing of resources will be discussed. Efforts will be made to coordinate activities with the Extension IPM

coordinator and university researchers conducting pest management strategies with plants or animals. Linkage will be made with the West Virginia University SARE program. Information dealing with pest management alternative practices will be provided to the W.Va. SARE program. Notices of SARE funding opportunities will be included in State Network Project newsletter. Meetings will be attended to announce to SARE participants the ongoing West Virginia State Network Project Program. Meetings with the W.Va. Department of Agriculture regulatory personnel will be held to discuss registered uses of pesticides, stakeholder needs for pest management, and stakeholder pesticide certification and training. Contact will be made with the Northeastern IPM Center IPM Working Groups (IWGs) to gather information, such as IPM elements and resources, and in developing research and extension priorities. Requests for information from the IPM program personnel will be forwarded to the appropriate discipline specialist noting the date for which the information is needed.

A workshop will be conducted to provide updated information on pesticide and alternative strategies with an IPM approach. Representatives from the West Virginia University Organic Farm Project, West Virginia University research faculty, West Virginia Department of Agriculture, and major chemical industries will be invited to present current and future pesticide and alternatives' information to stakeholders.

Announcements of RFA's and meeting dates will be added in our Newsletter. The newsletter mailing list will be updated annually to ensure that this information is reaching the appropriate individuals and agencies. Specific individuals will be contacted when funds become available offering our assistance in the preparation of grant proposals. The project director will communicate with West Virginia University Office of Sponsored Programs to ensure that grants are consolidated and funds are transmitted to Principle Investigators who hold NE IPM Center IPM Partnership grants.

Objective 3: Maintain a project web site.

Procedures: The web site will be maintained and updated

<http://www.wvu.edu/~agexten/ipm/pestprog/NAPIAP/index.htm>The site will:

1. Address regional priorities established by the NE IPM Center.
2. Be compatible with regional and national IPM Center sites.
3. Include contact information for WVinPAS.
4. Include a project description for WVinPAS.
5. Include links to annual progress reports for WVinPAS.
6. Comply with Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act Amendments to the Workforce Investment Act of 1998.
7. Include links to the NE IPM Center and other appropriate entities.
8. Prominently display, near the heading, the phrase, "The West Virginia component of the Northeastern IPM Center." The words "Northeastern IPM Center" will be hyperlinked to the Center web site.
9. Include the statement: "This site is supported, in part, with funding from the Northeastern IPM Center."

10. Include the date of the most recent update.
11. Conform to all format and content standards to be developed by the NE IPM Center.

IPM activities, pesticide regulatory update information, funding opportunities, university research findings, and research activities of faculty associated with the West Virginia University Organic Farm, providing information on alternative strategies for pest management, will be included in our existing monthly newsletter, "Look What's Out There in IPM". Pesticide information will be posted to the "Look What's Out There in IPM" Newsletter linked to the West Virginia Pest Management Web site. Announcement of such information and the URL will be sent electronically to a mailing list. Growers and Extension agents will be contacted to add their names to a mailing list. Key members of commodity groups will be added to the e-mail list for notification of new postings of our newsletter.

Objective 4: Use an advisory committee consisting of a diverse group of stakeholders interested in IPM.

Procedures: An Advisory Committee will be composed of the state IPM Coordinator, state Pesticide Coordinator, a representative of the state regulatory agency, a representative of the northeastern IPM center, a representative of West Virginia State University, the 1890 Institution, Extension faculty, IPM users, a SARE representative, representatives of the Extension Service Environmental Stewardship Committee, and representation from environmental and consumer advocacy groups.

Input from stakeholders is critical to the effective functioning of the WVInPAS project. Each segment of the pesticide user community approaches pest management from a different viewpoint. The advisory committee is a valuable medium for voicing these viewpoints. We have witnessed this from the comments made by members of the advisory committee

The current Advisory Group has functioned via direct mail contact, e-mail or FAX. Committee members have provided valuable comments dealing with several IPM issues, some of which have been reported in the above progress report.

The current advisory committee include IPM users such as growers and crop consultants, Extension agents, the Director of the organic farm project, James Kotcon, representing environmental groups, the West Virginia IPM Coordinator, Rakesh Chandran; staff of the West Virginia Department of Agriculture Pesticide Section, Grant Bishop and Peggy Powell; the West Virginia Pesticide Safety Education Program Coordinator Liaison, John F. Baniecki; the Extension Specialist for Weeds and IR-4, Rakesh Chandran; the Extension Specialist for Plant Pathology, Alan Biggs; and the Extension Specialist for Entomology, Henry Hogmire, Tom Basden, Nutrient Management Specialist, Tom McCutcheon, Extension Agent, Dave Workman, Extension Agent, June deGraft-Hanson, Poultry Specialist.

Some members of the Advisory Committee will develop a brochure on a Directory of Environmental Services Available to stakeholders in the state, which will be distributed throughout the state.

Members of the Advisory Committee will be involved in a workshop, to be held in Fall, 2006, to provide updated information on pesticide and alternative strategies with an IPM approach. They will be asked to suggest topics and speakers for presentation at the workshop. In addition, the Advisory Committee will be asked to participate in planning the workshop via e-mail or direct mail. The workshop will be coordinated by the State Network Project Leader and the West Virginia University IPM Coordinator. Representatives from the West Virginia University Organic Farm Project, West Virginia University research faculty, West Virginia Department of Agriculture, and major chemical industries will be invited to present current and future pesticide and alternatives' information to stakeholders. Pesticide applicator recertification credit will be given to the attendees.

A meeting with Advisory Committee members will be held during the West Virginia University Extension Annual Conference in the Fall. Update information on the State Network Project activity will be presented and feedback and comments will be asked for.

In March, 2006, Contacts will be made with members of the advisory committee to address current and future pest management issues. A request for their recommendations and input will be made in September, 2006. The Advisory Committee will be kept abreast of the Northeast regional IWG's activities.

The activities described in this proposal will make it possible to gather and analyze differing viewpoints that will shape the direction of the WVinPAS Program.

Probable Duration: 12 months

Evaluation Plans: As this project develops, the advisory committee will monitor progress and evaluate success. Success will be determined by transmission of information to stakeholders, IWG's activities, response to federal partners for information requests, production of the monthly newsletter, and submission of a final report.

Time Line:

January, 06	Plan for incorporating subject matter into the monthly newsletter Look What's Out There "LWOT"
January, 06	Plan for IPM Workshop in Fall, 2006
February, 06	Contact members of the Advisory Committee for their comments and input in planning the Fall IPM Workshop.
March, 06	Receive comments on current and future pest management issues from the Advisory Committee members

July, 06	Review web pages for revisions
August, 06	Study IWG's activities.
September, 06	Request recommendations and suggestions from Advisory Committee
October, 06	Workshop on pesticides and alternatives with an IPM approach Evaluation of the Workshop
December, 06	Write WVinPAS annual report
TBA, 2006	Participate in the NE TriAgency Annual Meeting

Cooperation and Institutional Units Involved:

West Virginia University Cooperative Extension Service

WVU Division of Plant and Soil Science, Entomology and Plant Pathology

WVU Division of Forestry and Wildlife Management

West Virginia Department of Agriculture

Key Personnel:

Extension specialists Alan Biggs-plant pathology, Henry Hogmire-entomology, Rakesh Chandran-weeds, Bill Grafton-wildlife and Jim Kotcon-nematology from West Virginia University, Tom Basden, Nutrient Management Specialist, Tom McConnell, Marketing Specialist, SARE representative, and Tom McCutcheon, Extension Agent, will serve on the WVinPAS Advisory Committee. Also, additional state Extension agricultural agents will participate in the program activities.