

**DELAWARE INFORMATION NETWORK
FOR PESTICIDES AND ALTERNATIVE STRATEGIES
State Network Project
Grant Proposal**

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

A. Summary of Experience, Problem, Background and Justification

Links have been established between USDA, EPA, IR-4, and Delaware agencies and agricultural researchers, extension specialists, and other stakeholders so that information on pest management practices in Delaware can be made available to agencies in a timely manner in response to issues raised by the Food Quality Protection Act (FQPA) or other regulatory decisions. Requests for information on pesticide use in Delaware have been routed by the Project Director, King, to extension staff for the pesticides listed in the attachment, "Federal/ regional/ state pesticide information requests that have been transmitted between Delaware stakeholders and regulatory partners 2/05 to 11/05." Responses from extension staff have been provided to requesting agencies by King.

The Delaware Pesticide Information web Home Page (<http://ag.udel.edu/extension/pesticide/index.php> ; attachment), and the Delaware Information Network for Pesticides and Alternatives Strategies web site (<http://ag.udel.edu/extension/pesticide/pesticidenetwork.htm> ; attachment) were reformatted in 2005. Short news articles from EPA, USDA, and the Pesticide Industry have been posted to the Pesticide Briefs web site (<http://ag.udel.edu/extension/pesticide/briefs/briefsindex.htm> ; attachment). E-mail announcements of new postings have been sent to the pesticide-user community in Delaware (attachment). Pesticide Safety Education sessions have included an on-line lesson in how to use the Delaware Pesticide Information web site.

The Delaware Information Network has utilized an Advisory Committee since the inception of this project. Committee meetings have been held each year in November. Discussions have centered on commodities for crop profiles and Pest Management Strategic Plans. The agenda, list of invitees, and minutes of the November, 2005 meeting are attached.

Because of Pesticide re-registration and new registration requirements under FQPA, there continues to be a need for US/EPA and the Delaware Department of Agriculture to obtain information on pesticide use and needs within Delaware. It is critical for Delaware stakeholders to be aware of changes in registrations and use patterns for the pest control products they use in their work. Input from stakeholders is essential to the effective functioning of the Pesticide Information Network. The activities described in this proposal will facilitate information transfer and permit informed regulatory decision making.

B. Objectives and Anticipated Impacts

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

Anticipated Impacts (See attached Logic Model):

Short Term - A 2-way flow of information will be achieved.

Medium Term - Pesticide Regulators will use information from Delaware when making pesticide regulatory decisions.

Long Term - Pest control methods will be available for Delaware commodities.
An adequate and affordable food supply will be available.

The goal of the IPM Roadmap is to increase nationwide communication and efficiency through information exchanges among federal and non-federal IPM practitioners and service providers. The Delaware Information Network for Pesticides and Alternative Strategies will work towards realizing this goal.

2. Link the Northeastern IPM Center, the University of Delaware Extension IPM Coordinator, the University of Delaware, the Delaware Department of Agriculture and other key agencies in Delaware. 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.

Anticipated Impacts:

Short Term - A 2-way flow of information will be achieved. Stakeholders in Delaware will be able to voice their needs and will learn of opportunities.

Medium Term - Stakeholders in Delaware will be able to work together and participate in Working Group activities.

Long Term - Pest control methods will be available for Delaware commodities.
An adequate and affordable food supply will be available.

The goal of the IPM Roadmap is to increase nationwide communication and efficiency through information exchanges among federal and non-federal IPM practitioners and service providers. The Delaware Information Network for Pesticides and Alternative Strategies will work towards realizing this goal.

3. Maintain a project web site and provide communication to Delaware stakeholders.

Anticipated Impacts:

Short Term - Stakeholders in Delaware will learn of changes in pesticide regulations

that are being proposed and those that have been finalized.

Medium Term - Stakeholders in Delaware will be able to take action to prevent loss of critical pest control products.

Long Term - Pest control methods will be available for Delaware commodities. An adequate and affordable food supply will be available.

The goal of the IPM Roadmap is to increase nationwide communication and efficiency through information exchanges among federal and non-federal IPM practitioners and service providers. The Delaware Information Network for Pesticides and Alternative Strategies will work towards realizing this goal.

4. Utilize an advisory committee consisting of a diverse group of stakeholders interested in IPM that will meet at least once annually with other types of interaction as necessary. The committee will include the Delaware IPM Coordinator, a representative of the Delaware Department of Agriculture, the Delaware Pesticide Safety Education Program Coordinator, a representative of the Northeastern IPM Center, appropriate research and extension faculty, a representative from Delaware State University, IPM users such as growers and crop consultants, and representation from environmental and consumer advocacy groups.

Anticipated Impacts:

Short Term - Stakeholders will express their needs.

Medium Term - Stakeholders will help choose commodities/sites for Pest Management (Crop) Profiles and Pest Management Strategic Plans.

Long Term - Pest control methods will be available for Delaware commodities. An adequate and affordable food supply will be available.

C. Approach and Procedures

1. King will forward requests for information to the appropriate discipline specialist making note of the date for which the information is needed. King will reply back to the requesting agency with the response. Program records will be maintained on these communications. King will attend commodity meetings and pesticide-user meetings to stay abreast of pest control measures used in the state.

Timetable:

Start: Upon initiation of the grant period.

Completion: Upon termination of the grant period.

2. King will maintain e-mail address lists for the Northeastern IPM Center, University of Delaware Extension IPM Coordinator, University of Delaware College of Agriculture and Natural Resources extension and research staff, Delaware State University extension and research staff, the Delaware Department of Agriculture staff, commodity organizations, agricultural consultants, processors, pesticide user groups, IR-4, and other key agencies in Delaware. King will transmit information to

these individuals, make announcements of RFA's and provide meeting dates as appropriate. King will contact specific individuals when funds become available and offer to assist in the preparation of grant proposals. Program records will be maintained on all communications.

Timetable:

Start: Upon initiation of the grant period.

Completion: Upon termination of the grant period.

3. King will maintain the web site:

<http://ag.udel.edu/extension/pesticide/pesticidenetwork.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 the Delaware Information Network and King.
4. Include a project description for the Delaware Information Network.
5. Include links to annual progress reports for the Delaware Information Network.
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 Delaware 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. Note that King is the webmaster.
12. Conform to all format and content standards to be developed by the NE IPM Center.

News articles will be published to the Delaware Pesticide Information Web site on the Pesticide Briefs Newsletter page. Announcement of such articles and the URL will be sent electronically to the mailing list described above. Pesticide Safety Education sessions will include an on-line lesson in how to use the Pesticide Briefs web page. Key members of commodity groups will be added to the e-mail list for notification of new postings of Pesticide Briefs. Program records will be maintained on all communications.

Timetable:

Start: Upon initiation of the grant period.

Completion: Upon termination of the grant period.

4. An Advisory Committee meeting will be held in November 2006. The committee will include the Delaware IPM Coordinator, Joanne Whalen; staff of the Delaware

Department of Agriculture Pesticide Section, Grier Stayton and Larry Towle; the Delaware Pesticide Safety Education Program Coordinator and IR-4 Liaison, Susan King; the Extension Specialists for Weeds, Mark VanGessel; the Extension Specialist for Plant Pathology, Bob Mulrooney; the Extension Specialist for Natural Resources, Dot Abbott, the Small Farm Specialist from Delaware State University, Dwight Meyer; a representative from the NE IPM Center, Pat Hastings, Representatives from the NE IPM Center Advisory Committee, Michele Roberts and Dyremple Marsh, A representative from The Structural Pest Control Industry, Jim Fredericks, and IPM users such as growers and crop consultants. Commodities for Crop Profiles and Pest Management Strategic Plans will be discussed. The Committee will assist in evaluation of the Delaware Information Network. Meeting minutes will be maintained.

Timetable:

Start: August 2006, arrange meeting.

Completion: November 2006, conduct meeting.

D. Evaluation Plans:

Short Term:

Program records will be examined to determine if the 2-way flow of information was obtained.

An e-mail survey will be sent to stakeholders asking if the Delaware Information Network for Pesticides and Alternative Strategies helped them and if stakeholders were able to voice their needs, learn of opportunities, and be informed on pesticide regulatory activities.

Medium Term.

King will ask IR-4 and US-EPA if they used information from Delaware Crop Profiles, PMSP's and responses to information requests in making regulatory decisions.

King will ask Working Group leaders if Delaware stakeholders were able to work with the Working Groups.

An e-mail survey will be sent to stakeholders asking if they were able to take action on pesticide regulatory issues.

Minutes of the Delaware Pesticide Information Network Advisory Committee will be examined to determine if stakeholders had input into selection of commodities for CP's and PMSP's.

Long term:

King will ask University of Delaware Cooperative Extension Agents and Delaware State University Cooperative Extension Agents to list those commodities for which

pest control products/ methods were lacking during the duration of this grant. King will also ask agents to list those commodities for which pest control products/ methods were adequate.

COOPERATION AND INSTITUTIONAL UNITS INVOLVED:

University of Delaware Cooperative Extension
UD Department of Entomology and Wildlife Ecology
UD Department of Plant and Soil Science
UD Department of Bioresource Engineering
Delaware State University Cooperative Extension

KEY PERSONNEL:

University of Delaware Extension Pesticide Coordinator, Susan King, will oversee this project and prepare reports. University of Delaware Extension Specialists Whalen, Mulrooney, and VanGessel will be involved in writing Crop Profiles and PMSP's.