

**Northeastern IPM Center – IPM Partnership Grants – 2009 – Proposal  
Statement of Work (SNPs and Minigrants) or Project Description (other Project Types)**

**PD: Julie R. Kikkert**

**Project Title: Developing a Pest Management Strategic Plan for Processing Peas  
in New York**

Project Category: IPM Planning and Assessment Documents

Project Summary:

New York is the 4<sup>th</sup> leading producer of processed green peas in the U.S. with approximately 20,000 acres planted each year. This proposal is to develop a Pest Management Strategic Plan (PMSP) for processing peas in NY. A planning committee composed of growers, crop consultants, processors, researchers, extension educators, and government officials will meet to discuss and prioritize research, regulatory and educational needs. The results of this meeting will be used to form the PMSP.

Background and Justification:

Processed green peas are an important crop in New York. Approximately 20,000 acres are planted each year. Because there is now only one processor in NY (Allen's, Inc.) the National Agricultural Statistic Service stopped publishing data on green peas to avoid disclosure of individual operations. In the latest available data from 2006, New York ranked 4<sup>th</sup> in the number of acres of processing peas planted, behind Minnesota, Wisconsin and Oregon ([www.nass.usda.gov/](http://www.nass.usda.gov/)). The NY pea crop was worth \$13.4 million in 2006. The value has increased substantially in the past 2 years (personal information).

One impetus for development of a Pest Management Strategic Plan (PMSP) for processing crops in NY is the need for documentation to aid the processor/field operations unit to meet the requirements of the Sysco Sustainability Program. Representatives from Cornell Cooperative Extension, Cornell University and the NY IPM program met with processors over the past several years to survey growers (Petzoldt, et al. 2006), educate them on sustainability practices and assist the company with information needed for the Sysco Sustainability Audit. A crop profile for peas in NY was published in 1999 and is out of date. There is a need for growers, researchers, processors and regulatory officials to come together to update the information on processed peas in NY and to set priorities for the research, educational and regulatory needs.

Processing peas are primarily grown in the western half of New York State. This industry is geographically isolated from the other areas with substantial pea production, those being the midwest (MN, WI), the west (WA, OR), and the Delmarva (DE). Thus, it is logical for the PMSP to focus only on NY.

Objectives and Anticipated Impacts:

The objective of this project is to review and prioritize the research, regulatory and educational needs for processing peas in New York and compile the information into a Pest Management Strategic Plan.

The PMSP process provides many benefits. The meeting is educational to the participants and provides a forum to discuss the needs and vulnerabilities of the industry. The PMSP will document valuable information about the processing pea industry to:

- Buyers (e.g Sysco)
- Regulatory officials (DEC, EPA, etc)
- Funding agencies
- IPM practitioners in NY and other states
- Researchers, extension educators, students and others who wish to understand the industry

#### Approach and Procedures:

A pest management strategic plan meeting will be held in December 2009 or January 2010. Documentation will be provided to participants prior to the meeting to include the Pea Crop Profile for New York (<http://www.ipmcenters.org/cropprofiles/docs/nypeas.pdf>) and the pea section from the Cornell Crop and Integrated Pest Management Guidelines for Commercial Vegetables (<http://www.nysaes.cornell.edu/recommends/>).

Meeting participants will include Extension Educators, Cornell University faculty, NY IPM specialists, processor field staff, crop consultants and other invited regulatory officials. The meetings and resulting PMSP document will follow the instructions and format provided in “guidance on developing a PMSP” (<http://www.ipmcenters.org/pmsp/index.cfm>).

Julie Kikkert, the processing crops lead for the Cornell Cooperative Extension Vegetable Program in western, NY will organize the planning meeting and will write the PMSP document with the assistance of her staff. Dr. Kikkert has worked with the processing vegetable industry in western, NY for the past 9 years and has all the necessary contacts with the industry. She has organized numerous advisory meetings and is experienced in writing many types of research and extension publications.

#### Evaluation Plans:

The NY processing pea PMSP meeting will be held as soon as possible after the 2009 growing season. The completed PMSP will be submitted to the Northeast IPM center in early 2010.

#### Cooperators, Institutional Units, Key Personnel:

Project Lead: Julie Kikkert, Cornell Cooperative Extension Vegetable Program

Cooperators: Farm Fresh First (see attached letter of support), faculty at Cornell University, IPM vegetable specialists, pea growers, crop consultants, government agencies.

#### References:

Petzoldt, C., A. Seaman, and J. Kikkert. 2006. Adoption of IPM Practices by Vegetable Growers in New York State. 5<sup>th</sup> National IPM Symposium, April 4-6, 2006, St. Louis, MO.