

**New Jersey Information Network for Pesticides & Alternative Strategies
Advisory Committee Meeting – September 17, 2003
Summary and Action Items**

Attendees:

Karen Anderson, Northeast Organic Farming Association of New Jersey
Leonard Douglen, New Jersey Pest Management Association
Jerome Frecon, Rutgers Cooperative Extension (RCE) of Gloucester County
George Hamilton, RCE Pest Management Office
Patricia Hastings, RCE Pest Management Office
James Johnson, RCE of Cumberland County
Tara Masters US EPA Region 2
Audrey Moore, US EPA Region 2
Richard Nieuwenhuis, New Jersey Farm Bureau
Peter Nitzsche, RCE of Morris County
Jane Nogaki, NJ Environmental Federation
Carl Nordstrom, New Jersey Nursery and Landscape Association
Dean Polk, Rutgers Fruit Research and Extension Center
Roderic Schmidt, New Jersey Mosquito Control Association
Carl Schulze, New Jersey Department of Agriculture; Division of Plant Industry
Peter Shearer, Rutgers Agricultural Research and Extension Center
William Tietjen, RCE of Warren County
Ann Waters, NJDEP Pesticide Control Program
NJDEP Office of Mosquito Control Coordination

George Hamilton brought the meeting to order at approximately 9:10 am with introductions by each of the Committee members. He introduced the revised address list for the Advisory Committee (handout) and Mid Atlantic Partners (handout) for the NJinPAS project. He explained that the NJinPAS project as initially proposed was a three year plan of work closing in 2003. He added that comments from the Advisory Committee made during this meeting will be used in preparing a proposal to the NorthEast Pest Management Center for the next phase of the project. He then introduced the agenda (handout) for the meeting that morning.

Crop Profiles

Pat Hastings introduced the status of the crop profiles using the 'NJinPAS Schedule' (handout). She stated that the Carrot Field Corn Crop Profiles due this year were completed on schedule in February. She noted that due to conflicting commitments, the Green Pepper Crop Profile was not ready last year as scheduled, and the Eggplant Crop Profile due in September 2003 had not been submitted. It is projected that the Green Pepper Profile to be finished shortly and the Eggplant Crop Profile be completed by the close of the year.

Pat Hastings stated that multiple revised crop profiles are to be completed before the close of the project, including blueberry, cranberry, forage alfalfa, and squash. She noted that revised crop profiles for peaches, asparagus, and spinach had already been submitted to the NE PMC; minor revisions have been requested on each.

Pat Hastings summarized the results of the request for crop profile candidates from the last Advisory Committee Meeting. Specifically, Bill Tietjen had reported that the Fruit Working Group had no candidates given the numerous fruit crop profiles that have been done; Joe Mahar had reported that the Vegetable Working Group suggested tomatoes. Pete Nitzsche agreed to request a candidate from ARMA for the Tomato Crop Profile. Joe Mahar has agreed to do sweet potatoes with its significant oriental beetle problem. Pat Hastings requested that the NJDA take the lead on the preparation of a Honeybee Crop Profile as it had been approved by the NE PMC. Carl Shulze agreed that NJDA would take the lead; Pat Hastings will forward the recently completed Texas Crop Profile for Honeybees and information on crop profile preparation.

Related to new candidate crops, Pete Nitzsche said he would complete a crop profile for strawberries. Jim Johnson suggested that a crop profile for herbs be completed and someone else in the group suggested pumpkins; there was not much support from the group on either of these and no candidate was nominated.

It was suggested that a crop profile be completed for termiticides that would compare liquids versus baiting; George noted that this would not fit within the definition of a conventional crop profile.

Karen Anderson inquired about the possibility of a crop profile within School IPM for sports turf. Discussion ensued that crop profiles should be completed individually for sod farms, golf courses, and sports turf (to include schools, county parks, municipal and non-school recreational areas). Jane Nogaki questioned whether a PMSP for Golf Courses could be completed; George Hamilton provided that a crop profile must be completed first. Audrey Moore added that the completion of a crop profile for sod farms would make sense within the conventional definition and EPA's use of crop profiles for minor uses 'crops'. Pat Hastings suggested contacting Extension Specialist Jim Murphy for his interest in this as a project; George Hamilton also suggested contacting Steve Hart for the same.

Jim Johnson inquired about the production of a crop profile for herbaceous perennials; he noted that it would be a moving target and could include as many as 1,800 to 2,000 plants. George Hamilton mentioned partnering with Cornell.

Pest Management Strategic Plans (PMSP)

George Hamilton reported that the Peach PMSP had been completed this year ahead of schedule in February, nearly 9 months ahead of schedule. He also noted that a regional Lima bean PMSP had been completed under the direction of Susan Whitney of the University of Delaware.

George Hamilton reviewed that carrot is the candidate for a PMSP due to the carrot weevil problem

Audrey Moore inquired as to whether there was a national PMSP for Cranberry.

Listservs

Pat Hastings reported that there were 180 persons enrolled in the listservs and of that there were 467 individual listserv enrollments. She noted that the listserv enrollment statistics reflect the composition of the Advisory Committee. She noted that 327 postings had been made to the listserv since its inception on 10/31/02. She said that she and George had recently discussed no longer posting tolerances to the listserv. Peter Shearer noted that there were quicker resources for this.

She also reported the enrollment statistics on the NJinPAS Network versus other topical NJinPAS listservs. Jim Johnson said that the topic listservs should be used in lieu of the Network listserv. Pat Hastings explained that a good percentage of the Agents were not on topic listservs and that attempts to enroll them in the past had not worked. Dean Polk took on presenting the Listservs to the Agents at the ARMA meeting scheduled for the next day.

Pat Hastings reported that articles on the NJINPAS Listservs, as well as the PMO webpage ran in the Cranberry; Fruit; Field and Forage Crops; Landscape, Nursery, and Turf ; Organic; and Vegetable Crops editions of the Plant & Pest Advisory. This had been suggested by the Committee last year.

Website

Pat Hastings reviewed that NJinPAS, Pesticide Applicator Training, and Integrated Pest Management are the 3 major categories of the RCE Pest Management Office website. She mentioned the newly launched RCE Farm Safety website. George Hamilton noted that there will be a site for 'Introduced Species', such as the recent problem with the Brown Marmorated Stinkbug.

Pat Hastings reported that the website now includes 810 pages where 298 of these pages are individual webpages and 512 are pdf files. She noted that there have been nearly a million hits on the website since its inception, and that the annual visits have grown from 4,000 in 2000; 11,000 in 2001; 34,000 in 2002; and 49,000 to date for 2003. She reviewed the statistics on top pages and downloads. For the NJinPAS project

it is notable that there have been 10,726 downloads of the crop profiles, 4,239 downloads of the pesticide use surveys; and 670 downloads of the Peach PMSP.

The revised 'NJinPAS Links' page (handout) was discussed. Pat Hastings noted that most of the Advisory Committee had provided weblinks for posting here after last year's meeting. Rich Nieuwenhuis will submit a logo and link for the NJ Farm Bureau. Karen Anderson requested that an individual link for the NJDA Beneficial Insect Lab be added with the existing link for the Division of Plant Industry; Carl Shulze will send this to Pat. It was suggested that the link added this year for Extension Specialists be taken off of the RCE listing; that Penn State be added; and that a link for the RCE Diagnostic Lab be added.

The 'NJinPAS Listserv Postings' archive page (handout) was discussed. Pat Hastings highlighted the sort function of the page. She gave a summary of the types of information that had been historically posted.

Members of the Advisory Committee agreed to distribute flyers to their stakeholders on the Pest Management Office Website (the Advisory Committee had made the recommendation of such a flyer last year). Approximately 200 flyers were picked up for: the Northeast Organic Farming Association of New Jersey, US EPA Region 2, NJ Environmental Federation, New Jersey Nursery and Landscape Association (NJNLA), Rutgers Fruit IPM Scouting program, New Jersey Mosquito Control Association, New Jersey Department of Agriculture Division of Plant Industry, Rutgers Agricultural Research and Extension Center, Vegetable Working Group, and Fruit Working Group. Audrey Moore suggested that Karen Anderson and she solicit help from the NRCS State Technical Committee to promote the websites as a tool for farmers.

Commodity Working Groups

Jane Nogaki reported on the regional commodity working group for Greenhouses and Ornamental IPM (GOIPM) that she is a member of. Specifically, Jane noted that the working group had circulated a computer survey of IPM needs in the states participating and that the results were being compiled. It was decided by the group that both the NJ Plant & Flower Association and the South Jersey Flower Growers were defunct. George Hamilton provided Jane that Steve Rettke and Jim Wilmott are members of the NJ Greenhouse Working Group.

Jane also passed around a sign-up sheet for any of the Committee members that would like to receive the NE IPM News; she will forward the list to Liz Thomas of Cornell.

Peter Shearer reported for the regional Tree Fruit Commodity Working Group that they had solicited stakeholder input, and then documented research and Extension needs in 18 states.

Pat Hastings reported that she recently became a member of the NE PMC commodity group for Community IPM. She reported that we have been working with Ann Gould on issuing revised recommendations for homegrounds, and had worked on an introduction section discussing IPM. She also noted that we have put together a survey for the pesticides currently marketed to residents in New Jersey.

Karen Anderson stated that she felt that RCE should have an organics listing for homegrounds. It was countered that organics are included as part of IPM recommendations.

School IPM

George Hamilton summarized the status of the NJDEP School IPM workgroup in Ann Water's absence. He noted that a Model Policy template had been developed and distributed to schools. Jane Nogaki added that the Act applies to both public and private schools.

Pat Hastings said that a School IPM course is in the works with Essex County. She noted that presenters are in line for all subjects except structural IPM. Len Douglan will advise of an appropriate person to present a segment on structural IPM.

The group noted that the School IPM website is an excellent resource and is often recommended. Jane Nogaki requested 100 of the 'Key Requirements of the NJ School IPM Act' for early October. Audrey Moore

requested several hundred. George Hamilton noted that it was currently being formatted by the RCE Resource Center to be printed and distributed by them. Pat Hastings said that as an interim measure, she would get 100 out to Jane and 200 out to Audrey immediately.

Other Issues

IPM Survey

George Hamilton reported that the 'IPM Survey for Residents' that had been discussed at the last meeting had not been funded.

EPA Update

Audrey Moore noted that EPA Region 2 has three new resources that are available for distribution:

1. Protect Your Family (in English, Spanish, Chinese, and Portuguese)
2. IPM in Schools CD rom (includes 'Neato the Mosquito')
3. Household Products wheel for kids

Audrey also noted 2 projects recently funded by EPA. She provided that Emily Brown Rosen will be preparing a resource guide for organics, and that Norm Lalancette will be doing a project on peaches/fungicides.

Tara Masters reported that the Mark Robson of the UMDMJ had been awarded a PESP grant for his project on urban IPM that includes production of a videotape, a focus group, and a questionnaire.

Jane Nogaki summarized an article that had just been released on several States suing the EPA for not having applied the 10X safety factor. Audrey and Tara had no further information.

George Hamilton adjourned the meeting at approximately 11:45 pm.