

A Hall of Fame Award for Chuck Mourer

On February 26, IR-4 presented its highest recognition, the Hall of Fame Award, to former Western Region Laboratory Coordinator, Chuck Mourer. Chuck was selected to receive the award for the work he accomplished in revitalizing the IR-4 Western Region Analytical Laboratory.

At a time when analytical laboratory trials were increasing dramatically, and in three short years, Chuck changed the way all the IR-4 labs would operate. Through his efforts, the Western Region Laboratory was able to procure state-of-the-art equipment and assemble a group of highly trained and dedicated analytical chemists.

Chuck's impact wasn't limited to the West. Lab personnel in the other IR-4 analytical facilities were inspired by Chuck's



Chuck Mourer, center with wife, Betty, (in red shirt) and colleagues, (l-r) Western Region Quality Assurance Coordinator, Jim McFarland, Western Region Laboratory Coordinator, Matt Hengel and Western Region IR-4 Director Marion Miller.

example and soon began modernizing their instrumentation to the level of technological sophistication demonstrated by Chuck's lab.

In addition to working as the Western Region Laboratory Coordinator, Chuck was a consultant to USDA-ARS Director, Paul Schwartz, in assessing laboratory efficiency. Earlier in his career, Chuck was the Regional Laboratory Quality Assurance officer.

Known for his tenacity, Chuck was a key contributor at a time when IR-4 transitioned from being a relatively small program to an efficient, productive and highly credible organization. He set the bar for chemical residue analysis and, working alongside his group, could expeditiously analyze large numbers of samples.

Chuck was also instrumental in fostering relationships with state agencies and private entities. Through these

relationships, he was able to garner much needed financial support that allowed the rapid upgrade of laboratory instrumentation.

IR-4 Western Region Laboratory Coordinator, Matt Hengel, speaks fondly of Chuck stating, "much of my abilities and successes can be directly attributed to opportunities afforded me by Chuck. He constantly led by example and made sure that the data generated by the lab was of the utmost quality."

IR-4 is grateful to Chuck, for his leadership and example of excellence! ▲



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Workshop to Provide Practical Information on MRLs and International Regulations



— by Dr. Lori Berger, Director of Technical Affairs for the CSCC and IR-4 Commodity Liaison Committee Member

The California Specialty Crops Council (CSCC) has organized a workshop focusing on issues critical to the continued expansion of trade for US agricultural products. This two-day workshop will be held in San Francisco May 14-15, 2008.

This is the third year the CSCC has organized the workshop, which is supported by commodity groups, IR-4, EPA, USDA, Crop Life America, the registrant community and other stakeholders in agriculture.

The workshop agenda will address the US pesticide registration process, MRL regulations of importing countries (NAFTA, EU, Asia), phytosanitary (SPS) requirements and food safety issues. The major goal of this outreach program is to provide practical information on the MRL process and to improve overall coordination of regulatory activities for commodities bound for export markets.

Workshop highlights include:

- USDA's Foreign Ag

Service will discuss trends in trade for US Ag products

- Lois Rossi, director of U.S. EPA's Registration Division, will discuss the role of the U.S. EPA in the international registration process
- Mike Guidici Pietro, National Trade Director, USDA-APHIS, will share current developments in the area of pest prevention and exclusion
- A hands on demonstration of the MRL database
- Numerous representatives of US commodities will discuss how their growers address increasingly complex issues in both conventional and organic production systems.

The workshop is designed for all interested growers, commodity groups, pest control advisors, packer-shipper organizations, registrants, and regulatory personnel. Space at the conference is limited and a pre-

registration fee of \$225 is required by May 7. A hotel block is being held until April 24 at a special conference rate of \$159.

This meeting will be held at the Holiday Inn Fisherman's Wharf starting at 8 AM Wednesday, May 14 and will conclude at noon on Thursday, May 15. Meeting information,

workshop registration and hotel information can be found at:

http://specialtycrops.org/intl_workshop.html

The California Specialty Crops Council is a coalition of fruit, vegetable, tree and vine commodity groups that works proactively on issues related to pest management and environmental stewardship. For more information on the CSCC, please see www.specialtycrops.org.

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Data Exclusivity Under FIFRA

— by Eric Maurer, Industry Representative, IR-4 Commodity Liaison Committee

The Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) requires pesticides to undergo a rigorous review process to ensure these products can be used safely without posing unreasonable adverse effects to man and the environment. To make this finding, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) requires hundreds of studies that address, among others, toxicity, environmental fate, and human health effects associated with the use of a pesticide. The cost of these studies typically runs into the tens of millions of dollars.

Congress considered these significant investments to provide safe and effective pest management tools to American farmers and granted a 10-year "exclusive use" period for the data that supports the initial registration of a pesticide. Under law, no other company would be allowed to utilize these data in any way during this period to support a pesticide registration application.

Once this 10-year period expires however, other companies may

offer to pay compensation to the original data submitter for the right to utilize these data for their own substantially similar product. Otherwise, these data would not be considered public (thus not requiring data compensation) until 15 years after the initial registration.

In August 1996, FIFRA was amended by the Food Quality Protection Act (FQPA), which enabled data owners to extend this 10-year data exclusivity period one additional year for every 3 minor uses registered within 7 years of the initial registration. The total increase cannot exceed 3 years (which would require 9 additional minor uses) and the 15-year data compensation period would not be affected.

For a minor use to qualify, it must meet one of the following criteria:

- There are insufficient efficacious alternative registered pesticides available for the use
- The alternatives to the minor use pesticide pose greater risks to the environment or human health
- The minor use

pesticide plays or will play a strategic role in managing pest resistance

- The minor use pesticide plays or will play a significant part in an Integrated Pest Management program

A minor use, as defined in FIFRA, has less than 300,000 acres in the United States or meets one of the criteria identified above.

A lesser-utilized component of FQPA also enabled registrants to obtain 10 years of data exclusivity for data that supports a new minor use to an existing registration that does not retain any period of exclusive use.

Although these provisions were established in 1996, awareness has only developed over the last several years.

Accordingly, it had not been necessary for EPA to establish guidance associated with the administrative or technical components of a petition. Thus, a coalition of stakeholders including IR-4, commodity groups, industry, and CropLife America has had meetings with EPA and has requested

information to better understand the process and ultimately, facilitate an efficient review process that everybody can use. ▲

Correction

In the January Newsletter FAO was mistakenly referred to as the Foreign Agricultural Organization of the United Nations. It is the Food & Agricultural Organization of the United Nations.

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Crop Groupings - Historical Perspective & Recent Revision

Successes!

— by IR-4 Study Director, Bill Barney and
IR-4 Assistant Director, Van Starner

Crop grouping is a well accepted and cost effective approach that facilitates the efficient establishment of tolerances for both major and minor crops. This concept can be traced back to 1962, when crop grouping was first published in the Federal Register (27 FR 12100). Initially there were 14 crop groups, but no subgroups or representative commodities. In 1971 the 1st edition of Food and Feed Crops of the US (J.R. Magness, G.M. Markle, C.C. Compton) was published, which was the first attempt to classify commercial food and feed crops in the US. In 1973, Dugan and Associates under contract with the EPA proposed classifying 450 food and feed crops into 10 classes containing 34 groups, and the 19 current crop groups can be traced back to that proposal.

The 1962 crop grouping scheme was improved in 1983 when 19 crop groups were established, and for the first time the concept of representative crops was included. Rule

amendments in 1995 established the current scheme and created subgroups for 8 of the 19 crop groups (508 commodities). New commodities were added to the existing groups and some representative crops were revised. The regulations published in 1995, however, included a number of miscellaneous crops such as mushrooms, hops and asparagus that were not included in any crop group. In 1998, the 2nd edition of "the Green Book" (Food and Feed Crops of the United States, Markle, G.M., J.J. Baron and B.A. Schneider) was published. This edition added EPA and Codex commodity classifications and identified many additional crops that were not included in any crop group.

The crop grouping regulations (40 CFR § 180.41) allow for the establishment of tolerances for a group or subgroup of crops based on residue data from representative crops of the group or subgroup. When crops which have similar

morphology, cultural practices, edible portion, growing season, geography and pest problems are contained in the same crop group or subgroup, they can be expected to have similar residues.

Representative crops are the most economically important crops in the group and are most likely to have the highest residue. Subgroups contain similar crops that are contained in the crop group. A full set of EPA-required field trials are conducted on the representative crop for a crop group or subgroup. When a pesticide tolerance is established for a crop group or subgroup, it applies to all of the crops in the respective group or subgroup. As a crop grouping example, if cucumber, muskmelon and summer squash residue studies are conducted and a tolerance is obtained for the Curcubit Vegetable Crop Group 9, then the established tolerance applies to all 12 crops included in the crop group. As a

subgroup example, if a cantaloupe study is conducted and a tolerance is obtained for the Melon subgroup 9A, then the tolerance also applies to citron melon, muskmelon and watermelon. It is also possible to propose a crop group tolerance with a particular member of the crop excluded. For example, a crop group tolerance for Leafy greens subgroup 4A, except spinach, results in a tolerance for all of the crops in subgroup 4A except for spinach.

Bill Barney at IR-4 Headquarters recently assumed responsibility for managing the crop grouping initiative with EPA and the Int'l Crop Grouping Consulting Committee (see IR-4 Newsletter article July 2007 for more details about this committee). To date IR-4 has compiled and submitted to EPA 8 petitions requesting crop group revisions, including Berries and Small Fruits, Bulb Vegetables, Edible Fungi, Fruiting Vegetables, Oil Seeds, Citrus Fruits, Pome Fruits and Stone Fruits. The FR final rule for the first revision approvals adding the new Edible

Fungi Group 21 and expanding Bulb Vegetable Group 3-07 and Berry and Small Fruit Group 13-07 was published on December 7, 2007 (revised crop group numbers are followed by the year of establishment). To see the FR final rule, go to: epa.gov/fedrgstr/EPA-PEST/2007/December/Day-07/p23659.htm. In this published rule EPA also explained how the Agency will implement revisions to crop



The representative crops for the Berry and Small Fruit Crop Group are any one blackberry or any one raspberry; highbush blueberry; elderberry or mulberry; grape; fuzzy kiwifruit, and strawberry.

groups. EPA also will provide "reviewer's guides" which describe the new crop grouping amendments and how to express tolerances for the revised crop groups/subgroups. For a complete listing of all current and new crop groups, subgroups,

representative crops, and individual crops, go to the Crop Group Index link on the IR-4 website (ir4.rutgers.edu/Other/CropGroup.htm), where all crop group revisions will be incorporated as final rules are published. This final December

2007 rule was a primary subject at a recent meeting coordinated by IR-4 and EPA with many registrant representatives in Raleigh, NC, in February (see related story below). ▲

EPA/IR-4/Registrant Meeting

— by IR-4 Associate Director, Dan Kunkel

In late February, IR-4 coordinated a meeting with EPA and Crop Protection Industry representatives. The meeting was held just prior to the IR-4 Southern region GLP training workshop in Raleigh, NC.

About 45 representatives from nearly all of the chemical manufacturers with whom IR-4 works, EPA, and IR-4 participated in the meeting. The discussions were lead by Barbara Madden, the EPA Registration Division Minor Use Team Leader. A key objective of the meeting was to discuss IR-4 petition submissions and

to highlight how the registrant's information (labeling, registration forms, and Notices of Filing) fits into the process, especially under new Pesticide Registration Improvement Act Re-authorization (PRIA II) regulations. By providing complete packages, IR-4 petitions will be processed more quickly once received at EPA. As a side note, IR-4 received word (during the meeting) that the U.S. Congress passed (and now the president has signed) a technical amendment to PRIA II, ensuring that IR-4's petitions will be exempt from PRIA II fees. To meet the second

objective of the meeting Barbara also provided an update with respect to progress being made with the revision of the 1995 Crop Grouping Regulation. EPA codified changes to the bulb vegetable and berry and small fruit crop groups, and created the edible fungi group 21 in December 2007. Barbara emphasized that the new crop groups are not approved automatically for registrants and product labels, but they need to be requested with petitions to EPA, either by registrants or IR-4.

The process will require a request for deletion of

the existing crop group tolerance and approval of a tolerance for the new crop group. Another route to address the new minor crop commodities in revised crop groups could be in Registration Review to account for risk assessments that are required under FQPA.

Due to the success of this joint EPA/IR-4/registrant meeting, it is likely that future meetings will be convened on an as-needed basis, to address specific topics that will help make our work on behalf of U.S. specialty crop growers as efficient as possible! ▲

The Journey from Protocol to Petition was the theme of the Southern Region Good Laboratory Practices training, which was held on February 20-21, 2008, in Raleigh, North Carolina. The training, conducted by IR-4 experienced researchers, was based on a similar program held in the western region in 2005, and was geared toward new employees.

Nearly 50 people from IR-4 sites throughout the country,



with job responsibilities in the field, lab, Study Directors (SD) and Quality Assurance (QA) joined us on this two day journey. Key to this training was the opportunity for the exchange of ideas and best practices as it simulated a field trial from start to finish. Looking beyond the work conducted in the field, the next stop followed the trials into the laboratory and moving along, passengers learned how the data from the field and the lab is compiled and submitted to the EPA, with the final stop, an approved label.

Come with me, IR-4 Study Director, Debbie Carpenter, and let's take a peek at some of the snapshots from our journey. For many participants, the driving directions and map lands on the doorstep, much like a morning newspaper, in the form of a protocol.

Another tool used

throughout the field trial journey is the travel log or Field Data Books (FDB). The FDB includes sections for logging the details of the field trial. University of Maryland IR-4 Field Research Director (FRD), Marylee Ross, led the passengers through the art of filling out the appropriate beginning pages of the FDB. Navigating through these pages, that include, the Good Laboratory Practice (GLP) compliance page, Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) documentation and Curriculum Vitae (CV), which is credential evidence for those working in the field, can sometimes be challenging.

Once these pages were filled out, we moved on to test substances, which for this journey, arrived in a cardboard box at our meeting room. The box was unpacked, the Certificate of Analysis was consulted, and IR-4 FRD, Brent Smith guided us through logging this information into the FDB. The box contained one container of a clear test substance in a plastic bottle, ready for use.

Under GLP, test substances need to be stored under monitored conditions. Our next stop was to put the container in the test substance storage area, a 20 minute bus ride which took us to the test substance storage bunker (uh, building). At this storage facility in North Carolina, the test substance is kept under lock and key. North Carolina State IR-4 FRD, Roger Batts, logged the test substance into this locked area. Simulating the

The Journey from P a Training in IR

— by Debbie Carpenter, IR-4 Training Committee Chair and Robin Adkins,

next step in the process, it was time to transport the test substance in an ice chest to the field location.

After the morning's activities, it was time to pull over for a mouth-watering lunch of NC BBQ chicken, ham and beef, that came with traditional sides of coleslaw, baked beans, and hush puppies. Yum!! During breaks and lunch we had valuable opportunities to make new friends and associate names with the faces of people we've talked with on the phone. Colleagues learned interesting information about other's favorite hobbies, what brought them to IR-4, and descriptions of the part of the country they live in, what crops grow there, and what is going on at their sites (during February, in Weslaco, Texas, trees had leafed out, while in Princeton, NJ, and in Geneva, NY, spring was still anxiously awaited.)

Once lunch was over it was time to head out to the field. USDA/ARS FRD, Ben Fraelich guided us through setting up plots, and drawing the plot diagram. Roger Batts, who had a field of winter wheat planted and ready for spray, showed us how to calibrate spray output, take out the spray boom, push the trigger and *voila*. But this time, one of the nozzles wasn't spraying.

In the "real world", there needs to be a lot of troubleshooting, making appropriate fixes, documenting what was fixed and continuing on. This speed bump allowed us to review how to manage issues like this.



The calibrations for spray speed and output were completed. On this day, weather conditions were not ideal for spraying, as an icy wind was gusting to about 20 mph. The FRD contacted the SD and explained the situation, and the SD agreed that under these circumstances, this was the only day we had for training, the application had to be made today (in a real trial the FRD would have made the application another day). Roger demonstrated appropriate protective equipment for making an application including boots, TYVEK® suit and gloves. Because of the conditions, the rest of us needed hats, gloves and a warm jacket for protective equipment. The application was made, and



Protocol to Petition: -4 GLP Studies

IR-4 Southern Region Technical Assistant and Training Committee Member

those participating gratefully walked back to the enveloping warmth of the bus - to travel to our next stop about 5 minutes away - a different field where Marylee Ross and Lori Gregg (Texas A & M University, FRD) demonstrated different application types as described in IR-4 Training advisory 2004-02 (<http://ir4.rutgers.edu/trainingsadvisories.html>).

Day 2

The next morning was sunny and bright, yet still cold. With pink wind-burned faces from the previous day's activities, passengers eagerly bounded onto the bus. Day two was sampling day and the culmination of all the work completed in the field. Brent Smith led the sampling team. The winter wheat was cut from more than 12 areas of the plot and put directly in the IR-4 sample bag (pictured left). Roger hauled his sampling trailer out to the plot. It was well organized and stocked for harvesting activities. It contained designated spaces for the ice chests, counter space for pens, bags, and wiping down harvesting equipment such as knives, a chopping area, and storage for tools. Brent Smith helped us fill out the harvesting FDB pages. The harvesting knife was cleaned, the sample was put in the cooler and passengers were back on the warm bus for the trip



to the freezers (many felt they were already in the freezers due to the weather).

The bus trip took about 40 minutes, and arrived at Roger's freezer trailer. The freezer is locked, with limited access, and is divided into sections for untreated and treated samples. Roger put the newly harvested sample in the freezer. Since we were on a short educational trip to cover all aspects of the field trial, the sample was prepared for immediate shipping via the carrier, ACDS. Shipping boxes were pre-labeled; the sample was removed from the freezer and packed in the shipping box. We all discussed how to fill out the FDB for shipping samples and contacting the lab. Passengers trooped through the freezer trailer one by one, and admired the efficiency of the freezer area.

Back on the bus, passengers viewed the video screen and learned our shipping boxes arrived via ACDS at the laboratory facility in Gainesville, Florida. Simulating the lab procedures, the samples were unloaded, unpacked and checked against the inventory sheets. The video also demonstrated the preparation and analysis of samples in the laboratory.

Our final stop on this educational trip was the

conference room. Since our trial was not complete until the paperwork was done, Ben Fraelich led us through the discussion on completion of the FDB.

IR-4 Quality Assurance (QA) Manager, Tammy White, discussed development and revision of SOP's and provided example SOPs for our use. IR-4 Southern Region Assistant, Robin Adkins, explained the Quality Control process and how the data book is reviewed. Once reviewed, it is shipped to QA, and



Tammy White (below) explained the QA audit process. Our FDB was complete and sent to headquarters; and we were done. Passengers gave a sigh of relief as we had successfully completed our trial. However, IR-4 Assistant Director, Van Starner indicated that there may be additional questions as the final report on the study is written. Van outlined how the work in the field and the lab is compiled into a final report and petition submission. An example was available so that those who had never seen a submission package could see the result of their work and the format used when submitting a petition to EPA. Of course, the end of

the line for this journey is a label, which indicates that the pesticide used throughout the study may be used on the crop treated in the study.

What did we accomplish on our journey? We got a big picture view of the work involved in taking a study from protocol to petition. We have a new appreciation for how much driving Roger Batts does during the field season, and how difficult it can be when the FRD gets up while it is dark, drives to the field an hour or more away, with all equipment packed and ready to go, and heads to the field to spray before the wind picks up. Then, the wind picks up or it starts to rain... And the FRD must wait for another day.

We made new friends and put faces with names. We followed a study through from start to finish and reviewed how GLP fits into this process. Finally, we had fun doing it. There was a lot of discussion and interchange of ideas. We don't do everything the same way, and we learned how others do various procedures at their locations. We exchanged ideas and best practices, so there are things each of us can try this year.

Our thanks to the organizers of this educational journey - Robin Adkins, Amanda Hogle, Roger Batts and Tommy Batts, and to all the other trainers for putting together a great program. ▲

IR-4 Welcomes New CLC Members

In February, IR-4 welcomed three new members to the Commodity Liaison Committee (CLC), Kirk Baumann, Lori Berger and Mike Bledsoe.

Kirk, is Director of the Ginseng Board of Wisconsin and the Ginseng & Herb Coop. The Coop was created by the Ginseng Board of Wisconsin to promote and market Wisconsin - grown ginseng. Kirk has also been a ginseng



grower for over 25 years and his company, Baumann LLC, is one of the largest growers in Wisconsin. Kirk travels extensively meeting with Chinese government representatives, U.S. congressional representative and/or staff, and has traveled to Hong Kong to educate and train Eu Yan Sang International Ltd (a 128-year-old Singapore-based traditional Chinese medicine company) representatives on USDA Grade Standards for cultivated ginseng.

Lori Berger has worked in a variety of professional positions in

agricultural production and pest management including field research, product development, technology transfer, marketing, commodity support, teaching, private consulting and regulatory affairs. Her expertise includes integrated pest management and pollination ecology in deciduous tree fruits, vines, vegetables, citrus, strawberries, cotton, alfalfa, and rice.

Lori has served as Executive Director of the California Specialty Crops Council (CSCC) since 2000. The CSCC is a multi-commodity coalition supported by California growers and is active in the areas of pest



management, crop production, and environmental stewardship issues for its members.

Mike Bledsoe is the Vice President of Scientific and Regulatory Affairs at Village Farms, L.P. He has over 30 years experience in agriculture, in positions ranging from a field research manager for Chevron Ortho AG Chemical to a Quality Assurance Manager with

Valent to Vice President of Technology at Ecoscience and Village Farms.

Mike's professional accomplishments include, developing CERCLA or Superfund policies, developing a comprehensive Injury and Illness Prevention Plan for the USA and Mexico, and managing Valent's 16-sector Material Safety Data Sheets. At the Incident Commander Level of HAZWOPER, (Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response) Mike has trained for hazardous spill clean up.

Additionally, Mike has lectured on Risk Management and Environmental Stewardship.



Mike is a regular at IR-4 FUWs, and has written articles for the IR-4 Newsletter.

The IR-4 CLC was formed in 1991 to serve as a formal bridge between IR-4 and growers of specialty crops.

The CLC also provides guidance and advice and communicates the mission of IR-4 to their agriculture community. They also support federal funding initiatives. ▲

Strategic Planning Conference

IR-4 is planning a Strategic Planning Conference to be held December 9-10 in Crystal City, Virginia. The purpose of the Conference is to obtain advice and feedback from IR-4's stakeholders, customers, and partners as we draft a five year (2009-2013) Strategic Plan.

Of great importance to IR-4 is your input regarding the most pressing issues, problems, concerns and potential opportunities in specialty crop pest management and minor uses of pesticides. We are seeking input on how the IR-4 Project can address these issues and reach these opportunities.

IR-4 values your knowledge of minor uses of pesticides and specialty crop pest management. Your input at the Conference will play an important role in the process that determines the IR-4 Project's direction for the future.

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Connecting IR-4 to Texas

The Encarta dictionary defines stakeholder as a person or group with a direct interest, involvement, or investment in something, and because of this interest, stakeholders become actively involved. IR-4 is fortunate to have many stakeholder groups, whose interest support and direct IR-4 toward its mission. One such group is the IR-4 Commodity Liaison Committee (CLC), chaired by Rocky Lundy, President of the Mint Industry Research Council.

Members of the CLC have at least one thing in common...ENERGY, and that can truly be said of one of its veteran members, Ray Prewett. As Executive Director of the Texas Vegetable Association, Ray spends a good deal of his day connecting people. He connects growers with growers, growers with extension personnel, extension personnel with agencies, agencies with business, business with government, and government with communities.

When he's not connecting people, he's planning approximately three conferences a year, where he and his

colleagues organize speakers, work with publication designers, and Ray even takes on the role as photographer during some of these events.



I spent two days with Ray and watched him in action. While the event Ray had planned for our first day - an Immigration Summit, connecting business and agriculture leaders - had been postponed, Ray didn't miss a beat and the time set aside for the event was immediately filled with meetings to address an imminent threat to the Texas Citrus Industry.

Ray discussed at length with Texas AgriLife Extension representatives, Enrique Perez, Monty Dozier, Ruben Saldana and Texas Cooperative Extension Agent, Brad Cowan, the need to get the word out about citrus greening. During the meeting, Ray, now taking on the role of professor, explained the devastation caused



by this disease in Florida. He showed the Extension reps photos of known vectors and the results they cause.

Ray informed the AgriLife Extension reps of a national task force addressing citrus greening and its proposal for a public information campaign. Because so many homeowners have citrus trees in their landscaping, the task force believes educating Master Gardeners is a good first step link for the campaign. He went on to discuss the plans for a door yard survey, and shared comments from California task group members that the word "greening" has healthy connotations and the need for a focus group to offer suggestions on a new name for this threat.

Ray also reiterated the

need for this threat to be approached as an area wide issue and not just a grove by grove concern. The Extension reps offered their assistance and ideas for using various mediated communication tools such as videos and a website portal to deliver the information. They scheduled another meeting for April to review timelines and strategies.

After lunch, Ray met with Texas AgriLife Extension economist, Marco Palma to look at economic analysis on crops and crop loss due to various pressures. He uses this in obtaining Section 18s for Texas growers. Ray connected me with Marco, who will be a valued resource in obtaining economic statistics for a Texas report card. Ray rounded out the day working late into the evening on last minute details for the next day's meeting.

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2008 Food Use Workshop

This year's IR-4 Food Use Workshop (FUW) will be held September 16-17, 2008, in Sacramento, CA at: The Holiday Inn Sacramento Capitol Plaza, 300 J Street Sacramento, CA 95814.

Reservations should be made directly with the hotel by calling 916.446.0100. To secure the special room rate of \$113, mention you are attending the IR-4 FUW. The cutoff date for reservations is Aug. 16, 2008.

The FUW registration fee is \$150 until September 1, 2008, and \$200 from

September 2 and on-site.

Because we've made the prioritization process more efficient with project nomination in August and priorities within all regions being well-organized prior to the workshop, we have reduced the agenda to a 2-day event.

This year Disease Management project prioritization will begin Tues. morning at 9:00 a.m., following welcomes, a "State of the IR-4 Project" address, introductions and general workshop instructions. Insect Management

project prioritization will begin after the Tues. afternoon break, and will be completed Wed. morning. Weed Management project prioritization will commence before noon on Wed. and be completed by day's end.

Revised nomination process plans and deadlines for the nomination process and receipt of new PCRs in August have been communicated through the regions.

Important Dates:

Aug. 11-31: project lists available on the website for nomination

Aug. 15: last day new PCRs are accepted for consideration at workshop

Aug. 15-31: list of PCRs received Aug. 8-15 posted for nomination

Sept. 3: lists of nominated projects posted on website
A major difference in nominating projects this year is that during the online process, you must identify yourself by name, affiliation, state and phone, and you will be able to give each project an "A", "B" or "C" priority. At the workshop we will focus prioritization primarily on projects that received at least one "A" nomination. Also, this year we will not be mailing workshop printouts. Instead, we request that workshop participants print from the IR-4 website the lists that they will need in Sacramento.

For more information and a detailed agenda visit the IR-4 website at ir4.rutgers.edu. ▲

Strategic Planning *continued from pg 8*

Some Conference discussions include:

- Should the relative balance of effort and resources within existing IR-4 research programs (food, ornamental horticulture, and biopesticide) be modified and if so, how?
- How will the lack of resources (funding and research personnel) for applied pest management research at the state agriculture experiment stations and USDA-ARS affect the future productivity of IR-4? How can the lack of resources be offset?
- How can IR-4 better serve the needs of existing stakeholders?
- What is the role of IR-4 in funding and conducting broad comparative product performance screening trials to identify pest management solutions for specific pests?
- What role should IR-4 take in harmonizing US and international regulations and crop protection chemical and biopesticide clearances?
- To what extent should IR-4 develop data to support the listing of conventional crop protection

chemicals and biopesticides with USDA Organic Material Review Board for use in organic production?

- What role should IR-4 have in the management of invasive species?
- Are there new areas IR-4 should consider for the future and how can IR-4 obtain new resources for these areas without compromising resources for existing priority research objectives?

The conference will play an important role in the process that determines IR-4 Project's future directions.

It will be held at the Doubletree Hotel Crystal City-National Airport. A block of rooms is being held until November 6, 2008 at the rate of \$185.00/single; \$205.00 double. Attendees can call 703-416-4100 to reserve a room. Reference the 3 letter code IRP or mention Rutgers University IR-4 Project of Princeton when making your reservation. A registration fee of \$50 will be charged to attendees and an online registration (ir4.rutgers.edu) will be available soon. Contact Cheryl Ferrazoli for more information at ferrazoli@aesop.rutgers.edu. ▲

Clearances Dec. '07- Mar.08

The trade names listed below are provided as a means to identify the chemical for which a tolerance has been established. A trade name listed here may not be the name of the product on which the new food use(s) will be registered. Only labeled products may be used on a food crop. Be sure to obtain current information about usage regulations and examine a current product label before applying any chemical.

Federal Register: 12/5/07

Spinosad

Trade Name:

SpinTor Naturalyte

Crops: Spice subgroup
19B except black pepper,
Pineapple **PR#:** 07361,
08693

Ethalfuralin

Trade Names: Curbit,
Sonalan **Crops:** Dill,
Mustard, Potato, Rapeseed
PR#: 05320, 06567,
08516

Federal Register: 12/26/07

Etoxazole

Trade Names: Baroque,
Secure, Tetrasan **Crops:**
Melon subgroup 9A,
Cherry, Hop **PR#:** 07945,
09018, 09044, 08873

Federal Register: 12/28/07

Fluroxypyr

Trade Names: Starane,
Tomahawk, Tomigan
Crops: Pome fruit group
11, Millet **PR#:** 07706,
07707, 09337

Dimethenamid

Trade Names: Frontier,
Outlook **Crops:** Radish,
Rutabaga, Turnip, Pumpkin,
Winter Squash, Hop
PR#: 07695, 07696,
07697, 09813, 07909,
06596, 08705

Federal Register: 1/2/08

Trifloxystrobin

Trade Names: Compass,
Flint, Gem, Twist
Crops: Asparagus, Papaya,
Black sapote, Canistel,
Mamey sapote, Mango,
Sapodilla, Star Apple, Root

vegetable except sugar beet
subgroup 1B
PR#: 08212, 07973,
08363

Federal Register: 1/9/08

Zeta-cypermethrin

Trade Names: Fury,
Mustang **Crops:** Citrus fruit
group 10, Oilseed
commodities, Safflower,
Okra, Wild rice
PR#: 08214, 08215,
08216, 10073, 08677,
09656, 09125

Mesotrione

Trade Names: Callisto
Crop: Cranberry
PR#: 08903

Federal Register: 1/11/08

Thiabendazole

Trade Names: Arbotect,
Mertect, Storite, Tectab,
Tecto **Crop:** Dry pea
PR#: 06130, 06531,
06532

Federal Register: 1/16/08

Acetamiprid

Trade Name: Assail,
Intruder, Profil, Tri-Star
Crops: Low-growing berry
subgroup 13-07G
PR#: 09058, 10060

Federal Register: 1/29/08

Hexakis

Trade Name: Vendex
Crop: Pistachio
PR#: 06617

Federal Register: 2/27/08

Cyfluthrin

Trade Names: Baythroid,
Laser, Tempo
Crops: Grass (forage,

fodder, and hay) group 17
PR#: 09683

Federal Register: 3/5/08

Bifenazate

Trade Names: Acramite,
Floramite **Crops:** Edible
podded legume vegetable
subgroup 6A, Succulent
shelled pea and bean
subgroup 6B, Succulent
shelled soybean, Caneberry
subgroup 13-07A, Guava,
Lychee, Mango, Starfruit,
Papaya, Acerola, Black
sapote, Canistel, Feijoa,
Jaboticaba, Longan,
Passionfruit, Pulasan,
Rambutan, Sapodilla,
Mamey sapote, Spanish
lime, Star apple, Wax jambu
PR#: 08275, 07053,
08928, 08268, 08891,
08267

Flumioxazin

Trade Names: Pledge,
Valor **Crops:** Alfalfa,
Asparagus, Dry bean,
Fruiting vegetable group 8,
Okra, Melon subgroup 9A,
Bushberry subgroup 13-
07B, Tree nut group 14
PR#: 08059, 09043,
08320, 08321, 08316,
08331, 08668, 08818

Methoxyfenozide

Trade Name: Intrepid
Crops: Tuberos and corm
vegetable except potato
subgroup 1D, Green onion
subgroup 3-07B, Bushberry
subgroup 13-07B, Grass
(forage, fodder, and hay)
group 17, Animal feed
(nongrass) group 18, Dry
bean, Peanut, Avocado,
Guava, Passionfruit,

Acerola, Canistel, Feijoa,
Jaboticaba, Mango,
Papaya, Sapodilla, Black
sapote, Mamey sapote,
Star apple, Starfruit, Wax
jambu **PR#:** 08505,
08392, 09067, 07671,
07524, 07530, 08115,
07060, 07064, 07067

Federal Register: 3/12/08

Spiromesifen

Trade Name: Oberon
Crops: Dry bean, Edible
podded bean, Succulent
bean **PR#:** 09410

Federal Register: 3/24/08

Pyraclostrobin

Trade Names: Cabrio,
Comet, Headline, Insignia,
Pristine **Crops:** Barley,
Avocado, Mango, Papaya,
Black sapote, Canistel,
Mamey sapote, Sapodilla,
Star apple **PR#:** 09089,
08400, 08446, 08442

Federal Register: 3/26/08

Myclobutanil

Trade Names: Eagle,
Nova, Rally, Systhane
Crops: Leafy greens
except spinach subgroup
4A, Cilantro (leaves),
Fruiting vegetable except
tomato group 8, Okra,
Globe artichoke, Mango,
Papaya, Black sapote,
Canistel, Mamey sapote,
Sapodilla, Star apple
PR#: 06358, 07878,
06070, 06071, 06732,
06857, 07020, 08112,
07744

Federal Register: 3/28/08

Boscalid

Trade Name: Pristine
Crops: Avocado, Mango,
Papaya, Black sapote,
Canistel, Mamey sapote,
Sapodilla, Star apple
Pr#: 08400, 08446,
08442

Ray

continued from pg 9

The Texas Citrus Mutual met for its mid-year meeting at 8 the next morning. The day-long meeting was attended by over 100 people. Meeting presentations included updates on new opportunities for Texas Citrus, new varieties and rootstocks, status of citrus canker and greening and



highlighted a new Texas Citrus marketing strategy. The Honorable Todd Staples, Texas Commissioner of Agriculture discussed the role of the Texas Department of Agriculture in supporting the citrus industry. Other presentations included learning about citrus greening from a Floridian's perspective, as well as Florida's approach to "Citrus Variety Access and Control." Following the "fastest business meeting on record" and a BBQ lunch, attendees learned about a health insurance company coming to Texas and finally about "Improving Fruit Yield

and Quality through Better Nutrition.

Throughout the meeting, Ray could be seen connecting people. He would know of a need one person had and would introduce that person to another in the room who could help. More than once I heard him say, "you need to get with". Networking is something that appears to come natural to Ray and is truly one of his strengths. His knowledge of the issues, his concern for the growers, and his unfailing energy were evident throughout our visit. What is clear to me is IR-4 is fortunate to have Ray connecting us with Texas growers and beyond! ▲

Calendar of Events

North Central Meeting
August 11-12, 2008
Madison, WI

2008 Southern Region Meeting
August 26-28, 2008
Richmond, VA

2008 Food Use Workshop
September 16-17, 2008
Sacramento, CA 2008

2008 National Research Planning Meeting
October 28-29, 2008
Princeton, NJ

Strategic Planning Conference
December 9-10, 2008
Crystal City, VA

National Training Conference
February 24-25, 2009
San Antonio, TX



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