The IR-4 Project

Providing Safe and Effective Pest Management Solutions for Specialty Crop Growers

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Failed Field Trial Assessment Summary

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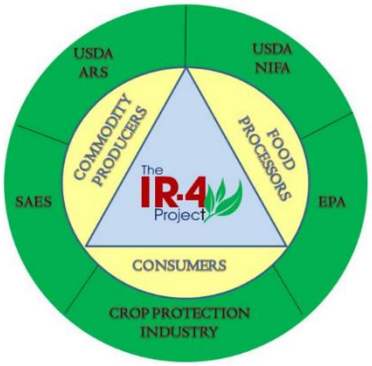
Failed Field Trial

- **In 2015 IR-4 established an Ad Hoc Committee to identify steps to reduce/eliminate avoidable problems in the performance of IR-4 field trials:**
  - Dave Ennes and John Wise co-chairs.
  - Becky Sisco; Tom Freiberger; Clark Oman; Grace Lennon; Dan Heider, Paul Wade, Robin Federline



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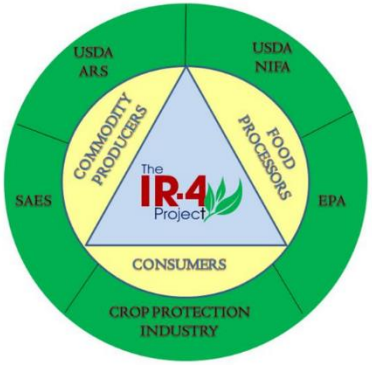
Failed Field Trial

- **Ad Hoc Committee was provided a list of 130 failed field trials over a ten year period:**
  - Over 50% were a result of severe weather or pest-related circumstances.
  - Remaining failed field trials could conceivably been avoided.



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Failed Field Trial

- **Avoidable field trial failures fell into the following categories:**
  - Third party action resulted in trial failure.
  - Under/over applications by FRD bases on calculation error, misunderstanding of application type, failure to carefully read protocol.
  - Did not maintain equipment under GLPs. No freezer backup system.
  - FRD not paying attention to trial requirements.
  - Random human error

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Failed Field Trial - Recommendations

- Recommendations for preventing field trial calculation and protocol mistakes:

1. Study directors provide a verification mechanism appropriate to each study and associated FRD, although sent separate from the protocol itself.
(such as a link http://wrir4.ucdavis.edu/Resources/QC/Calculations.html)

2. Study directors work with RFCs to identify which trials and/or FRDs need follow-up support of spreadsheet & check system, whereby calculations must be checked by SD and/or RFC during season.

3. Include a one-page trial summary page that highlights the key things critical to the study.

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Failed Field Trial - Recommendations

- Recommendations for preventing mishaps related to freezer backups and other fundamental GLP field systems:

1. Encourage Regional field coordinators to carefully review SOPs for freezer backups and other fundamental GLP systems. QA can also help site-check field sites to confirm these basic GLP systems are in-place.

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Failed Field Trial - Recommendations

- Recommendations for preventing mishaps related to Test substance expiration and record keeping:

1. Remind FRDs to contact study directors immediately if there is a problem. Include Test Substance criteria in 2016 Field Data Books. Western region has a spreadsheet, developed by OSU, which helps tract this. Include link in FDBs (http://wrir4.ucdavis.edu/Resources/Tricks/default.html).

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Failed Field Trial - Recommendations

- Recommendations for preventing general mishaps related to conducting field residue trials:

1. Communication – FRDs need to communicate when there are concerns about meeting protocol requirements. If there is a concern, then a call or email is in order to get confirmation or resolution from the SD (cc RFC). If the SD or RFC are not responsive, then bump it up to the next in the chain. We recognize that FRDs often have a tight timeline and thus need a fast turn-around if there are problems.