



Spring 2016 PMC Meeting - Executive Summary & Minutes

TO: Project Management Committee/Administrative Advisors/CLC members

FROM: Sherri Novack, Van Starner

DATE: July 15, 2016

SUBJECT: Spring 2016 Project Management Committee (PMC) Meeting - Executive Summary & Minutes

Please find attached the spring 2016 PMC Executive Summary and Minutes from discussions March 9 & 10, 2016.

If you have any questions about this report, please feel free to contact Sherri Novack or Van Starner or the appropriate PMC or Headquarters Staff member listed by the agenda item.

March 2016 PMC Meeting - Executive Summary

The IR-4 Project Management Committee (PMC) held its spring 2016 meeting on March 9-10, 2016, in Washington, DC.

AA – Doug Buhler agreed to obtain the role as chair

ARS – Rose Hammond is serving as Temp, NPL. No new person has been hired to replace Sally Schneider. Dr. Maureen Whalen promoted to new Deputy Director replacing Kay Simmons

CLC – The CLC approved minor modifications to the CLC charter. CLC intends to develop a training session on “Hill Visits”

NIFA – Anticipate that 2016 funds to be disbursed by June 15. Hopes to get the 2017 RFA out in November. IR-4 needs to be better known throughout USDA; Hedberg committed to work with S. Novack to develop regular articles for USDA blog.

BAYER – Provided updated on EPA cancellation of flubendiamide

EPA Update – Jack Housenger attended and acknowledged that there is a major focus on pollinator health. Housenger also spoke on EPA’s proposal to revoke chlotopyrifos and notice of cancellation of flubendiamide. Also reported on EPA’s obligation to protect endangered species. EPA approved 187 tolerances for 26 chemicals based on IR-4 data,

HQ – All three of IR-4 Priority setting workshops were successful. Concern with cancellations of chemicals by EPA

North Central Region –John Wise; Lab is making progress on backlog.

Northeast Region –. David Soderlund; Anounced that Cornell has funds to support Edith Lurvey and Roxanne Fish through March 2016. Hope to have all bills paid by July 14, 2016, will not ask for a no-cost extension.

Southern Region – Marty Marshall: recognized the need for more training for junior staff. Many will be attending National Education Conference.

Western Region – Matt Hengel: Had a positive Riverside transition.

Path Forward – Elements are progressing. Organizational Assessment Panel planned for May 23-25, 2016.

Food Use program – 69 studies/416 field trials are planned for 2016. Have discussed planning strategies with BASF

Orn Hort program – Submitted grant for pollinator protection research.

Biopesticide program – Registered AF-36 for aflatoxin management on cotton, corn, and pistachio. Registered products to manage Varroa mites, repel birds, ringspot on papaya, *Aspergillus flavus* in corn, and a product for chestnut blight..

Public Health program – DoD/ARS grant of \$225K/yr is set through Sept. 2017; Hired a 50% FTE Research Assistant to work on Public Health databases. May be great opportunity to work on mosquito products due to Zika virus.

QA – Provided GLP training for new PMC members. Decommissioned 2 sites.

Communication Update – YES document produced. Proceeding with web redesign discovery. Working on Path Forward communication pieces.

Int'l Activities – Submitted new TASC request. Finishing ASEAN and Latin America projects.

Training Committee – Dates and location of National Education Conference have been decided.

Upcoming Meetings – were identified

Motions and Action Items

MOTION: To accept minutes from the October 2015 PMC meeting. **APPROVED**

MOTION: To accept the CLC charter as amended **APPROVED**

ACTION ITEM: Sherri to send Jackie Burns 50 YES documents

ACTION ITEM: Sherri work with Rob on articles for USDA Blog



Minutes of March 2016 Joint Project Management Committee (PMC)/Commodity Liaison Committee (CLC) meeting

The IR-4 PMC held its Spring meeting on March 9-10, 2015 in Washington, DC

Attendees:

- Tammy Barkalow - Assistant Director, QAU, IR-4 HQ
- Jerry Baron* - Executive Director IR-4 Project
- Lori Berger – AgBusiness Resources (CLC member)
- Michael Braverman - IR-4 Biopesticide & Organic Support Program Manager, IR-4 HQ
- Michael Bledsoe* – Commodity Liaison Committee (CLC), Chair
- Doug Buhler – North Central Region Administrative Advisor and Chair of AA
- Jackie Burns - Southern Region Administrative Advisor
- Jill Calabro – AmericanHort (CLC member)
- Mary Delany - Western Region Administrative Advisor (via phone)
- Alan DeYoung – Van Drunen Farms (CLC member)
- Mary Duryea—Administrative Advisor (retired)
- Liwei Gu – UFL Associate Professor (transitional Southern Region Director),
- Rob Hedberg - NIFA National Program Leader
- Brad Hillman – Northeast Region Administrative Advisor (via phone)
- Matt Hengel* - Western Region Director
- Dan Kunkel - Associate Director, Food & International Programs, IR-4 HQ
- Karl Malamud-Roam - Public Health Pesticides Program Manager, IR-4 HQ
- Marty Marshall* - Southern Region Director
- Armando Monterroso – Brooks Tropicals (CLC member)
- Sherrilynn Novack - Public Relations & Communications Manager, IR-4 HQ
- Cristi Palmer - Ornamental Horticulture Program Manager, IR-4 HQ
- Laura Phelps – American Mushroom Association (CLC member)
- Keith Pitts – Marrone Bio Innovations (CLC member)
- Dan Rossi - Northeast Region Director
- Paul Schwartz* - ARS Regional Director
- Bob Simerly – National Onion Association , McCain Foods (CLC member)
- Dave Soderlund* - Northeast Region Director and PMC Chair
- Van Starner - Assistant Director, Research Planning & Outreach, IR-4 HQ
- Berry Tanner – National Watermelon Association (CLC member)
- Ron Tjeerdema – Western Region former Director (via phone)
- Dennis Tristao – J. G. Boswell Company (CLC member)
- Dave Trinka – MBG Marketing (CLC member, via phone)
- John Wise* - North Central Region Director

* Voting members

March 9, 2016

CLC Update

The CLC voted to update its charter by removing the section defining an Executive Committee and added a Vice-Chair position. Mike Bledsoe was elected Chair and Todd Shultz as Vice-Chair. Three new CLC members joined, Allen Mize (Del Monte), Keith Pitts (Marrone Bio Innovations), and Alan DeYoung (Van Drunen Farms). Members whose terms were expiring were reappointed/re-elected for another term.

The CLC established a sub-committee to plan a “Hill Visits” training session. Many members have not made “Hill Visits” and felt they needed some guidance.

MOTION: For the PMC to accept the amended CLC charter as presented. **APPROVED**

Flubendiamide Situation

Charlotte Sanson, Manager of NAFTA Registrations from Bayer Crop Science joined the meeting to provide participants an update of the on-going efforts by EPA to cancel flubendiamide. Charlotte explained Bayer’s concerns about how EPA has approached this conditional registration.

General IR-4 Update

J. Baron discussed the successful Food, Biopesticide and Ornamental Horticulture priority setting workshops. He talked about minor-use problems today concerning MRLs, efficacy data, cancellations of chemical classes and different EPA requirements. He also discussed consumer advocacy and its impact on pest management products; often the information is not based on science rather social media. He continued with a discussion of the elements making up the IR-4 “Path Forward”.

Zika Virus Update

Karl-Malamud-Roam gave a presentation titled “Zika Virus Disease — Will IR-4 Save the World?” His presentation offered areas where IR-4 should be involved including: Supporting existing proven tools, supporting new tools and providing data management support.

EPA Update—Office of Pesticide Programs

Jack Housenger discussed the following:

- EPA budget 2013-2017
- Pollinator concerns and the Office’s proposal to mitigate acute risk to bees
- EPA proposal to revoke all food residue tolerances for chlorpyrifos and the notice of intent to cancel flubendiamide.
- EPA’s obligation to protect endangered and threatened species, that they are refining interim approaches for assessing the risks of pesticide on these species.

- Differences of monitoring and modeling
- 2015 accomplishments (187 tolerances for 26 chemicals based on IR-4 data and approval of a new formulation for AF36)
- NAFTA minor use joint reviews
- Regulatory Cooperation Council -- "Guideline for Reduced Residue Field Trial Requirements to support Joint Projects between Canada and the United States"
- Phase IV- Crop group project for NAFTA countries and Petitions Pending for Future Phase

March 10, 2016

MOTION: It was moved to accept minutes from the October 2015 PMC meeting.

APPROVED

Administrative Advisors Update –

- Doug Buhler elected chair
- D. Buhler, J. Burns, R. Tjeerdema and Brad Hillman — appreciates the discussion of IDC issue.
- J. Burns —She will attend the Southern Region Ag Experiment Station Directors meeting.

NIFA Update

Rob Hedberg gave a report on:

- 2016 funding — Expect disbursement of funds by June 15, 2016. Andrew Clark will handle all details in moving this along.
- Preliminary Plans for 2017 funding — 2017 RFA is scheduled to go out November 2016 at assume current funding level. Will be again utilizing a 2-year cycle (2017& 2018); sub-awards should cover a 2-year period. If anyone has any suggestions for the 2017 RFA, please give them to Rob.
 - Some brought up that in one place in the RFA it states a form is not needed, but further in the RFA it stated a form was needed. Rob will address this.
 - Sub awards need a letter of intent and have them make it for two years even if the researchers are only being used for one of the two years.
- Proposed Presidential NIFA budget for 2016 is \$700 million with \$3 million increase in pest management crop protection funding expanding in pollinator health work
- Sonny Ramaswamy is opening preliminary dialogue about combining programs again. Focus on bringing multiple smaller “service” programs together. IR-4 could be potentially being included in this consolidation.

- IR-4 needs to become better known throughout USDA – IR-4 worked with Stephanie Pearl to produce an article for the USDA blog titled, “Safeguarding the Food Supply and Protecting Human Health”. The article, which focuses on the IR-4 Project, aired March 1, 2016 at <http://blogs.usda.gov/2016/03/01/safeguarding-the-food-supply-and-protecting-human-health/>. Rob suggests providing articles for this blog on a monthly basis.
- Lunch and learn opportunities are still available such as **National Coalition for Food and Agriculture**
 - IR-4 CLC might consider providing a lunch and learn for Congress. The costs to produce a lunch n learn run ~\$2K which covers the cost of food.
Contact: R. Thomas (Tom) Van Arsdall NCFAR Executive Director, Van Arsdall & Associates, Inc. P.O.Box 351 Chester, MD 21619 Cell: (703) 509-4746
tom@vanarsdall.com http://www.ncfar.org/Hill_Seminar_Series.asp

ARS update – P. Schwartz (report in materials)

Rose Hammond is now serving as Acting National Program Leader for ARS involvement with IR-4. ARS down a significant number of NPL; never replaced Sally Schneider or Dan Strickman. Dr. Maureen Whalen is the new Deputy Director, National Program Staff for Crop Protection. She replaces Kay Simmons who retired June 30, 2015.

HQ update – J. Baron

He the 2015 IR-4 Annual Report and Year End Summary and highlighted accomplishments.

North Central Region update – J. Wise (report in materials)

The good news in the NCR is that they have a lot of well experienced people, the bad news is these people will be retiring in the next few years. The challenge will be training new people. Wayne is working more on international capacity building opportunities. They are using the academic model to put salaries on multiple grants. The lab is making progress with the backlog.

MSU is beginning to put pressure on all departments to upgrade their technology due to hackers getting into MSU servers and then hacking banks and other companies.

Northeast Region update – D. Soderlund/D. Rossi (report in materials)

Things at Cornell are winding down with Edith Lurvey and Roxanne Fish retiring March 31, 2016. D. Soderlund will not request a no-cost extension, and is trying to get everything paid by July 14, 2016. Hopefully all funds will be spent down by then but if not, the NER could use some of the unspent money to bring Edith back as a consultant. Could also support some ornamental research. Dan Rossi reported that transitioning the research from Ithaca to the Snyder farm in New Jersey is progressing.

Southern Region update – M. Marshall (report in materials)

The conference call with HQ in February regarding some inexperienced SOR field staff, brought home how important it is to provide training to junior staff. The National Education Conference will

be very important to bringing these everyone up to speed. We need to reinforce the message how important it is to get the field data books done correctly and sent in as promptly as possible

Western Region update – M. Hengel (report in materials)

Have had a positive Riverside transition. Nathan Leach has done really well. The labs are doing ok and the additional money from the other regions has really helped.

Path Forward – The various documents are progressing but are not available yet. Still trying to find panel members for the Organizational Assessment. This is being led by Dan Rossi, J. Baron and Marty Marshall. A second communique will identify the subcommittee members.

Food Use Program update – Dan Kunkel/Debbie Carpenter/Van Starner (reports in materials)

- 69 studies/416 field trials are planned for 2016.
- BASF has informed IR-4 that they have a new internal process to review proposed new IR-4 food use projects. There is now a July 1 deadline with no guarantees after the deadline that any new project will get an answer of support/no support by the Food Use Workshop. Associated with their new process, they have agreed to co-fund efficacy data development

QAU Update – Tammy Barkalow (report in materials) There were 8 audits in 2015. Hawaii Lab and the Artichoke Research Test Site in Salinas were decommissioned. New PMC members received GLP training. The eQA system will be upgraded. The review of FDBs will be moved as needed to meet deadlines.

ACAC Report – M. Hengel (full report in meeting materials) NCR & SOR labs have a backlog but it is trending down. Some issues are outside the control of the labs such as recertification issues and temporary holds from EPA. Sometimes methods are not ready. In general there is still a lot of juggling. The chemist moved their planning from the NRPM to March in order to get the methods and evaluate which lab is more suited to the method. They are starting a library of storage stability data.

Training Committee – V. Starner – Dates and location have been selected. February 28-March 1, 2017 in Orlando, FL. John Wise, Matt Hengel, and Marylee Ross are rotating off the Training Committee. They have respectively recommended Dan Heider, Sue Erhardt and Tom Freiburger as their replacements. Membership recommendations were accepted.

International Activities update – Dan Kunkel (report in materials)

- Submitted a new TASC request to enhance data sets to satisfy international data requirement to JMPR
- FAS has contributed \$500,000 to launch the GMUF
- Finishing projects in ASEAN and Latin America
- Training is complete in Africa and are starting product performance work.
- Costa Rica joint work has stalled

- A MOU has been developed for possible joint projects in Columbia
- Many scientist from Thailand are visiting MSU and OSU

Ornamental Horticulture Program update – Cristi Palmer

- The Ornamental Horticulture Program is focusing on 3 areas, the core program, invasive species and pollinator protection
- The Ornamental Horticulture data summaries are on target at 22 current summaries
- 216 crops have been impacted by the registration of 2 new products supported with IR-4 data
- Final planned experiments are continuing with harvesting of plant materials for PCR and light microscopy analysis for invasive species CWR. Other work is being conducted on Arthropods, Boxwood Blight, and Impatiens downy mildew
- Submitted a request proposal for \$7 million for SCRI full research proposal for pollinator protection. The proposal was selected for scientific review

Biopesticide & Organic Support Program update – Michael Braverman (report in materials)

- Registered AF-36 New formulation aflatoxin management in cotton, corn, & pistachio
- Registered potassium salts of hops beta acids to manage varroa mites in honeybees
- Registered 9, 10 anthraquinone bird repellent in rice
- Registered papayas ringspot resistant papaya
- Submitted experimental use permit on aspergillus flavus in corn
- Submitted management *Pseudomonas fluorescens* ACK 55 of cheatgrass
- Met with APHIS for a pre-registration meeting with EPA for oxalate osidase from wheat to manage chestnut blight

Public Health Program update – Karl Malamud-Roam (report in materials)

- Hired part-time research assistant
- The outbreak of the Zika virus may present new opportunities for funding for PHP research
- IR-4's role in Zika virus research is geared toward protecting proven technologies, and developing new products
- Database development is ongoing

Communication update – Sherri Novack (report in materials)

- Year End Summary titled Making a Difference features 11 stories of areas where IR-4 made a difference in 2015.
- Web Redesign will be approached in 2 phases, Discovery and Build. The team has selected DigitalWave as the agency to work with on the Discovery phase.
- Sherri is working with Dan Rossi and Mike Bledsoe on the Path Forward communication subcommittee and had helped Karl Malamud-Roam on his Zika virus communication committee.

Upcoming Meetings

The California Specialty Crops Council

2016 MRL Harmonization Workshop

June 1-2, 2016

San Francisco, CA

Summer IR-4 PMC Meeting

July 19-21, 2016

UC Davis

2016 Biopesticide/FUW

September 21-23, 2016

Rosen Plaza

Orlando, FL

XXV International Congress of Entomology

September 25-30, 2016

Orlando, Florida

2016 Fall PMC

October 25-27, 2016

Princeton, NJ

2016 NRPM

October 31-November 2, 2016

Via Teleconference

National Education Conference

February 28-March 1, 2017

Orlando, FL