



**Executive Summary**  
**IR-4 PMC & CLC MEETINGS**  
**Spring Meeting, 2018**  
**Hyatt Place National Mall**  
**Washington, DC**

**Executive Summary**

**MOTION:** D. Rossi - to approve minutes, second M. Hengel Approved., new agenda items

**MOTION:** M. Bledsoe-Renewed members be approved by PMC. Second-D. Rossi Approved

**MOTION:** M. Bledsoe PMC to approve the second terms of CLC Chair and Vice Chair. Second J. Baron Approved

**MOTION:** M Hengel --to approve M. Braverman providing assistance to Hardy County, HI in registering the Pongamia oil. Second M. Bledsoe Approved.

**ACTION Item:** Tammy to set up conference call to discuss opportunity of capacity concerning in-life coverage for the Southern region last week of March

**ACTION Item:** M. Hengel to initiate a conversation on coordinating technology needs

**ACTION Item:** Debbie will initiate a series of conference calls on how to resolve the problem with Triazoles and the backlog in Tifton

**ACTION Item:** J. Baron to give PMC Budget Distribution no later than May 1.  
Efficiency efforts

**Brief updates from AAs, NIFA, PMC members (NE, NC, S, W, ARS, HQ, CLC)**

**NE:** had a very busy 2017. They helped host and organize the NEC, held a face-to-face NER meeting

**NCR:** Position has been posted. J. Wise will serve as the interim RFC.

**SOR:** As R. Batts, is working at NC State, he and R. Federline are working on creative solutions for communication on a regular basis

**WSR:** M. Horak is doing well in the RFC role. There are some concerns with OSU

**ARS:** Funding is still uncertain will carry on until notified otherwise. Have a vacancy in the lab in Tifton

**HQ:** Need to find new funding sources. R. Leonard is coming back as contractor. C. Jolly will be able to assist ARS during their personnel vacancy. Hosted Congressional Lunch N Learn—turnout on the House was very good, Senate not well attended.

**CLC:** Discussed Hill visits

**AA:** D. Buhler discussed the renewal of NRSP

**Communications Update**

Website redesign is moving forward. A demonstration was provided. Looking for July 1 launch.

**Food Program Update**

**Biopesticide & Organic Support Program**

A motion was approved to provide regulatory assistance to the state of HI for registering an pongamia oil in management of two spotted spider mites

**Ornamental Horticulture Program Update**

The name of the program will now be the Environmental Horticulture Program

**International Activities**

GMUS-3, JMPR reviewed 2 crop groups, International efforts were recognized by 17 countries and a Statement from Sonny Perdue also recognized IR-4 efforts

**CLC**

Renewed members be approved. And approved the second terms of CLC Chair and Vice Chair.

**Quality issues**

Everyone needs to take responsibility for their data.

**Company challenges**

Need to push back on companies asking for expanded data



**Meeting Minutes**  
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**Tuesday March 13<sup>th</sup>: 1:00 pm – 5 pm (Joint IR-4 CLC & PMC Session)**

- Welcome & Introductions: In attendance m. Bledsoe, K. Pitts, S. Novack, L. Berger, J. Wise, A. Schreiber, T. Scholz, L. Gu, A. Simmons, B. Simerly, T. Humfeld, L. Phelps, D. Carpenter, D. Kunkel, M. Hengel, M. Aerts, D. Rossi, R. Williams, J. Calabro, C. Palmer, V. Starner j. Baron, T. Barkalow, R. Hedberg, J. Munyaneza
- Update from Commodity Liaison Committee. (M Bledsoe)  
Good set of meetings with CLC chair and Vice Chair on the Hill with Senator Merkley (OR) Ranking Member of the Ag. Committee. The CLC reappointed the Chair, Mike Bledsoe, and Vice Chair, Todd Scholz. The CLC is revisiting their Mission to include adding the role of the sub-committee on Government relations. Bledsoe will send out the updated Mission to the committee for review.
- Path Forward Update  
This began in 2015 when the PMC realized there were some serious forces acting on IR-4 such as the flat budget, threat of Land Grant Institutions require Indirect Costs from IR-4 research.
  - Indirect Cost Situation—If people felt the institutes could live with 10% Rob would push this forward with language including the 10% IDC. A straw poll was taken and the consensus was that if IR-4 receives new money, then it should pay the 10% but should not readily offer it.
  - Lab Efficiency exercise progress—still strong support in Florida working on improving efficiencies and reducing the backlog.
  - Field Efficiency exercise progress—focusing on the Field Data Books and the prompts that ask for data. Honing in on the information that is needed not just “nice to have”.
  - Progress on new sources of funds—the CLC has put together an “Ask” document for Congress. USDA-FAS is providing funding for international work. C. Palmer has submitted a SCRI grant proposal for downy mildew. The CLC is considering asking how the commodity community would support cost share on IR-4 research. A. Schreiber suggests finding new companies to support IR-4.
- 2018/2019 Priority setting workshop plans—FUW Sept 19 –noon on 20, Biopesticide from after lunch on the 20<sup>th</sup> and all day Friday. The Biopesticide program applied for a Planning Grant for a Possible Networking Reception night of Sept. 20<sup>th</sup>. Extending the workshop to Friday evening, Sept. 21st in order to refine organic needs and develop a future OREI grant covering entomology, pathology, and weed science. Expected to find out in July/August of 2018.
- Farm Bill: House has complete its mark up. The Senate isn't even close. They would like to have this completed by April. IR-4's international work should be front and center.
- Updated IR-4 Economic Assessment
- Partner updates
  - EPA: Mike Goodis –Ongoing reduction in the workforce. They are down to 600 people from 900. OPP has been granted to expand its workforce by 50 more people. Most of this work is PRIA related. Walmart is pushing an ingredient disclosure initiative. EPA working out how to manage this as it is not a safety issue. They are looking at antibiotic products for emergency exemptions for HLB. Re-registration deadline is 2022 and 50% of these re-registration products still need to be completed
  - USDA-NIFA: Sonny Ramaswamy – NIFA and EPA are moving their offices. The pillars of the NIFA mission are 1) one approach for rural activities 2) quality of life due to the opioid crisis where 170+ people die every day affecting more and more middleclass white men and women. Health issues are a concern at NIFA where they are learning 80% of health related issues are a result of what people eat, 10% is genetics and 10% lifestyle. Not sure of where NIFA is headed in terms of Under Secretary appointment. Steve Censky is being considered.
    - IR-4 needs to get in NIFA's face. Some people you need to contact are:

- Jim Herz (WI), OMB worked for Paul Ryan,
- Mick Mulvaney (SC), head of OMB,
- Nora Stein (TX), NIFA's examiner for budgets. USDA-AMS,
- Bruce Summers, Acting Administrator for the USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS), make them aware of IR-4.
- Greg Ibach, Under Secretary U.S. Department of Agriculture's Marketing and Regulatory Programs.
- Ted McKinney, currently serves as Under Secretary of Agriculture for Trade and Foreign Agricultural Affairs
- Kevin Shea, Administrator of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
- Orlandi Palmer FDA Food Safety
- Sonny Perdue
- Brooke Appleton, serving as the chief of staff to the Deputy Secretary of Agriculture.
- Steve Censky, Deputy Secretary of Agriculture
- Kristi Boswell, Director of Congressional Relations at the American Farm Bureau
- Think of the states you come from and get to know the people in your states that have some relation to government and agriculture
- USDA-ARS: Steve Kappes
- NASDA: Aline DeLucia

**Tuesday March 13<sup>th</sup>: 5:15 pm – 7:15 pm Reception/Mixer**

**Wednesday March 14<sup>th</sup> 8:30 am – 5:00 pm**

- In attendance: R. Hedberg, D. Carpenter, D. Kunkel V. Starner, M. Hengel, D. Rossi, T. Barkalow, C. Palmer, J. Baron, M. Bledsoe, S. Novack
- Approval of minutes

**MOTION:** D. Rossi-- to approve minutes, second M. Hengel Approved., new agenda items

- **Reports from AAs, NIFA, ARS, CLC, Regions, HQ**
  - AAs: D. Buhler the NRSP was approved to cover a 5-year period instead of annual approval. The NRSP-4 is up for a vote. It looks solid. They did add stronger emphasis on funding. Submit a new proposal in the Fall of 2019. Discussed Strategic Planning Conference survey. Conducted an Executive Director Review. It is important to communicate a consensus of what is going forward. Will coordinate a single review NRSP and NIFA
  - NIFA: Sonny Ramaswamy is stepping down and therefore some uncertainty prevails. Just stay the course. (see above update from partners)
  - ARS: (Report in the materials) Still on continuing resolution. A. Simmons still serving as interim Minor Use Coordinator. There is a new 5-year agreement between Rutgers and ARS to fund ornamental research at Cream Ridge. There is a vacancy for a technical support position with the analytical laboratory. A. Simmons received the 2017 Entomological Society of America Recognition Award for outstanding contributions to agricultural entomology.
  - NCR: (Report in Materials) It was a productive year for NCR. FRD worked through some weather challenges. Participated in process improvement exercises. The field exercise was completed with a primary product of revising the IR-4 Operational Handbook. The laboratory exercise identified ways to eliminate the backlog. The NCR has eliminated most of the study backlog for 2017 and is on target to meet the 2018 completion timeline. Budgets are still a concern. S. Miyazaki retired with J. Wise as interim FRC. K. Howard is new FRD in ND. D. Doohan started IR-4 GLP field trails for herbicides.

- NER: (Report handed out) 2017 was a very busy year. They were very involved with the planning and hosting of the National Education Conference held Feb 28-March 1. NER was involved with the Organizational Assessment put together to explore potential avenues of greater efficiencies. Were involved with the IR-4/EPA tour of the Delmarva. They held a NER WebEx meeting to identify grower priorities for the workshops. The celebrated the one year anniversary of the Snyder Research Farm as an official IR-4 FRC.
- SOR: (Report in materials) Roger Batts has taken over as interim RFC. Since he is working from NC State, he, R. Federline and A. Hogel have found creative solutions for moving projects through the IR-4 system. Despite hurricane and power disruptions, the Puerto Rico site was able to complete field activities on most of the 2017 trials. This year they will hold a face-to-face priority setting meeting in NC in August. L Gu presented the status of the 12 backlog lab projects and noted the QAU was 100% completed as of 12/31/2017.
- WSR: (Report in materials) EPA has conducted 5 multi-day inspections in the region. There is concern for the increased demands on time of office staff due to more performance trials needing to be conducted. There is concern the transition at OSU is not going smoothly since the arrival of the new PI. Since many of the Western States have a year round growing season, completion of trials in the field and receipt of field data is continuous throughout the year. There are many new FRDs and many training sessions are being conducted in the region. The WSR took to heart the Lab Efficiency Study and the lab is doing well. The office move is going slowly but they have to be out of Meyer Hall by July. In order to accommodate the move, they will send Bifenazate samples to vendors.
- HQ: R. Leonard is coming back as contractor. C. Jolly will be able to assist ARS during their personnel vacancy. A. Simmons likes this idea but cannot commit funds until the March 23 budget comes out. 3 triazole studies pulled and were moved to another lab. Hosted a Congressional Lunch N Learn that included a panel of CLC members. The turnout for the Senate meeting was too early on a Monday morning. The turnout for the lunch meeting on the House side was very well attended. Lesson learned-provide food and don't schedule this on a Monday morning.
- Approval of new and renewed CLC Members: There were no new members but J. Calabro, A. George, J. Keeling, P. Korson, D. Nuxoll and A. Monterroso were approved as renewed members. M. Bledsoe and T. Scholz voted to another term as Chair and Vice Chair respectively

**MOTION:** M. Bledsoe-Renewed members be approved. Second-D. Rossi Approved

**MOTION:** M. Bledsoe to approve the second terms of CLC Chair and Vice Chair. Second J. Baron Approved

R. Hedberg gave the CLC a cautionary note that anytime they travel on Federal funds they cannot be lobbying. This must be funded through industry. Be prepared to make it clear that industry dollars were used for travel.

- Status of 2018 RFA/timelines: The 90-day timeline for a continuation award must have absolutely complete packages when you send to Andrew. The Registration deadline is June 8. Consider putting together a check list. Southern Region is due May 31 other regions June 2 with HQ due June 17. If you receive new monies submit budget including those funds.
- Program Report. IR-4 HQ et.al
  1. Food Program (Kunkel/Carpenter/Starner/Barkalow) in Report Materials. In 2017 there were 534 uses with 14 chemicals and 15 actions. In 2018 195 uses with 4 chemicals through Feb 28. In 2017 there were submissions on 28 products and 5 through Feb 28, 2018. Timeline updates. Studies awaiting submission has dropped from 51 in October to 31 in March, an additional 62 studies are waiting. ASR backlog is lower 21 vs 30 in October.
    - QA update included EPA GLP Compliance Monitoring Program
      - i. 10 Audit notifications in 2017
      - ii. 2 Audit notifications in 2018
    - Decommissioning of University of Arkansas
    - Spring QA meeting Feb. 27-28UC Davis

- Electronic QA reporting system managing ~900 new audit packages per year
- eQA added eDocs
- 110 Audits completed, 80 in QA, 292 expected for a total of 432
- Final reports in 2018, 2017 and 2016 reviewed
- QA Resources, J. Forder to NC, K. Knight look at books, M. Chen to TX

**ACTION Item:** Tammy to set up conference call to discuss opportunity of capacity concerning in-life coverage for the Southern region last week of March

2. Ornamental Horticulture Program (Palmer) is seeking to alter the name of this program from Ornamental Horticulture to Environmental Horticulture for several reasons. Just the word 'ornamental' implies that the growth or use of these plants is frivolous or unneeded. On the contrary, non-edible plants have numerous benefits: purifying air, purifying water, sequestering carbon, moderating impact of urban heat islands, ecosystem services such as habitat or forage, improving property values, improving mental outlook, providing recreation, providing exercise. All of these benefits improve the human habitat.
3. Biopesticide and Organic Support-Submitted a OREI planning grant to provide for a reception at the Workshop to focus on organic growers. Hardy County, Hawaii is requesting assistance in registering an Pongamia oil in management of two spotted spider mites

**MOTION:** M Hengel --to approve M. Braverman providing assistance to Hardy County, HI in registering the Pongamia oil. Second M. Bledsoe Approved.

4. Communications (Novack)
  - Website Demonstration—much work has been completed and shooting for a July 1 launch. S. Novack is holding regular meetings to discuss the web design progress with the web team and others who are interested in providing input
5. International Activities (Kunkel) Report in materials-Highlights from 2017
  - GMUS-3
  - Codex Crop Groups for Vegetable and legume (2017) and Fruit types (2012)
  - JMPR review of Global Residue projects –3of 4 were successful
  - JMPR review of IR-4 data
  - IR-4 efforts were recognized in a by 17 countries at the WTO ministerial in Buenos Aires. These efforts were applauded by Sonny Perdue in news release.
6. ACAC/Analytical Laboratory Report
  - Progress on backlog elimination—backlog is improving but still remains flat. Hoping the log will be eliminated by July. Some equipment is aging.

**ACTION Item:** M. Hengel to initiate a conversation on coordinating technology needs

**ACTION Item:** Debbie will initiate a series of conference calls on how to resolve the problem with Triazoles and the backlog in Tifton

- Quality issues
  - Need to slow down to prevent mistakes. As a culture, we need to take responsibility if data isn't good.
- Challenging companies with expanded data requirements: need to push back on companies. Perhaps once the backlog is caught up we might be able to this but not now.
- Potential 2018 funding distribution

**ACTION Item:** J. Baron to give PMC Budget Distribution no later than May 1.

Efficiency efforts

**Upcoming Meetings**

**IPM Symposium**

Renaissance Baltimore Harborplace Hotel  
Baltimore, MD USA  
March 19-22, 2018

**Canadian Priority Setting**

Hilton Lac Leamy in Gatineau, Quebec  
March 20-22, 2018

**Northeast Region IR-4 Meeting**

Univ. Of MD  
College Park, MD  
April 17-18, 2018

**Western Region IR-4 Meeting**

Davis, CA  
April 24-25, 2018

**Southern Region**

IR-4 Meeting  
August 15-16, 2018  
Embassy Suites  
Cary, NC

**North Central Region**

IR-4 Meeting  
East Lansing, MI  
August 20-21, 2018

**2018 Food Use /Biopesticide Workshops**

The Marriott St. Louis Grand  
St. Louis, MO

- September 19-21, 2018