



July 2014 PMC Meeting - Executive Summary & Minutes

TO: Project Management Committee/Administrative Advisors/CLC members

FROM: Sherrilynn Novack

DATE: September 5, 2014

SUBJECT: Summer 2014 Project Management Committee (PMC) Meeting - Executive Summary & Minutes

Please find attached the summer 2014 PMC Executive Summary and Minutes from discussions July 16-17, 2014.

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

July 2014 PMC Meeting - Executive Summary

The IR-4 Project Management Committee (PMC) held its summer 2014 meeting on July 16-17, 2014, in Fennville, MI

North Central Region -J. Wise has taken over as Director July 1, 2014, as Bob Hollingworth retires.

Northeast Region – IR-4 will need to relocate the Regional Office from its current home Cornell University/NYSAES-Geneva by the end of 2015

Southern Region – Concerns with a few of the field research sites are being addressed.

Western Region -. The Hawaii Satellite Analytical lab is now closed.

ARS – ARS has reorganized their Area structure with the consolidation of several Areas. . D. Fravel, new National Program Staff leader for ARS/IR-4 activities has released funds to shore up the Pacific Northwest that was impacted by sequestration.

NIFA –. The panel that reviewed the IR-4 grant has some suggestions for improving the grants, but overall were pleased. They are particularly pleased with IR-4's collaboration with IPM and encouraged IR-4 to continue this effort.

HQ – Diane Infante has announced her retirement effective February 2015. Replacement person will be hired in advance of Diane's leaving to offer transition. Krista Coleman has been hired to assist in the Biopesticide Program. .

CLC – R. Bonanno unable to attend PMC Meeting-no report

Food Program – Workload-There are fewer PCRs coming in, however, studies are becoming more complicated and costly. There is a growing need for efficacy data. PMC approved field research plan for 2015 that involves approx. 57 studies/468 field trials. NIFA funds will be used to cover 358 field trials at \$6000/trial.

Ornamental Horticulture Program – The program is moving along as expected.

Public Health – IR-4 is wrapping up the additional data requested by EPA for the Etofenprox IR-4 was approached by PMI to see if the IR-4 labs could analyze some QC samples of products purchased to manage vectors. Concerns were expressed because of potential contamination and laboratory backlog

Communication – S. Novack will produce the newsletter in an electronic version and distribute it in both hard copy and electronic version for one year followed by an analysis of which media readers prefer to use.

ACAC – The analytical laboratory backlog is steady and labs are working together to stay in sync with company submission timelines

IR-4 Training and Education Committee – The draft IR-4 Advisory #2014-01 regarding IR-4 field and lab site freezer was posted to the web. The committee needs to recommend a replacement for John Wise

Motions and Action Items

MOTION: Accept minutes of the spring 2014 PMC meeting. Approved

MOTION: To adopt scenario 1 of budgeting for approx. 358 field trials at \$6K per trial . Approved

MOTION: To approve the Strategic Plan without the endowment section and with modified mission statement. Approved

ACTION ITEM: For one year send the newsletter out in hard copy and electronic version. PDF format will be used rather than a blog.

ACTION ITEM: Training Committee to provide a recommendation for a new Training Committee member to replace J. Wise by the next PMC meeting

ACTION ITEM: V. Starner to discuss the possibility of a joint meeting with NAICC representatives. If agreeable with NAICC, next steps for the IR-4 National Training event will be discussed at the next PMC meeting.

ACTION ITEM: Develop an action list for what is needed for the NRSP-4 renewal proposal and review



July 2014 PMC - Minutes

The IR-4 Project Management Committee (PMC) held its summer 2014 meeting on July 16-17, 2014 in Fenville, MI

Attendees:

- Tammy Barkalow—Assistant Director, QAU, IR-4 HQ
- Jerry Baron* — Executive Director IR-4 Project, IR-4 HQ
- Jennifer Ballentine—Canadian Pest Management Center
- Michael Braverman — IR-4 Biopesticide & Organic Support Program Manager, IR-4 HQ
- Doug Buhler — North Central Region Administrative Advisor
- Debbie Carpenter — Assistant Director, Registrations, IR-4 HQ
- Mary Duryea — Southern Region Administrative Advisor
- Rob Hedberg — NIFA National Program Leader (via conference call)
- Matt Hengel*—Western Region Representative
- Bob Hollingworth — North Central Region (retired)
- 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
- Sherrilynn Novack — Public Relations & Communications Manager, IR-4 HQ
- Cristi Palmer — Ornamental Horticulture Program Manager, IR-4 HQ
- Dan Rossi — Northeast Region Administrative Advisor (via conference call)
- Paul Schwartz* — ARS Regional Director (via conference call)
- Dave Soderlund* — Northeast Region Director and PMC Chair
- Van Starner — Assistant Director, Research Planning & Outreach, IR-4 HQ (via conference call)
- John Wise* — North Central Region Director

* Voting members

IR-4 Update

Food Uses—report in materials

D. Kunkel provided an update on labeled uses based on tolerances that were established in 2013 but were not captured in the 2013 Annual Report or Year End Summary, approximately 40% of the possible new uses from 2013 are now on product labels. We will continue to track the labels to make sure the new uses are added to the greatest extent possible. For 2014, there have been 127 new uses from 6 chemicals, granted.

There have been delays in registrations and withdrawals of tolerance petitions due to pollinator issues. Had to pull the IR-4 support for the JMPR review of Spirodiclofen because of the withdraw in the US. Uses are available in Canada. There have also been unprecedented changes in personnel at EPA and it is expected that these changes due to retirements etc, will continue.

D. Carpenter commented that many studies have been completed and are awaiting submission. The number is down from previous months, so there is an improvement but still a concern. There were 89 in March 2014 and it is now down to 73. There are 39 studies (up from 32) that are still considered TBD.

There was also a discussion about the complexity of the studies. J. Baron suggested IR-4 take a look at the studies in the beginning to see if IR-4 can address the regulations of other countries on trials thus making the studies available for international use from the beginning rather than considering this at the end. This might help save costs and prevent the need to redo a study. There was a concern expressed that this will take more time in protocol preparation, and to consider the possibility of having the Food Use Workshop earlier. .

International Support—report in materials

D. Kunkel discussed IR-4's role which is to consist of IR-4 conducting ~ 80 MOR studies a year, submitting them to EPA to establish a tolerance in the US. Then IR-4 will provide data to any commodity group that needs our data to support export markers. Some commodities requesting data have included: hops for exports to the EU, Citrus and Berry for Asia markets, and Cranberries for EU. IR-4 also dovetails bundles on the Codex/JMPR workplan for review and codex MRLs. This is done with the commodity groups and EPA. And is often done in cooperation with to the Manufacturers.

Product Performance—report in materials

V. Starner presented an update on Efficacy/Crop Safety Research. He reported in 2013 IR-4 allocated \$92K for target trials and \$107,500 (+\$10k of mfg, funds) was allocated for 2014.

In these two years IR-4 only had enough resources to fund E/CS research to complete on-going projects. There is a greater need to have E/CS data in hand before a residue trial is started. It was suggested that IR-4 should allocate more resources toward E/CS projects in order to move the projects into a researchable category for residue. . This would be a paradigm shift for IR-4. Perhaps commodities could help pay for this work? Can most of this be done by IR-4 researchers or will it need to be contracted? This is included in the Strategic Plan as a need to look at this change in research focus.

QA—report in materials

T. Barkalow reported on the EPA GLP compliance monitoring program, the eQA system, QA auditing updates on Field Data Books and Final Reports, QA staffing and future needs and on the QA web page. The EPA GLP monitoring program is mainly office based inspections. IR-4 has decommissioned the labs in Hawaii and Cornell. The eQA system seems to be working well for most. They are troubleshooting with Field Raw Data Summaries and other users when test packet problems surface. QA audits are moving through the system.. Michele Humiston has been a big help in auditing FDB from the Western Region.

PRIA

J. Baron reported that the change in the IR-4 Authorization in the Farm Bill language has taken the pressure off in not needing to defend every project. Jerry drafted a letter to EPA that documents the language change in the Farm Bill and requesting that the Agency update their IR-4 Public Interest Finding policy to reflect the new IR-4 Authorization language.

Biopesticide & Organic Support

The program is changing this year to reflect priority setting similar to the Ornamental Horticulture program. M. Braverman feels this change will provide for more complete research projects and fill the gaps for growers. He has developed a grower needs form that has been posted to the web.

Ornamental Horticulture—report in materials

C. Palmer presented that the program is about halfway to her annual target of ~20 summaries. IR-4 data assisted in 5 new Federal registrations with at least one more expected. About 3500 crops are impacted by these registrations. Invasive species research continues. The Ornamental Horticulture program is participating in a SCRI pollinator proposal and MSU's Project Green.

Public Health Pesticides Program—report in materials

Karl Malamud-Roam and Marty Marshall presented a request from the President's Malaria Initiative for information on IR's capacity for conducting quality control analyses on pesticides purchased by the U.S. government for vector control work abroad. While several major concerns were noted (avoiding contamination of existing labs with concentrated pesticide residues; ensuring minimal impact on the flow of existing work), it was recognized that this could be a good source of revenue and could aid other federal agencies. Additional information on the possible scope of work will be collected, but no policy decisions were made.

The Etofenprox study, and the additional data required by EPA is nearing completion. EPA requested this data to allow them to potentially lower the tolerances on many crops. The company would like to retain the existing high tolerances to help with imports of produce.

A lot of activity with new products including: toxic sugar baits, lethal ovitraps, and IGR auto dissemination traps. IR-4's role is to provide GLP efficacy trail support. Other research includes non-destructive pesticide measurement on fabrics using IR, X-ray, UV and colorimetry methods

Communication Update—report in materials

S. Novack discussed the results of Google Analytics to be used in the redevelopment of the website. The Newsletter committee would like to go to an electronic approach for the Newsletter. There are pros, such as cost savings and cons such as a loss of readership. There was discussion concerning the delivery method of the eNewsletter. The eNewsletter should be delivered using ISSUU or pdf. Posting it to the blog was discouraged. The PMC would like S. Novack to produce the Newsletter in both applications for a trial period of one year to access the results.

ACTION ITEM: For one year send the newsletter will be distributed both as a hard copy and electronic version

Food Use/Biopesticide Antibiotic Workshops—report in materials

. V. Starner discussed the FUW agenda. M. Braverman discussed the new approach to funding biopesticide research to mirror the Ornamental programs by holding a priority setting workshop rather

than sending out a request for proposals. He hopes this produce more complete research projects. Demonstration grants will also be included in priority setting discussions.

During the 2013 Food Use Workshop, there were a number of requests for antibiotics. This class of compounds has significant regulatory challenges IR-4 participated in a multi-agency group discussion in April and at that discussion, IR-4 offered to dovetail an antibiotics workshop with the 2014 FUW. This has now evolved into a Mini-Symposium

Proposed Research Plan for 2015 —report in materials

V. Starner reported in previous years, IR-4 has been using 7 trials per study, now the average is 7.5 trials per study using \$2.25 million for the field program. Van proposed 3 scenarios for flat funding in 2015.

Scenario 1 – based on \$6,000 per trial, as recommended by Regional Field Coordinators:

Number of priorities	Projects	Trials
FUW “A”	43	323*
Regional Upgrades/PUPs	14	105*
Carry over trials		42
Total	57	468

***Average 7.5 trials per study**

Scenario 2 – based on \$6,500 per trial:

Number of priorities	Projects	Trials
FUW “A”	40	301*
Regional Upgrades/PUPs	13	98*
Carry over trials		42
Total	53	441

***Average 7.5 trials per study**

Scenario 3 – based on # of NIFA-funded trials in 2014 (390), at RFC-recommended \$6,000 per trial:

Number of priorities	Projects	Trials
FUW “A”	46	345*
Regional Upgrades/PUPs	15	113*
Carry over trials		42

Total	61	500
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***Average 7.5 trials per study**

Van concurred with the Field Research Coordinators recommendation that IR-4 fund the approx. 358 field trials at the rate of \$6000 per trial. D. Soderlund made the observation to adopt Scenario 1 that does the least amount of damage to the field program, and maintains funding for efficacy/crop safety. He also recommends funding discussion to take place in the Spring PMC meetings going forward.

MOTION: To adopt scenario 1 of budgeting for approx. 358 field trials at \$6K per trial. Approved

Training Committee

V. Starner reported the Advisory: Maintaining Freezer Storage Systems at IR-4 Field and Laboratory Research Sites has been agreed upon and posted to the web. There were questions during the review that asked if QA was permitted to request a freezer system test during a QA visit. T. Barkalow replied the auditor can request to see the documentation of when freezer systems were tested. A request to test the freezer test was made during an audit and took the FRD by surprise. There will be further discussion of this at the next training committee meeting. J. Wise will step down from the committee due to his new responsibilities as Regional Director.

ACTION ITEM: Have a recommendation for a new Training Committee member to replace J. Wise for next PMC meeting

The next National Training Event is being considered for early 2016 and suggested it be held in conjunction with the NAICC meeting.

ACTION ITEM: V. Starner to discuss the joint meeting with NAICC representatives to decide on next steps in planning the National Training event and bring concrete proposal to next PMC meeting.

ARS Lab Update—report in materials

P. Schwartz reported there have been significant changes in the Area structure of ARS decreasing the number of Area offices from 9 to 5. L. Chandler is now Action Associate Administrator and is very familiar with IR-4 as he started the Weslaco, TX research facility. K. Simmons has posted the position for National Program Leader. D. Fravel is the acting NPL.

Prosser field location will be closed. The money being sent to Prosser will be redistributed to other locations. D. Carpenter reported that it may take over one year for the backlog from Wapato lab and trials may need to be reassigned to other labs

CLC

R. Bonanno could not make meeting. J. Baron discussed 3 potential new members. Decision deferred for now,.

NC Region

This will be a transition year as J. Wise takes on the Regional Director role. B. Hollingworth will still be available throughout the year and will not attend more PMC meetings unless he is requested to do so. They intend to fill a QA position and has had 25 applicants for the position that will be narrowed to 5 that will be interviewed. J. Wise recommended T. Barkalow be included on the search committee.

Most of the studies are on target except for the Dakota, where it has been a cold rainy summer and some plantings have been delayed. Lab is doing well but is frustrated of with a trial of Anthraquinone on sunflowers.

Southern Region

For the most part the number of field trials is down due to the situation in Texas of a center without a director. There have also been issues with field notebooks. There will be a regional training session mainly for commercial people to address these concerns early next year. There are also issue in Homestead with hiring and replacements.

M. Marshall also discussed the idea of the Southern Lab taking on some studies for the President's Malaria Initiative. (see Public Health Pesticides Program above).

M. Marshall also announced that June 30, 2015 will be his official retirement date. If needed, he could stay on for 1-1.5 years for his replacement to have opportunity to "shadow" him.

Western Region—report in materials

M. Hengel reported on behalf of R. Tjeerdema that M. Craig in NM will be retiring and a replacement has been hired; Maury is currently training his replacement The FDN situation in Riverside have improved. The Lab was able to partner with UC-Davis facilities and purchase two new freezers. Region is wrapping up the closing of Hawaii and transfer of materials. M. Beran is officially the Regional QA Coordinator. M. Humiston's assistance was greatly appreciated.

NE Region

In August the NE will have a priority setting meeting. E. Lurvey held this last year with favorable response. This year there will be an IPM and Organics component to discuss priorities for the Biopesticide and Organics Workshop. All lab documents have been shipped to HQ.

Dave reported that Cornell University will no longer subsidize IR-4 operations. Cornell University policy is not to accept grants that do not provide for at least 18% of indirect costs. 2014 will be the last year this policy is waived, The Regional Office will have to relocate by the end of 2015. The additional driver is the pending retirements of D. Soderlund and E. Lurvey.

Three options were discussed to relocate the NE regional office:

- 1) Relocate the office to Rutgers and identify faculty member as PI—disadvantage could be perceived as the loss of a distinct NE identity; advantage Rutgers is very familiar with IR-4 and its structure, cost savings in administration, no disruption of program

- 2) Relocate to another NE university—disadvantage unfamiliarity of the IR-4 program, needs to up and running as soon as grant money is released, lack of indirect costs to intuition might be an issue again
- 3) Combine the NC and the NE regions and have a “satellite” office in the NE—disadvantage no distinct NE presence, new Regional Director could be overwhelmed with this added responsibility; advantage, cost savings, no disruption of service

D. Rossi met with some of the NE Ag Exp directors, but did not have a full discussion but most of these directors were not interested in hosting the program at their university and did not object to the program moving to Rutgers. However they felt that Dan should reach out to those who were not at the discussion.

R. Hedberg would like to know how to put it in the grant. 3 or 4 regions? He would like to move the grant to a 3-year application and would need to consider this if regions are combined.

If the grant is moved to a 3-year application, there might be some room in the next Farm Bill to consider indirect costs and timing with the next Farm Bill and a 3-year grant might work well.

There was no overwhelming support of combining regions. D. Soderlund recommended that option 2 be considered most favorable. Mary encouraged Jerry to discuss the second option with Dan Rossi in more detail.

NRSP-4 Renewal

IR-4 must be aware that there is pressure on the Ag Experiment Station Directors to approve new NRSP's. The Directors are not inclined to increase the funding pool for NRSP. This means funding for long term programs, like IR-4 is vulnerable. NRS Programs are too .

While support of IR-4 is almost always voted unanimously yes, it is something to be aware of. An argument in favor of continued support of the \$485K is that it is almost completely matched by Rutgers' contribution in housing HQ and IR-4 is able to show its return on investment.

NIFA

R. Hedberg reported the Fiscal Year 2015 RFA should be out October 31 and is hoping it will be a multi-year RFA. He asked for a recommended due date and January 15 was the most acceptable. This would move the first monies out to March 15-April 1.

Overall the review panel was pleased but did provide suggestions for improving proposals, they include:

- a. Be as succinct as possible, get to the facts
- b. State it clearly and only once; one page clearly written is better than 3-4 of rambling.
- c. Do not use technical language, have a non-technical person review for clarity
- d. Be consistent
- e. Use success examples particularly those that focus on IPM collaborations
- f. Define how priorities are selected and how the work ties to the pest problem
- g. Explain crop grouping
- h. Make sure you let Rob know when you have submitted your proposal

SCRI –Rob wanted to make sure IR-4 is aware of the \$25 million for citrus research. Perhaps IR-4 should consider ways to provide assistance to the citrus industry and obtain funding from this initiative. A full proposal is due at the end of September but there will be another opportunity to submit at the end of January 2015.

HQ

A continuing resolution is likely. IR-4 made it through Congress for 2014 appropriation of \$11.916 million. It looks as though 2015 will be a flat budget.

D. Infante has announced her plans to retire and is planning on Feb. 1, 2015 as retirement date. HQ is planning on recruiting a term employee to take on the responsibilities and others already hired may take on some of her duties. This provides a good opportunity to look at our databases and see if they are serving the needs of stakeholders. We will be having an outside review.

K. Coleman who has horticulture background, has been hired as a term employee for the Biopesticide area. She has already put together a summary of what the program has accomplished. She has also put together a spreadsheet for a database. HQ submitted a grant for updating the Biopesticide Label Database, should receive decision in September.

D. Rossi and J. Baron met with B. Hillman at Rutgers and briefed him on the issue at Cornell. Rutgers remains supportive of IR-4 and there is no pressure for indirect costs as HQ already pays for its rent and administrative, mail and computer services.

Pollinator protection remains a hot button issue with EPA, companies and the public. We thought the science of the issue was going prevail until a spring bee kill in California. Now it has become a public perception issue and EPA will need to be a lot more conservative in their actions regarding approved products. EPA will be more interested in efficacy and crop safety data moving forward to help them justify the benefits of pesticide use..

Some IR-4 staff attended the Canadian Minor Use Workshop and were surprised to learn of 3 new chemistries from the companies attending the workshop. Since these new chemistries were not discussed with IR-4 this led to some concern and leads to the point of the number of fewer requests. Requests are down significantly from a few years ago when there were ~700 new requests and now, this year at ~200. Some of this is due to the need for more and more efficacy/crop safety data.

D. Soderlund commented that new chemistries come in cycles so it may not be as disconcerting as thought. There may be a lot more in the pipeline that we do not know about. There is a lot of money invested in the development. It is hard to discover new AIs and each one opens a floodgate of analogs for that company and “me too” from others.

A lot new technologies are coming from Asia Pacific and few from EU. Michael was asked if there would be more products using RNAi technology and would that lead to more work for IR-4. He felt this would not be a residue issue more a method validation issue. D. Kunkel commented that there will be more of a burden for efficacy. J. Wise commented that the next opportunity for IR-4 might be on ways in which products are delivered. KMR discussed the pesticide reevaluation that is concerned with pesticides getting into aquatics as something IR-4 may need to look into.

Field Program Equipment Grants

This money was set aside to give researchers the opportunity to purchase new capital equipment. The money totaled \$140, \$40k from NIFA grant and HQ supplied \$100K. This was originally proposed as a

competitive grant process but the Regional Field Coordinators knew what they needed and met to agree on how they would split the money.

Indirect Cost Issue

Perhaps the best place to resolve this is in the next Farm Bill. Rob suggested that Cornerstone might be able to look into the language of indirect cost. Jerry asked what the amount of money should be for indirect costs. While suggesting 10% be the level for indirect costs that might turn into a higher percentage. Other grants are around 30%. The SARE program works as a cooperative agreement with universities which is around 10%/ IR-4 should proceed with caution once this door is opened it will be hard to close.

Canadian Peat Management Center Jennifer Ballentine presented an update on the Canadian Pest Management Center. She explained they are funded on a multi-year basis (every 5 years). They were organized in 2003 to fill the technology gaps, build partnerships and support development of IPM tools. Their objectives evolved from 2008-2013 when they began research on new products under development, and created the APWS, focus on international harmonization through RCC, work on invasive species, pursue development of IPM tools and tech transfer. Going forward, their goals are to work with the RCC for international harmonization of MRLs, more collaboration with their global partners, distribution of IPM strategies, and formalize tech transfer with biopesticides.

They hold their priority setting workshops in March. Where they selected the following priorities: 10 entomology, 10 pathology, 10 weed science, 5 regional priorities, 2 organic priorities, Up to 6 APWS (A-priorities without solution) screening. And they will work on 15-20 joint projects with IR-4. For 2015, they will work on 2 efficacy projects in each discipline.. The RCC helped PMRA and EPA identify differences in policy. PMC, in collaboration with PMRA will conduct approximately 15 greenhouse vegetable crop Dislodgeable Foliar Residue (DFR) studies over the next four years. The Analytical lab in Vineland received full SCC accreditation.

For the first time, Pest Management Centre (PMC) was part of the Canadian delegation attending the 45th CODEX meeting in China along with counterparts from the US IR-4 Project.

Canada also has concerns with BMSB and SWD and has collaborated with the CHC to establish an IAS Coordination Group with the mandate to coordinate efforts to find and implement management solutions for these pests.

Update on sites with on-going concerns

Texas Ag-Life in Weslaco has hired a person from Brazil and are waiting for this person's immigration paperwork to come through. They are committed to doing the work and have revamped their offices. However Marty is reluctant to send them field trials at this time. The SOR has hired contractors in the meantime. They plan on holding a training session when new center director comes on board.

Homestead is having issues with lapses in books. Reed Olszack would like to retire by the end of the year. Marty sent an email to Jonathan Crane asking if he would hire someone and send that person to the training session. He had not gotten a response.

Perceptions from Company meetings

More companies are doing research on their own so they might not be willing to provide more money to IR-4. Perhaps the commodity groups could provide more funding. Perhaps moving to more crop safety and efficacy trials will encourage an increase in funding to IR-4.

Strategic Plan

Jerry sent out the latest version of Vision 2020 for review. Comments were mostly favorable. 2 questions were posed. 1) does IR-4 want to establish an endowment, 2) does the Mission Statement still fit the work of IR-4.

- 1) Discussions surrounding an endowment were mostly unfavorable to this idea
- 2) Mission statement should now read:
The mission of the IR-4 Project is to facilitate regulatory approval of sustainable pest management technology for specialty crops and specialty uses to promote public wellbeing.

MOTION: To approve the Strategic Plan without the endowment section and with modified mission statement. Approved

NRSP Renewal

The dates in order of preference were Nov 12-14, Nov 5-7, or Dec 1-3 in Washington. The people who need to attend are Dan, Jerry in person along with a CLC person, Regional Directors by phone along with Administrative Advisors.

ACTION ITEM develop and action list for what is needed for the NRSP

ACAC in materials

IR-4 doesn't always know when a study will have regulatory issues (TBD) and this impacts the labs. Yakima has some projects that have been in the queue for a while. Matt has worked with Todd, and thinks the quinoxifen analyses will move along quickly, and those are next for the Yakima lab. For Michigan, anthraquinone has been difficult to analyze, and that combined with registration concerns has resulted in the canola and sunflower studies being on hold.

The number of backlogs seems to be staying constant. D. Carpenter commented on how important it is for the labs to work together to move studies along and stay in sync with company timelines for submissions or a project will have to wait a number of years if they miss the first submission for an active ingredient. The ARS labs have had issues and that should be taken into consideration when placing trials there.

Upcoming Meetings

NRPM/Fall QA/All-Hands/Fall PMC meeting@ IR-4 Headquarters, Princeton, NJ

NRPM: All day on October 28 and until 2:30 PM on October 29

PMC: October 29 1:00 PM to 2:45 PM and all day on October 30

All Hands: 3:00 to 5:00 PM on October 29

USDA Peer Review

November 12-14 2014

NIFA Headquarters

Washington, DC

IR-4/CLC Joint meeting

March 4-6, 2015

Washington, DC

8Th International IPM Symposium

March 23-26, 2015

Salt Lake City, Utah

Southern Region Meeting

August 18-19, 2015

Coconut Grove, FL

XXV International Congress of Entomology

September 25-30, 2016

Orlando, Florida