

# Pesticide Performance Data Development at Public Institutions

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# Surveyed a Number of People

- How will the trend in reduction of support of applied pest management work change over the next several years?
- How do you believe these changes will affect the IR-4 Projects activities?
- How can IR-4 work to supplement the loss of the mission oriented expertise?

# Institutions (CALs) are Faced With:

- Redefining their land grant identity
- Blend of basic vs applied (NC State 60% applied)
- Low budgets and budget reductions (5-20% red.)
  - High personnel (many >90%)/low or no operating
- Colleges will likely be smaller in the future
  - Fewer support staff
  - Fewer faculty
  - Fewer graduate students
    - Fewer graduates for applied positions

# Programs in the CALS

- Programs generally arise from departments
- Departments generally negotiate with college administration for programs

# At One Land Grant University.....more to come

- One major land grant university Hort. Science Dept.
  - Rifted 6 technicians
  - 5 applied faculty retired, 1 hired back
  - Applied research and extension are being reduced
  - Applied courses are being eliminated
  - 2/3 of funding from industry lost

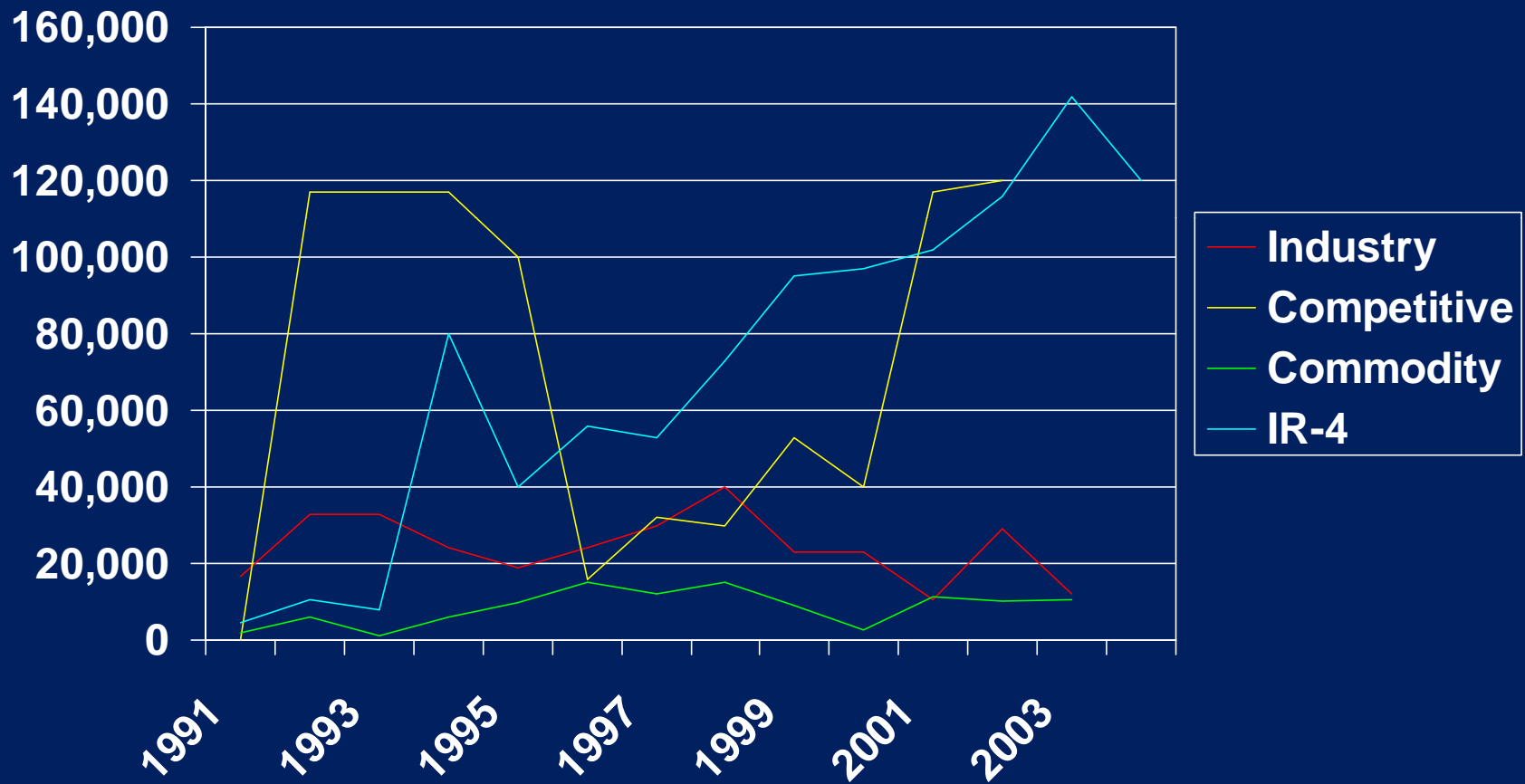
# Faculty are faced with:

- Declining budgets
  - Operating
  - Support staff
- Sources of funding are declining
  - Fewer companies, as commodities struggle so does their funding (not consistent from yr to yr)
  - Competitive grants (low % funded)
    - Multistate
    - Large collaborative grants
    - Multi-disciplinary

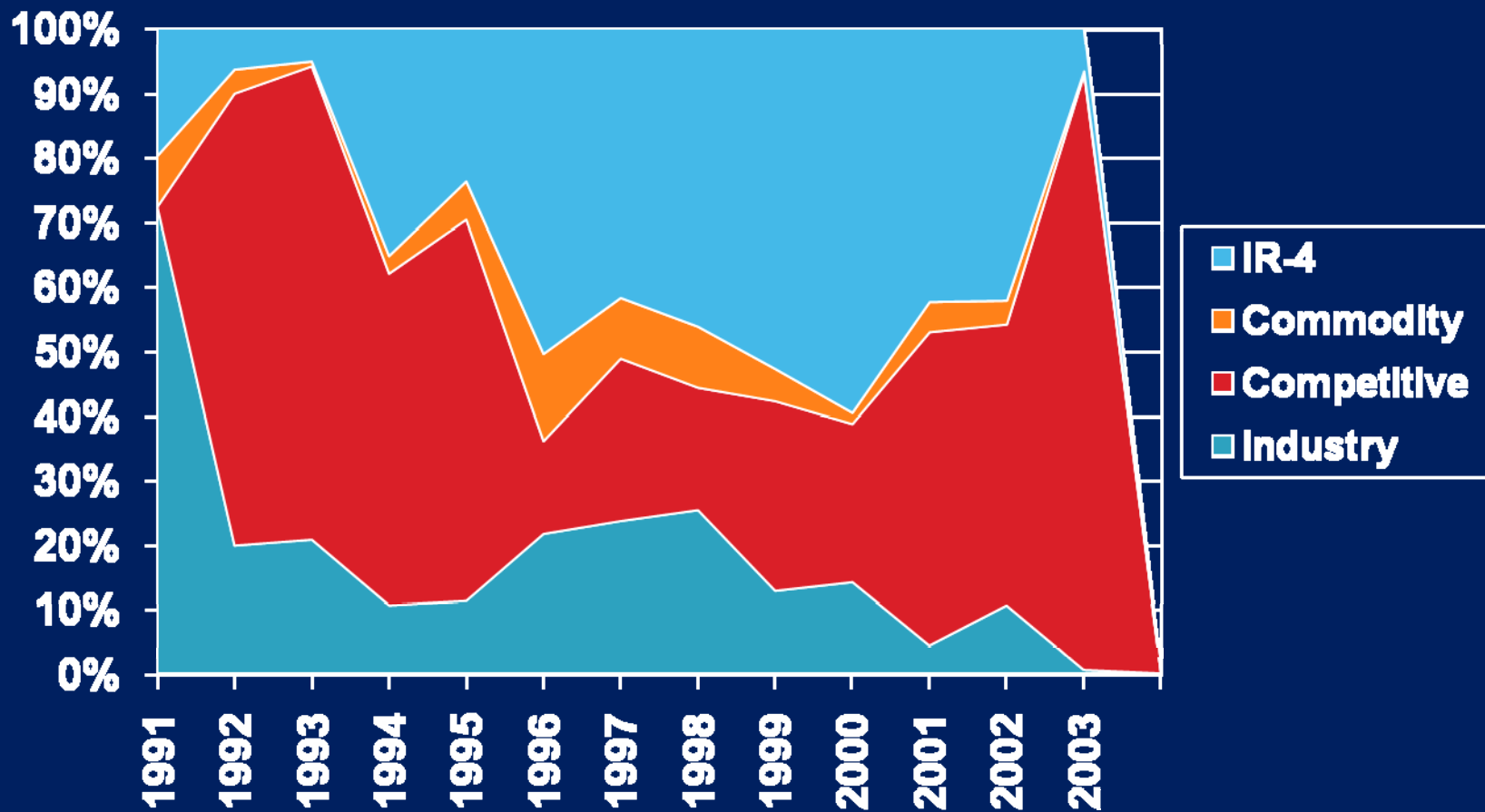
# Faculty are faced with:

- Costs of doing research are increasing
  - Recent survey showed that Experiment Stations (research office) are struggling to support research stations. Consequently, costs will likely be passed on to faculty
    - Land use fees
    - Supplies (supplies, gas, etc)
- Most funding agencies do not support exploratory pesticide efficacy research

# Changing (over 15 yr period) in funding for a weed science program .



# Percent of funding source for a weed science program.



# Faculty Concerns

- May be forced to look to other sources (competitive, commodity, etc) of funding & other areas of research if there is no funding to support preliminary exploratory herbicide screening in vegetable or fruit crops
- May not be a way to cover herbicide screening from other sources
- Few programs producing PhD candidates for applicants to apply positions. (~5 for veg., ornamentals weed science)

# Faculty Concerns

- New faculty are often not familiar with IR-4
- Heavy pressure to bring in large grants with overhead
- Fewer faculty willing to do applied research if funding is limited
- Heavy pressure to publish

# Opportunity

- Much opportunity in agriculture is related to small acreage specialty crops
- The success of these enterprises is directly related to how successful growers are in producing crops (culture, pest management)
- Loss of applied programs including pest management positions will make it very difficult for growers to be successful
- College administration respond to grower pressure

# Opportunity

Address the following:

- IR-4 must continue to connect with growers so they can make the case for applied pesticide efficacy research
- They must have advocates & participants on faculty
- Recruitment of new faculty into pesticide research/IR-4
- Connect with CALS administration (College & Dept)– showing how pesticide efficacy/IR-4 helps them meet their mission
  - How many programs (faculty, grower assn., etc) does IR-4 impact

# Suggestions

- Faculty are able to conduct research and be engaged in areas where funding is available
- Multiple sources of funding is important for a successful program
- It will be important for funding to be available to keep faculty engaged (IR-4, commodity assn, etc)

# Suggestions

It is very important for continued collaboration for success:

- Land Grant Univ. – Extension/Research
- IR-4
- Industry
- Commodity Associations
- ie multiple sources of support for projects
  - IR-4/Watermelon Association/Valent
  - IR-4/Small Fruit Consortium/Valent

# Suggestions

- CALS & IR-4 missions are closely aligned
- Engage grower assn to actively support IR-4's mission working together at the state level to support projects
- Provide funding to support efficacy projects
- Work with dept & college administration (extension & research) to maintain expertise at land grant universities (identify, meet needs and priorities)
- Start an online refereed journal "Pest Management in High Value Crop"
- Connect with Graduate students and New faculty



Our IR-4 Team