Update
Jerry Baron
Executive Director
The IR-4 Project
Facilitating the regulatory approval of sustainable pest management technology for specialty crops and specialty uses to promote public well-being
The Good
Changes

**Retirements**
- Paul Schwartz
- Becky Sisco
- Satoru Miyazaki
- Ray Leonard
- Diane D’Angelo
- Wlodak (SR Lab Coordinator)

**Replacements**
- Alvin Simmons
- Michael Koras
- TBD
- Posted Soon
- TBD

More to come!
IR-4 Project Objectives

• Food Crop Program
  ✓ Residue Studies
  ✓ Product Performance
  ✓ International Harmonization of Pesticide Registrations/Regulations
  ✓ Crop Grouping

• Biopesticide & Organic Support

• Ornamental Horticulture Program

• Public Health Pesticides
IR-4 Project Objectives

• Food Crop Program

• Biopesticide & Organic Support
  ✓ Regulatory Support
  ✓ Product Performance/Proof of Concept
  ✓ Residue Studies
  ✓ Residue Mitigation
IR-4 Project Objectives

- Food Crop Program
- Biopesticide & Organic Support

- Ornamental Horticulture Program
  - Product Performance Data
  - Invasive Species
  - Pollinator Protection
IR-4 Project Objectives

- Food Crop Program
- Biopesticide & Organic Support
- Ornamental Horticulture Program
- Public Health Pesticides
Food Program Success

- Over **18,362** uses registered for specialty crops and minor uses since 1963
- Expansion of crop groupings (US/Canada & Codex)
- Nearly **2500** new uses approved in last 30 months, accomplished under challenging regulatory conditions
Biopesticide Success

- BT/All Crops
- Codling Moth Granulosis Virus
- Papaya Ring Spot Resistant Varieties
- Mite Management with honeybees
- AF-36 (Aflatoxins)
- Spinosad/All Crops-organic
Challenges Update

- Product Performance Data
Challenges/Threats

Product Performance Data (PPD) Development

- IR-4 being asked to develop more PPD – why?
  - Higher “bar”/California registration
  - Liability
  - Lack of research scientists
- More $ for PPD (from IR-4 & Industry)
- PPD Team
  - Appropriate focus
  - Process improvements
  - Integration of biopesticides and conventional for R² approach
Challenges Update

- Product Performance Data
- Global Harmonization
International Activities

• NAFTA
• Support Existing Tolerances
• Leadership
  • CCPR Crop Groups
  • GMUS
• Capacity building
• Research
  • Global residue studies
Challenges Update

- Product Performance Data
- Global Harmonization
- University Service Fees
University Service Fees (indirect costs/overhead)

- IR-4’s Federal authorizing language does not allow universities to charge overhead
- Universities under intense fiscal challenges; some can no longer absorb these costs
  - Cornell ended IR-4 involvement
  - Others (e.g. Univ. of FL, UCD) to follow?
- USDA believes they can modify agreement, allow Universities to collect 10% overhead
- Without new funds – A Devastating Outcome
Challenges Update

- Product Performance Data
- Global Harmonization
- University Service Fees
- EPA Regulatory Actions
IR-4 & Specialty Crop Community are significantly concerned b/c:
• FQPA fears coming true – wholesale cancellations of chemical classes (OP’s)
• Reliance on non-core studies, such as epidemiology studies
• Use of conservative models that overestimate risk
• Latest challenge - funding cuts at EPA; threaten specialty crops more than major crops
Challenges Update

- Product Performance Data
- Global Harmonization
- University Service Fees
- EPA Regulatory Actions
- Consolidation within the Crop Protection Industry
Mergers

• $1 + 1 < 2$
• Paralysis by Analysis
• Higher economic bar for new uses
• Less investment in new technology
• Opportunities for smaller companies & emerging technology
Challenges Update

- Product Performance Data
- Global Harmonization
- University Service Fees
- EPA Regulatory Actions
- Consolidation within the Crop Protection Industry
- US Government Funding
## 2017 Funding

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GROUP</th>
<th>AMOUNT</th>
<th>PROGRAM(S) SUPPORTED</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NRSP-4</td>
<td>$481,182</td>
<td>Food, Ornamental, Biopesticide</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USDA-NIFA</td>
<td>$11,916,000</td>
<td>Food, Ornamental, Biopesticide</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USDA-ARS</td>
<td>$3,570,000</td>
<td>Food &amp; Ornamental</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USDA-ARS/DoD</td>
<td>$225,000</td>
<td>Public Health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USDA-FAS/STDF</td>
<td>$850,000</td>
<td>Food (International)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants from Industry</td>
<td>$1,20,000</td>
<td>All</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>$18,242,182*</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Does not include in-kind contributions that are provided by Rutgers ($216K), State Agricultural Experiments Stations ($2.9 M), Canada ($450 K), EPA ($7.6 M), growers and the crop protection industry ($5.5 M). In-kind contribution valued at over $16.755 million annually*
2018 Funding Challenges

Presidents Funding Proposal
- NIFA-Static Funding
- ARS-$137 million cuts in plant protection - Eliminate ALL Programs that cooperate with IR-4

Congress
- NIFA-Static funding (9 years at same level)
- ARS-$39 million reduction in plant protection - Uncertainty where cuts will occur

IR-4 Strategy
- Process “Upgrades” on but funding is projects is contingent of final federal funding (Dec. 2017?)
Registrations are plentiful but ability to use approved pest management products can be limited:

- Export issues
- Efficacy data needs
- Pest resistance
- Use restrictions
- Public acceptance
Need for IR-4 Continues to Increase

- EPA regulatory requirements are increasing while industry consolidates → more minor uses with higher development costs
- Specialty crop community needs access to international markets → increased size & complexity of IR-4 studies
- The crop protection industry is requiring more robust crop safety and product performance testing on specialty crops → increased IR-4 research costs
New and expanding membership
- Twelve new members in the last 3 years
  - Mike Bledsoe, Chair
  - Todd Scholz, Vice Chair
- A new sense of organized “activism”
- Congressional Liaison Sub-Committee:
  - Lori Berger, Allen Mize, Laura Phelps, Keith Pitts,
    Steve Salisbury, Bob Simerly, Dennis Tristao.
- Appropriation process vs. Farm Bill
THANK YOU!