
Awards and Honors

- AAAS Fellow

The American Association for the Advancement of Science has selected Dr. R.M. Hollingworth as an Agriculture, Food and Renewable Resources Fellow. This award is quite an honor and an appropriate recognition for many years of distinguished scientific contributions. We are proud that he has chosen to take time from his busy professional career in recent years to provide leadership to the IR-4 program - both in the Northcentral Region as Director and at the national level as Chair of the Project Management Committee. Having someone of his scientific and academic caliber associated with our program lends a lot of credibility with all of our stakeholders.

We extend our hearty congratulations.

Article by Bob Holm

- IR-4 Hall of Fame Inductee, Dr. R.T. Guest

From 1963 to the early seventies, the IR-4 Headquarters consisted of Charles C. Compton (IR-4's first National Director), George M. Markle and Lillian Doyle. As the minor use dilemma heated up more personnel were added. Dick joined the staff in late 1973. He was followed by several other staffers including Pat Sarica, Bob Kupelian, Diane Infante, Bill Biehn, Cheryl Ferrazoli, Jerry Baron, Bob Libby, and Judy Streisand. In 1975, the program went through a major expansion with the establishment of the four regional research centers; in 1976 ARS joined the program. The budget consisted solely of regional research funds and was at a level of \$97,300 in 1974. By 1975 this was increased to \$355,000 with the addition of Special Research Grant funds spearheaded by Dr. John Mahlstede, IR-4 Administrative Advisor for the Northcentral Region.

In this early period, Dick was responsible for the research program. George was in charge of the regulatory program. Each year the regions held their annual meeting of the State Liaison Representatives and the IR-4 staff attended these meetings. We would all be entertained by Dick's "*dog and pony show*" where he would review each of the approximately 1500 researchable projects in the system and solicit the participation of state researchers to conduct the field trials. After about the first year of this process, Dick became very uncomfortable with the fact that there was no prioritization of the projects by outside reviewers, particularly those with commodity interests, and initiated the food and ornamental workshops, which were held prior to the regional meetings. Dick introduced a 3-page reporting form for field data, which became the

standard for a number of years. This pattern continued for well over ten years.

There were some lean years back in those days. The IR-4 budget was left out of the President's budget to Congress for three years in a row. However, the IR-4 budget grew to \$2.8 million by 1989 of which \$1.1 million was the ARS contribution. At the same time, the EPA's Good Laboratory Practices (GLP) regulation was promulgated for magnitude of the residue studies. This regulation led to some very significant changes in the IR-4 Program. A year later, Dick was given the opportunity to be the National Director of IR-4. A number of challenges faced Dick in his new position. He and George were bound and determined to make the IR-4's GLP program a model of excellence. And boy did they! Jerry initiated the infamous "Red Alert" which served as the basis for justification of additional funds for the program due to the increased workload as a result of the amendments to FIFRA in 1988. Dick took full advantage of this information and developed the Strategic Plan concept for the program. About this time, the IR-4 program came under heavy scrutiny from outside including the General Accounting Office (GAO, Congress's watchdog) and USDA's Office of Budget and Program Analysis (OBPA). Dick's ability to work well with Samantha Baron of OBPA and his stimulation of the Cooperative State Research Education and Extension Service (CSREES) with the data to justify an increase in program funding were major steps in assuring the program of a budget increase. Dick was still very concerned about the commodity groups and the recognition of their concerns so he implemented the idea of the Commodity Liaison Committee (CLC) as a means of providing the program with grower oversight and it was established in 1991. The support of the CLC and OBPA and a clean bill of health by GAO paved the way for a number of funding increases in subsequent years.

In 1991, the second wave of new additions to the Headquarters staff started with the hiring of Dan Kunkel, followed by Keith Dorschner, Edith Lurvey, Ken Samoil, Dave Thompson and Tammy White. This was made possible by the doubling of the IR-4 budget from what it was in 1989.

One of the bargaining chips that Dick used with USDA, Congress and our stakeholders was the promise that the program would become more involved with biopesticides. This eventually led to the establishment of dollars committed to biopesticides and the hiring of Christina Hartman to manage the biopesticide program. During the 90's there were budget increases, expanded programs and a need for added personnel at IR-4 Headquarters. This led to the third wave of new hires at IR-4 Headquar-

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ters including Marija Arsenovic, Josh Brashier, Michael Braverman, Johannes Corley, Ray Frank, Kathryn Hackett-Fields, Elizabeth Lovuolo, Jack Norton, Laurie O'Reilly, Fred Salzman, and Van Starner. So, when Dick retired in December of 1998, the program's budget from CSREES had increased from \$2.3 million to \$9.4 million and the Headquarters staff had increased from 7 professional and support personnel to 20. That's progress Dick. One of the last things he did to ensure a smooth transition and maintain the professionalism of the Headquarters staff was to have Rutgers hire his successor, Bob Holm, about six months before he retired.

Dick, we are all grateful to the dedication you gave to the program and the many significant and valuable contributions you made. Congratulations on being inducted into the IR-4 Hall of Fame, the highest honor of the program. We wish you well in your well-deserved retirement and the best to you and your wife Jane and the rest of the members of your family and friends. By the way, we hear through the grapevine that you acquired a yacht that would make those at Newport Beach, CA look like a dinghy. Happy cruising Captain!

Article by Paul Schwartz
Staff Scientist, ARS

IR-4 Successes: Spinosad and Tebufenozide: Reduced-Risk Materials

The IR-4 Project has been making rapid progress with spinosad (Success[®], Tracer[®], SpinTor[®], and Conserve[®] Professional Fire Ant Bait, Dow AgroSciences) and tebufenozide (Confirm[®], Rohm and Haas). Both of these powerful, new insecticides have been classified as reduced risk by the U.S. EPA. This is an important designation which reflects a pesticide's overall safety towards man and the environment. IR-4 is focusing much of its energy and resources on registering effective reduced risk pesticides for minor crops. In addition to being reduced risk, tebufenozide and spinosad have both received the EPA's Presidential Green Chemistry Challenge Award for the design of safer chemicals (the tebufenozide class of chemistry won in 1998, spinosad in 1999). These are remarkable accomplishments for which the registrants are justifiably proud.

Tebufenozide

IR-4 successes with tebufenozide include the following crops: berries (blackberries, raspberries, blueberries and many others), mint, canola, cranberries, and turnips. Current

and future IR-4 work has recently shifted from tebufenozide to methoxyfenozide (Intrepid[®], Rohm and Haas). Similar to tebufenozide, methoxyfenozide has also been classified as reduced risk by EPA but is overall a stronger insecticide. Both compounds are effective in controlling Lepidoptera larvae and have no negative effect on beneficial insects.

Spinosad

IR-4 has made even more progress with spinosad, which effectively controls Lepidoptera larvae, thrips, leafminers, certain beetles, and ants. IR-4 has recently secured spinosad tolerances on 165 crops by using the "super" crop grouping concept. Utilizing super crop groups has allowed IR-4 to extend existing spinosad registrations by using data from related crops which are similar but are not officially in the same groups as the target crops. The list of new tolerances is extensive and includes numerous tropical fruit crops as well as crops such as pistachio, watercress, turnip greens, cilantro, several grain crops, grass forage crops, and nongrass animal feed crops.

Article by Keith Dorschner