The IR-4 Biopesticides Program has funded the following 37 proposals for the year 2000:

- Rhizoproduction of Transgenic Antifungal Proteins
  G. Harman, Cornell University
- The Use of Colletotrichum gloeosporioides as a Bioherbicide to Control Dodder
  F. Caruso, University of Massachusetts
- Control of Broad leaf Weeds in Grassland, Riparian and Turfgrass Areas with the plant pathogenic fungus, Sclerotinia sclerotiorum
  D. Sands, Montana State University
- Evaluation of AtEze on Transplant Quality, Disease Suppression, and Yield on Field Grown Fresh Market Tomatoes in Southwestern Florida
  P. Roberts, University of Florida
- Biological and Chemical Control of Annual Bluegrass (Poa annua): an Integrated Approach
  J. Vargas, Jr., Michigan State University
- Microbial Control of the Aquatic Nursery Pest: China Mark Moth, Using Bacillus thuringiensis 'kurstaki' and Beauveria bassiana GHA Strain
  R. Bosmans, University of Maryland
- Evaluation of Milsana for the Control of Powdery Mildew of Cantaloupe
  M. Matheron, University of Arizona
- Field Evaluation of Milsana for Control of Powdery Mildew of Cucurbits
  M. McGrath, Cornell University
- Field Evaluation of Milsana for Control of Powdery Mildew on Grapes
  D. Gubler, University of California
- Mite Control and Powdery Mildew Control of Roses using LQ-215 Insecticidal Soap (2 proposals)
  S. Tjosvold, University of California
- Whitefly Control on Cantaloupe Melon Using LQ-215 Insecticidal Soap
  E. Natwick, University of California
- Powdery Mildew Control on Strawberries Using Elexa
  D. Legard, University of Florida
- Evaluation of Pseudomonas fluorescens strain BL915 for control of Rhizoctonia Damping Off of Vinca, Pythium on Pelargonium, Cylindrocladium on Spathiphyllum and Azalea and Fusarium Wilt on Cyclamen
  A. Chase, Chase Research Gardens
- Evaluation of Pseudomonas fluorescens strain BL915 on Ornamentals
  D. Norman, University of Florida
- Powdery Mildew Control on Cucumber Using Elexa
  R. McMillan, University of Florida
- Powdery Mildew Control on Grapes Using Elexa
  W. Wilcox, Cornell University
- Biofungicides for Control of Rhizoctonia and Thielaviopsis in Ornamental Crops (2 proposals)
  M. Benson, North Carolina State University
- Control of Seed- and Soil-borne Diseases of Vegetables and Perennial Herbaceous Plants with Trichoderma atroviride
  J. Huang McBeath, University of Alaska
- Evaluation of Chondrostereum purpureum (ECO-Clear) as a Stump Treatment to Control Weedy Trees in Florida
  R. Charudattan, University of Florida
- Performance of Aspergillus flavus AF36 in Area-wide Aflatoxin Management Programs
  P. Cotty, USDA-ARS and University of Arizona
- Evaluation of Elexa for the Control of Powdery Mildew of Roses
  S. Tjosvold, University of California
- Biocontrol of Soilborne Diseases of Vegetable Crops - Label Expansion of Soil Applied Formulations
  H. Schwartz, Colorado State University
- Poinsettia Trial 2000: Microbial Products for Prevention of Root Rot Diseases
  J. Lamboy, Cornell University

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IR-4 Biopesticide Funding in the Year 2000

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- Biological and Biopesticide Control of Peach Rusty Spot  
  N. Llançat, Rutgers University
- Evaluation of CIT30 for the Control of Fire Blight on Pear (2 proposals)  
  S. Thomson, Utah State University  
  K. Johnson, Oregon State University
- Evaluation of CIT30 for the Control of Fire Blight on Apple  
  B. Holtz, University of California
- Mating Disruption of Two Leafroller Species in Apple Using Isomate Hand-applied Disperser Technology  
  J. Brunner, Washington State University
- Field Evaluation of Serenade™ WP Biofungicide for Control of Alternaria brassicae and Alternaria brassicicola on Collards  
  J. Valencia, University of California
- Field Evaluation of Serenade™ WP Biofungicide for Control of Alternaria sp. on Basil and Botrytis on Chives  
  J. Valencia and S. Koike, University of California
- Field Evaluations of Xanthomonos campestris pv. poannua for Selective Control of Annual Bluegrass  
  J. Neal, North Carolina State University
- Evaluation of a Sugar Octaneate for the Control of Greenhouse Pests on Ornamental Crops  
  M. Parrella, University of California
- Efficacy of Preharvest Applications of Aspire® on Strawberries for the Control of Botrytis Postharvest  
  J. Addis, University of California
- Evaluation of AteEaze® as a Component in the Integrated Management of Soilborne Pathogens in Lisianthus (Eustoma grandiflorum) in the Greenhouse and Field  
  R. McGovern, University of Florida
- Field Efficacy of Botanigrard® 22WP and ES for Management of Hemlock Woolly Adelgid  
  B. Parker et. al., University of Vermont

(NOTE: For specific scientific names for some of the products listed above, please contact Dr. Bill Biehn at HQ)

Article by Bill Biehn

IR-4 QUALITY ASSURANCE

QA Focus
(18th in a series of QA Updates)

QA News

The IR-4 QAU met on February 16-17, 2000 at IR-4 HQ to hold its annual planning meeting. The field QA target schedule for 2000 was generated. Other QA issues which were addressed concerned the 2000 final report submissions and time line list, our QA workload distribution analysis, and QA assignment of studies.

The IR-4 QAU targeted 110 of the 671 field trials for in-life inspection for this growing season. This converts to an inspection percentage of 16.4 % of the total trials that will be inspected by IR-4 QAU personnel during the field season.

While only 16.4 % of field trials will receive an in-life inspection while in the field, this accounts for 79 % (100 of the 127 studies) of studies being inspected in the field phase. All IR-4 studies will be inspected at least once during residue analysis in the laboratory. Regional IR-4 Coordinators and QA Officers will be contacting field research personnel to schedule the targeted inspections as needed.

Effective March 1, 2000 the chair of the IR-4 Quality Assurance Committee is Ms. Kathryn Hackett-Fields. The election of the chair took place at the IR-4 Annual Meeting held October 5, 1999 in Washington DC, but became effective recently.

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QA Focus

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Team Building

In a continuing process to enhance our working relationships, the IR-4 QAU and the Study Directors participated in a Team Building Session on Feb. 15, 2000. This was the second team building session in the series (the first was a session with the Regional Field Coordinators and the Study Directors). Participants in the team building program engaged in dialog and exercises aimed at enhancing and continuing to improve our working relationships. A third team building session for IR-4 HQ QAU members and the Study Directors is scheduled for April 25, 2000.

GLP Consolidation

The GLP consolidation document published in the Federal Register was available for comment through March 29, 2000. This new set of regulations, identified as 40 CFR Part 806, will replace the current sets of GLPS under 40 CFR 160 (FIFRA) and 40 CFR 792 (TSCA). The consolidated regulations have incorporated several “clarifications” within its text. These clarifications will take pro-active steps in easing some of the regulatory burdens. Comments on the wording and intent of some of the clarifying amendments were submitted to the EPA for consideration. We truly appreciate all the work the US EPA has put into generating this consolidated GLP document and look forward to a continued, mutually beneficial relationship.

Article by Tammy White

IR-4 National Outreach Specialist/Communications Report

In January, IR-4 was featured with a poster display at the American Farm Bureau Federation (AFBF) Annual Meeting in Houston, Texas. The display was one of sixty educational and informational booths that were very well received by the crowd of more than 4000 growers. All states in the U.S. were represented with especially large contingents from the Midwest and East Coast. The focus of the display was around IR-4’s risk reduction strategy to meet the challenges of the Food Quality Protection Act (FQPA) for minor crop growers. The AFBF group was very knowledgeable about FQPA. Many growers of major crops had not known of the IR-4 program, but were pleased that a national program was working to provide pest control alternatives for so visible a portion of U.S. agriculture.

IR-4 cooperators now have access to PowerPoint slide sets on the administrative page of the IR-4 website. There are three options, an Introduction to IR-4, a grower brochure about IR-4, and a set called the Minor Use Program that details IR-4’s mission, history, organization, program and partnerships. If you are not able to access the slide sets from the web, please contact me and I will provide them to you by e-mail attachment.

The Proceedings of the October, 1999 Symposium, “Future Approaches To Minor Crop Pest Management” have been printed and distributed to all speakers and attendees. If you would like to obtain a copy, please contact IR-4 Headquarters or the Regional offices. Special thanks go to all who participated in the breakout sessions. Your comments are presented in overview form within the Proceedings. Your comments were also studied during the revision of the IR-4 Strategic Plan by the Project Management Committee in late 1999.

Current work is aimed at increasing the number of articles about IR-4 in trade publications, revising some of the text on the IR-4 website, providing new fact sheets on the value of the IR-4 program and preparing articles to highlight the members and industries represented on IR-4’s Commodity Liaison Committee.

Article by Sandy Perry