
Training Committee Formed for IR-4 Scientists

At the Project Management Committee (PMC) meeting in February, a committee was formed to coordinate training for IR-4. In the formative stages the group was referred to as the education committee, but the formal name is now the Training Committee.

The purpose of the Training Committee is to coordinate information exchange and to develop materials to aid training and support in the generation of data used to support registration of pest management products. To that end, the committee will provide oversight for technical and GLP training matters. Specific responsibilities will include providing general curriculum guidelines, assisting in the development of education materials, and the Committee members will serve as spokespersons for the groups they represent.

The committee is made up of Dan Kunkel, the Registrations Manager, Dick Leavitt, representing the Regional Laboratory Coordinators, Edith Lurvey, representing the Regional Field Coordinators, Ken Samoil, representing the Study Directors, Marty Marshall, representing the PMC, Martin Beran, representing QA, and 5 Field Research Directors representatives, one from each region and ARS. The Field Research Directors representatives are Lyle Birch, ARS; Lori Gregg, Southern Region; Bob McReynolds, Western Region; Marylee Ross, Northeast Region; and Bernie Zandstra, Northcentral Region. Members will be elected by the group they represent every 2 to 3 years. If any researcher has a point they would like to see included in an IR-4 training session, please contact the representative for your area.

Article by Edie Lurvey and
Dan Kunkel

IR-4 Herbicide Performance Trials/2001: Brassica (Cole) Leafy Vegetables

This year IR-4 is funding performance trials with herbicides for which crop group tolerances are already established but the crops have not been added to the label, due to the lack of sufficient efficacy or phytotoxicity data. IR-4 is focused on crop safety data in the herbicide trials. Performance field trials will be conducted in all IR-4 regions and in Canada (provinces of Ontario and Quebec). Products being evaluated are noted below.

Pyridate 5EC/Tough®: Pyridate 5 EC on cabbage and broccoli received a priority 'A' and will be funded. We would like to add Pyridate/Cauliflower trials as the top choice among the priority B's for funding since it can be a rep crop for the group.

Clopyralid/Stinger®: IR-4 submitted petitions for Clopyralid/Cabbage, Broccoli and Cauliflower to EPA. No crop injury was reported in the field trials. The residue study for clopyralid/mustard greens has been initiated with field trials conducted in 1998. This study is currently in petition prep. Mustard greens are the representative crop for Leafy Brassica greens sub group (5B). Based on the Clopyralid/Mustard Greens petition, tolerances will be established on all 5B subgroup crops: broccoli raab; cabbage, Chinese (bok choy), collards, kale, mizuna, mustard greens, mustard spinach, rape greens. There are also safety data from several researchers for clopyralid on these crops. Clopyralid is registered in Canada

for use in cabbage, cauliflower, broccoli, Napa cabbage, Chinese radish, mustard cabbage, and Chinese broccoli production. However, there is a need for crop safety data for clopyralid on Chinese cabbage, collard and kohlrabi before the registrant will label these uses. These are secondary choices among the priority B's for performance field trials.

Sulfentrazone: Field trials for Sulfentrazone/Cabbage were conducted in 1998. Field trials for Sulfentrazone/Broccoli and Mustard greens will be initiated in 2001. Since residue data will be generated to cover the entire crop group, crop safety for other cole crops is strongly encouraged. Work on cauliflower is the first priority in this group. Other cole crops for which there are IR-4 requests are Chinese cabbage (napa), collards, and kale. Crop safety data will be generated in advance of submitting the petitions for the crop group.

Carfentrazone/Aim®: Carfentrazone is classified as a reduced risk herbicide. We encourage researchers to include carfentrazone, post emergence, directed/shielded or hooded, in their cole crop herbicides screening programs.

Dimethenamid-P/Outlook®: Dimethenamid-P is also classified as a reduced risk herbicide and crop safety data for cole crops is strongly encouraged. For more information, please contact Marija at IR-4 Headquarters.

Article by Marija Arsenovic