We are building the Symposium teams (Workgroups) to help develop a validated proposal to update and expand the established regulatory EPA Crop Groupings. IR-4, EPA, USDA, commodity organizations, growers and industry have more than 6 years of experience with the existing crop grouping scheme. All organizations and the consuming public have benefited from the concept. With the crop groups, food safety continues to be well regulated by the Agencies.

We hope that you will become part of the decision-making process at the Symposium. The general session will be a half day on Monday the 7th of October 2002. The breakout session will be on Tuesday the 8th of October.

As you can see with the breakout session structure that follows, we need crop experts for vegetable to perennial tree crops, from tropical to temperate areas and from as many countries as possible, especially Canada and Mexico.

Some new crops/names for the Symposium will include: Capulin, Agave, Tejocote, Craboo, Aloe, Stevia, Konjac, Peron, Coneflower, Oilseed crop group.

The Breakout Session Workgroups will be arranged by crop groups, as noted below, for discussion and validation purposes. We plan to have 5-6 workgroups in the morning breakout session and 5-6 workgroups in the afternoon breakout session. Breakout Session Workgroups with chairs listed are as follows:

**Workgroup #1: Vegetables that include Root and Tuber, Leafy, Stalk and Stem and Bulb** (EPA Crop Groups 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5)

Chair: D. Kunkel  
Co-Chair (Crop Expert)  
Co-Chair (Regulatory Expert)  
Participants to include additional crop and regulatory experts.

**Workgroup #2: Vegetables that include Legume Vegetables and Pulses** (EPA Crop Groups 6 and 7)

Chair: K. Dorschner  
Co-Chair (Crop Expert)  
Co-Chair (Regulatory Expert)  
Participants to include additional crop and regulatory experts.

**Workgroup #3: Vegetables that include Fruiting Vegetables (both cucurbits and noncucurbits that include tomato, pepper, etc.) and Edible Fungi** (EPA Crop Groups 8 and 9; None for fungi)

Chair: J. Baron  
Co-Chair (Crop Expert)  
Co-Chair (Regulatory Expert)  
Participants to include additional crop and regulatory experts.

**Workgroup #4: Tropical/Subtropical Tree Fruits that include Citrus, Tropical/Subtropical Tree Fruits (edible and nonedible peels) and Tropical/Subtropical Small Fruits** (EPA Crop Groups 10 for Citrus only; None for Tropicals)

Chair: M. Braverman  
Co-Chair (Crop Expert)  
Co-Chair (Regulatory Expert)  
Participants to include additional crop and regulatory experts.

**Workgroup #5: Temperate Tree and Small Fruits that include Stone Fruits, Pome Fruits, Berries, Other Small Fruits and Tree Nuts** (EPA Crop Groups 11, 12, 13 and 14)

Chair: V. Starner  
Co-Chair (Crop Expert)  
Co-Chair (Regulatory Expert)  
Participants to include additional crop and regulatory experts.

**Workgroup #6: Grains that include Cereal & Forage and Grass Forage** (EPA Crop Groups 15, 16 and 17)

Chair: M. Arsenovic  
Co-Chair (Crop Expert)  
Co-Chair (Regulatory Expert)  
Participants to include additional crop and regulatory experts.

**Workgroup #7: Legume Animal Feed that includes Legume Forage** (EPA Crop Group 18)

Chair: K. Dorschner  
Co-Chair (Crop Expert)  
Co-Chair (Regulatory Expert)  
Participants to include additional crop and regulatory experts.

**Workgroup #8: Herbs and Spices** (EPA Crop Group 19)

Chair: D. Thompson  
Co-Chair (Crop Expert)  
Co-Chair (Regulatory Expert)  
Participants to include additional crop and regulatory experts.

**Workgroup #9: Oilseed** (EPA Crop Group - None)

Chair: F. Salzman  
Co-Chair (Crop Expert)  
Co-Chair (Regulatory Expert)  
Participants to include additional crop and regulatory experts.

**Workgroup #10: Stimulant and Sugar Crops that include Sugar and Syrup Crops, Seeds for Beverages and Sweets, and Teas** (EPA Crop Group - None)

Chair: K. Samoil  
Co-Chair (Crop Expert)  
Co-Chair (Regulatory Expert)  
Participants to include additional crop and regulatory experts.

**Workgroup #11: Ornamentals**

Chair: J.R. Frank  
Co-Chair (Crop Expert)  
Co-Chair (Regulatory Expert)  
Participants to include additional crop and regulatory experts.

Article by George Markle