
IR-4 FOOD-USE PROGRAM

Successes for the quarter are listed in the attached tables starting on page 18.

IR-4 Food-Use Research - 2002

The final tally for the 2002 research program is in; IR-4 conducted 104 residue studies supported by 617 field trials. One-hundred and six field trials were also conducted to support product performance which provides the registrants with data to include additional registrations of other minor crops on their labels. The IR-4 Headquarters and Regional staff made plans for the 2003 season with the National Research Planning Meeting on October 29 and 30.

Industry Meetings with IR-4 during the 3rd Quarter 2002: IR-4 Headquarters staff essentially concluded their annual tour of meetings with cooperative chemical companies in this quarter. Since July 1, IR-4 had meetings with Amvac, Bayer CropSciences, and Nichino America to discuss cooperative projects. These meetings are used to update project status and prepare for the Food Use Workshop that was held in September. As well, many of the industry representatives joined IR-4 at the workshop and provided information on new compounds and updates on existing compounds directly to the workshop participants.

Article by Dan Kunkel

Priority Setting for IR-4 Research on Food Crops

IR-4 continues to engage multiple groups of stakeholders to make sure that we use resources in the most effective and efficient manner to provide pest management solutions for specialty crop growers. The process starts with annual project review meetings with the registrants. Here we want to make sure that the registrants are supportive of IR-4's potential research on newly submitted Project Clearance Requests. We discuss all aspects of a potential researchable project, including the efficacy, crop safety, proposed use pattern, analytical methodology, potential for a cooperative research program and timelines.

The next step in the priority setting process involves workshops and caucuses. As in past years, the majority of IR-4's research priorities were obtained from the IR-4 Food Use Workshop. This year's Food Use Workshop was held on September 17 to 19 in Orlando, FL at the Rosen Plaza Hotel. More than 200 minor crop pest control experts attended at least one of the three daily priority-setting sessions (weed, insect and plant disease management). Each day started with representatives from the crop protection industry presenting summaries of appropriate new pest management technology or products that are potential for significant expansion. Following these presentations, the participants were charged with the task of assigning research priorities for the appropriate pest management discipline. Each of the three pest management groups was allowed to identify 15 projects as Priority 'A'. These are the

"must do" research projects for IR-4 in 2003. Other projects were classified as Priority 'B', Priority 'C' or withdrawn from consideration. Some of the Priority 'B' projects will be researched in 2003. It is anticipated that none of the Priority 'C' projects will be on 2003 research plan.

In addition to the priorities set at the Food Use Workshop, IR-4 conducted a tropical crop workshop in association with the IR-4 Crop Grouping Symposium. Here approximately 20 participants reviewed potential research work for commodities grown exclusively in domestic tropical areas. Other priorities were established by commodity organizations that represented the interest of artichoke, cranberry, hop, and mint growers. Two new changes in the IR-4 priority setting process implemented this year included a nut crop caucus and input from the USDA Western Region Pest Management Center.

The 2003 research program for IR-4 was established at the IR-4 National Research Planning meeting on October 29-30. The IR-4 2003 research program will consist of 96 residue studies (660 field trials that collect crop residue samples) and an additional 7 field trials that are designed to obtain crop safety/product performance field trials. For complete details of priority setting for 2003 see the IR-4 website (www.cook.rutgers.edu/~ir4). This site has detailed results of the new requests submitted prior to and during the Food Use Workshop, the priorities set at the Food Use Workshop, and the draft IR-4 research plan.

Article by Jerry Baron