1/23/07

Contact: Gwen Skinner
517-355-0123, ext. 123

2007 MICHIGAN IR-4 MEETING

EAST LANSING, Mich. -- Economic and specialty crop trends in Michigan, pest management options, pesticide regulatory policy and related topics will be the focus of the Michigan IR-4 meeting March 20.

For over 40 years, the IR-4 Project has been the major resource for supplying pest management tools for specialty crops by developing research data to support registration clearances. IR-4 uses an extensive stakeholder-driven process to prioritize research to ensure that it is focusing on the most critical pest management needs of specialty crop producers.

The meeting, for policy-makers and stakeholders, runs from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the James B. Henry Center for Executive Development, 3535 Forest Road, Lansing. An optional workshop on submission of project clearance requests will follow. There is no registration fee, and lunch will be served.

Space is limited. The registration deadline is March 16. To find out more or to sign up to attend, call Gwen Skinner at Michigan State University, 517-355-0123, ext. 123, or Satoru Miyazaki, IR-4 regional field coordinator, at 517-336-4611 or ncrir4@msu.edu.

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Session 1 - Focus audience: State and Federal Legislators and MSU administrators

8:30 – 8:40 Welcome, Steven Pueppke, Director MAES Michigan State University

8:40 - 9:10 Specialty food and ornamental crops in Michigan Agriculture – current significance and future economic opportunities Tom Kalchik (Products Center/ANR)

9:10 - 9:40 The IR-4 Program: How it works and who it helps Robert Hollingworth Director, NC Region IR-4 Program, MSU

9:40 – 10:30 IR-4 experiences from growers: Importance to growers and food processors in Michigan
Phil Korson (Cherry)
Bruce Buurma (Vegetables)

10:30 – 10:45 Break

Session 2- Focus audience: Growers, Extension agents

10:45 – 11:10 Growing organic in Michigan: Pathogen management challenges and the role of biopesticides
Annemiek C. Schilder, Associate Professor, Plant Pathology Michigan State University

11:10-11.35 The challenges of adopting reduced risk tools in Michigan pest management
John Wise, Department of Entomology, MSU

11:35 – noon Pesticide Regulatory Policy – trends and impacts affecting specialty crops
Mark Whalon, Professor of Entomology Michigan State University

12:00 – 1:00 Lunch (Henry Center)

Session 3 - Focus audience: Growers, Extension agents

1:00 -1:30 Management of invasive pests in Michigan
Ken Rauscher, PPPM Division/MDA

1:30 – 2:00 New IR-4 programs and goals in food use and ornamentals pest management.
Dan Kunkel, Associate Director, IR-4
2:00 - 3:30  The Plant Protection Industry

Selected industry representatives (brief presentations of properties of new compounds entering the market in 2007 or later and tools with pest management applications in Michigan): 4 x 15 min to 6 x 10 min

Arysta - Alan Kurtz
BASF - Chris Kamienski
Bayer - Bill DeWeese
Syngenta – Jim Johnson
Valent – John Pawlak

3:30 – 4:00  Extended Workshop – Submission of Project Clearance Requests:
Satoru Miyazaki, NCR IR-4 program

To reserve your space in the 2007 Michigan Annual IR-4 Meeting fill out the following form and fax to: Gwen Skinner at 517-353-5406.

Name:_________________________________________________________
Company:______________________________________________________
Address:_______________________________________________________
City, State,Zip__________________________________________________
Phone:________________________________________________________
FAX:__________________________________________________________

Space is limited - deadline to enroll 3/16