

The IR-4 Project

Pest Management Solutions for Specialty
Crops and Specialty Uses



Food Crops



Biopesticides
and Organic Support



Ornamental Horticulture



Public Health Pesticides

IR-4 assisting growers for over 50 years



Mission

To facilitate regulatory approval of sustainable pest management technology for specialty crops (fruits, vegetables, herbs, ornamentals and other horticulture crops) and specialty uses to promote public wellbeing.



Why IR-4 is Needed?

The crop protection industry focuses their effort on large acreage crops that offer potential for significant sales, often leaving specialty crops with limited pest management options. In response to this need, USDA established the IR-4 Project to conduct research and compile the data necessary to register crop uses with US EPA. A similar problem exists with the availability of products to control mosquitoes and ticks that transmit diseases to humans.

How IR-4 Accomplishes its Mission?

IR-4 partners with government, industry land grant universities and growers to develop data required to support the registration of pest management products. IR-4 focuses its research on **products that respect human health and the environment.**

Benefits from IR-4 activities?

- Registration of effective pest management products that enable specialty crop growers to produce **high quality food and ornamental crops** that are available to the public at reasonable prices
- Development of needed pest management products for use in **Integrated Pest Management systems** and organic markets
- Significant **reduction of food waste** during crop production
- **Reduced threat of contacting Zika virus, Malaria, Dengue fever, Lyme disease, etc.** through effective management of mosquitoes and ticks.

Outcome

- **Over 50,000 registered** crop uses have been established since 1963
- Pest control **products are readily available** to specialty crop growers

IR-4's Core Programs

- Food Use
- Biopesticides & Organic Support
- Ornamental Horticulture
- Public Health Pesticides

More Recently, IR-4 Expanded its Mission to

- assist in exports of US grown specialty crops by adding in the harmonization of domestic tolerances with global MRLs
- provide for Sponsored Research where commodity associations can provide funding to have their priority projects added to IR-4's research programs.

Working in Cooperation

IR-4 is a highly effective collaboration effort among the State Agricultural Experiment Stations, USDA-National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA), USDA-Agricultural Research Service (USDA-ARS), USDA-Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS), Department of Defense, EPA, commodity growers, and the crop protection industry.

IR-4 Contributions

About 80% of IR-4 research projects are conducted on reduced-risk chemistries and biologically based products that fit well into integrated Pest Management (IPM) systems. IR-4 research has contributed to thousands of new uses for food and ornamental horticulture crops.

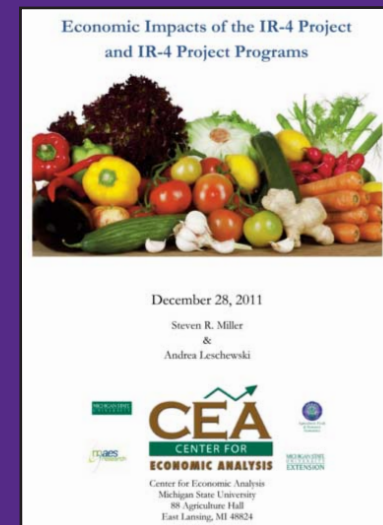
Outcome

Healthier crops are produced and crop protection issues are resolved.

Exceptional Return on Taxpayer Investment

In 2011 and updated in 2012, Michigan State University's Center for Economic Analysis conducted a study on the Economic Impact of the IR-4 Project. They concluded...

*"the IR-4 Project
is anticipated to
support
research and industry
sales sufficient to
support 104,650
U.S. jobs and bumps
annual gross
domestic product
by more than \$7.2
billion."
— MSU CEA*



Please Help IR-4 Continue to Assist Specialty Crop Growers by:

- letting IR-4 know your pest management needs
- participating in IR-4 sponsored research
- supporting adequate funding at all levels (industry, university, and government)

To learn more about IR-4 visit ir4.rutgers.edu.

Contacts

IR-4 Headquarters — Jerry Baron, IR-4 Executive Director, jbaron@aesop.rutgers.edu, 732.932.9575 x 4605. Dan Kunkel, Associate Director, kunkel@aesop.rutgers.edu, 732.932.9575 x 4616

Northeast Region (CT, DE, MA, MD, ME, NH, NJ, NY, PA, RI, WV, VT,) Marylee Ross, Coordinator, University of Maryland/LESREC, mross@umd.edu, 410-742-8788 ext. 310 .

North Central Region (IA, IL, IN, KS, MI, MN, MO, ND, NE, OH, SD, WI) Satoru Miyazaki, Coordinator, Michigan State University ncri4@msu.edu, 517.336.4611.

Southern Region (AL, AR, FL, GA, KY, LA, MS, NC, OK, PR, SC, TN, TX, VA) Michelle Samuel-Foo, Coordinator, University of Florida, mfoo@ufl.edu, 352.392.1978 x 406.


Western Region (AZ, CA, CO, ID, HI, MT, NM, NV, OR, UT, WA, WY) Rebecca Sisco, Coordinator, University of California, Davis, rsisco@ucdavis.edu, 530.752.7634.

ARS — Paul Schwartz, Staff Scientist, USDA-ARS Paul.Schwartz@ars.usda.gov, 301.504.8256.

IR-4, A Proven Program with Proven Results!

"Everyone who eats has an interest in the IR-4 Project whether they know it or not. The IR-4 Project is a vital part of the country's food security system and should be considered a national strategic imperative."

Bob Simerly, CPAg
Agronomist, McCain Foods USA, Inc.



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