

Diverse Group Attends WIPMC Symposium

The Western IPM Center's symposium, *Water, Wildlife, and Pesticides in the West: Pest Management's Contribution to Solving Environmental Problems*, brought together a diverse group of people concerned about water quality and pest management.

The symposium took place Aug. 31 and Sept. 1 in Portland, Ore. The symposium format allowed for extensive interaction among participants and speakers.

Speakers addressed broad themes of water quality, endangered species, and reduced-risk IPM. At breakout sessions, participants, with the help of speakers, identified issues that the IPM Center, or other groups, may be able to address. Issues identified included research and extension needs, adoption of IPM and best management practices (BMP), endangered/invasive species, urban concerns, and the formation of coalitions to address problems.

Further information on the conference will be detailed in the January edition of *The Western Front*.



Rich Melnicoe

Discussing IPM practices and tools to protect water quality at the WIPMC symposium, held Aug. 31-Sept. 1 in Portland, Ore., were (from left) moderator Ronda Hirnyck, University of Idaho; Gene Foster, Oregon Department of Environmental Quality; Annie Joseph, Bay Area Stormwater Management Agencies Association; Dusty Eddy, Wasco County Soil and Water Conservation District, Washington state; Bob Mahler, University of Idaho, and Wayne Newbill, Idaho Association of Soil Conservation Districts.

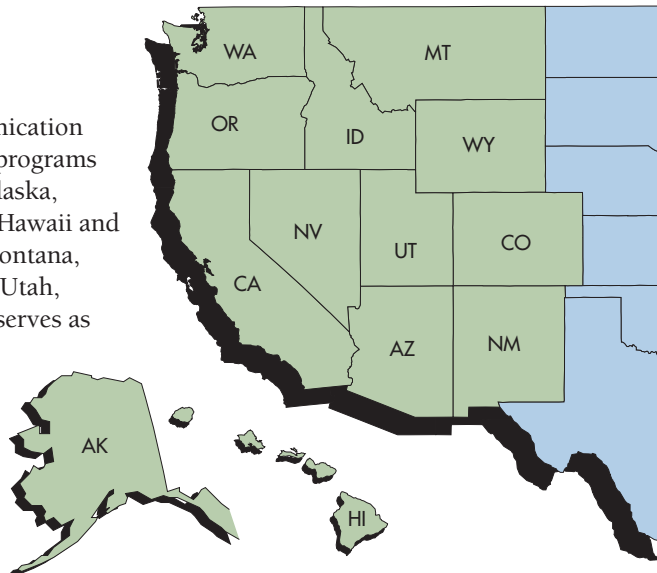


Rich Melnicoe

Keynote speakers at the WIPMC symposium, held Aug. 31-Sept. 1 in Portland, Ore., included (from left) Dan Kent, Salmon-Safe Inc.; Frank Zalom, University of California, Davis, and Jonathan Kaplan, Natural Resources Defense Council.

Center Scope

WIPMC enhances communication between federal and state IPM programs in the western United States: Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii and the Pacific territories, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming. It serves as an IPM information network, designed to quickly respond to information needs of the public and private sectors.



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Budget Plans, Grants, and Water Symposium Draw Attention

It appears that funding for the regional IPM centers will not be moved from the Integrated Activities to the National Research Initiative, as proposed in President Bush's budget. This is due to many supporters expressing their concerns that such a move could be detrimental to the program and would serve no useful purpose other than consolidating line items. However, we are still awaiting word about the budget from the joint Senate-House subcommittees.

Funding for the third year of WIPMC's four-year grant has been approved. Information networks have already been funded for the next year. IPM Issues and Workgroups proposals will be considered for funding at the end of September. Applicants will be informed of decisions in early October.

The Western IPM Center's symposium, *Water, Wildlife, and Pesticides in the West: Pest Management's Contribution to Solving Environmental Problems*, held Aug. 31 and Sept. 1 in Portland, Ore., was very successful. (See story on front page.)

Prior to the symposium, the Indicators Workgroup met to cover a number of issues at its workshop in Portland. The group, comprised of EPA's Strategic Agriculture Initiative staff, regional IPM center and CSREES program leaders, collaborated on impact assessment of integrated pest management



and sustainable agriculture programs. The members worked on three areas:

- identifying target outcomes and indicators by applying the Logic Model framework to the goals of the National Roadmap for IPM
- developing a common structure for reporting progress of funded projects toward those outcomes
- sharing experiences of successful collaboration with NRCS in IPM training and implementation.

The Indicators Workgroup first met at an October 2004 workshop to explore mutual EPA/USDA goals in measuring success and creating a long-term strategy for cooperation in IPM performance measurement and outcome reporting. Once the workgroup agrees on these measurements and strategies, other interested persons will be consulted to ensure national agreement. The Indicators will post their work on a Web site and continue working together on

these three initiatives in the coming year. Their third meeting is scheduled for August 2006.

Several special projects have been or will be funded. These include funding for an emergency meeting to deal with an outbreak of blackberry rust, a new pest of evergreen blackberries in Oregon; a green manure project in sugarbeets to demonstrate on grower farms the benefits of this practice; a pest alert for the Asian longhorned beetle, which has been detected in the West in pallets from Asia. Other requests are pending approval.

The Regional IPM Competitive Grants RFA is expected to be released in mid-October, with a due date in mid-December. Funding will be available to address issues in IPM research and extension.

Please see our Web site at www.wripmc.org and our newly published annual report for more information on WIPMC activities.

Pest Alert for West Nile Virus

"West Nile virus is causing great concern in the western region, particularly in California," said Western IPM Center director Rick Melnicoe.

As of Sept. 20, West Nile virus (WNV) has been reported in 53 of the 58 California counties since Jan. 1, according to the state's official West Nile virus Web site (<http://westnile.ca.gov/>).

As of Sept. 20, WNV has resulted in 14 fatalities and 680 illnesses in California alone. Some 372 horses and 2376 dead birds in the state have tested positive for the virus, with 161 horses dying from it or euthanized.



Jack Kelly Clark
Culex tarsalis mosquito

Pest Alerts, a means of delivering timely information on new and reoccurring pests that threaten agricultural crops in the nation, are posted on the North Central IPM Web site at <http://ncipmc.org/alerts/>.

Pest Watch

For more information:

http://egov.oregon.gov/ODA/PLANT/docs/pdf/ippm_halyomorpha.pdf

The list of Pest Alerts on the North Central IPM site includes:

- Brown Marmorated Stink Bug
- Emerald Ash Borer
- Lobate Lac Scale
- Multicolored Asian Ladybeetle
- Pink Hibiscus Mealybug
- Soybean Aphid
- Soybean Rust
- Sudden Oak Death
- West Nile Virus
- *Ralstonia solanacearum* race 3 biovar 2 (bacterial pathogen)

Four More PMSPs Finished: Potato, Snap Beans, Sugarbeets, Watercress

The Western IPM Center has completed four Pest Management Strategic Plans (PMSPs) since May: potato, snap beans, sugarbeets, and watercress. This makes 40 PMSPs that WIPMC has finished since 2002.

PMSPs address pest management needs and priorities for individual crops in specific states or regions.

WIPMC serves as the clearinghouse for all regional PMSPs. "We review the documents for compliance to the National PMSP Guideline," said assistant director Linda Herbst. Once approved, a PMSP is posted on the WIPMC site at wripmc.org/CropProfiles/ and on the National IPM Center's Web site at <http://pestdata.ncsu.edu/pmsp/>.

Completed:

Potato (California): PMSP workshops took place March 8 in Tulelake and March 29 in Bakersfield. Completed in August 2005, the PMSP is posted on the national Web site.



Jack Kelly Clark

Snap Beans (Oregon and Washington): Workshop held Feb. 3, 2005 in Salem, Ore. PMSP completed June 6, 2005 and posted on the national Web site.

Sugarbeet (Idaho, Washington, Oregon, Montana, and Colorado): Workshop held Dec. 15-16, 2004 in Boise, Idaho. PMSP completed in mid-August and posted on the national Web site.

Watercress (Hawaii): Workshop held May 25, 2004. PMSP completed and posted on the national Web site.

Pending:

Forage (Idaho, Washington, Oregon, Montana, and others): Still in the planning stages; workshop may be scheduled in spring of 2006.

Macadamia Nut (Hawaii): The PMSP is in final draft form and scheduled for final review in September.

Papaya (Hawaii): The papaya PMSP workshop is tentatively scheduled for November or December 2005.

Rangeland Beef (Montana, Idaho, Colorado, Utah, and Wyoming): A PMSP workshop took place June 18-19, 2005 in Bozeman, Mont. The PMSP is in draft form and scheduled for review in October.

Codling Moth Research of Western Region Scientists Drawing Accolades

Western region scientists working on codling moth control research through federal grants funded by the Initiative for Future Agriculture and Food Systems (IFAS) and the FQPA Risk Mitigation for Major Food Crop Systems (RAMP) are drawing accolades for their work.

"A peer review of the IFAS and RAMP projects conducted in 2004 was very positive about the research and education activities that had been conducted," said Jay Brunner of the Tree Fruit Research and Extension Center, Washington State University, principal investigator for both grants. One summary statement called these projects "perhaps the best data-driven IPM effort in the United States."

The federal grants support the concept of "building a multi-tactic pheromone-based pest management system in western orchards," he said.

Back in 2002, 16 scientists from six institutions (UC Berkeley, Washington

State University, Oregon State University, UC Riverside, USDA-ARS Yakima, and USDA-ARS Albany) submitted two grants seeking funding to build upon the success of the codling moth areawide management project (CAMP) of 1995-1999.

"Both grants received high ratings from review panels and were recommended for funding," Jay explained.

"Since the two grants had some shared objectives and common participants, the two agencies responsible for the competitive grant programs decided to partially fund both projects, a total of slightly over \$3.5 million, and instructed the participants to coordinate activities to meet the objectives of both proposals."



Rick Melnicke

Jay Brunner (center) of the Tree Fruit Research and Extension Center, Washington State University, discusses his codling moth research.

The proposals' four goals were to:

- reduce broad-spectrum pesticide use through the expanded use of mating disruption in pome fruits and walnuts and implement use of selective insecticides

> continued on page 4

- increase efficacy of biological control in orchards through use of selective insecticides
- stabilize management of selected pests by manipulation of orchard and near-orchard habitats
- develop an educational plan to support implementation of pheromone-based pest management programs in orchards.

“One of the anticipated, but very encouraging results of obtaining the federal funding was the level of additional financial support provided

by agricultural partners,” Jay said. “In the first three years of the project, 2001-2003, agricultural commodities and other agencies provided complimentary funding of research and implementation activities that exceeded \$3 million. This demonstrated that agricultural partners were strongly supportive of the goals and activities of the team of scientists working on the two grants.”

“The impact of the IFAFS and RAMP grants are many and varied,” he said. “Implementation efforts have helped demonstrate that apple pest management

programs could be implemented without use of organophosphate insecticides. Research showed that some new selective insecticides had sub-lethal impacts on biological control agents.

“Non-pheromone monitoring systems were developed for codling moth. New technologies for delivery of pheromones were evaluated and are being implemented to some degree in orchard systems. The establishment of wild rose/strawberry gardens on orchard borders have been shown to enhance leafroller biological control.”

State Briefs

Arizona

Al Fournier Named IPM Program manager of APMC

The University of Arizona recently named Al Fournier as IPM Program manager for the Arizona Pest Management Center (APMC), an umbrella organization for pest management programs, issues, and inquiries. This appointment completes a reorganization effort geared toward increasing the efficiency and effectiveness of Arizona’s IPM programs, and to strengthening collaboration and communication with regional and federal partners.

Al is working with the APMC’s 12-member IPM Coordinating Committee and its chair and state IPM coordinator, Peter C. Ellsworth, to identify research and extension priorities; to coordinate needs assessment, program planning and evaluation; and to measure IPM adoption and impact in Arizona. In addition, APMC will coordinate regional collaboration and communication efforts, such as through the Arid Southwest IPM Network (Arizona, New Mexico, Nevada, and California) and the Crop Insect Losses and Impact Assessment Working Group (both funded by the WIPMC).

APMC officials commented they are “excited about this restructuring, which should increase the capacity and impact of Arizona IPM programs and enhance our collaborative role in the region.”

Crop Insect Losses and Impact Work Group Expands

The Crop Insect Losses and Impact Assessment Working Group (CIIAWG) has expanded this past year to include cotton, melons, and lettuce in Arizona and the low desert regions of California. In 2003-2004, six interactive workshops involving more than 140 stakeholders took place in the two states.

The data collected includes metrics on insecticide use patterns, costs, targets, and frequency, and crop losses due to

various stressors of yield and quality. It is expected to provide an objective basis for assessing change in the systems. The group, established with WIPMC funding in 2003, facilitates the collection of accurate, “real world” data on crop insect losses through a face-to-face survey process.

Indoor Air Quality in Schools Coalition Receives Recognition

The Arizona Integrated Pest Management/Indoor Air Quality in Schools Coalition was a finalist in the Valley Forward Association’s 25th annual Environmental Excellence Awards program. The IPM/IAQ in Schools Coalition, headed by University of Arizona urban entomologist Dawn Gouge, includes a broad range of urban IPM experts and stakeholders from Arizona and across the nation. The coalition is participating in the development and pilot testing of an EPA “IPM Toolbox” for schools, expected to draw national distribution and impact.

Valley Forward, an Arizona-based civic group founded in 1969, focuses on a balance between economic development and environmental quality.

Utah

New Extension Scientists at Utah State University

New to Utah State University (USU) are extension plant pathologist Kent Evans and extension ornamental horticulture specialist Heidi Kratsch. Together they are working to strengthen the university’s agriculture and horticulture programs.

Kent received his bachelor and master of science degrees in agronomy and his doctorate in plant pathology from Oklahoma State University. He most recently worked as a research associate, Department of Plant Pathology, University of Minnesota, studying *Fusarium* head blight of barley and wheat.

Heidi, who has a bachelor’s degree in agriculture and a master of science degree in botany from the University of Wisconsin, received her doctorate in horticulture from Iowa State University, where she worked as a Plant Sciences Institute Fellow before joining USU.

We welcome them to USU and to the Western Region.

WERA-069 on the Move

WERA-069 is on the move, with new concerns, new visions, and new objectives.

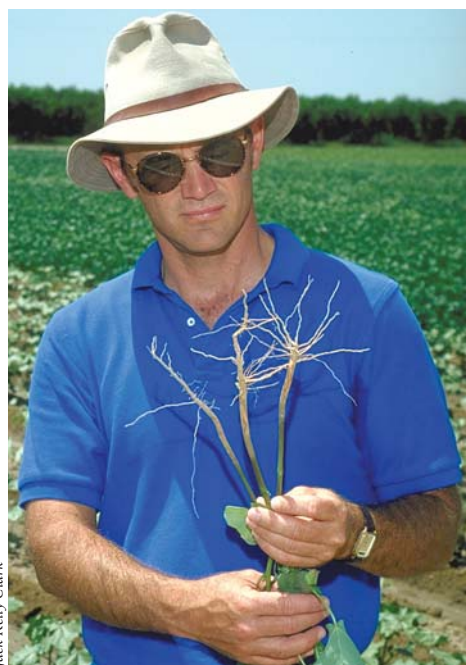
WERA-069, a cooperative federal and state project that coordinates IPM research, extension, and education for the Western states and Pacific Basin territories, is listed as an approved project under Education and Research Activities (ERA) of USDA's Cooperative Research, Education and Extension Service (CSREES).

ERA projects are activities that integrate education (academic and/or extension) and research on a particular topic involving multi-state coordination or information exchange. They have expected outcomes, convey knowledge, and are peer-reviewed.

WERA-069 has evolved "from being a goal-setting and review body for USDA CSREES regional IPM grants to being a significant coordination and vision-setting body for research and extension IPM programs in the West," said WERA-069's California Extension coordinator Pete Goodell, UC Statewide IPM advisor.

Membership includes IPM coordinators from each western state or territory, federal partners, IPM Center directors and state Cooperative Extension and Experiment Station scientists. The objectives of this extension and research project are:

1. To support the coordination and facilitation of research and extension IPM in the Western region through collaboration, networking and development of research and extension alliances.
2. To support the coordination of regional Pest Management Strategic Plan and feedback with the Western Region IPM Center.
3. To support the national IPM Roadmap's goal of quantifying IPM impact.
4. To increase awareness and communication in IPM programs across the region through rotation of annual meetings among participating states and territories.
5. To effectively capture issues and concerns and transmit them to the Western IPM Center, the National Plant Diagnostic Network, and USDA CSREES.



Pete Goodell, California Extension coordinator of WERA-069, examines the roots of a cotton plant for signs of root knot nematode injury.

6. To conduct an education program, including symposia and outreach activities by the group at annual meetings, and at the regular National IPM Symposium.

A key activity of WERA-069 is the annual meeting. Held at an appropriate location in the Western Region, it fosters the exchange of ideas through updates from the national and regional IPM programs, and state and territory reports. These reports "provide an idea of the breadth of ecosystems and challenges facing this region that stretches from Montana to the Marianna Islands," Pete said. In addition, participants review the Western Regional IPM Grant process.

Said Pete: "Certainly one of the greatest outcomes from these meetings is the enhanced networks and personal contacts that develop between disciplines and locations. Discussion takes place about common problems related to coordination of IPM research, extension and education activities in the region and can result in plans and to carry out activities and programs."

WERA-069 has also conducted symposia on important advances in systems-level IPM at the National IPM Symposium (2003) and in Oregon (2005) at the annual meeting of WERA-069.

WERA-069 represents a diverse region, geographically and bioclimatically. Among the region's biomes, or major environmental communities, are aquatic, desert, grasslands, tundra, and forest.

Crop diversity is consequently high, Pete said, as is the complex of pests, diseases and weeds that attack them. Throughout the region, IPM research and extension programs surmount a high level of pest, disease and weed pressure against a background of other issues and concerns that they must consider and explicitly address, including:

- pesticide fate and behavior
- impacts of pest management practices on water quality, and more recently impacts on air quality
- invasive species that are providing all state IPM programs with significant challenges
- high levels of pest-vectored human disease
- new audiences and stakeholders, from forestry to the urban sector, schools, and homeowners.

Those who would like to participate in WERA-069 activities or stay informed may contact chair Doug Walsh (dwalsh@wsu.edu), past chair Paul Jepson (jepsonp@science.oregonstate.edu), or Pete Goodell (ipmpbg@uckac.edu). The next meeting will be in April 2006 at the National IPM Symposium, St. Louis.

The WERA-069 Web site is at http://lgu.umd.edu/lgu_v2/homepages/home.cfm?trackID=7496.

IPM Issues, Workgroup Proposals

The Western Region IPM Center reviewed IPM Issues and Workgroup proposals Sept. 27 in Portland, Ore. Further details will be announced in the next edition.

The review panel recently recommended that six information network projects be funded.

Western Region states participating in the information network include California, Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Hawaii, Arizona, Alaska, Montana, and New Mexico.

WIPMC Grant to Help iSNAP Expand Scope to Growers



Mary Staben
iSNAP coordinator

Thanks to a two-year, \$54,000 grant from the Western IPM Center, the Integrated Soil Nutrient and Pest (iSNAP) Water Quality Education Project will be able to expand its scope and offer workshops encouraging growers in Oregon, Washington, and Idaho to adopt IPM practices that protect and restore water quality.

With the grant funds, “we will be able to offer a total of six workshops, two per state,” said iSNAP coordinator Mary Staben of the Department of Crop and Soil Science, Oregon State University Extension Service, Corvallis.

The first workshop will take place in mid-January in conjunction with the Idaho Potato Conference. In February, events will take place in LaGrande, Ore., and Toppenish, Wash., in conjunction

with the Yakama Indian Nation. The final workshops are slated for November and December 2006.

“The workshops are called Using Climate and Weather Information in IPM Decision Making,” she said. “They’re specifically designed for farmers and other land managers, and will revolve around weather and climate, pesticide application technologies to reduce drift, vegetative buffer selection and design, innovative pest management strategies, and BMPs or best management practices.”

Also discussed will be Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) programs that offer cost-share incentives for IPM practices.

“We hope that the growers will consider adopting or experimenting with new IPM practices that protect water quality,” Mary said. “We will also follow up with participating growers six months later to assess the impacts of the workshops and document changes in pest management practices that protect water resources.”

Pesticide application technologies are complex, and the need to manage drift and runoff losses imposes an additional but important burden on already busy growers, Mary said. “iSNAP is providing agricultural professionals and growers with the most up-to-date information on ways to manage spray application to minimize effects on water quality. We

hope this will ultimately lead to reduced impacts in the field, and limit the need for adoption of new and more restrictive regulations.”

The iSNAP Education Project was established in September 2003 with a two-year, \$193,000 grant from the National Integrated Water Quality Program, USDA.

Basically, what iSNAP does is “work with teams of specialists to produce educational resources and programs on nutrient management and IPM practices and tools that protect surface water and groundwater quality,” Mary said. “Our programs enable ag professionals to better assist growers in protecting water resources.”

iSNAP works with more than 15 specialists from Washington State University, Oregon State University, University of Idaho, EPA, and NRCS.

The WIPMC grant, awarded last fall, “enables us to build on the iSNAP Education Project and expand the scope to include focused programs for growers,” Mary said.

WIPMC assistant director Linda Herbst described the expansion of the iSNAP program as a “good example of how WIPMC is working collaboratively with other programs and agencies.”

For more information on the project, contact Mary at mary.staben@oregonstate.edu or (541) 737-2683 or visit iSNAP on the Web at <http://isnap.oregonstate.edu>.

New Macadamia Nut Pest Found in Hawaii

A new pest advisory released by the Hawaii Department of Agriculture warns macadamia nut growers of a scale insect that was first detected Feb. 25 in South Kona on the Big Island of Hawaii.

The pest, native to Australia, is the macadamia felted coccid (MFC) or *Eriococcus ironsidei*, identified by the University of Hawaii’s College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources.

Its only known plant host is the macadamia nut tree.

MFC, with its piercing, sucking mouthparts, feeds on the nut trees, which can result in yellowing of the leaves, and decay and death of the plant tissue. The most severe symptoms are defoliation and dieback of branches.

The tiny crawlers are dispersed by the wind and also can hitchhike on birds, ants, humans, or farm equipment. Hawaii is the largest producer of macadamia nuts in the United States. In worldwide production, it is exceeded only by Australia.

Control methods such as horticultural oils and predatory insects are being explored.

For more information:

Hawaii Department of Agriculture New Pest Advisory (March 9, 2005)
www.hawaiiag.org/hdoa/npa/npa05-01-MFC.pdf

or

Hawaii Department of Agriculture News Release (March 11, 2005)
www.hawaiiag.org/hdoa/newsrelease/05-04.htm



Hawaii Department of Agriculture

Joe DeFrancesco - PMSP Coordinator, Pacific Northwest

Oregon State University (OSU) pest management specialist Joe DeFrancesco, an OSU employee for almost two decades, coordinates the Pest Management Strategic Plans (PMSPs) in the Pacific Northwest states of Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Alaska, Montana, and Utah.

Working closely within a network of IPM coordinators, pesticide coordinators, and other land-grant university personnel, Joe seeks opportunities for regional PMSPs and sees them to completion. In addition, he has served as the lead author on several PMSPs, including caneberrys, blueberries, mint, dry bulb onions, and processed snap beans, all crops important to Oregon and other western states.

Joe, who has a master's degree in horticulture, began his career as a soil scientist with the USDA-Soil Conservation Service and then joined the OSU staff, first concentrating on physiology and plant nutrition in berry crops, and then shifting to pest management. He is involved in both research and extension in the pest management of berry crops.

Joe works closely with growers and commodity groups to help identify their pest management needs, conducts field research trials to test efficacy of promising pest management strategies, and provides growers with information about pests and possible control options.

He maintains close contact with both growers and the Oregon Department of Agriculture on pesticide registration issues and plays a key role in Section 18 (emergency exemption) requests for Oregon's berry crops.

Joe is active in the IR-4 Program, a federally funded program designed to assist minor crops in obtaining pesticide registrations, with an emphasis on reduced-risk chemistries. He serves as the liaison between berry and other fruit commodity groups and the IR-4 Program, relaying their pest management needs to IR-4, and helping IR-4 prioritize residue projects. As a field research director for IR-4, Joe conducts good laboratory practices (GLP) field residue trials on crops ranging from cranberries and cherries to kiwi, and provides residue data to EPA.

Western IPM Center director Rick Melnicoe noted that all of Joe's work—his berry crops research and extension activities, his involvement with WIPMC and PMSPs, and his participation in the IR-4 Program—interact to create a synergistic effect, strengthening ties between research, education, regulatory agencies, and the grower community.

Joe can be reached at defrancj@science.oregonstate.edu.



Joe DeFrancesco
PMSP Coordinator, Pacific Northwest

Lisa Downey - PMSP Research Assistant

Lisa Downey, Pest Management Strategic Plan (PMSP) research assistant for the Western IPM Center, is the go-between, get-it-done person.

"I assist in the coordination of regional PMSPs, primarily those involving Idaho and/or neighboring states," said Lisa, who works in pest management at the University of Idaho.

Once a commodity group commits to a PMSP, which addresses pest management needs and priorities, she and Pesticide Program coordinator and extension educator Ronda Hirnyck compile a list of prospective workgroup members for the specific commodity to participate in a PMSP workshop. The list includes growers, commodity association members, university research and extension personnel, crop consultants, regulators, and food processors from the states or regions involved.

Logistics include:

- Sending invitations to the workgroup members (some will be unable to attend but will serve as resources)
- Gathering data for a rough draft, using existing literature and information provided by workgroup members and others on biology and crop development stages
- Sending the draft to the workgroup members
- Setting up workshop arrangements (including hotel and menu selections if the workshop site is local)
- Checking periodically with workgroup invitees about assignments
- Confering with the PMSP facilitator to explain the PMSP process and provide crop information

During the day-and-a-half workshop, the workgroup reviews the growing regions and crop development stages and seeks agreement. The members examine the various stages, listing each pest present and those that cause damage or require pest management practices. They identify the current management practices—both chemical and nonchemical—or those under development.

Additionally, at each crop development stage, the group prioritizes pest management needs and issues, dividing them into three categories: research, education, and regulation.

Said Lisa: "We also develop activity tables demonstrating when pest management activities occur throughout the calendar year, and tables that rate the efficacy of every management practice (both chemical and nonchemical) mentioned in the document."

Following the workshop, Lisa lists and tracks the workgroup members' assignments. Some assignments seek more detail on a particular issue important to the industry, "such as the difficulty of separating yellow starthistle seeds from alfalfa seed postharvest,"

Lisa then adds the information to the PMSP draft, organizes it, edits it, and highlights any issues that need further information or clarification. This becomes the first draft of the PMSP and is sent to the entire workgroup.

Members offer comments, which Lisa incorporates into the document. She follows through with any conflicting or incomplete information. One task is ensuring that the activity and efficacy tables match the text.

"I then forward the PMSP to the editor, Sally O'Neal Coates at Washington State University. She waves a magic wand over the document—some might call it reading the document repeatedly with eagle eyes and a *Chicago Manual of Style* in hand—but I call it magic."

Once edited and rechecked to comply with the National IPM Center guidelines, the document is printed and mailed to the workgroup members and published on the National IPM Center Web site (www.ipmcenters.org/NationalCropProfiles).

"When all that is finished, I usually take a long weekend," Lisa quipped.

Lisa can be reached at ldowney@uidaho.edu.



Lisa Downey
PMSP Research Assistant

Mark Your Calendar

2005 September

- WIPMC: Review of IPM Issues and Workgroup proposals, Sept. 27, Portland, Ore.
- WIPMC: Macadamia Nut (Hawaii) PMSP meeting for final review (date pending)

October

- 2005 Annual International Research Conference on Methyl Bromide Alternatives and Emission Reductions, Oct. 31-Nov. 3, San Diego, Calif.
- California Invasive Plant Council's 14th Annual Conference, Cal-IPC Symposium 2005, Oct. 6-8, Chico, Calif.
- 25th Biennial Groundwater Conference and 14th Annual Groundwater Resources Association Meeting and Conference, Oct. 25-26, Sacramento, Calif.

November

- WIPMC: Sweet cherry PMSP workshop, Nov. 1, The Dalles, Ore.
- Entomological Society of America Annual Meeting, Nov. 6-9, Fort Lauderdale, Fla.
- Annual Meeting of the American Society of Agronomy (ASA) Crop Science Society of America (CSSA) - Soil Science Society of America, Nov. 7-10, Salt Lake City, Utah
- WIPMC: Papaya PMSP workshop tentatively scheduled for November or December in Hawaii

2006 January

- Using Climate and Weather Information in IPM Decision Making, iSNAP workshop, Idaho (date pending, mid-January)
- Western Plant Diagnostic Network Annual Meeting, Jan. 26-27, Hilo, Hawaii

February

- Using Climate and Weather Information in IPM Decision Making, iSNAP workshop, LaGrande, Ore., and Toppenish, Wash., in conjunction with the Yakama Indian Nation (date pending, mid-February)

March

- Western Society of Weed Science Annual Meeting, March 14-16, Sparks, Nev.

April

- Fifth National IPM Symposium, "Delivering on a Promise," April 4-6 in St. Louis, Mo.

For more information,
see "Other News/Announcements" and
"Funding Opportunities" on the WIPMC Web site.

Workgroup Updates

PNW Workgroup Coordinating Pest Alerts

The Pacific Northwest Workgroup zeros in on issues affecting Oregon, Idaho, Washington, Alaska, Montana, and Utah. In the past two years, it has provided IPM information and resources by coordinating

- ... nationwide pest alerts and weather/forecasting models
- ... nationwide projects with water quality and endangered species impacts
- ... "OnePlan" (farm planning) with NCRS, and
- ... nationwide pest management handbooks

Workgroup Writes White Paper

The Weather Systems Workgroup, comprised of agricultural meteorologists, climatologists, plant epidemiologists, and IPM specialists in the western region, has written a white paper identifying weather-related issues that need to be addressed for the next-step IPM practices. Some issues are routine production scale issues; others identify basic research that needs to be conducted.

To address these needs, the group is pursuing Web-based applications and has submitted several funding proposals. Through the partnership of the National Plant Network and the Western IPM Center and others, the workgroup anticipates a national scope and applicability.



Coming up in January

The next edition of *The Western Front* is scheduled to include:

- IPM System Analysis: results of workshop
- WIPMC water symposium information
- State briefs: what states are doing
- Update on grants

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Director:
Rick Melnicoe, (530) 754-8378
E-mail: rsmelnicoe@ucdavis.edu

Editor:
Kathy Keatley Garvey,
UC IPM Program

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