



Pest Alert

Vol. 17 No. 02

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**The Pest Alert is now found on the World Wide Web at
www.colostate.edu/programs/pestalet**

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PEST ALERT GOES TO WEB

Yes, the time has come for us to move the Pest Alert to the web. Over the next year we will be making the transition and by January 2001 we'll only be putting the Pest Alert out on the web. As I mentioned in the January issue, there are several reasons for doing this.

Use of the web allows the Pest Alert to be more timely and of immediate use.

It will cost less to produce and thus be free to anyone wishing to access it.

It will allow more use of illustrations and even color, which, at the present time, has not been possible.

In the transition period we will be continuing to put out a hard copy to those subscribers presently on our list. No new subscriptions will be accepted. We will also be putting Pest Alert on the web at <http://www.colostate.edu/programs/pestalet>.

We realize that there may be a few interested persons who do not have access to the web. We recommend that they contact the local extension office, library, Kinko's or other computer services resource to access the Pest Alert. (Brown)

RUST SEASON BEGINS IN TEXAS

Mark E. Hughes <<http://www.cdl.umn.edu>>, USDA-ARS Biologist with the Cereal Disease Laboratory at the University of Minnesota reports that in early February, light amounts of leaf rust were found on the susceptible cultivar Tam107 in central Texas plots. Drought like conditions throughout much of Texas have kept rust development to a minimum. Colorado leaf rust inoculum originates in Texas, Oklahoma, and the states to the southeast of us. This is the season when it builds up early and poses a threat to Colorado. (Brown)

AGBIO FORUM GOOD SOURCE OF INFORMATION ON BIOENGINEERING

AgBio Forum is a web discussion newsletter that has been published since 1998. It is doing a very good job of addressing many of the issues that are arising in the transgenic, genetically enhanced plant debate. The newest issue (Volume 2, No. 3&4) of AgBio Forum is now on-line at <http://www.agbioforum.org>

This issue discusses the impacts and possibilities for agro-biotechnology in less developed countries. This is an area that is frequently overlooked by many of the critics of genetically enhanced plants. This volume also includes a version of "cross fire" where opposing views square off against one another in addressing common controversies surrounding biotechnology. The current discussion must have been very good because both groups had pulled their articles and were updating them in response to comments by the time I pulled up the current issue.

This forum is an excellent place to begin to sort out some of the issues in the current mix of fact and fiction hitting the media in the genetically enhanced plant debate. I of course was most interested in the current issue because it is directed to the "impact" that genetically enhanced plants could/will have on developing countries (an area that I spend working in quite frequently).

The web master notes that if you have any specific questions you can contact agbioforum@missouri.edu. There is also information on editorial policy and submissions available on-line.

I am including a table of contents to give you an idea of what is covered. Hope you find time to check in on this most interesting web forum.

Special Issue--The Economics of Biotechnology in Developing Countries

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G. Tzotzos
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Articles

Genetic Improvements in U.S. Crops
The Protection of IPRs: Issues and Options

G. Frisvold, J. Sullivan & A. Ranases
M. Maredia et al.

Pull this one up and give it a read. (Brown)

CALL FOR COLORADO IPM PROJECT PROPOSALS

Background

Colorado State University has been an active participant in the Smith-Lever 3 (d) federally funded Integrated Pest Management (IPM) program through its statewide Cooperative Extension IPM effort since 1978. The basic work plan for Colorado IPM was developed and submitted in January 1978 based on guidelines provided by USDA Cooperative Extension.

The last 5-year projects ended in 1998. An external review of the total Colorado Cooperative Extension IPM program was conducted in 1999. The state IPM advisory committee met in January and determined to again issue a general call for proposals. Proposals will be accepted that address extension IPM implementation and have a distinct Cooperative Extension component and staff. They can address either urban or agriculture commodities and situations.

For further information contact Bill Brown at: phone (970) 491-6470, FAX (970) 491-0564, or e-mail wbrown@lamar.colostate.edu

CALL FOR COLORADO IPM PROJECT PROPOSALS

Due April 15, 2000

Proposal Guidelines

All proposals should follow the guidelines below and accomplish one or more of the following:

Provide IPM training and education to individuals in production, processing and/or associated agricultural enterprises; and/or education to homeowners, turf and ornamental pest control operators, institutional managers responsible to ornamental and recreational areas, commercial growers and dealers of turf, garden plants and products.

Conduct full scale field or on-farm evaluation/demonstration(s) of promising IPM strategies compatible with emerging sustainable agriculture goals with emphasis on, but not limited to, preventive strategies (rotation, biological control, host resistance,

tillage and planting date modifications targeting exclusion of pest and disease organisms, etc.).

Develop educational materials and information systems for enhanced delivery of IPM information.

Demonstrate and document the economic and environmental benefits of IPM strategies.

In addition to the above, all proposals must include Colorado State University Cooperative Extension staff, an initial baseline information and an end of project evaluation component that will document program impact (as contrasted to activity). Original and innovative evaluation methods to document program impacts are sought.

Proposals are limited to 10 pages excluding appendices (i.e., 1 page resumes of P.I.s, etc).

Funding

The maximum amount per year considered is \$30,000, renewable up to five years dependent upon annual progress and available funds.

This funding is available through the Cooperative Extension Smith-Lever 3 (d) IPM project. Indirect costs (overhead) and graduate student tuition cannot be charged. Office of Sponsored Program Budget Approval form (i.e., the "yellow sheet") is not required.

Proposals are due by the end of office hours on April 15, 2000.

Proposal Evaluation Criteria

Proposals will be evaluated by a review panel with technical, IPM and grower expertise, with the final selection made by the Colorado IPM Advisory Committee based on the following criteria:

Relevance to the guidelines and clarity of objectives (15 points);

Feasibility, clarity and completeness of methods. Including the potential for accomplishing objectives and feasibility (or ability) of private sector adoption at the end of the pilot (20 points);

Uniqueness and originality of the proposal (10 points);

Degree of interdisciplinary/inter-organizational collaboration, participants and organizational units, involved and the target user community (20 points);

Qualifications, responsibilities and time commitment of the project team (15 points);

Appropriateness of the budget (5 points);

Evaluation criteria, baseline study, and original and innovative methods to accomplish impact assessment goals (15 points).

Proposal Format

Proposal formats will follow the national IPM competitive grant guidelines as follows:

1. Title page and abstract (200-word limit)
2. Background (should include available information for incorporation into the proposed project and define any critical data "gaps" that may require applied research to insure success of the pilot study.
3. Objectives
4. Methods
5. Evaluation and impact reporting
6. Staff (1 page resume for each P.I. attached as appendix 1) and cooperating units
7. Budget
8. Appropriate references

An original and 5 copies should be delivered by April 15, 2000 to:

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(Brown)

POLICY PAPER ON ROLE OF USE-RELATED INFORMATION PUBLISHED

On July 14, 1999, EPA published a Federal Register notice announcing the availability of a draft document for public comment- The Role of Use-Related Information in Pesticide Risk Assessment and Risk Management. This paper is being released for a 60-day public comment period, as part of a process developed in conjunction with the Tolerance Reassessment Advisory Committee (TRAC) to ensure that EPA's policies related to implementing the Food Quality Protection Act (FQPA) are transparent and open to public participation. The paper announced in this notice summarizes the types of use-related information used by EPA in risk assessment and risk management, where the data come from, and how the Agency employs these data.

The Federal Register notice includes questions on which EPA is particularly seeking comment. The paper is available through the OPP Docket and on the Internet at: www.epa.gov/pesticides/trac/science/.

Comments can be submitted in person, by mail, or electronically as described in the Federal Register notices. The Federal Register notice is available electronically at www.epa.gov/fedrgstr. (McDonald)

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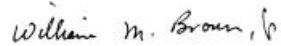
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Where trade names are used, no discrimination is intended, and no endorsement by the Cooperative Extension Service is implied.

Sincerely,



William M. Brown, Jr.
Extension Plant Pathologist