

Benefits of State Integrated Pest Management Programs

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Well-organized and managed state IPM programs are highly productive and cost effective, constantly delivering valuable benefits to key clientele groups and university administrations. Therefore, to have the best pest

management capabilities, every Land Grant university should strive to consolidate its IPM activities into an identifiable, coherent program. Each state program eventually will develop unique mechanisms for its management and delivery, while retaining a high proportion of standardized activities.

Guidelines for fully effective IPM program management include appointment of a full-time State IPM Coordinator who controls the Smith-Lever Act, Section 3(d) formula funding for IPM (<http://www.csrees.usda.gov/business/awards/formula/smithlever>). Less than 50% of these funds are to be spent on salaries and the IPM program is expected to obtain extramural funding. A reasonable goal is to augment the federal 3(d) funds with at least an equal amount from other sources. This helps to ensure adequate technical support, facilities, equipment, and other resources necessary for the IPM program to be successful.

Ideally, state IPM programs should be structured to effectively manage these resources by instituting continuous planning, priority setting and accountability. The role and contributions of a state IPM program must be recognized and this capability used to support every possible IPM activity in the state.

State IPM programs are essential to the Land Grant university mission of delivering useful information and technologies. To sus-

tain progress in adopting IPM, the universities must have "people on the ground" having face-to-face, on-site interactions with clientele, e.g., demonstrations, educational programs, and training at farms, schools, nurseries, orchards, timber lots, etc. And to be committed and effective, State IPM Coordinators must be highly trained, motivated and well paid. Each strives to build interdisciplinary and inter-unit partnerships statewide among faculty members and stakeholders that increase the communication and cooperation required to develop and adopt IPM systems.

Coordinators typically lead the production, documentation and delivery of IPM information primarily for use within their individual states. They cooperatively produce these kinds of resources, as well as pest management guides and training manuals, trade journal publications, displays for conferences, and classroom lecture materials. They frequently cooperate in organizing IPM and related meetings, seminars, workshops, and focused training activities. Partnerships are established and maintained between researchers, the source of new technologies, and Extension personnel who deliver new methods and information. Coordinators operate as entrepreneurs who, as interdisciplinary members of the scientific community, are positioned to identify and mobilize the best available researchers.

Thus, an effective IPM program serves as a point of contact for communication and consultation, and State IPM Coordinators often provide much needed connectivity and guidance.

