

**New Jersey Information Network for Pesticides & Alternative Strategies
(NJinPAS)
Advisory Committee Meeting
December 5, 2005**

Attendees*:

Len Douglan, New Jersey Pest Management Association
Jerry Frecon, Rutgers Cooperative Extension (RCE) of Gloucester County
George Hamilton, RCE Pest Management Office
Patricia Hastings, RCE Pest Management Office
James Johnson, RCE of Cumberland County
Robert Kent, New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) Office of Mosquito Control Coordination
Audrey Moore, US Environmental Protection Agency Region 2
Bill Nicholson, Rutgers Agricultural Research and Extension Center (Rutgers IR-4 Liaison)
William Tietjen, RCE of Warren County
**although unable to attend, Jane Nogaki, Peter Shearer, and Carl Schulze submitted items to be read into the minutes prior to the meeting.*

The meeting was begun at 10:15 am. Following a brief introduction, Project Director George Hamilton outlined what would be discussed, including progress for 2005 since the last meeting in November 2004, as well as recommendations for 2006 NJinPAS priorities. *Handout: NJinPAS Advisory Committee Meeting Agenda.*

Membership: Committee members attending introduced themselves, including newest member Bill Nicholson Rutgers' liaison to IR-4. George announced that RCE Specialist in Vegetable Entomology Jerry Ghidui had joined the Advisory Committee in January 2005 but was unable to attend.

George brought up that there were several members of the Advisory Committee that were no longer able to participate. This included RCE Specialist in Wildlife Management David Drake, RCE Specialist in Weed Science Steve Hart, and Richard Caton of the New Jersey Turfgrass Association. George offered to locate replacement representation of these areas. Additionally, Joe Mahar noted that Phil Traino of the New Jersey Vegetable Growers Association may have retired from his position. He volunteered to investigate and report back to the Committee.

The group then discussed the membership of the Mid-Atlantic Information Network for Pesticides & Alternative Strategies group (MAINPAS). Pat Hastings noted that new members to MAINPAS from the Northeastern Integrated Pest Management Center are: Carrie Koplinka-Loehr (Co-Director), Elizabeth Myers (Writer/Editor), and Liz Thomas (Project Manager). Pat also noted that due to the retirement of George Good of Cornell, there was currently no member from New York. *Handouts: Current NJinPAS Advisory Committee Address List and MAINPAS Address List.*

Crop Profiles: George reported that three crop profiles had been published for New Jersey commodities since the last meeting in November 2004. The commodities were: sweet potato (Mahar); honey bee (Stanghelinni and Raybold); and bell pepper (Kline and Walker).

George also provided that revision of a draft Crop profile for blueberry using the newer 2003 data is pending. He reported that NJinPAS-funded Work Groups are in the process of analyzing data for new crop profiles for kale (Mahar), tomato (Kline and Walker), pumpkins (Mahar), and cucumber (Holmstrom) in New Jersey.

The Committee was asked for future candidates for crop profiles for New Jersey. Suggestions included: arugula, brussels sprouts, leaf lettuce, radishes, parsley, and leeks. Joe Mahar noted that these minor crops are important to New Jersey farmers that sell to Philadelphia and New York farmers markets. He added that there was no pesticide use data for any of these crops and that use surveys of Jersey growers would need to be conducted first.

Jerry Frecon suggested that a PMSP for grapes be considered. He added that there were several RCE Specialists and Agents that could contribute to the document, including Gary Pavlis, Peter Oudemans, Peter Shearer, Brad Majek, and new pomologist Daniel Ward.

Jim Johnson requested that consideration be given to producing a PMSP for nursery crops (separately rather than as part of an ornamentals crop profile).

Pest Management Strategy Plans (PMSP): Pat Hastings reported that RCE Vegetable IPM Coordinator Joe Mahar completed the Carrot PMSP which should shortly be posted to the NJinPAS and National websites.

Related to the Honey Bee PMSP slated for completion for June of 2006, Pat noted that Apiary Extension Specialist Mike Stanghellini and the NJDA State Apiarist co-authored the original 'Crop Profile for Honey Bees in New Jersey' published in 2004. She explained that Mike had recently left RCRE, and that may impact completion of the PMSP within schedule. But, she reported that she has made tentative arrangements with him to be the technical lead on the Honey Bee PMSP.

Pat read into the minutes an email dated November 22, 2005, from Carl Schulze Director, Division of Plant Industry of the New Jersey Department of Agriculture:

"...developing a Honey Bee Pest Management Strategic Plan for New Jersey (or the Mid-Atlantic area) appears to be a tremendous undertaking. I think that Paul Raybold would be glad to help out, but I'm not sure that Paul will have the time to take a leadership role - I think that this might better be approached by MAAREC (the Mid-Atlantic Apiculture Research and Extension Consortium) <http://maarec.cas.psu.edu/>. Paul is the NJDA representative and Zane Helsel is the RU representative..."

Pat reported that preparation of the PMSP for blueberries is pending completion of the blueberry crop profile.

Pat asked the Committee for future candidates for PMSPs for New Jersey. George candidated parsley and leeks for PMSPs for the next year.

State Network Project Update: Pat Hastings directed the Committee to the revised NJinPAS Summary handout for an outline of current New Jersey SNP goals and objectives. *Handout: NJinPAS Summary.*

Listservs: Pat noted that NJinPAS now operates 12 listservs as we added a listserv for 'Invasives' per the Advisory Committee's recommendation made at last year's meeting. She reported NJinPAS listserv statistics for 2005:

- Approximately 300 persons were enrolled in the listservs.
- Nearly 900 enrollments to individual listservs.
- Membership: Extension: agriculture and horticultural industry; State & local government; University researchers; environmental & public interest groups; and regional & national partners.

Website: Pat reported the current PMO NJinPAS website statistics:

- More than 50 project web pages
- More than one-half million hits to the site in 2005
- More than 750 online individual listserv postings in the Online Listserv Posting Archive since inception to date
- More than 300,000 downloads of listserv postings from the Archive in 2005

Handout: NJinPAS Website Home Page (Index).

IPM Working Groups: George updated the Advisory Committee that the NEIPM Center now establishes Working Groups through grant-funded projects that meet previously determined IPM priorities for specific commodities or sites.

Critical and Emerging Issues:

Brown Mamorated Stinkbug- In an email from Dr. Peter Shearer, RCE Specialist in Tree Fruit Entomology dated December 2, 2005:

"...There is one priority that I would like to get noticed. This deals with the increased problems with stinkbugs attacking fruit (most types) and vegetables. New insecticides aren't that effective. More info on biology and control are needed..."

George Hamilton agreed and added that he had previously submitted a proposal on Brown Mamorated Stinkbug for consideration by the NEIPM Center which was not funded; he intends to resubmit it. He said that documentation of the economic impact of this invasive pest on commodities is needed.

Wireworm Research- Joe Mahar noted that wireworms are sporadic yet sometimes very severe pests of many New Jersey crops including white and sweet potatoes, field and sweet corn, small grains, and carrots. He stated his concern that wireworm damage results in stand loss to reduction in marketable yield (he cited white potatoes). Joe reported that there is minor to very significant damage to all other crops. He noted that little research has been done on wireworm biology and management leaving growers with the limited option of simply not to plant susceptible crops in fields that are known to be infested with wireworms.

Homeowner's Fact Sheets- Jerry Frecon suggested that there is a need for Fact Sheets for homeowners that address pest management options that they can implement as more pesticides are removed from homeowner use. He explained that this was important in light of 'sundown' laws limiting/precluding homeowner pesticide use. He added that Ocean County has already established 'pesticide free zones'. George stated that such issues could be addressed under the NEIPM Center grants for regional priorities.

Other Issues Brought to the Committee:

Mosquito Outreach- Bob Kent of the NJDEP Office of Mosquito Control Coordination stated that he sees the need for outreach to government officials and the public regarding the work done and IPM practices employed by mosquito control agencies in New Jersey. Len Douglan agreed and would be able to disseminate this information to health officials. Bo will bring this idea to the State Mosquito Association for discussion.

Integrated Pest Management Support and Funding- In an email dated December 2, 2005 by Jane Nogaki, Pesticide Program Coordinator for the New Jersey Environmental Federation:

"... please accept suggestions for priorities: funding for support of programs and research that further IPM

– in agricultural, residential, and school settings...

– that reduce reliance on pesticides

– that have capacity to be put into practice on the ground

– that focus on building soil health instead of remediating pest outbreaks

In particular, we need research into safer alternatives to traditional chemical pesticides in school settings - indoors and for turf/athletic field maintenance..."

EPA Update by Audrey Moore:

Audrey updated the Committee on current EPA-funded projects:

- 1) Pesticide Environmental Stewardship Program (PESP) - the University of Puerto Rico is conducting work on the management of aphids (and associated virus) on papaya.
- 2) "Impact Assessment of Reduced Risk Pest Management Strategies for Cranberry in New Jersey" to Rutgers and the NJDEP. The Principal Investigator on this project is Cesar Rodriguez-Saona, PhD; Assistant Extension Specialist in Entomology.
- 3) Pollution Prevention Grant—release of a single national Request for Proposal is pending in January (2006); but, it will be announced.
- 4) Children's Health Initiative: EPA and NJDEP are conducting site visits to schools in Jersey City and Albany related to pesticides, IPM, lead, and asbestos.

Audrey provided all Committee members with copies of the following handouts:

- 1) EPA 'How to Comply with the Worker Protection Standard for Agricultural Pesticides...';
- 2) EPA webpage for the 'Quick Reference Guide to the Worker Protection Standard Including All Revisions through 2005'.
- 3) Northeastern IPM Center 'Resource Guide for Organic Insect and Disease Management'.

Audrey noted that the Worker Protection Standard documents were distributed to County Extension offices and that they are available to the public online on EPA's national website. She added that although EPA produced these Documents, the NJDEP the responsible agency for the Worker Protection Standard in New Jersey (NJDEP contact is Nancy Santiago).

Next Meeting: The Committee concurred that the next Advisory Committee meeting would be held on October 16, 2006. George adjourned the meeting at approximately 12:30 pm.

Handouts Distributed During Meeting:

- 1) *NJinPAS Advisory Committee Meeting Agenda.*
- 2) *NJinPAS Summary (revision date 12/05/05)*
- 3) *Current NJinPAS Advisory Committee Membership List*
- 4) *Current Mid-Atlantic Information Network for Pesticides & Alternative Strategies (MAINPAS) Membership List*
- 5) *Pest Management Office NJinPAS Website Home Page (Index)*