

Western Pest Management Center

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Pest Management Centers

- Formalize existing relationships
 - ◆ Other USDA pest management programs
 - ◆ Commodity groups
 - ◆ Non-Land Grant colleges and universities
 - ◆ Work with university scientists on cooperative projects
 - ◆ Establish advisory committees to advise and prioritize issues

Address Elements of the 1998 Farm Bill

- Inclusion of stakeholders
- Integration of research, extension, and education
- Encouraging multi-state activities
- Multi-disciplinary approaches to problem solving

Creation of the Western Region Pest Management Center

- Grant from CSREES
- Steering Committee priorities
- State programs
- Stakeholder involvement

Link With Other Agencies and Local and Regional Stakeholders

- ◆ Growers
- ◆ Other USDA and federal agencies
- ◆ State agencies
- ◆ Commodity and grower groups
- ◆ Crop consultants
- ◆ Environmental groups

Link Regional Pest Management Issues with USDA Programs/Resources

- Integrated Pest Management
- Minor Crops IR-4 Program
- Pesticide Applicator Training
- Multi-State Research Projects
- Sustainable Agriculture
- Organic Agriculture
- Water Quality
- Invasive Species
- Food Safety

Pest Management Centers

Can Be a Means to:

- ◆ Strengthen connection with production agriculture, research and extension programs, and agricultural stakeholders in the U.S.
- ◆ Respond to information needs of the public and private sectors.
- ◆ Help USDA and partner institutions identify, prioritize and coordinate a national pest management research, extension, and education program that is implemented on a regional basis.

Special Projects

- Ecological regions
- Pest Management Strategic Plans
- State collaborations

Ecological Regions

- Issues oriented
- May cross state lines
- Limited longevity
- Multi-disciplinary

Pest Management Strategic Plans

- Priorities set by the workgroup
- Identify pests that drive use of pesticides
- Identify currently used means of control and those that are being developed
- Identify timing of pest controls
- Work out a strategy and timeline for transitioning away from “riskier” strategies to “less risky”
- Create “To Do” list

State Collaborations

- Pacific Northwest
 - ◆ Ecological region data sources
 - ◆ Water quality
 - ◆ PMSPs
- Colorado and Wyoming
 - ◆ Crop profiles and PMSPs
 - ◆ Organizing growers
 - ◆ Networking growers on issues

State Collaborations

- American Pacific Pest Information Network
 - ◆ First collaboration in West
 - ◆ Hawaii, American Samoa, Guam, Micronesia and Northern Marianas
- Unique Issues
 - ◆ Water Quality
 - ◆ Tropical agriculture
 - ◆ Limited access to inputs

State Collaborations

- California and Arizona
 - ◆ Lettuce PMSP
 - ◆ Desert cotton PMSP
 - ◆ Desert vegetables PMSPs

PMSPs Planned

- Avocados - CA
- Cotton – AZ, CA
- Cherries – CA
- Kiwifruit – CA
- Lettuce – AZ/CA
- Grapes, Table - CA
- Melons – CA
- Nectarines - CA
- Pears - CA
- Peas & Lentils – PNW & CN
- Plums – CA
- Potatoes – PNW
- Strawberries – CA
- Tomatoes, Fresh - CA
- Wheat or Corn – CO

Plans

- Retain state-level emphasis for funding
- Encourage multi-disciplinary collaborations
- Encourage multi-state projects
- Develop additional PMSPs and Crop Profiles
- Update existing Crop Profiles and PMSPs, as needed

Next Grant

- Call for Proposals After October 1, 2002
- Retain 4 Administrative Units
- Emphasize Collaborations?
- Multi-state Proposals with Division of Responsibilities?

Closing Comments

- Evolving process
- Shown concept can work
- Next steps dependent upon funding
 - ◆ Status quo or expand?