

## Community IPM Leadership Team Meeting

Where: Pinal County Cooperative Extension Office - Casa Grande

When: Friday, December 4 2015: 9:30 am – 1:30 pm



### Agenda

#### **We need everyone's help to promote the APMC - Peter Ellsworth:**

Under the current dean and administration in the college, things have changed. In the past, Peter maintained visibility for the APMC by reporting to the CALS executive council once each year on IPM activities and the needs of the APMC. We no longer have that audience with administration. We've lost an important way to market ourselves internally. This sort of "internal marketing" is very important. The Dean and Jeff Silvertooth run all decision making processes through departmental and county units. This is difficult with the APMC because we are multidisciplinary and some of us do not have County or Department affiliations. So Peter, in promoting the goals and needs of the APMC, is told that he must go through departments or counties. Peter needs everyone's help: **put the APMC in the front of your mind** in your interactions with your own counties and departments and with administration. In county or departmental or administrative meetings, please remind people that you work as part of a team, as part of the APMC. Let people know that you appreciate the APMC, and the resources that available: AiEs and resources for grantsmanship and evaluation through what AI can provide.

Do we have official "Center" status? No, we have not done this. It is a cumbersome process. There are organizations that are able to harvest some percent of IDC, e.g., Center for Insect Science.

#### Suggestions:

- We need to do more to make people aware of the APMC. And Peter and AI are considering an APMC newsletter, updates in Tuesday Morning Notes, etc.
- Email communications – APMC tag line?
- Publications – could add some language about what the Arizona Pest Management Center is, and acknowledging the institutional grant.
- AI: put something on the website that houses resources such as APMC logo, brief statement of who we are, etc. for everyone to make use of and to keep our message consistent.
- Start doing APMC annual report (very brief). **Prior** to annual APMC meeting, put together an annual summary and also provide it to Extension Administration
- Should we share letters from school districts explaining that we are valued with plant sciences? We have these letters on hand. Give these to department heads.
- Departments are always looking for seminar speakers. Peter could make the APMC speech.
- Community IPM Newsletter: mention APMC affiliation. "APMC has X amount of faculty applied research and outreach."
- Impact statements.
- List of activities and outputs twice a year to department heads.
- Once a month or so in TMN.

**Specifics of Current Issue:** Peter has a very modest request to make for intramural support, but now the process is more complicated. We are going to have a shortfall on IPM funding in part because of the new IDC under Extension Implementation Program. Peter is told to go through Entomology Department. But APMC is bigger than one department. Peter has been trying since last spring to get an audience to make this request. Jeff recognizes this and has this as one of his highest priorities. However, it has to go through departments. The majority of our efforts are within Entomology and Plant Sciences. Jeff

required that he Peter make those 2 department heads to make our APMC requests within their own priorities and the requests that they make. Peter set up meetings with the 2 department heads and he briefed them on the APMC and all of our activities. He explained the shortfall and the need for ongoing state investments in IPM, and that it needs to be presented to administration within departmental needs. Karen and Bruce were very supportive, but Karen said that Peter needs to present everything to her faculty. At least 9 P.S. faculty are already engaged with the APMC. Peter asked them to incorporate it into their priorities, but does not know if it will happen. Paul Brown told Peter to put together a proposal to be presented to the 2 departments.

In short, Jeff wants all department heads to be more familiar with what Extension does, and the APMC does.

In counties: Peter W: the IPM-related stuff that he does he feels he does not get enough credit for. It is not seen by reviewers as a part of his horticulture responsibilities.

**Request.** Initially, AI was 100% extramurally funded. The goal was to move gradually toward more state funding, which is currently about 27%. Goal is to move AI to 50% state funding, and 50% state funding for Mike Wierda, AiE for Pesticide Safety Education. He is currently 100% soft funded. Can only be funded a small percent through EIP. It is tougher to get grants since he is not directly programmatic. This works out to close to \$50k. If this happens, it would make up for the shortfall in EIP to cover 50% of everyone else.

Suggestion: should move the request through Maricopa County office as well, with Ed Martin because our most significant program efforts are in Maricopa Co. Peter will do so. Dawn is ready to join.

Is there a mechanism to make any new funding part of a line item in the Extension Budget rather than an annual request?

**Action: The Team will promote the APMC and its activities in all our events and outputs.**

- **School IPM Inside and Out: Update & Plans**

- 5 school districts, 6 school sites are on board.
- Have made efforts to add additional school districts, but have not so far been successful. School contacts have been overwhelmed. The ones we added last year were already aware of what were doing and interested.

TUSD and Casa Grande Union could not commit.

Suggestions:

- Go through Administrators of schools.
- Get on agenda for state or regional school business officials meeting.
- Never present all that is expected from a school at the first meeting. It is daunting.

Kai and Ed recently visited with Maricopa County Schools administrators, and made them aware of SIPMI&O program. Try to get on a school board. Ed is working on our behalf and schools are an important target audience. Decision makers do not attend our IPM trainings, because it is more hands-on.

We have dramatically increased school districts that are aware of our resources. It has expanded our reach, but has not reached decision makers, enough to result in.

AZ School Business Association meetings: they have not met recently. Last major event was in PHX 3 years ago, was a National School Business Officials meeting. Dawn presented at a breakout and only had 2 people attend. Our in-state organization is only represented by 40% of school districts, however, this 40% accounts for a majority of the enrolment.

Dawn met with Maricopa County Schools Chief of Staff with Ed, prior to Kai & Ed's meeting. She suggested we reach out to Scottsdale Unified School District. Shaku had previously approached Scottsdale USD: Superintendent said, yes, we want this program. Coordinate with their IPM Coordinator "Lee".

**Action: Team will try to move forward with Scottsdale Unified.**

- Shaku has been working on a shorter version of the evaluation survey. She has survey data from current schools. In follow up surveys, sometime there is no improvement. New issues come up. AI will set up a meeting with Shaku to review all evaluation data and to review shortened survey. Regardless of results, we need to keep measuring and be sure that we are measuring what is important.

**Action: AI and Shaku will meet to review survey data and evaluation process.**

Dave's suggestion: For the next grant cycle, we should include a statement that the Community IPM TEAM can offer different modules (outside vs inside) inspections, assessments, training(s). Each of these could be evaluated using different methods?

- Non-private school districts in Pima County: Dave provided a list. If TUSD has not responded, these are other potential districts to work with.
- Peter Warren presents to a lot of school nurses and will try to make them aware of SIPMI&O. Kai and all of us do this when we work in our own program areas: let them know that more resources are available. **We should ensure that we are all doing this as much as we can.** Future grant programs should work with school districts to focus on addressing an identified need. Not all schools will work.
- Is it a valid to expand within the districts we have to other schools if we cannot get more districts? This is not consistent with what we committed to in EIP grant, but better than nothing.
- We were trying to get letters of support from EPA and other agencies to contact schools and say that IPM is important. Specifically for AZ schools as part of a selling point.
- Idea: Dave and Kai are in dialog with Parks and Rec to do a training to support their certification of licensed pesticide applicators each year. Currently, cities are paying a lot for insufficient trainings. In the past 2 years, members of this team have done this for the golf course industry. We could do the same for the cities. They would pay in advance for a certain number of people to attend. Commit on an annual basis.

Suggestions:

- Have a meeting with OPM to discuss the best strategy for this. Offer prep or review licensing exam classes/courses.
- Offer some in house practical trainings, a.k.a hands-on trainings (similar to those done at DesertHort. This would probably be more applicable for outside activities (tree/ shrub and turf maintenance.
- For regular CEU credits, we can provide a list of training topics for inside and outside activities. Let the schools choose ones that are appropriate for their staff at large.
- Evolve toward a triage approach where we use a brief verbal set of questions to determine what the most significant priorities are and be "at peace" with the fact that the larger proportion of districts are only going to be able to focus and rectifying specific objectives as opposed to attempting full implementation (inside and out).

- **Upcoming grant opportunities /ideas**

- ARDP: 2 ideas

One major issue Maricopa County Schools are reporting is rodent issues throughout.

Rodent academy curriculum/publication/event: We are looking into having Dr. Bobby Corrigan host Rodent Academy that could address house mouse and roof rats. Too large of a budget needed to be supported by WIPMC grant. Will try to pursue it as an ARDP grant.

Expansion of hand book: Decided against submitting another WIPMC grant. It was feasible to get a grant from them to print the current book, but it was decided to wait until the revisions to the book are completed to include management information. Also expand the website. Will submit instead as an ARDP grant. Kai: there has been a lot of demand for hard copies of the book as it is. BASF contacts have asked what it would cost to print it. AZ OPM needs study materials to support new exams. They would like to have hard copies available as study guides. Expansion is in part to address OPM needs. Perhaps Extension could address certification training for OPM, which are currently insufficient and being done by third party. It could be a revenue source.

- **Budget updates**

Shaku's Active Funding and Obligations

- USDA-NIFA, CPPM EIP 2014 grant (50%) 5/2015 – 4/2016 [assumes no-cost extension]
- EPA School IPM Grant (50%) 2/2014 – 1/2016 (+ six month no-cost extension till 08/31/2016)
- State Signature Program (12.7%) 1/2015 – 6/2016

Lucy's Active Funding and Obligations

- EPA School IPM Grant (50%) 2/2014 – 1/2016 (+ six month no-cost extension till 08/31/2016)
- USDA-NIFA, ARDP 2014 grant (50%) 09/01/2014 – 08/30/2016

**WORKING LUNCH 12.00 – 12.45**

- **Priorities addressed in 2015 and future investments**

- Head lice pub
- Pest proofing pub
- School IPM plan template
- Stop School Pests materials
- Home and School IPM newsletters
- Shorts, etc.
- Sig program events - One more upcoming signature program event we have committed to, in Mohave County. If they do not get at least 20 participants, they probably will not present. If it doesn't work out, maybe could offer to look into a youth-targeted program. It looks like there will be enough participants. It was suggested that Elizabeth do her best to promote it. But if she cannot get 20 participants we would have to reschedule. It doesn't make economic sense to have 6 people do 2 overnight stays for a training that no one comes to.
- Interface with Pesticide Safety program – Mike Wierda is very involved in all our events.

- **Priority outputs**

- Group discussion to identify priority outputs (meeting current commitments, stakeholder needs, program priorities). Goal is to help us focus on the most important activities for the next 6 months (for now).

This item will be deferred to a conference call – Shaku will send out a doodle.