

Integrated Crop Management Working Group Meeting

September 11, 2009

10:00 am to 12:00 pm (Lunch Provided)

Maricopa Agricultural Center

Welcome/Introductions/Announcements

Members Present: Erin Taylor, Pedro Andrade, Peter Ellsworth, Al Fournier, Bob Roth, Randy Norton, Russ Tronstad, Sam Wang, Ed Martin

County programming for agriculture in counties with limited or no Ag. agent availability

Ed Martin: the hiring of new agents will be 2-3 years down the road. The use of program coordinators or Assistants in Extension could be a way to fill in the gaps until the agents are hired. Cuts across the board in CALS are being seen and will probably continue to be seen for a while. Some positions are no longer on a tenure/continuing track. Possibility of a year-to-year appointment plan and then a shift to continuing status. Other states (e.g., CA) are experiencing similar problems. Comments from Paul Brown: Little to no local programming is being done; suggests we move to a road show model for meetings and outreach. Programming in some counties (Mohave) is almost non-existent. How can we move to a new model? What should the new model look like? Loss of grower contact is an issue. Work together to start online trainings, webinars, state-wide mailing list. Technology in Arizona is not very good. We need to start working with our stakeholders to develop programs that are meaningful to their needs.

Suggestions: Begin doing listening sessions with our clientele and put together a road show that travels to the growers rather than the growers coming to us. Begin using the county advisory boards for direction and possible funding opportunities. Need to start reconnecting with the clientele. Many out of state people are being brought in to teach and do research, UA extension needs to be the first place people come to. How do we begin to work on this? How do we begin to start working together better and more efficient?

The 2008-2009 Cotton Report, new review guidelines and procedures

Peter Ellsworth: The new cotton reports will be peer reviewed. There have already been some submissions. They are being reviewed. Peter and Al are sending out the papers for review. Looking into combining all commodity reports into a single report. Report articles can be published online immediately after they pass the review process. A print version of the report will be published once enough material has become available.

Extension IPM grant: Cotton research and outreach plan

Al Fournier and Peter Ellsworth: work is being done on the current grant. Funds were reallocated to areas that were not funded originally. The next call will be out sometime between mid September or mid October, hopefully. The grant will be for

3-5 years. Two meetings are planned for the IPM committee (Sept. 30 and Oct. 15). EIPM funds could potentially be used to hire new personnel to help with county programming or state-wide programming in IPM.

Western IPM center is a good source of funding (\$30-40K). The requirements for some programs state that the project must be multi-state and address an IPM issue in the state/region.

Update on agronomic crops survey and the resubmission of the Crop Pest Losses working group grant

Al Fournier: A new proposal has been submitted. Currently we have Cotton, Lettuce, Melons. Alfalfa survey was developed, but was unsuccessful. New Proposal components: combining the 1080 data and the Pest Loss data and putting the surveys online or in an electronic format. Should hear something in November. The new agronomic survey is finished. Yuma was the first place to hold a meeting and have it distributed. There were 16 responses, 65 people in attendance.

Developing programs by common topic(s) or theme(s), dates (fall/winter and winter/spring timeframe), and locations

La Paz, Mohave and Yuma

Dec. 7/8, 2009; Dec. 9/10, 2009; Dec. 2/3, 2009 (looks as if the 2nd and 3rd works best for most people) Ed will check with Kurt if these dates work for him.

Maricopa, Pinal

Feb 23, 2010; June 22, 2010; Sept 14, 2010 These meetings will be done twice (once at MAC and once in Buckeye) We will work on getting second dates for the meetings and them all posted to ACIS. These are dates for MAC.

Pima

March 2, 2010; Will work on other dates (Erin will contact Dan Pacheco to set up a meeting location and other dates)

Graham

Feb 4, 2010; June 24, 2010; Randy will be having a corn meeting the second week in Dec.

Need to get all titles to Ed as soon as possible

Speakers can include: Mike Chumley, Sam Wang, Pedro Andrade, Peter Ellsworth, Al Fournier, Russ Tronstad, Trent Teegerstrom, Ed Martin, Mary Olsen, Paul Brown, Channah Rock (we will begin inviting Channah to future meetings)

Extension Program Funding and Cotton Variety Trial Testing

Erin Taylor: We put in for an Extension grant and we were awarded \$4500. We need to get the team together to decide how the funds should be used.

We are now down to 5 sites for the cotton variety trial. Is this something that we should continue? Is the clientele interested in this? A meeting will be set up with Erin, Randy, Kurt and the seed companies to discuss the future of this program in January

Other Updates

Pima cotton looks to be making a come-back. In 3-4 years it is possible that a BT pima will be released.

In 2010 growers will not be permitted to plant Bollgard in AZ due to a new agreement.

At the grower meetings we need to build in some time to do a listening/discussion session so we can find out what the new issues with growers are, what areas Extension is lacking in and how we can help the ag industry.

Next meeting and Agent/Specialist in charge

Kurt Nolte and Paul Brown