

Community IPM Leadership Team Meeting (Conference call)
When: TUESDAY, May 20, 2014: 9 am – 11 am



Call Notes

On the call: Dawn Gouge, Dave Kopec, Kai Umeda, Ursula Schuch, Al Fournier, Shujuan Li, Shaku Nair

Program updates

SIPM Inside and Out: Program initiation-outdoor audit visits were conducted in two new school sites in two new school districts (Maricopa and Mesa). Indoor audit visits are to be scheduled. A list of green cleaning products was sent to MUSD per their request. A garlic-based attractant product for mosquito control is available, will be tried at Ishikawa Elementary School site in Mesa for their mosquito problem.

Desert Hort Conference: The conference was a great success and very well attended (330 attendees). Most attendees were interested in the OPM CEUs. Ursula reported that slight changes will be made in the program next year, mostly to accommodate more people in the hands-on sessions.

Kai raised a question about reporting CEUs, whether we should report the number of CEUs offered, the number of attendees in each session or both.

Ursula: Many people attending our events are not licensed, but some need CEUs. So in order to account for all attendees, we report the total number of attendees multiplied by the CEUs offered. But we also keep track separately.

Al: Traditionally on the Ag. side, both are reported. However, we should make sure that we record total number of attendees, number who applied for CEUs and how many CEUs were offered.

Dawn: Dean Burgess had specifically asked us to report all these separate and total numbers.

Al will follow up with Wayne about making some changes in our Outputs Manager to enable better accounting for the different types of CEUs offered (perhaps a pull-down menu to choose the type of CEU?) and the number of people who received them in each event. There are a number of types of CEUs offered in our events, some are more frequently sought than others.

From next year on, several categories of our stakeholders will require 12 OPM CEUs every year. These might be difficult to obtain at individual conferences or trainings. So we might need to collaborate with AZDA or other agencies to provide a range of opportunities, including online CEUs (e.g., Univar?).

Stop School Pests: Surveys have been sent out to stakeholders about the learning objectives for specific key school IPM roles and responses are coming in. Edited modules are improving greatly. Other states are also sending in their edits to the modules.

Handbook: Dawn has sent Shaku several existing manuscripts and texts on many of the pests in our list, to be restructured to suit the format of our book. Shaku is working on the individual pages. We will also obtain feedback from stakeholders regarding the scope of the book. Shaku will send an update on this before the next conference call in August.

Tribal School IPM Template: Wayne has modified the template into a fillable pdf, and is still working on some aspects. He has also prepared an instruction sheet on how to use the template. Both word and pdf versions will be posted online. We have already received several requests for the template.

Dawn reported that we could try to use the template in our upcoming tribal trainings, using Al's laptops. We can work on that as soon as the dates for the training are finalized.

Turfgrass Field Day: 76 people attended.

All team members to please send upcoming events to Lucy for the Newsletter. Also please inform about canceled/rescheduled events.

EIPM update

The new name is EIP (Extension Implementation Program). The RFA was released on May 19th and the proposals are due on June 19th. A webinar on the RFA is scheduled on May 22nd. Team members to please send any new or different ideas to Al or Peter.

Ursula and Dawn suggested including nursing homes, physical therapy centers, elder and disabled care centers and housing, specifically those that cater to the elderly/disabled. There is a lot of literature that supports higher rate of recovery in better landscaped areas. Several of these areas have contracted landscapers, others have in-house landscapers.

Al: We have to think carefully about how these new areas will fit into our narrative. Maybe in year 1, we could conduct a needs-assessment, then expand in years 2 and 3. Ursula and Dawn, please send specific information or literature regarding the mentioned points to support our narrative.

Dave: Will we be at a disadvantage asking for a survey as in needs assessment?

Al: Not entirely, because this data is very important. The RFA is infrastructural, so we can request funds for needs assessment.

PSEP update

9 candidates have applied. Search committee will try to complete interviews in June, to enable a July 1 start date for the new candidate. The position is funded by a special grant that Al and Peter had applied and has a large list of activities.

We have funds available in the program that need to be spent before August 30 2014. Travel or similar expenses related to pesticide safety can be charged to this account.

Website update

The main APMC webpage is being decided. It will be dynamic, suiting computers and mobiles and the elements on this page are being prioritized. As we move forward, each program or unit will be added using these elements on the main page.

Cost recovery at our workshops/training events

For programs that involve large groups or broader audience, we can charge a fee, but for our program schools or clientele, we cannot charge fees.

Ursula: We have a mandate to cost-recover. We should ask Extension Admin. how to go about it. If people are not willing to pay, we should record that – that will be good data for Extension Admin. We have to determine in advance how much we value our output. If our stakeholders cannot pay, then we have to find other sources. Certain instances of charging fees and routing through departments have created unpleasant situations, we should find a way to avoid these. But in the long term, we could consider a fee to sustain our program.

Kai mentioned RegOnline - a company that handles registration charges. Kai and Dave charge fees at certain events, they could give us a brief overview of the procedure they follow (e.g. at Desert Turf School) in our next meeting.

Plant health seminar for larger group (possibly including Mesa, Gilbert, Phoenix and surrounding areas) – date TBD

Upcoming events

- Plant Health Practicum at MUSD – May 28th – completed, Lucy has sent out the report.
- Tribal trainings: Tohono O’odham (June), and Gila River and Indian communities (July and September)
- Irrigation seminar and demo – Dave (date TBD)
- Presentation on pesticide application laws and rules – Dawn (date TBD)
- Plant health seminar for larger group, possibly including Mesa, Gilbert, Phoenix and surrounding areas (date TBD): We have to consider a venue, and decide about the format.

Next meeting: In-person, in August. Shaku will send out Doodle.