

## Community IPM Leadership Team Meeting

Where: Pinal County Cooperative Extension Office - Casa Grande

When: Wednesday, March 5, 2014: 9 am – 2 pm



Attendance: David Kopec, Al Fournier, Lucy Li, Shaku Nair, Dawn Gouge, Ursula Schuch, Kai Umeda, Paul Baker and Peter Ellsworth

### Meeting Notes

#### **Brief Roundtable Updates**

Ursula:

- May 9 Desert Hort Conference (DHC), plans underway. Dave and Paul are on the program.
- Tree Health workshop held at MAC in January. 4 hour training with one-hour outdoor tour. Was very successful and well attended (42 people, mainly from landscape companies or municipalities). Talks related to pruning and tree management. Plan was to videotape the talks and to do a TurningPoint survey. But for some reason, the technology failed at MAC. The team is considering presenting this workshop at other locations and posting the presentations online.
- Kai: earlier this week there was a request of Master Gardeners in Maricopa County to train facility managers on a school campus. His concern is that it might be beyond their typical target audience of homeowners. It may be an opportunity to provide some extra training for MGs (train the trainer) on tree health and also what advice they can and cannot give (e.g., pruning versus pesticide applications). There is a real and constant assumption of liability. It is important to make MGs aware of these issues, and of the ramifications of making recommendations. They need to know when to refer out to specialists. In the short term, Kai thinks it would be better for school personnel to wait until someone with more technical expertise is available to provide training or accompany MGs. Kai gets emails from MG listserv – they have training requests, upcoming trainings and other events.

Kai:

- Has been involved in Extension Centennial programming.
- Turf School Jan 10. Had 32 participants for a 4-day course. Target audience includes golf personnel, cities, parks and rec, sports turf managers.
- Worked with Cactus & Pine on a series of meetings. Jack Peterson presented on new regulations that require golf course personnel to report pesticide applications. Peter and Al presented at 3 meetings on the benefits of pesticide use reporting. Office of Pest Management is now requiring reporting of golf course applications of any chemicals on the ground water protection list to OPM. Our message is that it is beneficial to report all pesticide uses.
- Sports turf managers roundtable networking session in Tempe recently.
- Turf website is getting updated more frequently with upcoming events.
- April 10: math calculating seminar is planned – how to calculate everything related to turf.
- Dave and Kai presenting on Helena program, Kai on Cactus and Pine program, Maricopa County Supervisors, Target Field Day demonstration, Wilbur Ellis Seminar.
- Jan 31 did a Pesticide Safety training in Wilcox with Shaku and Jennifer Weber from ADA. 41 attended. In the following week, 13 took the exam and 9 passed. (This used to be combined with a local Ag Day meeting.) Peter suggested doing a series of meetings in the low desert the week before – e.g., Phoenix, Wilcox, etc. Southwest Veg Conference each November, Ed Northam used to do a training at this event each year, but not this year. Typically, there has been an annual training up on the Navajo reservation. They need some non-traditional training methods

to be successful on exam, more hands-on. Kai suggests planning a more organized schedule for delivery of annual pesticide trainings for applicators.

Peter:

**Pesticide Safety Education Program (PSEP) program** is undergoing a change. We have had about \$8000 annually from EPA to help support pesticide safety training. An industry group with state PSEP coordinators recently put together an RFA, the PSEP-IMI. Our charge is to develop a plan for sustainability of the Arizona PSEP program. We need to form a stakeholder committee (of the big players) and write up a business plan. How will we fund PSEP training in an ongoing way? This is for all sectors. The vision of our proposal was to use the funds (\$25k / year for 3 years) to hire part of a position, an AiE, leveraged through other resources, to organize and convene the committee for PSEP-IMI and the other portion of their time would support delivery of PSEP trainings. Think about stakeholders in your areas that have a real stake in this: who are the movers and shakers who should be a part of this committee? Paul wants to be on the committee.

- Ursula: Agplan.umn.edu out of University of Minnesota. Check out this template for development of a business plan. May be very useful for this project.
- Al or Peter will schedule a follow up meeting to discuss this.

Dave:

- Delivered an open house at the Karsten Turf Center 3/4/14.
- Did MG training in Siera Vista on turf management, problem solving. Combines basic horticulture with soil management, abiotic and man-made problems. Focus is how to answer clientele turf related questions over the phone.
- Has field day coming up at Karsten Turf Center May 7.
- Next month a program with Kai to targeting school football facilities; training at Cardinal Stadium if possible. Date TBD.

Paul:

- Participating in DHC with Ursula,
- IPM in a Child's World in Yuma on April 23
- Parks and Rec training in Tucson on May 13
  - Lucy asked for a short paragraph about this event for the School IPM Newsletter.

Shaku:

- Western IPM Center grant funded to develop a publication (Handbook on Pests in Community Environments in Desert Southwestern US). 1 year project. She will schedule a conference call with the PIs to review objectives and timeline. Some elements are already in motion.
  - Peter: Tim Vandervoet, his grad student, also had a grant funded through this program, which will support part of his assistantship for a year to implement an outreach program on natural enemies in cotton.
- Arizona Environmental Health Association, she will present on IPM in schools and child care facilities next week.
- Joint UA – California publication. It was decided to modify the piece differently for CA, and so there will be 2 separate publications.

Dawn

- EPA Federal Advisory Committee on School IPM. She is on the committee. EPA will send extra resources to Washington state to implement statewide school IPM within the next 5 to 10 years. (Arizona was the runner up program.)
- Did second Extension Initiative training in Flagstaff with Lucy. Did another event in Phoenix yesterday. Distributed a survey related to School IPM Inside and Out program. Training coming

up on Yuma April 23, again with a focus on public health program. Agents involved have resisted inclusion of outdoor elements in the program.

- Did various visits to schools in the Inside-and-Out school districts since the last meeting we have visited campuses in Gilbert, Maricopa, Phoenix, and Mesa.
- Have some reports of early mosquitoes. Leaf-nosed bats are also out and about.
- Avitrol, a pigeon control product, RED issued in 2007, in 2011 EPA rewrote labels and reduced the number of products dramatically due to child ingestion incidents and non-target impacts. Manufacturer has failed to update the label on the manufacturers' website. It is still being used according to the old label. States are being notified and each state is dealing with the issues differently, we have suggested issuing a stop sale on all products ASAP.
- Public schools in Arizona, some will convert to charter schools, which will then maybe managed on a site-by-site basis.
- Schools will be required to have a Qualifying Party license associated with the pest management personal come 2015. People are marketing themselves to schools as a QP, at additional costs. Schools are concerned this increase pest management related costs and/or force them to secure outside service providers.
- Lucy and Dawn visited with Maricopa school nurses; introduced them to roles and responsibilities for school nurses under the Stop School Pests program. EPA grant. Lucy is working on low literacy Extension publication on bed bugs. It has been accepted and submitted. We have to check with CALS publications re. money (\$1,000) sent by Dawn towards publication. Robert Casler no longer Director at CALS Publications office. Maria Del Carmen Aranguren ([arangure@cals.arizona.edu](mailto:arangure@cals.arizona.edu)) is the person to be contacted now.
- Since last year, Lucy has produced 10 monthly newsletters, the newsletter is distributed to all 163 school districts in AZ as well as to state School IPM leads nationally.
- Bed bug online survey is finalized. It will be translated into Spanish and launched in March. It will go out nationally through many avenues including the National Pesticide Information Center (NPIC).

#### **EPA "Big Check" Event – April 2.**

- Details keep changing. Now Jim Jones will only be here for a short time (~3 hours). The current plan is to go from the airport to Metro Tech for a quick tour. Will talk about problems they have solved as a result of our program. >70% reduction in bed bug incidents following implementation of our program. Will talk about sustainability – how the EPA grant will produce training materials for face-to-face trainings. Photo op with big check. Will give recognition certificates to partners who have IPM implemented throughout the years: school staff, industry and tribal representatives. Then go back to airport.
  - The team needs to be clear on the objectives of this grant before Mr. Jones arrives: To develop freely available training materials for IPM for various specific target audiences. There will also be certification exams for each target audience. Specific modules on turf, grounds, landscape, school nurses, custodians, plus basic modules that have already been developed and team members have commented on.
  - It would be good to get Jeff Silvertooth out to this event if he is available. Any department heads? Dawn has invited Ron Walker from OPM and many reps from state agencies, school districts and PMPs. Shaku will send us a list of who has been invited so far.

### **EIPM Budget Update (Peter)**

- Peter distributed a letter that will go out to IPM-CC and IPM Teams soon. The 3-year EIPM grant that got funded last year will be terminated at the end of year 1. We will need to reapply for a new 3-year term. We expect it will be a fully competitive process. The new RFA has not been released yet. Because of this, we are uncertain about our funding situation beyond the end of August. The letter is to inform people of this situation and the fact that we will not be able to fund everything we have been funding in the short term.
- The letter outlines the core investments of EIPM: core Assistants in Extension. Current investments that are not considered core are Christopher Bibbs, Lucy Li and Tilak Mahato.
- The Community IPM Team should develop a budget plan no later than June 1, probably by mid-May. Examine what grant funding you have and how you want to invest it.
- We plan a meeting of the IPM Coordinating Committee, now scheduled for April 30 at MAC.

### **School IPM Inside and Out**

- After last meeting made visits to all four school sites (3 districts) and visited with school personnel. All participants have maintained enthusiastic interest in the program. Shaku will continue to visit with school personnel to complete the interview guide data.
- Shaku will send out the 'Start-of-Program Agreement' for review.
- New schools: ready to officially start the program in Maricopa and Mesa school districts. Shaku will send a Doodle for initial assessment visits. Will definitely do one school in each district. Could consider doing multiple schools at Maricopa, but will start with the high school.
- Catalina School District: Jessica, the lead contact person there is no longer employed there. Shaku has made contact with the new person, Tiffany De Alva, and she has reviewed the report. Dawn: It would be worthwhile to do a tour of the two schools as a team, later in the year. Shaku has scheduled visits to meet Tiffany and bring her to speed with the program.
- Potential future partners: Tucson Unified Schools, Scottsdale Unified, Paradise Valley, Tolleson? Avondale?
- Suggestion: Joint training with Mesa and Gilbert school districts, bring in other districts as well. It will be important to try to include some peer-to-peer training at these kinds of events. Should try to involve some "movers and shakers" in the school district. When is a good time?
- The Extension Initiative grant, one point of it was to work with the counties to spread the word regarding trainings, and involve county agents, so that gradually they become enabled to provide trainings or resources to the public, especially in remote locations.

### **Web Development Update**

A Web Development Committee chaired by Wayne Dixon has met now a few times to discuss revision and modernization of ACIS, APMC website and related website. We will work with a web development team at CALS on the revisions. We would like to address and community IPM needs while we are doing this. The committee includes several members of the Extension Ag Team and also Lucy as a representative of the Community IPM Team. It will be important for Comm IPM Team members to communicate their web needs to Lucy, although all are welcome to participate in web development committee meetings if desired.

### **Potential Grants**

- Western RIPM Program. Now part of the Crop Protection funding line, like EIPM. Anticipated release of RFP in late March but could be later. It would have to be a multistate project.
- Ideas for projects:

- Dawn suggested doing something like what was proposed in EPA Star grant: pesticide residue testing in schools. What about investigation NIH/NSF opportunities?
- Kai: Plant materials on golf courses and school sites. Demonstrations looking at water use, fertility, etc. It would be more demonstration / outreach oriented.

**Next meeting – conference call on Monday April 21, 2014: 9 am – 10 am**