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?