Hello school IPMers and interested others,

We have some exciting things to share in this April 2006 monthly update. A lot is happening in the world of school IPM, both at home and nation-wide!

- Congratulations to Dawn for receiving an IPM award from the US Environmental Protection Agency!! Dawn will fly to San Francisco, CA this spring to receive the award, which recognizes her outstanding contributions during 2005. Very well deserved, kudos to Dawn!!

- Also, congratulations are in order for Dr. Marc Lame (Indiana professor and national IPM implementer) whom many of you have met and worked with. Marc received national recognition this week for his achievements in the field of school IPM with the “IPM Achievement Award”, given by the National IPM Symposium in St. Louis April 4th. Attached is a press release from Sherry Glick, US EPA and Symposium organizer.

- The next Arizona Children’s Environmental Health Coalition meeting will take place on Tuesday June 6th, 2006. There will be a break-out session for school IPM during the Arizona Pest Management Center meeting on that date. Mesa Public Schools will be awarded the STAR Certification by Dr. Tom Green, IPM Institute of North America, Inc. Coalition meetings are now twice a year, so please mark your calendars and lend your valued voice on school IPM issues and updates.

- Fire Ants! If you have these pesky critters in any of your schools let Dawn and Jennifer know – we’re eager to begin spring research projects with them (results will be shared during the next coalition meeting).

Dawn and Jennifer attended this week’s IPM Symposium in St. Louis, and participated in many productive discussions about school IPM. Arizona continues to be a front runner in the nation-wide expansion of school IPM – your diligent efforts are being noted and talked about!! We are so proud of you all for your dedication to children’s environmental health… let us know if you need anything!

Thanks,

Dawn and Jen