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**North Central School IPM Working Group**

Funding for this Working Group is provided by the [USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture, Crop Protection and Pest Management Program](https://nifa.usda.gov/program/crop-protection-and-pest-management-program) through the [North Central IPM Center](http://www.ncipmc.org/) (2014-70006-22486).

**Conference call: March 1st, 2017**

**Participants:**

* Alina Freund, IPM Institute of North America
* Clyde Ogg, University of Nebraska-Lincoln
* Clyde Wilson, US Environmental Protection Agency, Region 8
* Frank Laufenberg, IPM Institute of North America [flaufenberg@ipminstitute.org](mailto:flaufenberg@ipminstitute.org)
* Marcia Anderson, US Environmental Protection Agency, Center for Expertise
* Mark Lame, Indiana University
* Mark Lesher, US Environmental Protection Agency, Region 7
* Marlena White, IPM Institute, Project Development Manager [mwhite@ipminstitute.org](mailto:mwhite@ipminstitute.org)
* Otto Oemig, Wisconsin Dept. of Agriculture/Trade & Consumer Protection
* Ruth Kerzee, Midwest Pesticide Action Center
* Seth Dibblee, US Environmental Protection Agency, Region 5

**Agenda:**

1. Updates and welcome new members
2. Priorities and ranking (Alina)
3. Updates on EPA publications and Spanish translations of materials (Marcia)
4. Presentation of data analysis results from regional assessment of webinar attendance (Marcia)
5. Presentation of latest research on childhood asthma and IPM (Marlena)
6. Updates
7. **Updates and welcome new members**

* Next call will be in April, doodle to determine date has been sent out
* Welcome new members:
  + Mr. Otto Oemig, Pesticide Registration Program Specialist, Bureau of Agricultural Chemical Management, Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection. Otto serves as school IPM coordinator for Wisconsin.
  + Mr. Frank Laufenberg, IPM Institute, team member for sustainable agriculture projects, the sustainable food group, coordinator for Public Tick IPM Working Group. Frank will start facilitating calls and start to coordinate this group. Please add his email [flaufenberg@ipminstitute.org](mailto:flaufenberg@ipminstitute.org) to your contacts!
* Call for suggestions of guest speakers for north central school IPM calls – **please send me the names of any potential presenters or topics of your interest!**
* School IPM national steering committee had call with EPA headquarters and the regions a few weeks ago. All regions exchanged on challenges and opportunities in their regions, emerging issues and needs. The call was very informative and will happen regularly going forwards.

1. **Working group priorities and ranking (Alina)**

* Document with current priorities including feedback received was shared with the group, feedback included in online survey.
* Please take the survey to rank the priorities to set our path for the next year! Link to survey was sent out.

1. **Updates on EPA publications and Spanish translations of materials (Marcia)**

* Several EPA documents were translated into Spanish and will be published on the website shortly. The following documents are almost completed:

1. Bed Bug Protection Detection and Control.
2. IPM Fact Sheet.
3. Bed bug ID Cards.
4. Bed Bug Traveler cards.
5. Bed bugs in Schools – Guidance for Parents.
6. Bed bugs in Schools – Guidance for Administrators, Teachers and Staff.
7. Guidance for Bed bugs in Schools – Guidance for School Nurses.
8. Pesticides and their Impact Key Facts and Talking Points.
9. Making Pests a Thing of the Past.
10. Model Pesticide Safety and IPM Guidance Policy for School Districts.
11. Preventing Pests for Healthier Schools -The Health Case for School IPM.

Several other documents are also on the list of priority documents to translate into Spanish, but are not yet ready:

1. Bed bug DIY Monitoring card.
2. Bed bug Prevention Poster.
3. Asthma Home Environment checklist.
4. School IPM ‘the rat book’.
5. Worker Protection materials.
   * Most popular blogs have been translated into Spanish too.

* If anyone needs materials in another language, please let Marcia know what language(s) you need!
* Upcoming EPA webinars:
  + April 11, 2017 -- Weeds: Nature’s Graffiti – How IPM Can Fix That
  + May 9, 2017 -- Which Came First? The Bed or the Bug? Bed Bugs 201. This is an advanced bed bugs webinar including what can be expected from a pest control company to address bed bugs.

1. **Presentation of data analysis results from regional assessment of webinar attendance (Marcia)**
2. **Presentation of latest research on childhood asthma and IPM (Marlena)**

* Asthma is epidemic among children in the US, impacting nearly 8.6% of school children nationally.
  + This represents a significant cost - the cost of care for a child under 18 years of age with asthma is about $1,039 per year, and approximately 10.5 million school days are lost due to asthma yearly as well.[[1]](#footnote-1)
  + The burden of asthma is highly correlated with poverty, indoor air quality and indoor allergens[[2]](#footnote-2) and is disproportionately shared by certain minority groups and the economically disadvantaged.
  + More and more research is coming out on this issue that has concluded that interventions that are affordable and feasible for low-income communities are urgently needed.
* Cockroach exposure is an important contributor to asthma disparities and continues to rise among the poor.
  + Between 34-45% of children with asthma are allergic to cockroaches and 18-22% are allergic to mice.[[3]](#footnote-3)
  + These children, who are disproportionately racial and ethnic minorities from low income backgrounds, are vulnerable to increased asthma-related illness and symptoms, and therefore their associated costs, due to cockroach and mice infestations.
* Since children spend a significant portion of their time in school, interventions in school facilities represent a significant opportunity to reduce the burden of illness, both physical and financial, on school-aged children with asthma and their families.
* IPM represents a good potential solution for this issue, since it can be an incredibly cost effective tool for reducing asthma-related burdens on school-aged children.
* A recent study in [*The Journal of Allergy and Clinical Immunology*](http://www.jacionline.org/article/S0091-6749(16)31349-5/fulltext) found that simply putting cockroach bait in homes reduced the amount of pests significantly, with children in these homes experiencing almost 50 fewer days with asthma symptoms a year.
  + Conversely, children with a cockroach allergy in untreated homes were significantly more likely to miss school and have unscheduled emergency department visits.[[4]](#footnote-4)

1. **Updates:**

* Seth: will attend North Central School IPM coordinators meeting in Fargo, North Dakota and meet with several other members of the group.
* Clyde Wilson: On January 27th [Colorado Asthma Coalition](http://www.lung.org/local-content/colorado/lung-health-and-diseases/state-and-community.html) hosted an event that targeted medical researchers, communications, outreach and IPM professionals. Good discussion with a focus on mitigating asthma triggers, collected input to develop an asthma plan for Colorado
* Focus on asthma mitigation in schools - in Denver 10% of kids in schools have asthma. The Asthma intervention program for mitigation in schools is in part funded by the pharma industry, will expand the program in 2017.

Many attendees from large and small school districts across Colorado representing a good cross section.

* A school nurse from Denver is now working part- time as a dedicated asthma advocate for the state, good signal that the state recognizes that this is a bigger issue needing real resources.
* Mark Lesher: Started talks in region 7 in local libraries on topics such as lead, healthy homes, school IPM and bed bugs. Mark has attended Earth Day functions in the past and will in April 2017 attend the US Army Earth Day function which is a good opportunity to reach out to our troops.
* Ruth: In working with schools on IPM the topic of lawns has worked well as a door opener to get the conversation about indoor IPM going as well. They are now developing an IPM plan with the districts where this has worked well as an approach.

Hosting the next [Lawn and Land forum webinar](http://midwestpesticideaction.org/mpac-events/mgg-lawn-and-land-forum/) on April 4th 2017.

* Frank: Presents tick resources as they relate to school IPM – good information can be found here: <http://www.tickencounter.org/ticksmart/daily_check_card>, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aR0Dk1kD_MQ>
* Alina: Grant received to develop a learning management website to host the training. Trying to work with districts directly to adopt the training – anyone has good relations and would like to suggest their district?
* Michigan training in March: Dr. Green at Michigan Education Support Professionals conference, training custodians, maintenance staff and food services staff on Stop School Pests training modules.
* **Funding available for working group members who are using Stop School Pests materials to present in the North- Central region! Please let me know if you plan a training or would like to use the materials to integrate into your trainings!**

1. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2014) Most Recent Asthma Data. Accessed Nov. 4, 2016. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America. (2015) Asthma Facts and Figures. Accessed Nov. 4, 2016. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. US Environmental Protection Agency. (2017) PESPWire Winter 2017. Accessed January 31, 2017. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. Rabito, Felicia A., Carlson, John C., He, Hua, Werthmann, Derek, Schal, Coby. (2016) A single intervention for cockroach control reduces cockroach exposure and asthma morbidity in children. Journal of Allergy and Clinical Immunology. Doi: 10.1016/j.jaci.2016.10.019. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)