



North Central School IPM Working Group

February 14th, 2019

Send additions, omissions or other corrections to jcooper@ipminstitute.org.

Participants:

1. Julian Cooper, IPM Institute of North America
2. Madeline Zastrow, IPM Institute of North America
3. Frannie Miller, Kansas State University
4. Marcia Anderson, EPA Center for Integrated Pest Management
5. Seth Dibblee, EPA Region 5
6. Mark Leshner, EPA Region 7
7. Bethany Olsen, EPA Region 7
8. Ruth Kerzee, Midwest Pesticide Action Center

Agenda:

1. EPA Webinar Updates with Marcia Anderson
2. 2019-2020 North Central IPM WG Grant Results
3. Member updates

1) EPA Webinar

- a. Rodent I – Behavior and Tracking on March 7th
- b. Rodent II – Prevention and Control on March 28th
- c. IPM in Health Care Facilities, with major support from Region 7 on April 11th
- d. Mosquitoes: Right Track, Right Place on April 25th
- e. IPM for Community Trees with two licensed tree experts, offers CEUs for arborists, etc. on May 14th
- f. EPA is considering doing a Rodent III Webinar on rodent cleanup protocol. Northeast School IPM WG is doing a lot of work with rodent cleanup. Protocols need to be better defined. School custodians need information for cleaning up after rodent materials, droppings, particulate matter, etc.
- g. Planning a webinar on unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) for pest control in 2020
- h. Webinar on identifying illegal and unregistered pesticides entering our country with Criminal Investigation Division (CID) on March 19th
- i. More can be seen here <https://www.epa.gov/managing-pests-schools/upcoming-integrated-pest-management-webinars>

2) 2019-2020 North Central IPM WG Grant Results

- Competition was fierce this year – \$200,000 vs. \$300,000 for 18 working groups.
- IPM submitted five total proposals
 - Tick IPM WG – Funded
 - Organic vs. IPM WG – Funded
 - Midwest Grows Green – Funded
 - School IPM – Denied
 - Midwest Grows Green (\$50,000) – Denied

- Strengths provided by NC IPM Center:
 - This is a good proposal, sound, not exciting, but very important work.
 - For future grant proposals, it might be more exciting to highlight school IPM importance and successes. Provide them with a story people can relate to.
 - The proposed work is well-thought out and the proposal is easy to read.
 - Budget is appropriate for scope of work.
 - Evaluation plan is thorough.
- Weaknesses provided by NC IPM Center:
 - The biggest weakness is that there seems to be only one 1994 land grant representative on the working group and insufficient outreach to tribal schools in the proposal and in the plan. How many tribal schools are there in the area? There is a potential to miss schools if they are relying on only the EPA affiliated members of the Working Group. There is nothing in the proposal that indicates that the tribal schools know about this proposal. How about involving BIA and Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) in the work?
 - Seth Dibblee: Region 5 has found that talking to the BIE is like talking to a brick wall, no traction. Seth has not found them helpful in past experiences. Indian Health Service is more engaged. Target Indian Health Service in the future. IPM is required in Head Start grant programs for early childcare center intervention with Tribes. This provides a natural training opportunity. Head Start Directors are required to have IPM in childcares.
 - For the future, IPM Institute will try to have one person from each land grant university in the North Central region.
 - Most of the objectives are not intensive; thought there could have been more substance.
 - As a reminder, our objectives were:
 - Hosting calls
 - Monthly newsletter
 - Quarterly special topics series through Pest Defense for Healthy Schools website
 - School IPM training on Tribal lands/reservations
 - The budget has more salary than other WG proposals, heavily weighted to staff costs.
 - A lot of staff hours and travel time to coordinate trainings, webinars, etc.
 - Try in the future to cut staff hours to allow time for more actionable items, to reach more schools, etc.
- We have applied to eight other grants to try and secure continued funding for our school IPM projects. Many are based in Wisconsin and the Chicago area and have funding for the NC WG included as a project objective. Blue Cross Blue Shield, SC Johnson, Milwaukee Brewers, etc.
- Currently working on the EPA Environmental Justice grant for school IPM work in Milwaukee. Have been speaking with a grant specialist from the Milwaukee Public School District (MPS), grant emphasizes community partnership so MPS will determine if we continue pursuing or not. Grant is worth \$30,000 and due March 8th, would include continuing NC IPM WG Calls.
- Mark Leshner: Any traction with state lawmakers to make school IPM mandatory, funded and enforceable?
 - Julian Cooper:
 - In WI, there is no state-mandated school IPM. There is the WI Green & Healthy Schools support for state certification for Green Ribbon Schools. One of their requirements is IPM. There is still incentive for WI schools to pursue IPM. Green & Healthy Schools has ~400 schools pursuing certification. Pest Defense for Healthy Schools partnered with WI Green & Healthy Schools to provide IPM support to schools.
 - State-mandated school IPM in Illinois. NC IPM Center provided funds to put together a state-specific school IPM training program that qualifies as school IPM training credit for Illinois on the Pest Defense for Healthy Schools website. IPM Institute working with Illinois Dept. of Public Health to certify our training as a legally required training for state-mandated school IPM.

- Mark Leshner: push for national bill for school IPM was going to be proposed a few years ago, but never came to fruition. If school IPM can be mandatory, funded and enforceable and inspectors are verifying compliance in schools, that is key for sustainability of school IPM.
- Marcia Anderson: Janet Hurley has complete documentation on each state and where they stand on school IPM laws.
- Ruth Kerzee: Healthy Schools Campaign pushing for healthy/green infrastructure, operations and outdoor spaces. Interject IPM into climate change or other relevant issues to get funding. Climate change elevates pest pressure and focuses on low income communities with existing structural challenges.
- Result of grant funding:
 - We will no longer be having our bimonthly calls. IPM Institute can't afford to continue while paying out of pocket. Call to discuss fate with the National Steering Committee, may move to a bimonthly format with no guest speakers just to share regional updates, so a venue will still exist to share news our data with the larger school IPM community. Alternatively, if anyone would like to continue hosting these bimonthly calls, the IPM Institute will join and contribute in an indirect role any way we can.
- Questions / Comments:
 - Seth Dibblee: needs to get clearance from management, along with other EPA members, but EPA could most likely host a bimonthly call. Marcia Anderson would be glad to support.

3) Working Group member updates

- a. Julian Cooper, IPM Institute
 - i. National Steering Committee
 1. Seth Dunlap – Arkansas Agriculture Department: Commercial operator made applications during school hours while children and staff were present. Pesticide applicator said, "I stopped spraying every time they walked past." Regulation through education or enforcement?
 2. Joellen Lampman – New York State IPM: New profiles developed for all 31 active ingredients that make up the 25-B products. Even cedar oil! View online at New York State IPM website <https://nysipm.cornell.edu/environment/active-ingredients-eligible-minimum-risk-pesticide-use/>. Don't Get Ticked NY website with school-specific infographics. One on monitoring, one on management.
 - ii. IPM Institute
 1. TG gave a Pest Defense training in NM. Was able to speak for 3-4 minutes to a group of 150 NEA members in Santa Fe. New Mexico has a new Democratic governor and a budget surplus and is looking to increase wages for those working in schools by at least 6% and at least a \$12/hr minimum wage. Several state legislators spoke briefly at a reception last night at the NEA office.
 2. Future trainings at NEA ESP conf in Las Vegas and with Women for a Healthy Environment in Pittsburgh.
 3. IL IPM Training – Our contact Dr. Colwell retired, but we resubmitted our trainer application to his replacement and are waiting to hear about results.
- b. Ruth Kerzee, Midwest Pesticide Action Center
 - i. MPAC will be dissolving as of March 31st. Ruth can provide additional information regarding how she will be working to sustain the mission of MPAC going forward. If there are any questions about the dissolution, folks can still reach Ruth at rkerzee@pesticideaction.org. Her MPAC email will be up and running for at least one month post-dissolution.
- c. Bethany Olsen, EPA Region 7
 - i. Planning training with Missouri facility managers
 - ii. Partnership with Johnson County Health Department to provide daycare IPM training

- iii. Talk on bed bug protocols
- d. Seth Dibblee, EPA Region 5
 - i. Worked with Illinois Green Alliance to nominate three schools for Green Ribbons Schools
 - 1. Loyola, Grayslake, Bloomington