



National School IPM Steering Committee

April 19th, 2019

Participants:

1. Madeline Zastrow, IPM Institute of North America
2. Janet Hurley, Texas A&M Dallas Agricultural Research and Extension Center
3. Fudd Graham, Extension Specialist, Auburn University
4. John Connett, University of Wyoming
5. Tim Stock, Oregon State University
6. Kathy Murray, Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry
7. Lynn Braband, Cornell University
8. Shaku Nair, University of Arizona
9. Lucy Li, University of Arizona
10. Dawn Gouge, University of Arizona
11. Joellen Lampman, New York State Community IPM and Cornell
12. Marc Lame, Indiana University
13. Gregory Weiler, EPA Region 6

Send additions, omissions or other edits to mzastrow@ipminstitute.org

Agenda:

1. **Rodent Academies, and update on eXtension – Janet Hurley**
2. **Xcluder research and school IPM in Massachusetts – Dawn Gouge**
3. **Quarterly call responsibility rotation logistics**
4. **Regional updates**

1) **Rodent Academies, and update on eXtension – Janet Hurley**

- a. For anyone interested in unifying the structure of rodent academies, Janet is proposing a separate call so we can bring in Bobby Corrigan and other key folks from CA and New Orleans. We're missing a lot of people to have a fluid discussion.
 - i. Many people on call are interested. Dawn, Tim, Marc Lame, John and Kathy are interested.
 1. Kathy: The caveat is that the rodent academies need to be customized for each region, but there's no reason why a template can't be developed and then customized per region.
 - ii. Janet will plan a call for next quarter, i.e., June, July or August
 - iii. If you know of anyone else who would be interested in Rodent Academy call, send an email to Janet at jahurley@ag.tamu.edu
 - iv. Kathy: Specific for schools?
 1. Janet: No, take it out of just schools. Rodent Academy can't just exclusively be for schools. In my role with IPM House, it's for anyone who wants to get a hand on rodent control. Will be broader than just schools.
 - v. Lynn: In the process of developing five-year plan, including Rodent Academy

- vi. Lucy: AZ had Rodent Academy last year, main audience was pest management professionals that requested more hands-on measures to control rodents, limited to 45 participants. Having another one in December 2019 in AZ.
- b. Update on eXtension
 - i. Now in the process of taking content on old site and converting it to WordPress
 - ii. eXtension giving ONE WordPress website. URL will be Pestandhomes.extension.org
 - iii. More content directed to homeowners, PMPs, general community stuff
 - iv. iSchool Pest Manager, A&M owns domain name, talked to Joe LaForest to convert to WP site
 - 1. Move iSchool Pest Manager from spreadsheet to WP site to reconfigure what we already have on eXtension and make it more dynamic.
 - 2. Will be able to grant access to people to send newsletter blog posts through WP site to drive people to WP site to sign up for newsletters
 - 3. Problems with iSchool Pest Manager: no support and not being able to do any manipulation other than add PDF files, we're going nowhere.
 - 4. Perfect occasion to split content. School IPM in one house, pests and homes in another house.
 - 5. Still some things to work out with eXtension and Southern IPM Center, Janet will keep WG updated with progress.
 - v. Kathy: iSchool is a great resource, e.g., bookmarks, appreciates Janet's work. Kathy is available for help if needed.

2) Xcluder research – Dawn Gouge

- a. Shared research PowerPoint with WG
- b. Quick tests done with Xcluder door sweeps
- c. Put door sweeps in a tank and tested how effective they were with insects
- d. American cockroaches renowned for their biting power but were not able to chew through them
- e. Xcluder door sweeps very well made and robust, cannot chew through them
- f. Two door sweeps in the tank using plexiglass. Food, water and harborage placed on either side of the door sweeps, tested to see if they could get out of center tank under door sweeps to the food and water.
- g. Mean weight for female adults house crickets ~ 418mg
- h. Instructions to mount door sweep, to mount slightly above ground
- i. Dawn installed one flush to the bottom of the tank, the other door sweep was put under 5 lbs of tension to jam it onto bottom of the tank.
- j. House crickets
 - i. Mean female adults 418 mg
 - ii. .53 mm gap = 100-300 mg crickets can fit under
 - iii. .25 mm gap = smaller nymphs under 100 mg can fit
- k. German cockroaches
 - i. Mean female adults 107 mg
 - ii. .53mm gap = all cockroaches escaped
 - iii. .25mm gap = some cockroaches escaped
- l. Study from Nat Geo, cockroaches can squeeze through a crevice as small as a quarter of their body height in less than a second
 - i. Adult American cockroach can squeeze under 3 mm gap
- m. What are manufacturers basing their ideas on when building products, what is the research? Common theme is that cockroaches need 1/16" gap = way too big of a gap for cockroaches, cockroaches can squeeze under much smaller gaps.
- n. Dawn is going to research bark scorpions
- o. Advice for Xcluder: do not instruct people to install them fitted above the door threshold, that is not going to work

- p. Lynn Braband: WG with wildlife control operators – few weeks ago they discussed exclusion with the Xcluder door sweeps. They found chewing on and through door sweeps.
 - i. Dawn: I bet it's not a problem with the actual door sweep, it's probably installation. The idea is that chewing through the rubber part of the sweep with rodents is expected but they are stopped when they reach the razor wire in the middle.
 - ii. Tim: I remember when Xcluder was moving into door sweeps, Bobby Corrigan said they tried out their product three times before settling on the thickest, biggest door sweep that Norway rats could not chew through, i.e., rubber and stainless-steel mesh. Maybe the WG is talking about the thinner door sweeps, not the thicker, sturdier ones.
 - iii. Kathy: Xcluder also sent me samples of their products, Bobby says they are the greatest thing since sliced bread. I tested the felt product at home when a rat chewed its way through the drywall through the house into the mudroom where there was garbage. Rat initially pulled out felt from the hole and came through again, but the second time I packed in felt and reinforced and rat was unable to pull it out.

3) School IPM in Massachusetts – Dawn Gouge and Shaku Nair

- a. Received phone call from environmental educator, Rick Reibstein, for different universities in MA, teaches environmental management
- b. MA has school IPM law
- c. Aim for Rick's class was to determine how schools can determine whether they are receiving IPM service or not, either in-house or contracted
- d. Seems like there is some significant move across the country to develop school IPM legislation
- e. Sent resources to Rick
 - i. Pest Defense training modules <http://pestdefenseforhealthyschools.com/classes/>
 - ii. eXtension training <https://articles.extension.org/pages/73468/self-paced-learning-page-for-urban-ipm>
 - iii. iSchool Pest Manager <http://ischoolpestmanager.org/>
 - iv. PMP certifications Green Shield <http://www.greenshieldcertified.org/> and Quality Pro <https://www.npmaqualitypro.org/qualitypro-schools/>
 - v. Hiring outside contractor <https://ipminstitute.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/05/School-IPM-2020-Pest-Management-Strategic-Plan-V3.0.pdf>
 - vi. Strategic Plan <https://ipminstitute.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/05/School-IPM-2020-Pest-Management-Strategic-Plan-V3.0.pdf>
 - vii. Other resources: 2019 US state school IPM law table, EPA guidance school IPIM, IPM STAR info, school IPM model policy Extension publication, TX school IPM Rule link
 - viii. Add resources to new eXtension or iSchool sites?
 - ix. Walked Rick through the resources to explain how they can be used
- f. Janet: apparently one of his students reached out to Joe LaForest, who reached out to Janet. Janet also planning on reaching out to the student.
- g. Rick works directly with purchasing people for all school districts in MA. Provides service for districts and products they secure.
- h. Kathy: are they connected with state Dept. of Ag. that manages IPM program?
 - i. Dawn: I really don't know. Wanted to connect them with NE IPM group, not familiar with connections and resources in NE region.
 - ii. Dawn will connect Rick with Kathy, Lynn Rose from MA
 - iii. MA one of the first states in the country to establish strict IPM laws
- i. Marc: would like to be connected to Rick to find out what classes he's teaching

4) Quarterly call responsibility rotation logistics

- a. On the last Steering Committee call, we agreed to rotate meeting responsibilities quarterly among the four regions, i.e., Northeastern, North Central, Southern and Western. IPM Institute is representing the NC region and is responsible for this quarter. We led the March and now April calls and will also lead the

next call in May. Starting in June, the responsibility to develop an agenda, lead the call and take notes will shift to a different region. IPM Institute will continue to host the calls on our conference line.

- b. Janet has already volunteered the Southern region to take the responsibility for next quarter. They will lead the calls for June, July and August.
- c. Lynn volunteered NE for the fall quarter, i.e., September, October, November.

5) Regional updates

a. North Central Region

- i. Madeline Zastrow, IPM Institute
 - 1. Trainings at the NEA ESP Conference in Las Vegas in March and with the Healthy Schools PA program in Greensburg, PA in April both received resounding positive feedback.
 - a. One training participant said it was the best session they had attended at the 2019 NEA ESP Conference.
 - b. We're continuing to learn from each training we do and make improvements and changes to our in-person trainings to boost attendance.
 - 2. Training with NEA in NM on April 25th. Will be our third training in NM.
 - a. Gregory Weiler in EPA Region 6 will connect Madeline with Steve Bacca, new training and certification coordinator for NM Dept of Ag in Albuquerque.
- ii. Mark Leshner, EPA Region 7
 - 1. Presented SIPM talk to MO school plant managers association, Bethany Olsen new IPM Coordinator organized that talk.
 - 2. Several talks and meetings for IPM in medical facilities with U of Kansas health systems, especially with nurses and environmental staff. Talks on bed bugs and establishing IPM programs in medical facilities, hoping to expand to other medical facilities in the region.
 - 3. Marc Lame: Status on Centralia Schools IPM program in MO? Small farming town. EPA led program. We set that program up in particular for rural school districts. EPA plaque of recognition.
 - a. Mark Leshner: I know IPM Coordinator in MO retired, not much has been happening in MO on EPA side. Bethany will follow up. How long ago did they establish it?
 - i. 10 years ago.
 - b. Might be of some value to have list of EPA-recognized school IPM programs – IPM Institute?

b. North Eastern Region:

- i. Lynn Braband, NY
 - 1. NE IPM Partnership Grant, School IPM BMPs website
 - a. Past month we've been interacting with NE IPM Center's evaluation specialist and webmaster to develop questions for focus groups
 - b. Tim, Dawn and Shaku agreed to be peer reviewers; Lynn will follow up
 - 2. Caroline Bragdon is implementing a lot of Bobby's work and gave a presentation on program in NYC parks and community gardens

c. Western Region:

- i. Shaku Nair, Dawn Gouge, Lucy Li, U of AZ
 - 1. Second annual school IPM conference next week, indoor and outdoor track, great list of speakers
 - 2. Project funded through Cooperative Extension about intervening/educating about IPM plans in medical facilities in AZ
 - a. One medical facility particularly interested in IPM plans for areas with patients in pain or palliative care
 - 3. Training with Navajo Nation, Tohono O'odham Nation, have occurred and two others planned with other tribes

- a. Action item: Work with Tohono O’odham Nation tribal council to do away with the no-nit policy
- 4. Extension agent who works with youth in juvenile detention center with classrooms where kids are attending school. In AZ, definition of a school is anywhere there is k12 (kindergarten through 12th grade) education happening. School pesticide notification laws apply in these environments. Agent reached out because PMP sprayed around classroom with students present. Triggered AZ team to do more investigation to apply legislation to places that aren’t classical schools but still count as classrooms.
- 5. Requests from other tribes, grant from university to focus on tribal lands, mainly focus on public health and housing
- 6. National tribal IPM workshop in June, soliciting speakers and presenters.
 - a. Tim: Is the workshop in AZ? There’s a person in WA state that works in school IPM, want to pass it on to her.
 - i. Lucy: in San Diego, Madeline will send the save-the-date flier

d. Southern Region:

- i. Janet Hurley
 - 1. School IPM training first week of April
 - a. Tim Stock and Bethany Olsen present
 - b. Training again next week in Corpus Christi. School made headlines because district decided not to do \$50,000 termite pretreatment and had to do post treatment that cost \$250,000
 - 2. Online school IPM training going well, we should be live by summer. Will be full 6-hour training, take in one sitting or take sections at a time. Resuscitated ABCs of IPM videos and will be part of training modules. Each module has scenario and knowledge-based questions. In-person does not require test, online has a test. Will keep WG posted.

The next School IPM National Steering Committee call will be May 17th at 1:30 PM CT.