

S10

NRSP-4 – Facilitating Registration of Sustainable Pest Management

Presenter: Mary Duryea

Background:

Since 1963, the IR-4 Project has been the major resource for supplying pest management tools for specialty crop growers by developing research data to support new EPA tolerances and labeled product uses. IR-4 is a national multi-state project designed to link and facilitate research efforts with land grant universities, SAES, NIFA, ARS, commodity organizations and the crop protection industry.

Specialty crops include most: vegetables, fruits, nuts, herbs, spices, floral, nursery, landscape, turf and Christmas trees. They are high value/low acreage crops and make up about 33% of U.S. agricultural production and \$45 billion in sales.

Mission: To facilitate registration of sustainable pest management technology for specialty crops and minor uses.

Some 2010 Accomplishments include:

- **786 Specialty Crop Use Registrations:** US EPA established 219 permanent tolerances based on IR-4 submissions. These decisions support 786 new specialty crop use registrations for conventional and reduced risk pest control. **It brings the overall total of IR-4 Food Use Program successes to over 13,000.**
- **3 New Biopesticides Registered:** (1) IR-4 made the submission to the EPA for the HoneySweet Plum tree – a transformed plum with the coat protein of Plum Pox Virus – it was approved for registration. (2) *Trichoderma hamatum* isolate 382, a soil dwelling beneficial organism to prevent infection of soil borne diseases of food and ornamental crops; and (3) Acetic acid for effective weed control.
- **IR-4 Completed its First Public Health Pesticide Study:** IR-4's Public Health Pesticide Program was launched funded by the US Department of Defense and USDA-ARS. Its primary goal is protecting deployed troops from the risk of arthropod-borne diseases.

ACTIONS:

NRSP-4 Project Budget:

The Project, NRSP-4: Enabling Pesticide Registrations for Specialty Crops and Minor Uses obtained approval of its renewal proposal for continued Hatch Act Funding for the period of October 1, 2010 to September 30, 2015.

The budget for NRSP-4 for FY 11 through FY15 is at the same level as in previous years (\$481,182 annually). These off-the-top, multi-state funds that NRSP-4 receives partially

cover the salaries of senior management and their support team at the national coordination headquarters office located at the New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station. All research activities for NRSP-4 are funded by NIFA, ARS contributions, other agencies, and unrestricted gifts.

Action Requested: No action required