

## **NRSP-4** Enabling Pesticide Registrations for Specialty Crops and Minor Uses

Presenter: Mary Duryea

### **Background:**

Fifty years ago, the Directors of the State Agricultural Experiment Stations created a program to assist growers of fruits, vegetables, herbs and other specialty crops with their pest management needs. The IR-4 Project (NRSP-4) has grown to be the major resource for supplying reduced risk pest management tools for specialty crops by developing research data to support registration clearances. IR-4 is a national multi-state project designed to link and facilitate research efforts with land grant universities, SAES, NIFA, ARS, EPA, commodity organizations and the crop protection industry.

Specialty crops include most fruits, vegetables, herbs, ornamentals and other high value horticultural crops. They are high value/low acreage crops and make up about 40% of U.S. agricultural production with over \$45 billion in sales.

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

### **Some 2012 Accomplishments include:**

- **266 New Specialty Crop Pesticide Tolerances:** US EPA approved 266 new pesticide tolerances supporting 1085 potential new use registrations for conventional and reduced risk pest control.
- **80 new EPA “Magnitude of Residue” studies:** IR-4 initiated 80 new EPA Guideline “Magnitude of Residue” studies to answer priority grower pest management needs; these studies include 523 field trials.
- **Biopesticide and Organic Support Program Funded 19 Projects:** The Biopesticide and Organic Support Program funded 19 research projects to provide data to support future biopesticide registrations. IR-4 submitted data to EPA to support 12 new biopesticide registrations.
- **644 Ornamental Crop Uses Impacted by IR-4 work:** The Ornamental Horticulture Program data supported 7 registrations and label amendments expanding the use of pesticides and biopesticides for 644 ornamental crop uses. Additionally, IR-4 conducted 742 efficacy and crop safety trials with greenhouse and field ornamental crops in support of future registration decisions.
- **Public Health Pesticide Program:** This newest initiative assists in the development and registration of pesticides that protect the public from vector-borne diseases such as West Nile Virus and Lyme Disease. This past year IR-4 published an

extensive inventory of available and potential pesticides that can be used to manage arthropod pests that vector diseases in humans.

**ACTIONS:**

**NRSP-4 Project Midterm Review and 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 four administrative advisors, Mary Duryea (University of Florida)(Chair), Doug Buhler (Michigan State University), Mary Delany (University of California, Davis), and Dan Rossi (Rutgers University) have provided an NRSP midterm progress review, rating NRSP-4 at 97 out of 100.

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 in total by NIFA, ARS contributions and unrestricted gifts.

**Action Requested:** No action required.