



Southern Region IPM Center Releases Call for Nominations for Friends of Southern IPM

The Southern Region IPM Center announces a call for nominations for a new award program.

The Friends of Southern IPM Awards program recognizes extraordinary achievement in research, Extension and implementation of Integrated Pest Management (IPM) in the Southern Region of the United States.

This award program is a new project intended to provide public recognition for individual and team contributions to development of IPM in the region. Small monetary awards are included in order to promote the work of award winners.

The Center will award up to six awards in the following categories:

- Bright Idea
- IPM Implementer
- IPM Teacher
- Pulling Together
- Future Leader
- Lifetime Achievement

Awardees in the first five categories will receive up to \$2,000 for activities supporting their work.

Deadline for nominations is **5 PM ET November 26, 2007.**

To download the nomination form, go to www.sripmc.org/friendaward2008/.



Director's Notes

I want to highlight opportunities for those working in IPM discussed in this issue. Two significant funding opportunities are currently open, and a new award program to recognize contributions to the regional IPM effort has recently been initiated.

The Southern Regional IPM Grants Program, known as S-RIPM, may be the most long-lived of the IPM funding programs currently available. USDA has funded this and corresponding programs in the other three regions since the 1980s. Our region receives the largest amount for this program, approximately \$820,000. The program funds research and Extension projects of value to multiple states. See more about this on page 3.

Unlike S-RIPM, the call for proposals from the *ipm*PIPE is brand new. This

program, originally formed to address the Asian soybean rust issue, will add new components through a competitive process. This program seeks to fund projects that include information technology (IT) as an important component of management for key pests of important plant crops. See more about the *ipm*PIPE solicitation on page 2.

The Southern Region Friend of IPM awards program entails recognition more than funding. The initial call for nominations is open this month. This is a new program intended to recognize the excellent work done by individuals or teams in various aspects of IPM. We don't offer a lot of money like Nobel or MacArthur Awards, just a pat on the back and a thank you. Find more about this in the article above. -Jim VanKirk



In this issue:

1

Call for Nominations: Friends of Southern IPM

Director's Notes

2

2007 S-RIPM Program Awards

IPM PIPE RFA Release

4

Benefits of State IPM Programs

5

Opinion Column

6

Controlling Invasive Weevil in Florida

7

School IPM Group

8

Jerry Baron Receives Alumni Award

9

IPM At Work: ISEC and Home IPM

11

Upcoming Events

2007 USDA Southern Region IPM Grants Awarded



Researchers and educators will find new ways to fight pests in the future, thanks to nine new USDA Southern Region IPM grants.

These nine projects have received funding this year from USDA Cooperative State Research, Education and Extension Service (CSREES) as a result of a Regional Integrated Pest Management Grants competition managed by the Southern Region Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Center.

In Georgia, that means finding solutions to small hive beetle infestations in beehives. In Texas, funds will go toward improving IPM adoption in schools.

Of the 36 proposals submitted with requests totaling slightly over \$4 million, 9 projects totaling \$805,237 received funding. Each of

the funded projects addresses pest management issues affecting several states and considered regional priorities.

One of those projects will assess how well IPM is reducing human and environmental risk in the region. In the first project funded under the Evaluation category by this grant program, Virginia Tech researchers will develop strategies for assessing IPM impact and use those strategies to evaluate the impact of selected IPM programs.

Dr. Keith Delaplane at the University of Georgia will study small hive beetle behavior to find the most effective way to limit their population in beehives. In light of the national initiative to conserve the nation's pollinators, this project will research chemical-free management tactics, including hygienic queens, adult beetle traps, and predatory nematodes.

Texas A&M University researchers Raul Medina and Marvin Harris will experiment with pheromone blends to help manage the pe-

(continued on next page)



ipmPIPE
PEST INFORMATION PLATFORM
FOR EXTENSION & EDUCATION

ipmPIPE Steering Committee Releases Request for Proposals

The *ipmPIPE* Steering Committee is pleased to announce the release of a Request for Proposals to support expansion of the *ipmPIPE* into new crop/pest complexes.

The RFA is titled "**Expansion of the Integrated Pest Management Pest Information Platform for Education and Extension (*ipmPIPE*) to Address New Crop/Pest Complexes of Importance to U.S. Agriculture -- 2008**" and can be found at <http://www.ipmpipe.org/pmcprojects/ListRFAs.cfm>.

Interested parties do not have to register in order to see and download the RFP but they will have to register to submit a proposal.

Details for registration and proposal submission are described on the website.

Details of the submission process and proposal format are described in section VI of the RFP - Proposal Preparation. Submissions must be received by **5:00 pm December 7, 2007**. In addition, one signed, paper copy of the complete proposal must be received by the grants manager, John Ayers, no later than **5:00 pm December 14, 2007**.

Proposals are invited from qualified public and private entities. Eligible applicants include colleges and universities, Federal, State, and local agencies, Native American tribal organizations, non-profit and for-profit private organizations or corporations, and other entities.

S-RIPM (continued from p. 2)

can casebearer, the most damaging pest to pecans.

Another Texas project promises to increase IPM adoption among public school personnel. An "IPM cost calculator," developed in 2004, has already helped maintenance personnel in schools in Texas, Oklahoma and New Mexico choose the most effective and least costly methods to reduce insect and rodent infestations. Most of the time, those methods do not involve the use of pesticides. In this year's project, Texas Cooperative Extension specialists will refine the cost instrument to make it even more efficient.

A third Texas project will train floriculture and greenhouse employees in both Spanish and English on pesticide alternatives.

At the University of Kentucky, extension specialists plan to create a four-state pest trapping network to monitor common pest populations and alert surrounding states to upcoming threats. Pest alert and forecasting networks have proven to be quite effective at reducing crop losses and the use of unnecessary pesticide applications.

University of Virginia researchers Chris Bergh, Catharine Mannion, Aijun Zhang and Justin Vitulio will explore ways to effectively use pheromone traps to manage the pink hibiscus mealybug.

The following is a list of projects funded by the Southern Region IPM Grants Program:

Evaluation of IPM in the Southern Region (Virginia Tech: George Norton, \$99,719)

Multi-State Evaluation of School IPM Cost-Calculator and Training Model (Texas A&M University: Michael Merchant, \$82,254)

Developing an IPM Program to Control Small Hive Beetles in Bee Hives

(University of Georgia: Keith Delaplane, \$162,138)

Enhancing IPM Programs Through Deregulation and Release of Genetically Modified Virginia-type Peanuts with Resistance to Sclerotinia Blight (Virginia Tech: Patrick Phipps, \$119,998)



TALLER MIP (IPM Workshop)-a Bilingual Worker Education Program on Integrated Pest Management for the Southern Nursery and Floriculture Industry (Texas A&M University: Carlos Bogran, \$52,585)

Development of the Regional Multi-State Insect Trapping Network for Use in Issuing Scouting Alerts and Predicting Potential Field Crop Insect Damage in the Heartland (University of Kentucky: Patricia Lucas, \$22,799)

Molecular and Pheromone Studies of *Acrobasis nuxvorella* Neunzig (Lepidoptera: Pyralidae) to Improve Pecan IPM (Texas A&M University: Raul Medina, \$81,107)

Biotic Factors Associated with the Spread and Suppression of Pink Hibiscus Mealybug (Virginia Tech: J. Christopher Bergh, \$77,929)

Synergistic Activity in Mixtures of Copper and Garlic-Derived Products to Enhance Control of Bacterial Spot of Peach (University of Georgia: Harald Scherm, \$106,708)

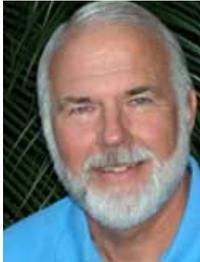
2008 Southern Region IPM Grant Request for Applications Released

The Southern Region IPM Center is pleased to announce the availability of funding through the Southern Region IPM Grants Program. Please find information about this RFA online at <http://www.sripmc.org/ripm/rfa08/>. Project types (research, extension, joint res-ext, and IPM evaluation) and funding limits are very similar to those for RFAs for the past two years. Deadline for submission is **5:00 Eastern on December 3, 2007**.

Benefits of State Integrated Pest Management Programs

By Norm Leppla, University of Florida, Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences,
Statewide IPM Program, Gainesville, FL

Ames Herbert, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Tidewater Agricultural Research and Extension Center, Suffolk, Virginia



Well-organized and managed state IPM programs are highly productive and cost effective, constantly delivering valuable benefits to key clientele groups and university administrations. Therefore, to have the best pest management capabilities, every Land Grant university should strive to consolidate its IPM activities into an identifiable, coherent program. Each state program eventually will develop unique mechanisms for its management and delivery, while retaining a high proportion of standardized activities.

Guidelines for fully effective IPM program management include appointment of a full-time State IPM Coordinator who controls the Smith-Lever Act, Section 3(d) formula funding for IPM (<http://www.csrees.usda.gov/business/awards/formula/smithlever>). Less than 50% of these funds are to be spent on salaries and the IPM program is expected to obtain extramural funding. A reasonable goal is to augment the federal 3(d) funds with at least an equal amount from other sources. This helps to ensure adequate technical support, facilities, equipment, and other resources necessary for the IPM program to be successful.

Ideally, state IPM programs should be structured to effectively manage these resources by instituting continuous planning, priority setting and accountability. The role and contributions of a state IPM program must be recognized and this capability used to support every possible IPM activity in the state.

State IPM programs are essential to the Land Grant university mission of delivering useful information and technologies. To sus-

tain progress in adopting IPM, the universities must have "people on the ground" having face-to-face, on-site interactions with clientele, e.g., demonstrations, educational programs, and training at farms, schools, nurseries, orchards, timber lots, etc. And to be committed and effective, State IPM Coordinators must be highly trained, motivated and well paid. Each strives to build interdisciplinary and inter-unit partnerships statewide among faculty members and stakeholders that increase the communication and cooperation required to develop and adopt IPM systems.

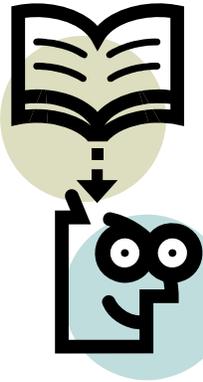
Coordinators typically lead the production, documentation and delivery of IPM information primarily for use within their individual states. They cooperatively produce these kinds of resources, as well as pest management guides and training manuals, trade journal publications, displays for conferences, and classroom lecture materials. They frequently cooperate in organizing IPM and related meetings, seminars, workshops, and focused training activities. Partnerships are established and maintained between researchers, the source of new technologies, and Extension personnel who deliver new methods and information. Coordinators operate as entrepreneurs who, as interdisciplinary members of the scientific community, are positioned to identify and mobilize the best available researchers.

Thus, an effective IPM program serves as a point of contact for communication and consultation, and State IPM Coordinators often provide much needed connectivity and guidance.



OPINION: Get on Your Soapbox

By Rosemary Hallberg, Communication Specialist



After being part of the Southern Region IPM Center for fifteen months, I've heard two consistent adjectives describe Southern Exposure: informative and predictable.

I've always liked putting together a "feel-good" newsletter. But as we were perusing some of the other

Center newsletters at the June IPM Center Directors' meeting, an article in the North Central *Connections* caught our attention. Written by one of the co-directors of the Center, the story posed a somewhat controversial idea. The writer argued that Bt crops, popular to most IPM practitioners, may not be all they're cracked up to be after all.

So much for feeling good.

But it did make us think "outside of the box." And then we thought, "Does our newsletter help people think outside of the box?"

So we've decided to put our newsletter to the test, by adding a new "opinion" column. We mentioned this possibility in the summer newsletter; we're getting closer now.

After a call for suggested topics, we received several proposed topics:

- The cause of Colony Collapse Disorder.
- Genetically modified plants and public concern: will common ground ever be met?
- Should a non-native plant (like vetiver) ever be considered as a solution (e.g., for termite management, erosion control)?

- Buffer zones: perspectives of growers and their neighbors.
- Are crops that are genetically altered for insect resistance making things better or worse for managing insect pests?
- What should the ultimate goal for IPM programs be?
- Should pesticide sales people be allowed to make pesticide use recommendations to growers?
- Should a state's IPM coordinator have full control over federal IPM appropriations through Smith-Lever, Section 3(d) formula funding for IPM?
- Can we help to change the attitude among our talented faculty members from "How can I find a grant to support what I want to do?" to "How can I do what the RFA indicates is needed?"
- How can we transition from attempting to substitute natural enemies for pesticides to developing IPM systems based on cultural practices and biological control?
- Should we attempt to incorporate IPM into conservation programs, e.g. endangered species habitat restoration, NRCS programs, wildlife programs?

Our ultimate hope is to have a point-counterpoint column that looks at different sides of an issue.

So we're looking for people who are passionate enough to take a chance—to put ideas on paper that might raise some eyebrows. Or cause readers to think.

Are you one of those people?

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA PROFESSORS RELEASE FLY FOR CONTROL OF INVASIVE WEEVIL IN BIG CYPRESS NATIONAL PRESERVE

Fly expected to control invasive species responsible for reduced Florida native bromeliads

By Robin Koestoyo, University of Florida

In a statewide effort to thwart the Mexican bromeliad weevil's destruction of Florida's native bromeliad population, two University of Florida entomologists will release flies for biological control of the weevil at the Big Cypress National Preserve.



L-R: Dr. Frank, Mike Burton and Teresa Cooper

On August 29, at about 9 a.m., 108 flies were released in the park at a location selected for its abundance of both bromeliads (an endangered plant) and Mexican bromeliad weevils. Dubbed "the evil weevil" by bromeliad enthusiasts all over Florida, the invasive insect was first found in the state in 1989. It was identified at a Fort Lauderdale nursery within a shipment of imported bromeliads. Because its natural enemies are not present in Florida to control its growth, the insect has multiplied rapidly. It continues to attack the state's natural bromeliads, killing off thriving populations and forcing others onto endangered and threatened species lists.

But the flies, known to be a specific natural enemy of the weevil, are expected to reduce the weevil to a paucity, as it is in its native Central America. The fly was named for UF Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences professor Howard Frank, and discovered in the Honduran mountains in 1993 by Ronald Cave, a UF research entomologist.

"At last, 14 years after discovering the fly, we are now getting the agent out into the field

and seeing what it can do," said Cave. "Now we will see if it can solve the problem of this evil weevil in the state."

Wednesday's release will be the fourth within the last nine weeks. A first release was made on June 29 at Northwest Equestrian Park in Hillsborough County; a second release took place at Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge in Palm Beach County on July 20; a third on Aug. 3 at the Enchanted Forest in Titusville. A total of five releases will take place, with 12 weeks between each release, over a span of 48 weeks; the last seven weeks will include time for follow-up and monitoring.

Cave has worked with the fly in the quarantine section of the UF Norman Hayslip Biological Control and Containment Laboratory near Fort Pierce to ensure it will not feed on any other species but the Mexican bromeliad weevil. This fact is considered a critical point by the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services as well as other state and federal agencies that have approved the fly's release.

"I would like to especially thank the South Florida Water Management District for graduate student support," said Frank. "Water management Senior Environmental Scientist LeRoy Rodgers secured more than \$16,000 for graduate student support, and without the agency's support there would be no student working on this program."

According to Frank, the researchers expect the flies will feed on the weevil's larvae and effectively diminish the weevil population. The Mexican weevil's larvae kill bromeliads from the inside. Since the fly larva kills the weevil larva, the number of future adult weevils will then be lowered. And, the fly's effectiveness could be determined as early as late August this year.

"At the first release site in Hillsborough County, we set out sentinel pineapples (a readily available bromeliad species) containing weevil larvae on Monday, Aug. 7," said Frank. "Those larvae were brought back to

(continued on next page)

Invasive Weevil (continued from p. 6)

our laboratory in Gainesville this week and are at this time being studied for results by graduate student Teresa Cooper.”

Should the newborn flies come out of the weevil's larvae, the researchers will know their work is successful: the weevil population will begin to go down and Florida's native bromeliad populations will survive and thrive again.

Cave said the release is critical because Florida's natural bromeliads are an important part of the state's environment and natural heritage. The plants are also habitat for small animals and are known for their beauty.

Biological control, or the use of natural enemies for the control of pest organisms, has been used successfully in Florida for more than 100 years. Examples of biological control success programs are alligatorweed and armored scales. Alligatorweed, an invasive aquatic plant, was infamous in the 1960s for its ability to clog the state's canals. Several species of armored scales repeatedly threatened the citrus industry. But with the introduction of biological control agents, alligatorweed and armored scales are under control solely by beneficial insects. The need for expensive chemicals and heavy mechanical removal has been reduced. These facts have been well documented by several state

agencies.

"The release of the bromeliad weevil parasitic fly is another positive step forward in the battle to control invasive exotic species in Florida," stated Bob DeGross, National Park Service spokesperson. "It is unfortunate that working to eradicate these introduced species in the state, and throughout the country, is costing hundreds of millions of dollars annually."

In 2000, state agencies spent more than \$90 million to control invasive species and of that amount, only one percent was devoted to biological control research. Most of the funds were used for traditional control methods such as chemical applications and heavy mechanical removal.

In a scholarly publication recently authored by Frank, the first comprehensive survey of all species released into Florida's environment for biological control are documented. Of the total of 60 species, none of the released species have had a negative impact upon Florida's environment, or what researchers would call "non-target effects."

"This is an example of how intensive research can find a solution to an ecological problem that is safe for the environment," said Cave.

School IPM Working Group Collaborates on Marketing Grant



It's not always easy being green, especially when you're a school maintenance director trying to address pest problems. Do you "play it safe" and contract for

monthly pesticide sprays, or do you try something different, like integrated pest management? For its first collaborative project, the Southern Region School IPM Working Group plans to help school personnel solve that dilemma. With a new National Extension IPM Special Projects Program grant, the working group will spend the next year developing marketing techniques for school IPM.

Their project, "Marketing IPM as Green Technology in Southern Schools," is a collaboration that will involve the resources and strengths of all of the southern school IPM programs. The grant will allow the working group to address not only the needs of school personnel, but their own needs as well.

"This grant was based on the meeting we had in Atlanta," said Janet Hurley, school IPM coordinator at Texas Cooperative Extension. "In Atlanta we developed priorities and goals, and one of our goals was to write a grant as a group."

(continued on next page)

IR-4 Executive Director Jerry Baron Receives NC State University Alumni Award

When Jerry Baron left NC State University with his doctorate in horticultural science in 1985, he began a career in the field of his dreams. From the time he was a teenager in Ohio, working for a landscaping company, Baron knew he wanted to pursue plant protection. Now Executive Director of the IR-4 Project, Baron is at the helm of the largest advocate for crop protection for specialty crops. On September 28, 2007, Baron stood with eleven other NC State University alumni as he received an Outstanding Alumni Award.



Initiated in 2001 by the NC State College of Agriculture and Life Sciences (CALs) Alumni and Friends Society, the Outstanding Alumni Award recognizes former CALs students who have used their talent to excel in their

chosen field. The award is one of four different alumni awards given by the college each year.

Joining Baron were alumni who had also made their mark on agricultural research and service. Some of the most notable included a division head with the Department of Homeland Security, the CEO of Butterball and the North Carolina Commissioner of Agriculture.

Baron said the award was an honor. "I can say I really appreciate the time that I've spent here and the time I've gotten to spend helping growers of North Carolina," he said at the ceremony.

Baron grew up in northeast Ohio, where he began his lifelong interest in horticulture. He entered The Ohio State University after high

(continued on next page)

School IPM Working Group (continued from p. 7)

The project involves developing practical tools for school maintenance directors to use, including IPM practice checklists, educational materials and incentives for IPM adoption. In addition, the working group has planned a meeting in Dallas on February 13-15, 2008, to foster collaborations and communication among different parties involved in pest management, including school personnel, pest control operators, public health practitioners and IPM specialists.

In April, members of the working group will also market school IPM at the annual meetings of two key stakeholders: the Southern Association of School Business Officials (SASBO) and the National School Plant Management Association. Both groups focus on maintenance and operations of school facilities, so working group chair Fudd Graham (Auburn University) and secretary Hurley hope to add IPM to the groups' priorities.

In addition to reaching out to those who can potentially implement IPM in schools, group members are strengthening their collaboration with each other. The grant will allow duplication of educational materials for everyone in the working group, so states with a wealth of materials can share them with others who have little time to develop materials of their own.

Hurley and Faith Oi, the University of Florida's school IPM coordinator, will also translate some of their educational materials into Spanish so coordinators in states with large Hispanic populations will have additional resources.

Hurley hopes that the group's presence at the April meetings and the additional educational resources will facilitate IPM promotion for Extension specialists who can dedicate only part of their time to school IPM.

Jerry Baron (continued from p.8)

school and graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in integrated plant protection in 1981 and a Masters of Science degree in horticulture and weed science in 1982.

After finishing the Master's degree program, Baron knew that the best place to pursue his Ph.D degree program was at NC State with Dr. Thomas J. Monaco, a world renowned weed scientists and horticulture professor.

After receiving his doctorate in weed science at NC State University in 1985, he landed his first job with IR-4 as a research manager/coordinator. The IR-4 Project (short for "Interregional Project No. 4") is a cooperative program between USDA, the State Agriculture Experiment Stations, the crop protection industry and the growers of fruits, vegetables, herbs, ornamental and other horticultural crops to develop data to support the registration of safe and effective pesticides on specialty crops. Baron has spent nearly his entire career with the IR-4 Project in various roles. The one exception is an 18 month period when he was on sabbatical as Associate Executive Dean of Cook College/Rutgers University.

In September 2006, Baron was named Executive Director of IR-4 Project. This has al-

lowed him to pursue the vision for the program which is globalization and harmonization of data development to support the registration of the newest generation of crop protection products for specialty crops.

"With globalization, growers in Caldwell County, NC, don't know if their sweet potatoes will wind up in Ohio or Tokyo," Baron explained. "Part of the long term solution is to work in cooperation with foreign countries to help the US growers have access to these critical foreign markets."

Baron sees IR-4 and the IPM Centers working together for the same goal: to help specialty crop growers achieve sustainability. As resources become scarcer, he said, that relationship will need to strengthen. Baron said that IR-4 has always relied on the Centers to provide info from pest management strategic plans and to support crop protection in the US.

"We've always looked at the IPM Centers as important to the whole overall crop protection structure in the US," he said. "We're just another piece of the puzzle that helps growers protect their crops."

To learn more about IR-4, visit www.ir4.rutgers.edu.

IPM At Work: Texas A&M Specialists Teach Homeowners About IPM with ISEC

by Rosemary Hallberg



For their small size, ants are strong creatures, able to carry objects up to 20 times their body weight. Organized in colonies, their hierarchical household

structure makes them one of the more interesting of the insect species. I have always enjoyed watching a troop of ants marching back to their nest with bits of leaves and sometimes entire insects in tow.

But I confess that I don't appreciate their ingenuity as much when they're marching

across my kitchen counter. I would prefer that they stay outside and take with them the other insects that find their way into my house, many of which I can't identify.

That attitude was just what spawned an interest in homeowner IPM for Texas IPM Coordinator Tom Fuchs. So, after seeing a presentation on community IPM at the Fourth National IPM Symposium in 2003, Fuchs came up with an idea to teach homeowners about integrated pest management strategies. He wanted to develop a program in which homeowners would be taught a simple common-sense approach to managing household pests based on IPM principles.

(continued on next page)

ISEC (continued from p. 9)

The program is called ISEC.

An acronym that stands for Identify, Sanitize, Exclude and Control, ISEC teaches homeowners to use primarily sanitation and exclusion techniques to prevent pest problems. ISEC began in 2004 as a pilot program in the West Central Texas Extension district. Since ISEC is a train-the-trainer program, County Extension Agents were trained to conduct the program. They, in turn, trained various clientele in their counties. Follow-up surveys after several community workshops indicated that 84 percent of the 258 people who attended were using the practices they learned from the workshops. After the initial success, the program was expanded by training Family and Consumer Science agents and Better Living for Texans agents to conduct the program. A website, <http://ipm.tamu.edu/isec/>, contains presentations, brochures and information about pesticide disposal and less toxic pesticides.

"We think we can help homeowners prevent 80 percent of pest problems without using pesticides," Fuchs said. "The only pesticides we recommend are gels and baits, and we try to train homeowners how to dispose of those properly as well."

ISEC has also become a component of several educational or training programs, including Better Living for Texans (a training program for Food Stamp recipients) and Habitat for Humanity. Funded by a 2006 IPM Enhancement grant by the Southern Region IPM Center, the partnership with Habitat for Humanity has been a huge success.

"When ISEC started out, Tom thought it would be good for retirement age adults," said Wizzie Brown, extension program specialist in IPM. "But we figured out that it could fit anyone, and it could be slightly altered for any situation for living."

Because Texas Habitat for Humanity applicants must participate in a series of work-

shops before they can qualify for their houses, getting an audience for the ISEC training was easy. ISEC is part of the Habitat trainings in Austin, Dallas, San Antonio and Houston, and in each city the workshop participants seem enthusiastic, according to Brown.

"We give the participants an IPM kit containing items such as caulk, steel wool, tape and other items that can be used to exclude pests from the home. They really enjoy that because it is a good reminder," Brown said.

Margaret Noguera, director of Family Services at the Dallas Habitat for Humanity, said she has heard only positive feedback about the ISEC training. Extension Specialist Kim Schofield presents the ISEC training during one session of each monthly workshop, as well as the special events that the agency holds for the homeowners.

"So far it has been very educational," she said. "Kim tells them about the kit, and they perk up because they don't realize how they can use household items for this. We are pleased with the relationship between Habitat and Texas A&M."

Word about ISEC has spread to other groups and organizations as well. Fuchs and Brown said that they have begun holding workshops in retirement communities. And they are hoping to post ISEC materials on eXtension, an online information resource on consumer science topics. In addition, Brown has had the brochures and PowerPoint presentations translated into Spanish to serve the large Hispanic population in Texas.

Fuchs and Brown are still looking for ways to incorporate ISEC into even more groups. Brown, whose background was in pest control, said that she wants to share the training with Texas pest control companies.

"We need to inform people about what IPM is," she said.

Upcoming Events



IPM Center Events:

November 12-13: State Contacts Meeting, Roanoke, VA

November 26: DUE: Nominations for Friends of Southern IPM

November 27-28: Advisory Council / Steering Committee Meeting, Southern Region IPM Center, Raleigh

November 30: Enhancement Grant RFA Released (Anticipated)

December 3: DUE: Proposals for Southern Region IPM Grant Program

February 5: DUE: Proposals for Enhancement Grants Parts 1 and 2

Other events:

November 29: National IPM Evaluation Group meeting, Washington, DC

December 12-14: National Soybean Rust Symposium, Louisville, KY

February 5-6: National IPM Centers Coordinating Committee, Joint CSREES-Water Quality / IPM Symposium, Reno, NV

February 13-15: School IPM Workgroup meeting, Dallas, TX

March 16-19: SERA 003 Meeting, Saint Croix, VI

March 25-27: SARE 20th Anniversary New American Farm Contest, Kansas City, MO

Contact Us:

For more information, visit our Web site at www.sripmc.org

Director:

Jim VanKirk
919-513-8179
Jim@sripmc.org

Associate Director (Information Technology):

Ron Stinner
919-513-1648
Rstinner@cipm.info

Associate Director (Regulatory Issues):

Steve Toth
919-515-8879
Steve_Toth@ncsu.edu

Communication Specialist:

Rosemary Hallberg
919-513-8182
rhallberg@sripmc.org

Programmer:

Yulu Xia
919-513-8187
Yulu_Xia@ncsu.edu

Administrative Assistant:

Jo-Anne Scoggins
919-513-1432
Joanne_Scoggins@ncsu.edu

If you would like to be added to our monthly distribution list please send an e-mail to: newsletter-subscribe@sripmc.org