
PRONewEngland Project Update

May 9, 2006

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* = RESPONSE or ACTION NEEDED

1. Contract and Funding

We agreed on the budget revisions made to accommodate cuts in our proposed budget. The revised budgets, budget narratives, and work plans for the 2006 New England Pest Management Network grant were sent to each state's sponsored programs / grants office on Friday May 5. Return with official signatures was requested within three weeks (May 26). Please check with your university grant office to let them know you are interested in seeing these steps completed by May 26.

The Survey-Profile-PMSP and IPM Working Group Priorities funds now require a separate proposal from the State Network Project proposal. State liaisons will submit their own proposals for these funds in 2007. State liaisons from other states will provide cooperator letters and cover their participation to provide mailing lists and review documents as SNP liaison activity. We will coordinate proposal content at the next NEPMNet meeting in September.

2. Stakeholder Survey

We agreed to conduct phone calls to each of the stakeholder organizations and government/University programs listed for our state on PRONewEngland. We set the week of May 22-26 as the best time to make those calls.

The purpose of the calls is to reinforce the introductory letter they received in the January mailing and to take a census of stakeholder concerns and suggestions. (This phone survey replaced a

2005 New England stakeholder meeting). During the call, we will ask for feedback to these questions:

- 1. What pest issues are most important to you?**
- 2. What comments or suggestions do you have for the university and government programs in your state that deal with pest issues?**
- 3. Have you been to the PRONewEngland.org web site? If so, has any of the information you received via the site been useful or had other impact?**
- 4. Do you have any suggestions for the web site; suggested pest management survey topics; or an idea for a regional pest management educational meeting?**

This involves 199 calls across the six states. Individual state counts are as follows:

CT: U&Gov-6, Private-15	= 21
MA: U&Gov-8, Private-17	= 25
ME: U&Gov-14, Private-32	= 46
NH: U&Gov-6, Private-28	= 34
RI: U&Gov-5, Private-13	= 18
VT: U&Gov-9, Private-11	= 20
New England: U&Gov-16, Private-19	= 35

3. Recent and ongoing Survey-Profile-Strategic plan activities

Pepper survey – Mailings are underway, Candace hopes to have collected final responses by June.

* Please let your vegetable specialist know that this is going on. While you are contacting them, let them know about the other surveys, crop profile, PMSPs on PRONewEngland.

School IPM survey - Natalia will develop questions and send them to state NEPMNet liaisons for review. Natalia will contact state liaisons as needed to get addresses for sending the surveys. The plan is for a summer mailing of the School IPM surveys. Natalia will include notification of the New England School IPM meeting planned for December 5, 2006 in the survey mailings.

Raspberry survey – Natalia plans a fall mailing for this survey.

Strawberry crop profile – Sonia Schloemann is shooting for completion in August.

Sweet corn crop profile – Comments were due March 31. If you haven't reviewed for your state, contact Pam Westgate to see if it is not too late to do so now.

Pepper crop profile – Candace gave an anticipated completion date of June 2007.

Winter squash crop profile – Natalia sent final file to Glen. It has been submitted to Northeast IPM Center, and is on PRONewEngland.

Highbush blueberry PMSP – Sarah and Ann sent final to Glen. It has been submitted to Northeast IPM Center, and is on PRONewEngland.

Strawberry pest management strategic plan – Ann and Sarah are planning on a fall meeting. Two strawberry specialists (David Handley-ME and Sonia Schloemann-MA) have expressed interest in participating.

Northeast sweet corn PMSP - Kerry Richards from Penn State is putting the finishing edits in.

Winter squash PMSP – Natalia sent final to Glen. It has been submitted to Northeast IPM Center, and is on PRONewEngland.

Templates - Glen has updated the survey, profile and PMSP templates posted on PRONewEngland.

4. State Contact lists

We now have lists online for ME, NH, RI, and VT. The NH list is a bit short but if those are all the contacts there are, so be it. The web site is not complete until we have lists for CT and MA.

*** RESPONSE NEEDED**

Candace, Natalia – I still need these lists. Please send me the contact list names, emails, phone numbers.

5. USDA/EPA queries

I use a web page to keep track of different queries for Maine (<http://pronewengland.org/Content/MEInfo/PesticideQueries-ME.htm>) If you would like to have a similar table for your state for future queries, send me the state-specific info.

6. School IPM Conference

Alan is organizing a New England School IPM Conference. We picked December 5, 2006 as the date. Agenda items could include: status reports for school IPM in each state, presenting results from the New England School IPM Survey, resource sharing, and planning for coordinated action. Alan will be asking state liaisons to identify about six participants from each state.

7. Next Meeting

We agreed on September 20 at UNH Kingman Farm for our next PRONewEngland/New England Pest Management Network meeting. If Carrie Koplinka-Loehr organizes a fall meeting for Northeast SNP state liaisons, we might want to cancel our Kingman Farm meeting and piggyback our meeting onto that.