

Final Minutes, Sept. 18th, 2015

National Stakeholder Team for Pesticide Safety Education Program (PSEP) Funding

All documents and minutes of the Team and its workgroups are posted at <http://psep.us/>

1. Goal 1 – Quick Update

Jim Burnette indicated that he and Carol Somody (with backup assistance from Dave Scott) have completed 14 of 17 requested meetings with state advisory committees, to discuss progress, questions, needs, and contract requirements, in support of year 2 funding. The National Stakeholder Team steering committee is always available for meetings with any of the 25 advisory committees that desire it, or to help engage stakeholders of importance.

Jim and Carol have now also had teleconferences with the Northeast, Southern, and Western Extension Directors about Goal 1. Via written follow-up, each Northeast and Southern State Extension Lead has received the following:

- the names of their state's advisory committee members (if a Goal 1 state)
- Information on PSEP's value to Extension's reputation, in job creation and job skills, and in protecting human health and the environment
- FIFRA's defined role of Land-Grant Universities in the education of pesticide users
- Most important, a request that these Extension Directors take every opportunity to champion robust Pesticide Safety Education Programs in their state and beyond

Western Extension Leads will receive follow-up in the next few days.

ADDENDUM: This was completed Sept. 19th.

Two robust PSEP coordinators have volunteered to be an ongoing mentor to a Goal 1 state – contact Jim or Carol if you are a Goal 1 state that would be interested in this additional support.

ADDENDUM: Three robust PSEP coordinator have now volunteered.

Continue to submit requests for assistance – the result often benefits all Goal 1 states.

2. Password-Protected Website

Carol Somody began by indicating a concern... a comment has been made that there is nothing that can be done to prevent PSEPs from sharing their passwords with SLAs, etc. Carol noted that this would be totally unacceptable – the landing page clearly indicates who will have access to this website (and funding has and will continue to support this website based on what it is intended to be.)

PSEP-only access to this website was never intended to appear exclusionary of others – it is simply another tool to put in the hands of PSEPs, to encourage sharing among them and to add value to PSEP. In various documented ways, we have also continually promised PSEPs that

website access would be restricted to PSEPs (and a number of PSEPs are contributing resources based on what this website is intended to be.)

Also, if you hear that there is no financial support for the continuation of this website after PSEP-IMI year 3 funding, that is untrue.

At the last full team meeting, additional ideas concerning priority resource needs were requested from PSEP coordinators, by September 16th. Those ideas are now being consolidated and will be distributed to the 50 PSEP coordinators next week for additional comment and prioritization (plus a teleconference will be set up this month for PSEP coordinators who want to provide verbal comments).

\$140K will be offered as grants this fall for high-priority resource development specifically for the website; more funds will be forthcoming. This effort is no longer a part of PSEP-IMI; the remaining PSEP-IMI funds from four of the funders are now being held for a different project.

3. First National IPM Dialogue/Leadership Meeting – see Appendix 1 for agenda; see attachment 2 for first draft pre-reading materials (not part of these minutes).

Team comments received concerning the draft agenda related only to a few possible edits to points in the IPM document. However, these edits do not impact the first 8 points in the IPM document, and only the first 8 points are the focus of the December 9th meeting. So, for the moment, the Steering Committee has put a discussion of these proposed edits on hold. These edits will, however, be discussed prior to IPM dialogue meetings after December 9th.

Attachment 2 (not part of these minutes) is a first draft of pre-reading materials for the eleven participating leaders at the December 9th meeting. Significant proposed changes are expected, and welcome.

Ten pages of links/comments have been reduced to 2 pages in this first draft – we are targeting 2 pages of reading material.

However, some of the links go to documents that are large, so the team must decide whether ANY complete documents should be read. For the rest of the links, sections can be extracted and the link referenced (several examples of this in the first draft).

If you believe a certain key document (or extracted section) is missing, or that some of the ones on the current list should be removed, please let us know. Comments on this first draft are requested by October 5.

The following was discussed at the end of the meeting, but is related to this topic.

Richard Pont said that EPA was looking forward to the December 9th IPM Dialogue and to hosting it. Richard suggested that FIFRA Section 11(2)(c) be added to the pre-reading materials:

SEC. 11. USE OF RESTRICTED USE PESTICIDES; APPLICATORS.

(2) STATE CERTIFICATION

(c) INSTRUCTION IN INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT TECHNIQUES.— Standards prescribed by the Administrator for the certification of applicators of pesticides under subsection (a), and the State plans submitted to the Administrator under subsection (a), shall include provisions for making instructional materials concerning integrated pest management techniques available to individuals at their request in accordance with the provisions of section 23(c) of this Act, but such plans may not require that any individual receive instruction concerning such techniques or be shown to be competent with respect to the use of such techniques. The Administrator and States implementing such plans shall provide that all interested individuals are notified of the availability of such instructional materials.

Carol asked if Richard wanted to review all the references to IPM in FIFRA, but Richard said that only Section 11(2)(c) should be added to the pre-reading material. Currently, the states can do IPM training but EPA can't. Richard did not know the reason for this; there were some past concerns about how EPA might structure education on IPM.

Jim stated that a key goal of the December 9th meeting was to get a consensus that pesticide safety education has a key place in IPM. Carol added that often IPM messages do not only ignore pesticide safety education but are actually detrimental to it – this is a major concern. “Use pesticides judiciously” and “follow the label” are not sufficient pesticide safety education, and “use least toxic products” and “use pesticides as a last resort” actually degrade and diminish the importance and accuracy of pesticide safety education. This would be analogous to PSEPs degrading important IPM principles in their teaching.

Richard expressed a desire for EPA to develop IPM messages for PSEPs. Carol said that she and Richard were making two very different points – developing more IPM messages for PSEPs versus getting the IPM network to better recognize and support pesticide safety education in their efforts (the latter being the key message of the Team's IPM Statement).

4. Other

This team reaches its 3-year anniversary next month. Carol Somody made a personal request (not speaking for anyone else). PLEASE remember the goal of this team – to strengthen Land-Grant University Pesticide Safety Education Programs. Steering Committee and other members of this Team are often having to deal with drift from this goal – this is not a team focused on general pesticide safety education efforts by industry, SLAs, government, etc. The Team is trying to strengthen a defined, specific program – LGU PSEPs. If you are more interested in using the efforts and finances of this team for other things, Carol asked that you seriously consider stepping down, because you are creating diversions that this Team does not have time for.

Also, concerning Goal 1 specifically, please remember what was pointed out in the February Goal 1 national teleconferences – “If you are having difficulty in getting your “core” advisory committee members together and/or engaged, that is a red flag. **Replacing advisory committee members is allowed and should be done if necessary.**” Jim concurred.

Appendix 1 **FINAL AGENDA - *First National Dialogue on:***
“The Critical Need for IPM Support of Pesticide Safety Education”
A Statement of the National Stakeholder Team for PSEP Funding
December 9, 2015 – 9 AM-12 PM
EPA, Potomac Yards South, 2777 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA

I. Introductions (9:00-9:10 AM)

II. What is and is not pesticide safety education (PSE) (9:10-9:30)

III. What is and is not integrated pest management (IPM) (9:30-9:50)

IV. The Current Landscape (9:50-10:10)

Break (10:10-10:20)

V. Should PSE be an integral part of IPM efforts (and vice versa) (10:20-10:40)
The IPM Roadmap; FIFRA

VI. Leadership Proposals – Discussion and Action Steps (10:40-11:40)
Points 4-8 of the National Stakeholder Team Statement:

4. That the Federal IPM Coordinating Committee and IPM Center Stakeholder Committees tasked with setting priorities are well-balanced, understand the importance of PSE in protecting human health and the environment, and contain strong advocates for PSE.

5. That USDA, the Regional IPM Centers, and the state IPM Coordinators actively work to advance PSE in Center/Coordinator activities and IPM grant criteria.

6. That more State IPM Coordinators and State PSE Program Coordinators work together to advance core principles of PSE as part of IPM educational materials, and to advance core principles of IPM as part of PSE educational materials.

7. That the proposed Federal Agency IPM Training Program includes PSE as a key component, and that strong advocates for PSE be part of the development and implementation teams.

8. That State IPM Coordinators get appropriate support and credit for PSE done in association with or in support of the PSE Program Coordinator.

VII. Closing Comments (2 min each) (11:40-12)