

# WIPMC Work Groups

## Work Groups Funded by the Western Integrated Pest Management Center

Competitive proposals are solicited from self-establishing multistate work groups to address information, resource, and research needs in region-wide or broad area categories including: minor crops, major crops, non-crop areas, IPM metrics or impact assessments, urban IPM, cropping systems, geographical issues, school IPM, and other issues. Work groups must enhance communication and collaborations within the region for the IPM topic area addressed by the group. A work group could also coordinate development of proposals for funding to address critical issues within the West.

### Current Work Groups

#### Western Region Choke Disease Management Work Group

**States Involved:** Kentucky, Oklahoma, Oregon, Utah

**Purpose:** Assemble multi-disciplinary, multi-state, multi-agency team, bringing together knowledge and expertise of stakeholders, IPM practitioners and researchers from universities, USDA, and industry to develop IPM priorities and an integrated research strategy for management of choke disease in orchardgrass. Develop research projects focused on examination of interactions of the choke pathogen with its host grass and other organisms, potential plant resistance, and manipulation of cultivation practices for development of management strategies for suppression of choke disease.

**Expected Outcomes/Outputs:** Increased collaboration between researchers and extension personnel with choke-related experience. Prioritization of research and extension needs related to choke over the next 3 years. Development of a research proposal on choke that addresses these priorities.

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policy makers and others who attended two functional agricultural biodiversity on-farm tours/short courses sponsored by group. Ability to instantaneously share news and projects via list server created by group. Pesticide use reduction and positive effect on regional populations of beneficials. New successful collaborative proposals and projects amounting to more than \$500,000.

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#### Southeastern Arizona-Southwestern New Mexico Noxious Weed Work Group

**States Involved:** Arizona, New Mexico

**Purpose:** Building on previous WIPMC-funded work, enhance communication across state borders to combat the spread of noxious weeds on public, state trust, and private lands. Enhance cooperation among political entities with shared goals of addressing noxious weeds and reducing their economic and ecological consequences for growers, cattle producers, land managers, county and state governments, and interested sectors of the public. Hold research/educational field tour for stakeholders to learn about the biology of species of concern and see research and management results in the field; hold annual stakeholder meeting of key personnel and agency representatives from both states; and plan, develop, and implement a Rapid Response Team training in several local communities. Continue group's online communication.

**Outcomes/Outputs:** Enhanced communication and collaboration across state borders. Stakeholder relations strengthened by face-to-face meetings and field tour. Improved local community awareness of noxious weeds and local control efforts. Improved early detection and rapid response, reducing overall cost and ecological damage from noxious weeds. In longer-term, impact on biodiversity and ecological stability and monetary savings for growers, ranchers, and other land managers through preventive management.

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#### Functional Agricultural Biodiversity Work Group

**States Involved:** California, Idaho, Oregon, Washington

**Purpose:** Foster collaborative approach of communication, research, and outreach among researchers, farmers, conservationists, industry representatives, non-profit personnel, and land managers in functional agricultural biodiversity (FAB) in order to preserve crop pollination by native pollinators and management of pests by predators, parasitoids, and pathogens in forest, rangeland, farms, and gardens in the Western Region. FAB embraces a variety of living organisms, the communities that support them, the on-farm ecosystems in which they thrive, and the ecosystems services and positive synergies they provide to a farming system. Included in the services that beneficial organisms provide is biological pest management.

**Outcomes/Outputs:** Enhanced collaboration among field consultants, researchers, NRCS personnel, and conservationists. Better educated



## Western Region School IPM Implementation and Assessment Work Group

**States Involved:** Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, Wyoming

**Purpose:** Foster collaboration among universities, state and federal agencies, industry, and advocacy groups working to encourage and enhance successful implementation of IPM in schools in the Western Region. Continue to document extent of existing school IPM programs in the West and identify continuing needs and implementation obstacles. Conduct school IPM outreach to support local implementation and build local support networks

**Outcomes/Outputs:** Increased collaboration among key stakeholders in the West. Increased understanding of barriers and challenges to full adoption of IPM practices in schools. Thorough inventory of school IPM programs and resources in the Western Region. Ability to define progress using extensive data sets. Improved awareness and knowledge of IPM among local school personnel and pest management providers. Improved IPM knowledge and training skills for change agents and work group participants. Improved local support for school IPM implementation through peer networks.

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## Crop Pest Losses and Impact Assessment Work Group

**States Involved:** Arizona, California, Texas

**Purpose:** Facilitate interaction among stakeholders to measure pesticide use patterns, pest-related losses and control costs, and other IPM impacts on crop production. Conduct face-to-face stakeholder interactions to develop real-world data for major desert crops (cotton, melons, lettuce, and alfalfa) in Arizona and portions of California. Serve as clearinghouse for crop pest losses information.

**Outcomes/Outputs:** Valuable new economic and pesticide use information to aid in measuring adoption and impact of IPM in major desert crops. Expanded stakeholder involvement in identifying and formulating responses to emerging pests. Leveraged funding through additional grants. Accurate and detailed responses to information requests at all levels.

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## Past Work Groups

- ♦ Curly Top Virus Biology, Transmission, Ecology, and Management
- ♦ Development of Integrated Vegetation Management Research and Demonstration Projects on Western Rights-of-Way
- ♦ Incorporation of IPM Guidelines in NRCS Conservation Planning
- ♦ Increasing Regional Communication to Improve Orchard Spray Application Efficiency
- ♦ Invasive Plants in Natural Areas: Connecting Regional Centers Across the United States
- ♦ IPM Consequences of Herbicide Tolerant and Insect Resistant Crops
- ♦ IPM for Spanish-Speaking Landscape Workers
- ♦ IPM of Ants of Urban Importance in the Western Region
- ♦ OnePlan IPM Planner
- ♦ Oregon and Washington Small Fruits
- ♦ Pacific Northwest Agricultural IPM Issues
- ♦ Snail and Slug Management in Ornamental Crop Production
- ♦ Weather Systems
- ♦ Western Region Structural Pest IPM
- ♦ Western Region Urban Residential and Institutional IPM

Visit the Western IPM Center's Web site for further details about any of these projects: <http://www.wripmc.org>.



*Fostering responsible pest management for a sustainable future.*



For more information on the Western Integrated Pest Management Center, see

<http://www.wripmc.org>

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