

Development of Educational and Training Materials to Support Preparation for the Arizona Pest Control Licensing Exams

2006 IPM Grant Report

Project Leaders: Jeff Silvertooth (Dept. Head, Soil, Water & Environmental Science), Al Fournier (Arizona Pest Management Center, Maricopa Agricultural Center)

Project Objective: The objective of this proposal is to address a critical need by developing a new and fully up-to-date set of IPM educational materials to support the Pest Control Advisor (PCA) license exams in Arizona. This will be accomplished by convening a working group of interested UA Specialists and Agents in partnership with the Arizona Crop Protection Association (ACPA) and the Arizona Department of Agriculture (ADA) representatives, reviewing available education materials, determining needs and format, and developing and marketing appropriate training resources.

Activities

- Project Meeting 1: June 27, 2006. Laid groundwork for the project; identification of UA participants; tentative timeline for project completion; identified CA IPM text as a potential resource for this project to build on.
- Established email list of project participants and organization role in project management for the APMC.
- Circulated electronic files of existing ACPA manual for faculty review.
- Circulated copies of CA IPM text for faculty review.
- August, 2006: Hired Becky Papp, part-time Research Technician based at MAC, who may play an editorial role in the project.
- Project Meeting 2: Nov 1, 2006. CA IPM Text is seen as a primary resource (i.e., required reading) that we will build on with additional materials as needed; the general format for the revised manual was agreed upon, but specifics will be up to the authors; writing and editing assignments were agreed upon; ACPA member PCAs will review draft chapters; the final product will be made available through ACPA.

Participation

Meeting Attendees:

Jeff Silvertooth	Tim Dennehy	Paul Baker
Mike Matheron	John Palumbo	Randy Norton
Bill McCloskey	Jeff Schalaus	Rob Call
Kai Umdea	Peter Ellsworth	Rick Gibson
Pat Clay	Al Fournier	Becky Papp

Fred Amator, Arizona Crop Protection Association
Jon Reding, Arizona Crop Protection Association
Gary Christian, Arizona Department of Agriculture
Jack Peterson, Arizona Department of Agriculture

Additional Project Participants:

Paul Brown, Mary Olsen, Mike McClure, Tom Thompson, James Walworth, Glen Wright, Charles Sanchez, Kurt Nolte, Eric Norton, Barry Tickes, AnnaMarie Knorr (Arizona Crop Protection Association), Lin Evans (Lin Evans Enterprises)

Outcomes / Current Status and Future Activities

- An effective partnership between UA faculty, ACPA and ADA has been established. Partners from each organization have specific writing assignments and will contribute to the final product. This partnership goes a long way toward increasing the potential for future collaborations between our organizations.
- More than a dozen faculty members (specialists and agents) representing a variety of disciplines have “bought-in” to the project and plan to make significant contributions.
- This project has already served as a catalyst for other collaborative discussions between UA, ACPA, ADA and other agencies. As a result of attending our June meeting, Jeff Schalauski approached Al Fournier about organizing a meeting to discuss Pesticide Applicator Training (PAT) needs in Arizona. This meeting resulted in a productive discussion that we hope will help this partnership to better address PAT needs statewide in the near future.
- Tentative date of completion is May 2007. Some have expressed concerns that this timeline is over-optimistic. The group meets again on Feb 27, 2007, when the status of the project will be reassessed.

Leveraged Resources

- This project represents a significant commitment of time and energy resources of the UA faculty involved, as well as partner organizations. Faculty and partners have already contributed time to reviewing the existing manual and the CA IPM text, as well as attending meetings, email correspondence, etc. This time commitment will no doubt increase as the project progresses to meet deadlines for revised text, etc.
- \$5,000 in project support funds have been provided by the Arizona Crop Protection Association.