

Cotton IPM/ICM Working Group
Maricopa Agricultural Center
Thursday, April 20 2005
10:00 – 1:30 pm

In attendance: Pat Clay, Russ Tronstad (partial), Tim Dennehy, Ed Martin, Peter Ellsworth, Al Fournier, Bill McCloskey, Kurt Nolte, Maria Sims, Steve Naranjo (partial)

Upcoming Meetings

May Cotton WF management training workshops

Peter Ellsworth will be running a series of meetings in May in response to growers concerns about 2005 WF problems. Four meetings are being organized with local agents:

- May 16, Booth Machinery, Yuma, Kurt Nolte
- May 23, Parker Elks Club, Parker, Eric Norton
- May 24, Buckeye Elks Club, Buckeye, Pat Clay
- May 25, Maricopa Ag Center, Maricopa, Pat Clay

We appreciate the help of all working group members to strongly promote the meetings. Also, local organizers (agents) should be sure to recognize and acknowledge the sponsors at their meetings. The four companies whose chemistries are involved will be meeting sponsors.

The Maricopa County Short Course (August 2 - 3, Pat Clay and Kai Umeda)

Theme: Herbicide Behavior in Plants and Soil. Pat is working with Deb Young to get CALS to pay the registration fees for all interested county faculty to attend.

Desert Ag Conference (May 10-11, The Property in Casa Grande)

In prior years, we have held the Cross-commodity Research and Outreach Program (CROP) working group meeting following the second half-day at DAC. The CROP meeting has been replaced this year by a CROP focus session at the APMC Summit on June 6.)

The Arizona Pest Management Center Summit (June 6 at MAC)

Purpose of the Workshop: To assemble CALS faculty members involved in pest management related research and outreach, along with key stakeholders from urban, agricultural and natural resource sectors, in a forum to identify program needs and priorities, and to discuss the role of the University of Arizona Cooperative Extension and the Arizona Pest Management Center (APMC) in addressing these challenges.

General Format: A one-day meeting at Maricopa Ag Center, leading off with a plenary session followed by breakout sessions by commodity or topic. Breakout groups will identify pest management priorities in their areas. Breakout sessions confirmed so far are agricultural and cross-commodity IPM, urban/community/school IPM, noxious and invasive weeds. Smaller sessions for citrus, turf and commercial horticulture are also possible. Guest speakers include Rick Melnicoe, Director of the Western IPM Center and Tom Green, President of the IPM Institute of North America.

Al Fournier will work with Pat Clay to apply for CEUs for structural and Ag. attendees.

Other upcoming events:

- Lettuce Insect Losses: May 2 at Yuma Civic Center. Kurt and Al are working with John Palumbo to organize this.
- Melon Insect Losses: Nothing is on the calendar yet. Al Fournier will work with John to start the planning process. Kurt will be local coordinator for Yuma, Pat for Central AZ. Last year we did a Yuma meeting in early June and central AZ in early July. Some growers weren't done harvesting yet in central AZ, so later in July would be better this year.
- Randy Norton had a tentative date of June 22 for a Graham County cotton meeting. Apparently, this is not a confirmed date.
- Pat and Bill will plan an Arizona Weed Contest for this year. Pat says there has been no problem getting companies to sponsor this event in the past. In past years, we've had good attendance (~60) in August, poor attendance (<20) when we did it in November. Pat and bill will try to plan something in August this year.
- CALS faculty conference – Al verified that this has been confirmed for Aug 15-17 in Tucson.
- June 1 Int'l field day at the Valley Ag Center in Yuma.

Cotton Report

Russ reported that he now has enough articles to finalize the cotton report. Peter and Tim are each working on new extension bulletins that could be put in the report. These will be going through peer review, but will be available soon. All agreed it would be appropriate to include these in the report.

Reports from Agents and Specialists

Agents and specialists briefly highlighted recent and upcoming research activities.

Educational Goals and Needs

- New chemistry for Lygus control.
- Kurt has an interest in getting education programs on the web for CEUs and will submit a program enhancement grant to CALS to help fund this.

“Cooperative”? Extension

A point was made about challenges of cooperation and timeliness in interactions among UA faculty. We need to do a better job of communicating and getting data out to our producers and sponsors in a timely manner. Pat cited as an example that this year's cotton variety trial data came out in March, after many growers had bought seed. Another example is the lateness of this year's cotton report. All present shared this concern. We should examine how we can improve our communication and cooperation efforts.

Next meeting:

As agreed on in our previous meeting, Ed Martin will serve as Chair to organize the next meeting. Eric Norton will be co-chair. Pat Clay will prepare the food.

Timing: October seems to be a good window, but no date was finalized.