

IPM Extension Grant - Report 2007

Project Title: Children's Environmental Health Program

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Critical Issue Addressed:

Salary funding was obtained for support staff, Research Specialist and School IPM Coordinator Jennifer L. Snyder, to maintain and expand the Arizona Children's Environmental Health Coalition (ACDHC) and IPM research.

Inputs:

Amount requested for salary: \$8,092

Amount awarded for salary: \$4,000

What were your activities?

Urban IPM website revision and updating.

Provide a school IPM meeting/workshop, 5 CEUs November 2007.

Conduct outreach for expansion of the ACEHC.

Produce several types of educational and outreach materials.

Internal and external grant writing for school IPM program (and salary) support.

Who participated?

The Arizona Children's Environmental Coalition (ACEHC) of stakeholders includes: school district facilities/maintenance staff and administrators from six counties, members from local and national pest management companies, the Navajo Housing Authority, Hopi Environmental Protection Agency, Arizona Department of Environmental Quality, the Arizona Department of Health Services, the Arizona/Sonora Commission, Phoenix Zoo, Arizona Structural Pest Control Commission, U.S. EPA Region 9, the National IPM Institute of North America, Inc., and several national extension colleagues.

What were the short term, medium term and long term (if applicable) outcomes?

Short-term Outcomes

1) Restructuring of Urban IPM Web-site. The re-structured website has been created and significant information has been uploaded (http://cals.arizona.edu/extension/new_urbanipm/), including the school IPM Toolbox as a specific goal of this funding. From this point forward, the project requires several in-person meetings

with campus staff who are advising on re-design, formatting, and uploading; resources and time to support multiple consecutive in-person meetings has proven difficult to coordinate between three schedules in two different cities. Web Breeze software was recently identified as a way to reduce this geographic obstacle. We have set up meeting appointments with Kelly Block (Coordinator, Information Services) for January 2008 to finalize the Urban IPM website and launch for public viewing.

2) Pest Press issues produced (this bi-monthly publication is also online at <http://ag.arizona.edu/urbanipm/schoolipm/newsletters/index.html>):

“Bed Bugs Go to School”

“Indoor Plant Pests”

“The Scoop on Scorpions”

**“Monsoon Swoon”

**“All About Bats”

“Taking the Bite out of Mystery Bugs”

**Due to requests for additional information from stakeholders, Jennifer expanded these issues into 7-9 page documents that will be printed as Extension Bulletins.

3) Assistance with continued research. Jennifer re-cultured more than 10 species and races of entomopathogenic nematodes which may be used in biological control research by Dr. Gouge.

Medium-term Outcomes

1) Coordination of annual school IPM workshop. Jennifer assisted with this by developing and prepping materials, lining up a speaker, and conducting outreach to new schools.

Long-term Outcomes

1) Several new school districts from three counties (Navajo, Maricopa, and Graham – a new county for us) are now engaged in pursuing IPM activities as a result of Jennifer’s outreach communications and/or site visits.

Unanticipated Outcomes

1) The monthly school IPM electronic updates have become increasingly circulated by their target audience (ACEHC), both statewide and nationally. They have proven to be a valuable outreach and educational tools for public health awareness and school IPM. The monthly updates were expanded – in both content and length – to advertise the most recent IPM resources, opportunities, policy changes, and public health updates for a broader group of stakeholders who are in a position to implement school IPM. Updates are sent out during the first week of each calendar month.

2) The Arizona school IPM program’s suite of deliverables, implementation history, and ground-breaking relationships with progressive members of the pest management industry servicing schools has solidified it as a national school IPM resource. This is particularly true in the West, where our program leads a 9-state regional school IPM working group for which Dr. Gouge is Lead Principal Investigator and Jennifer is co-PI and Work Group Coordinator. These regional and national involvements allow the latest information on policy, resources,

and IPM techniques to be shared directly with in-state stakeholders via the ACECH. Such involvements were furthered this year through salary support provided by APMC.

3) Several grant opportunities arose this year that Jennifer assisted in authoring. These federal, state agency-based, and internal grants requested funds to: provide future ACEHC meetings/workshops; create resource-based, educational outreach materials and publications addressing urban pests throughout Arizona, and urban wildlife rabies awareness and prevention; continue Arizona leadership in a western regional work group that addresses IPM resources and implementation in 13 western states.

Leveraged Funds

University of Arizona Cooperative Extension. Project: "Children's Environmental Health Program". 2007. \$2,000 requested for consumables; funded in full.

Western Region IPM Center (USDA). Project: "Western School IPM Implementation and Assessment Working Group, 2007. \$10,000 requested; funded in full (\$2,457 used for J. Snyder salary as Work Group Coordinator).

Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (EPA pass-through funds). Project: "Integrated Pest Management in Schools along the Arizona/Sonora Border". \$80,000 requested; funded in full (\$10,000 used for J. Snyder salary as Project Coordinator).

Publications:

Monsoon Swoon (9 pgs) – in-process for submission as a University of Arizona Extension Bulletin

Batty About Bats (9 pgs) – in-process for submission as a University of Arizona Extension Bulletin