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For more information on Small Farms, visit our website at: http://smallfarms.ifas.ufl.edu or contact your local County Extension Agent.

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Experiences in Expanding Grower Access to NRCS programs for IPM from the North Central Region

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IPM Institute of North America, Inc.

IPM Institute of North America, inc.
Harnessing Marketplace Power to Improve Health, Economics and Environment

☐ 501(c) 3 non-profit.

☐ Programs:
- North Central NRCS & IPM Working Group
- North Central School IPM Working Group
- Green Shield Certified and IPM STAR
- Pesticide Risk Mitigation Engine
- BMP CHALLENGE
- Apple IPM program
- NRCS TSP services

http://www.ipminstitute.org
Goal: Increase grower awareness and access to NRCS conservation programs for IPM, including IPM Conservation Activity Plans (CAPs), Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP).

Accomplishments:

- Created new IPM options in: IN, OH, IA and MN and efforts under way in IL, FL and KS.
- Educate, train NRCS, and IPM professionals, Technical Service Providers (TSPs).
- Recruit, train more IPM-qualified Technical Service Providers TSPs; acquire, share data on TSP payment rates with NRCS.

Funded to date by three USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture IPM Centers.

Over 130 members from NRCS, University Extension, crop advisors and others.

Grower Incentives for IPM: NRCS and IPM Working Group

http://www.ipm.msu.edu/work-group/home.htm
Lead agency working with private land owners to protect and enhance natural resources.

Opportunities for IPM to address resource concerns created by pest management activities:
- EQIP 595 IPM Standard;
- IPM Conservation Activity Plans;
- Conservation Stewardship Program.
History of NRCS & IPM Collaborations

- Less than 2% of EQIP dollars spent on IPM; yet 94% of fish, 94% of surface water and 33% of ground water samples contaminated with pesticides.
  - *More IPM Please, Natural Resources Defense Council 2007*
  - 2006 U.S. Geological Survey

- Michigan first to develop comprehensive EQIP option for IPM and specialty crops in the North Central region.
Key Elements to Successful 595 Programs

- Determine eligible practices:
  - Which IPM practices protect or enhance key resource concerns?

- Identify IPM practice costs:
  - Helps NRCS determine appropriate cost-share rates

- Identify, train Technical Service Providers to assist land owner with planning and implementation.
EQIP IPM Initiative in Minnesota

- February 2010 meeting: NRCS, Minnesota Department of Ag, MAGA, Minnesota Fruit and Vegetable Growers Association, growers and working group members.
  - Discussed importance of tree fruit industry in MN;
  - Reviewed benefits of IPM to address resource concerns;
  - Reviewed IPM practices and costs.

- October 2010 NRCS launches 595 option for tree fruit.
  - Level one: $230/acre: scouting, monitoring and etc.
  - Level two: $359/acre: mating disruption.
Indiana:
- $60/acre;
- $3,000 payment cap.

Iowa:
- Level one: $250/acre;
- Level two: $300/acre;
- Level three: $400/acre.

Michigan:
- $24/acre.

Ohio:
- $227/acre.

Wisconsin:
- $185/acre.

Note: Payment rates for organic and historically underserved and/or limited resource producers may be higher in some states.
Thank You…Questions?

- **Special thanks to:**
  - North Central, North Eastern and Southern IPM Centers
  - University of Florida IFAS
    - Norm Leppla and Bob Hochmuth
  - Glades Crop Care
    - Charles Mellinger, Galen Frantz and Aaron Malek
  - Florida NRCS
    - Steve Boetger

- Certified Crop Advisor Program and National Alliance of Independent Crop Consultants

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