



Advocating for progressive integrated pest management to improve environmental, social and economic conditions through the application of scientific principles.

IPM Voice Update

January 25, 2012

Proposed IPM Legislative Initiatives for 2012

In the upcoming month, IPM Voice will be meeting with USDA officials to solicit their support and get their feedback on a series of legislative initiatives proposed for 2012.

IPM Voice policy initiatives for 2012:

1. **Support mandatory funding of the Specialty Crop Research Initiative (SCRI) at the level of \$50 million annually.** Support for SCRI assumes that, given its authorization language, it should be a likely source of IPM funding. It also will connect IPM to SCRI's powerful political base.
2. **Slightly modify AFRI priority areas to increase the likelihood that IPM activities will be funded by authorizing projects beyond biological control.** The priority area changes assume that AFRI is where the money is and that IPM stakeholders should do what they can to increase the likelihood that IPM proposals will be more successful.
3. **Authorize the Secretary to waive the equal match requirement for applied research in the AFRI statute in certain instances.** This proposed change related to private sector match is based on the premise that there needs to be more funding from such organizations as the soybean checkoff and that a 2/1 match will help induce farm organization buy-in.
4. **Provide legislative authorization for the Regional IPM Centers.** This proposal is designed to increase the likelihood that IPM Centers will be funded in the appropriations process.
5. **Establish the position of IPM Coordinator in the Office of Deputy Secretary.** This proposal would place an IPM advocate within USDA for IPM budgets.
6. **Amend NIFA to create a positive obligation of the Secretary to assist producers in adapting to changes in the availability of pesticides due to regulatory or voluntary industry changes.** IPM is one of the best options available

for helping producers adjust to these types of changes.

7. **Provide legislative authorization for IPM PIPE.** This proposal is designed to increase the likelihood that IPM will be funded in the appropriations process.

IPM Voice Broader Advocacy Tasks for 2012

IPM Voice's work on maintaining and increasing funding support for IPM is well underway. In 2012, IPM Voice will begin to focus on broader IPM advocacy issues among consumers, taxpayers, IPM users and potential users. *20% of consumers do not know what IPM is* - this reveals a great opportunity to expand IPM awareness among those that benefit from its use everyday. We are currently developing a list of priorities for IPM advocacy and will be convening an advocacy committee meeting to develop an action plan for the upcoming year. IPM Voice will report on planned broader advocacy activities in upcoming newsletter editions and at the IPM Voice meeting during the International IPM Symposium this March.

IPM Voice Needs Your Support in 2012!

Thanks to strong support from our members, IPM Voice accomplished several significant goals in 2011. **IPM Voice needs continued support from members to reach our goals for 2012.**

Please join or renew your IPM Voice membership for 2012 by visiting our secure <http://ipmvoice.org/join.php>.

Support active advocacy for progressive IPM. Please forward this email to colleagues and ask for their support and participation.

IPM Voice is an independent, non-profit organization advocating for integrated pest management (IPM) that is genuinely progressive and seeks continuous improvement of environmental, social and economic conditions through application of accepted scientific principles. IPM Voice was formed in 2010 by more than 35 professionals working to expand the benefits IPM has provided to agriculture and communities for more than 40 years.

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