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

## IPM Voice Update

April 26, 2012

### **FY 2013 Senate Agriculture Appropriations Bill Released**

Today, the U.S. Senate approved the FY 2013 Ag Appropriations bill which holds IPM funding at FY 2012 levels. The bill does not include the administration's proposed Crop Protection Program which consolidates IPM and IR-4 funding and functions. Proposed 2013 IPM budget numbers reflect last year's amounts:

- \$4 million for Regional Pest Management Centers
- \$9.918 million for E-IPM - State-based IPM Coordinators
- \$1.402 million for the Pest Management Alternatives Program
- \$2.362 million for the Regional IPM Grants Program (RIPM)
- \$153,000 for Expert IPM Decision Support System

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### **IPM Voice Sends Comment Letter on Proposed Crop Protection Program**

IPM Voice is sending our letter of comment to the National Institute of Food and Agriculture explaining IPM Voice's position on the administration's proposal to combine key IPM functions and funding lines into one consolidated program. The IPM Voice Board of Directors voted to support the proposed Crop Protection Program, contingent on the allocation of additional dollars to compensate for the loss of approximately \$4 million in operating funds represented by new indirect allowances in the budget proposal. The letter expresses our understanding of IR-4 stakeholders' objections to consolidation within the Crop Protection Program and our desire to work closely with IR-4 going forward given the importance of IR-4 to IPM. We have also requested in the letter that \$7 million of Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI) funds be reserved for IPM to ensure resources are available for IPM research and systems-level projects. Finally, given USDA's obligation to implement Integrated Pest Management programs under Section 303 of the Food Quality Protection Act of 1996, we asked that the program name be changed to the Integrated Pest Management Program. See draft letter [here](#).

A final webinar on the Crop Protection program will be held on Tuesday, May 1, 2012 from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Eastern time. Visit the [NIFA website](#) for more information. Comment letters on the program are due by May 31, 2012; see the [Federal Register Notice](#) for more details.

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### **Thanks for a Successful IPM Symposium!**

IPM Voice had a significant presence at last month's IPM Symposium. We held a successful session and discussion; many thanks to presenters Marty Draper of the National Institute of Food and Agriculture, Michael Rozyne of Red Tomato, Ferd Hoefner from the National Sustainable Agriculture Coalition and Chris

Wible from Scotts. Our booth and prize drawings attracted a number of visitors, many of whom joined IPM Voice. During the closing plenary, Jim VanKirk of the Southern IPM Center gave an energizing presentation, highlighting IPM Voice's purpose as an organization formed to fill an open role as a representative of a very diverse group of IPM stakeholders.

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### **IPM Voice Needs Your Support!**

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

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*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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IPM Voice, Inc. / 4510 Regent Street Madison, Wisconsin 53705 / 608-232-1410

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IPM Voice, Inc. | 4510 Regent Street | Madison | WI | 53705