FY 2011 PROGRAM WORK TEAM ANNUAL REPORT

1. Full name of your Program Work Team (PWT):

2. Integrated Pest Management Program Work Team. Please list names, affiliations and e-mail addresses of the PWT Co-Chairs: (With an asterisk [*], please indicate the co-chair responsible for finalizing this report.)

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3. Please identify your PWT's activities, accomplishments, and, most importantly, outcomes and impacts over the past year.

**IPM research in Agriculture:**
- Documenting statewide incidence and severity of western bean cutworm, a new invasive pest of corn and dry beans.
- Results from trials of insecticides and fungicides allowed for organic production will improve organic vegetable farmers’ success managing pests and reduce applications of ineffective materials.
- Research into the management of bacterial canker of sweet cherry has identified a pruning technique to limit canker development thus eliminating the recommendation and use of two copper sprays.
- The implementation of a grape berry moth phenology model for juice and wine grapes has fostered the use of IPM weather-based models. Over 20 growers have installed weather stations on their farms and are now able to utilize IPM forecasts for berry moth as well as powdery mildew, black rot, Phomopsis and downy mildew.

**IPM extension in Agriculture:**
- Dairy IPM outreach was enhanced by a national eOrganic Webinar broadcast to growers, extension, private and public sector agricultural personnel in 17 states. It is archived on eOrganic and YouTube.
- Twenty issues of the Weekly Field Crop Pest Report reached up to 15K people via on-line publication, and articles shared in CCE newsletters and other media.
- The weekly Field Crop Extension Conference Call enabled seasonal exchange with CCE personnel, statewide updates, timely topic discussions, increased pest awareness, enhanced IPM knowledge & skills, enhanced team building, and provided a multiplier effect to growers and other stakeholders.
- Online courses that qualify for DEC pesticide applicator recertification credit, developed in collaboration with the Pesticide Management and Education Program, were used by 230 certified pesticide applicators who improved their knowledge of course subject matter by an average of 38% for category courses and 15% for core courses.
- Of 45 farmers who had contact with an outreach project to promote the use of the parasitic wasp *Trichogramma ostriniae* and purchased wasps on their own in 2010, 71% reported improved quality at harvest, 55% reported improved customer satisfaction, 58% reported having more crop to market, and 49% reported fewer insecticide applications in sweet corn or pepper fields where wasps were released for European corn borer control.
- Grape growers in the Lake Erie grape belt improved their IPM knowledge at weekly coffee pot meetings held at farms throughout the region with the Extension team.
- The Cornell Fruit Resources website, www.fruit.cornell.edu, has catalogued fruit information available from Cornell University and made it available to fruit growers and home gardeners; the IPM pages provide people with comprehensive information to manage fruit with minimal inputs.
- Trac Software was licensed through the Cornell Center for Technology and Enterprise Commercialization and enables users to easily produce crucial record-keeping and reporting of pesticide applications—NYS DEC, US EPA, and processors, packers, shippers—to support their farm businesses, IPM practice and traceability.

- The Network for Environment and Weather Applications (NEWA) expanded its reach into Massachusetts, New Jersey and Vermont to deliver IPM forecasts via 20 insect and disease models for apples, grapes, potatoes, onions and other crops utilizing weather stations supported by farmers.

- Of the 12 growers participating in the Christmas Tree IPM grant funded by the NYS Dept. of Agriculture and Markets, 11 implemented some aspect of increased IPM – 6 had soil tests done, 4 increased scouting and 3 implemented improved weed control practices.

- Of the 94 growers who attended the IPM In-depth hands-on ornamental workshops, 80 learned information that they planned to incorporate into their businesses and 84% of those who had attended previous IPM programs had incorporated what they had learned into their production practices.

- IPM for Ornamental Crops communication efforts (utilizing an email newsletter, a blog and twitter feed) in 2011 resulted in distribution of timely pest control information to 690 professionals responsible for the production and maintenance of ornamental crops.

**IPM research in Community:**

- The increase and patterns of bed bug introduction into a large city school district was evaluated to determine where best to use resources, by tracking bed bug samples and the schools in which they were found.

- Systems-based golf course research demonstrated that IPM and biologically-based reduced risk strategies had significantly less environmental impact than conventional management practices.

- 200 golfers rated putting greens and determined that the quality of IPM greens were equal to conventional.

**IPM extension in Community:**

- More than 550 nurses and health aides from schools, hospitals and visiting nurse services from throughout NYS were equipped with information and protocols to address one of the "front lines" in the expanding bedbug epidemic.

- Ninety-five school and municipal facilities managers from counties from throughout NYS were assisted in making their properties safer from both pests and pesticide overuse.

- Education and outreach was provided through the Nassau County Bed Bug Task Force to the public, including landlords and property managers, social services providers and individuals through two workshops totaling over 350 participants.

- A book was published titled “Wasp and Bee Management – A Common Sense Approach”, that details the use of IPM and biological facts to determine the best course of action when deciding whether and how to control wasps and bees.

- Sixty-five school and municipal facilities managers from five counties from throughout NYS were assisted in making their properties safer from both pests and pesticide overuse.

- 286 people learned how to manage school grounds without pesticides and comply with NY’s Child Safe Playing Fields Act through educational presentations. Many more have learned via a broadly distributed article on the subject and an archived webinar.

- 500 people learned about organic lawn care practices and programs.

- 235 people were trained in reduced chemical golf course management.

- A manual on reduced chemical practices for golf courses was made available in both English and Spanish.
IPM Projects that develop understanding between the Ag & Community sectors

- Cooperation with PA Dept of Health: 2 IPM “FLY Camp” workshops – Nuisance Fly IPM training for PA Dept of Agriculture’s Ombudsman Program and PA & NY extension and others involved in conflict resolution issues between agriculture and community.

- A poster for farm markets underlining IPM practices in orchards was distributed to several farms throughout the Northeast this spring and supports the ability of farmers to answer questions from consumers about orchard sprays.