

Utah Extension IPM and Sustainable Agriculture Mini-Grant Program CALL FOR PROPOSALS – 2011

Deadline: January 14, 2011

What is IPM and Sustainable Agriculture?

Integrated pest management (IPM):

IPM utilizes management tools and technologies to solve issues dealing with pest management (disease, insect, and weed, along with vertebrate) problems. Methods include cultural, biological, and chemical techniques with an emphasis on reducing broad-spectrum pesticide use. Implementation of IPM should be based on knowledge of the pest and ecosystem biology and ecology, and should consider relevant economic, environmental, and social factors.

Sustainable Agriculture (SA):

Promotes good stewardship of the state's natural resources by providing site-specific, and profitable sustainable farming and ranching methods that strengthen agricultural competitiveness; satisfy human food and fiber needs; maintain and enhance the quality and productivity of soil; conserve soil, water, energy, natural resources and fish and wildlife habitat; and maintain and improve the quality of surface and ground water. It also enhances the quality of life of farmers and ranchers and ensures the viability of rural communities, along with protecting the health and safety of those involved in food and farm systems.

Goals of the Mini-Grant Program

1. To accelerate the adoption of IPM and SA practices in Utah via education outreach to other professionals and to the citizens of Utah.
2. To promote the use of IPM and SA systems in land use decision-making.

Who can apply for funds?

Proposals are requested from *Utah State University Extension personnel* for development of county, multi-county, and regional (within state) IPM and SA education, demonstration, and professional development projects to be conducted during 2010. Projects are encouraged that take advantage of cooperative efforts between agents and specialists. Research faculty can be involved, but proposals strictly for research will not be funded.

Project Development

Applicants should develop a project that provides on-site demonstrations and/or train-the-trainer workshops on how specific IPM and/or SA systems can be used to solve pest problems or enhance the professional development opportunities regarding areas in Sustainable Agriculture.

Successful projects will include **all** of the following:

- Educational tools (publications, PowerPoint slideshows, web-based materials, and other educational resources)
- Outreach of these educational tools with other professionals (extension, other agricultural professionals, and interested stakeholders)
- Presentation of project results at a professional meeting and utilization of outcomes in train-the-trainer workshops
- Completed participant surveys of outreach trainings
- Proper acknowledgement of Western SARE and Utah IPM on all materials produced

Please contact Marion Murray (435-797-0776) and/or Robert Newhall (435-797-2183) if you need assistance with development of project ideas.

Funding Information

A total of **\$10,000** is available from the Western SARE Professional Development Program (\$5,000) and Utah IPM (\$5,000). Funds can be used for temporary assistance (hourly wages), supplies, travel, and for development and dissemination of educational materials. Funding is only for one year. A second year of funding can be requested with a new proposal. Subsequent funding is contingent on submission of a satisfactory report from the previous year and demonstration of adequate progress. Most single county projects are funded in the range of \$1,000 to \$2,000 and multi-county projects in the range of \$1,000 to \$4,000.

Proposal Format

Proposals should be brief (maximum of 5 pages) and must adhere to the following format:

1. *Title* – be descriptive
2. *Project Personnel* (list all that apply): Project leader (agent or specialists; proposals may have just one project leader), Collaborators (specialists, researchers, others), and Cooperators (growers, Master Gardeners, homeowners, public agency personnel, etc.)
3. *Situation Statement* – include background and justification
4. *Objectives* – clearly stated and narrowly focused
5. *Procedures* – provide a clear, detailed, and concise working plan and description of methods (who will do what, where and when will they do it, and how will they do it)
6. *Data Analyses* – include experimental plot design if relevant, how data will be analyzed
7. *Presentation of Results* –how results will be disseminated to the public and shared with other professionals
8. *Evaluation* – describe your plan to:
 - a. Measure changes in knowledge and skills of professionals and/or stakeholders as a result of the project
 - b. Discuss potential for changes in future county programs as a result of the project
9. *Educational Products* – list the educational products expected to be produced (PowerPoint, fact sheet, poster, published article, etc.)
10. *Educational Outreach* – list
 - a. Methods that will be used to assure distribution of educational products and related project materials to other agricultural professionals and stakeholders in the state
 - b. The professional meeting(s) at which you will be present results
11. *Budget* – provide amounts and description of request for each budget category (payroll wages, supplies, travel, publication)

Proposal Evaluation Criteria

Proposals are evaluated by a committee composed of USU Extension IPM and WSARE staff and County Extension Agents. Funding is awarded based on the following point scale:

	<u>Points</u>
<i>Situation Statement</i>	<i>10</i>
<i>Objectives</i>	<i>10</i>
<i>Procedures</i>	<i>10</i>
<i>Data Analyses</i>	<i>10</i>
<i>Presentation of Results</i>	<i>10</i>
<i>Evaluation</i>	<i>10</i>
<i>Educational Products</i>	<i>15</i>
<i>Educational Outreach</i>	<i>15</i>
<i>Budget</i>	<i>10</i>
<u>Total</u>	<u>100</u>

Proposal Submission

Submit an **electronic copy (e-mail attachment) of the proposal by January 14, 2011** to:

Marion Murray, IPM Project Leader
marion.murray@usu.edu
(435) 797-0776

Funding Notification and Project Timeline

Notification of proposal awards will be made by early February. All project expenditures must be completed by: **January 31, 2012.**

Required Reporting

A final report documenting the project's results, outcomes, and impacts will be due to Marion Murray **by February 29, 2012.** The report will include project outputs (publications, images, reports, etc.) and WSARE evaluation form. All materials will be posted on the Utah IPM website, where past projects can also be viewed:

<http://utahpests.usu.edu/ipm/htm/programs/minigrant>

Utah IPM/SA Mini-Grant Final Report Format for 2011

1. **Project Title:**
 2. **Location of Project (Counties in Utah):**
 3. **Total Grant Award:**
 4. **Principal Investigator:**
 5. **Co- Principal Investigator(s):**
 6. **Cooperators:**
 7. **Summary of Project:**
 8. **Objectives of Project:**
 9. **Results of Project:**
 10. **Evaluation and Impact:** describe how you evaluated the project, and the impact (number of acres, people, or other appropriate units affected) of your project. Also include:
 1. What changes in knowledge and skills of professionals and/or stakeholders were measured as a result of this project?
 2. What potential changes are foreseen in your county extension programs as a result of this project?
 11. **Educational Outreach:**
 1. What was done to assure distribution of educational products and related project materials to other agricultural professionals and stakeholders in the state?
 2. At what professional/producer meeting(s) did you present?
 12. **Educational Products Produced** – list the educational products produced from this project (PowerPoint, fact sheet, poster, published article, etc.) (Electronic versions required).
-

Provide Final Report in the format above with:

- **Attachments:** All materials produced by this grant need to be in an electronic format (handouts, power-points, posters, news articles, journal manuscripts, etc). Digital pictures of events and other project related items are welcome.
- **Required Western SARE survey questionnaire results or original paper copies (see next page)**

and send to: Marion Murray, marion.murray@usu.edu by February 29, 2011.

This form is to be completed by all participants and applicants and is to be sent in as part of the final report.

Evaluation Form: Sustainable Agriculture Projects

Western Region Sustainable Agriculture Research & Education

IPM/SA Mini-Grant Project Title: _____

Everyone

Please circle

Improved my awareness of the topics covered	Yes	No
Provided new knowledge	Yes	No
Provided new skills	Yes	No
Modified my opinions and/or attitudes	Yes	No

How many people do you estimate you will share some aspect of this project within the next 12 months?

Producers - In the next year I am likely to use some aspect of this project to

Adopt one or more of the practices shown	Yes	No
Increase the operation's diversifications	Yes	No
Reduce my use of purchased off-farm inputs	Yes	No
Increase my networking with other producers	Yes	No
Incorporate value-added into some aspect of my operation	Yes	No

Professionals - In the next year I am likely to use some aspect of this project

In an education program that I plan or participate in	Yes	No
As a resource I will make available to producers	Yes	No
As a professional development tool for my peers	Yes	No
To improve advice/council I give to producers	Yes	No

Professionals - Please describe how you are likely to use some aspect of this project for an educational purpose?