

**UTAH EXTENSION INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT (IPM) AND SUSTAINABLE
AGRICULTURE MINI-GRANT PROGRAM
CALL FOR PROPOSALS - 2007**

WHAT IS IPM AND SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE?

Integrated pest management (IPM) and sustainable agriculture promote the use of appropriate pest management tools and technologies to solve pest (disease, insect, weed, vertebrate) problems. IPM 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.

GOALS OF THE UTAH IPM AND SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE MINI-GRANT PROGRAM

1. To accelerate the adoption of IPM in Utah via education outreach to other professionals and to the citizens of Utah.
2. To promote the use of sustainable agricultural principles 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 sustainable agriculture educational and demonstration projects to be conducted during 2007. 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.

TARGET AREAS

Proposals should develop a county(ies)-based project that provide on-site demonstrations and/or training workshops on how specific IPM and sustainable agriculture techniques can be used to solve pest problems of importance to stakeholders. Projects that develop IPM educational tools (publications, PowerPoint slideshows, educational resources, web-based material, etc.) are especially encouraged and these products should be designed to share with others (e.g., within extension, with other agricultural professionals, and with interested public).

Preference for funding will be given to projects with:

- High potential for documenting reductions in pesticide use (gallons and acres (or other appropriate units))
- Increased stakeholder profitability/sustainability (dollars saved, increased profit, reduced environmental costs, etc.)
- A major education outreach component to other professionals
- Collaborations with Utah clientele (growers, homeowners, public agencies, etc.)
- Planned presentation of project results at a professional meeting and/or utilization of outcomes in train-the-trainer workshops.

Please contact Diane Alston (x2516) and/or Robert Newhall (x2183) if you need assistance with development of project ideas.

FUNDING INFORMATION

\$10,000 is available (funding sources are USDA CSREES National IPM Program and Utah WSARE Professional Development Program). 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 \$800 to \$1,200 and multi-county projects in the range of \$1,000 to \$3,000.

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(s) (agents, specialists), 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 & Presentation of Results – include experimental plot design if relevant, how data will be analyzed, how and where results will be disseminated to the public and shared with other professionals
7. Evaluation – describe your plan to measure changes in knowledge and skills of professionals and/or public as a result of the mini-grant demonstration project or training experience; discuss potential for changes in future county programs as a result of knowledge gained from training
8. Budget – provide amounts and description of request for each budget category (payroll wages, supplies, travel, publication)

PROPOSAL EVALUATION CRITERIA

Proposals will be evaluated and funding awarded based on the following criteria (maximum score for each category: 5 points; maximum score for a proposal: 70 points):

1. Measurable impact to stakeholders
 - a. Knowledge gained
 - b. Documented pesticide reduction
 - c. Increased stakeholder profitability/sustainability
2. Level of emphasis on IPM and sustainable agriculture education
 - a. Quality and innovation of training methods
 - b. Educational materials produced
 - c. Presentations or Train-the-Trainer workshops
3. Collaborations and relevance to Utah's important agricultural and green industry commodities and situations
 - a. Importance of crop/commodity/situation in Utah
 - b. Potential for impact on important stakeholder group(s)
4. Feasibility of project
 - a. Completion of objectives within stated time period
5. Appropriateness and expertise of project leader(s)
 - a. Qualified project leaders, collaborators, and cooperators involved

6. Appropriateness of budget
 - a. Adequate and reasonable request for stated work
7. Extent and magnitude of potential impacts in Utah
 - a. Potential for use by other Utah counties and stakeholders
 - b. Potential for large magnitude of impact (large number of acres, people, or other appropriate units)
8. Evaluation of project
 - a. Complete discussion of how project's impacts (measurable changes in knowledge and skills of professionals and public) and educational programming changes will be accomplished

A committee composed of USU Extension IPM and WSARE staff, County Extension Agents, and relevant stakeholders will review and rank the proposals.

PROPOSAL SUBMISSION

Submit an **electronic copy (e-mail attachment) of the proposal by December 15, 2006** to:

Diane Alston, Extension IPM Coordinator

E-mail: dianea@ext.usu.edu

Voice: (435) 797-2516

FUNDING NOTIFICATION AND PROJECT TIMELINE

Notification of proposal awards will be made by mid January, and funding will be available immediately upon notification. All project expenditures must be completed by September 30, 2007.

REQUIRED REPORTING

A final report documenting the project's results, outcomes and impacts will be due to Diane Alston by November 1, 2007. Project outcome products (publications, images, reports, etc.) will be posted on the Utah IPM website: <http://utahpests.usu.edu/ipm/htm/programs/minigrant>

Presentation of project results at professional meetings and other outreach training opportunities is strongly encouraged.

Projects funded in 2006

1. Teaching IPM strategies to Home Gardeners through Educating Nursery and Garden Center Employees – Loralie Cox (\$1,700)
2. Curly Top Resistant Tomato Varieties for Southern Utah – Rick Heflebower and Chad Reid – (\$2,000)
3. Evaluation of Preventative Alfalfa Weevil Control – Mike Pace, Mark Nelson, Clark Israelson, and Craig Poulson (\$1,890)
4. IPM Training for Master Gardeners– Larry Sagers, Loralie Cox, Linden Greenhalgh and Adrian Hinton (\$1,650)
5. Integrated Pest Management of Cucumber beetles – Dennis Worwood (\$2,650)