

APPENDIX B

Draft School IPM Priorities for the Northeast Identified by the NE School IPM Working Group October 2008

NOTE: The Working Group will be refining these including ranking.

Management

- Form a stakeholder organization coalition to advocate for establishment of IPM laws and policies where none exist
- Implement and enforce existing laws and policies at the highest level of economic and regulatory accountability
- Identify and piggyback with ongoing environmental health efforts and coordinate with partners in promoting IPM to help schools to meet health, high performance and safety, economic, and energy efficiency goals.
- Track and disseminate information about program performance, short-term and lifecycle costs, and health benefits
- Promote 'IPM certification' award system for schools and companies
- Ensure that IPM principles and practices, especially those addressing schools, are included in the national Pesticide Applicator Training (PAT) standards
- Ensure that PAT systems in each state include and test for information about IPM, especially in those categories addressing schools (such as structural and turf/landscape)
- At level of the school district, establish diverse local stakeholder advisory committees to implement proven IPM strategies and practices
- At the local level, establish diverse, stakeholder advisory committees to implement and document proven IPM practices
- Promote adoption of a uniform school IPM service ticket (note, this would have to be done in cooperation with state regulatory agencies to ensure reporting requirements are met).

Education/Outreach

- Conduct outreach to all stakeholder groups (teachers, staff, students, facilities managers, administration, policy makers, regulators, vendors, building owners, occupants, community members)
- Educate teachers about classroom IPM
- Coordinate and piggyback education efforts with parallel efforts (ie green cleaning, indoor air quality (IAQ), mold issues, low/no volatile organic compounds (VOCs), industry associations, energy efficiency)
- Outreach to schools and the public about the relationship between organic turf care and IPM

- Conduct pilot demonstrations in schools in the northeast region
- Implement/promote K-12 curriculum-based education.
- Employ Service Learning for school buildings/grounds and community settings
- Promote inclusion of IPM in education standards/curriculum
- Educate policy makers about the needs and benefits of IPM in terms of dollars, health, academic performance
- Promote inclusion of IPM lessons into teacher education programs at universities.
- Improve linkages between regulatory agencies and extension
- Develop and utilize educational methods appropriate for the audience (particularly for urban audiences)

Research

- Identify efficacious least-risk products and tools to manage pests
- Evaluate efficacy and risk/benefits of EPA-exempt (25b) products
- Compile data/information on effects of pesticides and pests on children's health and academic performance and influence of IPM in addressing health and performance indicators
- Impact of pest management on school environmental health impact (eg school's well water, school gardens, use on adjacent properties) (NOTE: there was disagreement among WG participants as to whether this priority should be kept included).
- Evaluate building design, construction, renovation, and maintenance criteria (such as 'green buildings', LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design), LEED for Schools EB (Existing Buildings), CHPS (Coalition of High Performing Schools), EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) Tools for Schools (Indoor Air Quality), HealthySEAT (School Environmental Assessment Tool), sports fields and landscape design criteria, etc) for presence of IPM principles and practices and rates of adoption. Provide recommendations for inclusion of IPM principles/tactics in these criteria.
- In-depth inspections of schools to determine what pest management practices are really being used
- Research on effective teaching methods to teach students and teachers about IPM
- Research and evaluate outreach methods to educate community (especially school families) about IPM
- Compile and evaluate state requirements and resources for school IPM

Regulatory

- Implement existing IPM laws and policies, at the level of fiduciary and regulatory accountability, and establish these laws and policies where none exist

- Evaluate regulatory approaches to use of EPA exempt (25 b) products. Are these products accessible for use by schools under existing regulations?
- Create model language and definitions for school IPM and define “school”. Should regulations apply to just public K-12 or should they include private K-12, daycare, colleges, etc?
- Quantify costs to regulatory agencies for enforcement of school ipm regulations.
- Identify and promote interagency cooperation among regulatory, health, insurance, education, and other agencies.
- Advocate for funds for enforcement of pesticide regulations
- Incorporate IPM into school wellness legislation
- Influence change at Federal level (SEPA, NCLB, HHPS Act)
- Include students and teachers in OSHA-like protections