



John E. Ayers

Center Co-director
Penn State University
114 Buckhout Lab
University Pk, PA 16802
Voice: 814-865-7776
Fax: 814-863-8175
jea@psu.edu

Carrie Koplinka-Loehr

Center Co-director
Cornell University
The Insectary
Ithaca, NY 14853
Voice: 607-255-8879
Fax: 607-255-1720
ckk3@cornell.edu

Elizabeth Myers

Writer & Editor
Cornell University
630 W. North St.
Geneva, NY 14456-0462
Voice: 315-251-0713
Fax: 315-787-2360
ebm24@cornell.edu

Elizabeth Thomas

Project Coordinator
Cornell University
The Insectary
Ithaca, NY 14853
Voice: 607-254-1535
Fax: 607-255-1720
egt3@cornell.edu

The Northeastern IPM Center fosters the development and adoption of integrated pest management, a science-based approach to managing pests in ways that generate economic, environmental, and human health benefits. We work in partnership with stakeholders from agricultural, urban, and rural settings to identify and address regional priorities for research, education, and outreach.

February 8, 2006

Dear Friend of the Northeastern IPM Center,

We hope that 2006 is off to a good start for you. At the Northeastern IPM Center, we're extremely busy reviewing proposals for our two grants programs and embarking on other projects. By way of this packet we'd like to update you and share some materials that you might find useful.

Fresh publications available

New Center brochure. We're enclosing a pamphlet explaining how people can tap into the Center's resources and programs. We will distribute it at upcoming events and through mailings sent out by governmental and nonprofit entities. If you'd like to receive additional copies, or include it in one of your mailings, please let us know.

Pest identification cards. Also in this mailing is a sample of the pest I.D. cards that were developed by Glen Koehler, Jim Dill, and Don Barry of the University of Maine Cooperative Extension System. They run PRONewEngland.org (PRO stands for Pest Resources Online). This website, funded in part by the Northeastern IPM Center, provides information on a broad range of pest management topics related to New England. The laminated pest cards cover eight topics: vegetable insect pests, vegetable diseases, household pests, ornamental plant insect pests, tree fruit insect and disease pests, health and nuisance pests, nonharmful home invaders, and invasives. Sets of eight cards are available at no cost to New England states — call Glen (207-581-3879) or see PRONewEngland.org/Content/PROpubs/PestIDcards/PestIDcardList.htm. If you live outside New England but would like a set, please contact us (mrk25@cornell.edu).

Pocket guides and post cards. PRONewEngland and the New England Pest Management Network also just updated the *Agricultural Pocket Pesticide Calibration Guide* with funds from the Center. The 38-page guide is being distributed throughout the Northeast. For a free copy, contact your state network project (NortheastIPM.org/about.cfm#program) or pesticide safety education coordinator (www.IPMcenters.org/contacts/PSEPDIRECTORY.cfm).

Cornell entomologist Art Agnello, with five co-authors and a grant from the Center, just completed *Tree Fruit Field Guide to Insect, Mite, and Disease Pests and Natural Enemies of Eastern North America*. Illustrated with nearly 500 photographs, this spiral-bound 230-page book covers more than 200 pests and suggests ways to protect beneficials. You can view some sample pages from the book at NortheastIPM.org/grants/partnership/reports/received2005/agnelloaw04prod05.pdf. To order copies of the book (available in March), contact the Natural Resource, Agriculture, and Engineering Service (NRAES) at 607-255-7654 or NRAES@cornell.edu.

Finally, you'll find in this envelope a "Seeing Spots" postcard from APHIS (the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service). These come in at least four flavors—fruit, corn, potatoes, and forests—so if you'd like a supply, contact us.

At the risk of having to rename ourselves the Northeastern IPM Distribution Center, we *do* appreciate learning about publications that are relevant to the region and will do our best to spread the word about them. A searchable database of IPM-related resources is available on our website (NortheastIPM.org), and we recently added 80 new Community IPM listings.

EPA and Center host ag counselor

This past summer we helped EPA Region 1 to host Jon Scholl, counselor to the EPA administrator on issues of agricultural policy. Jon was interested in learning about agriculture in the Northeast and the challenges it faces. Coming from the spacious Midwest, he was most impressed by the ways that growers cope with increasing urbanization.

Ag counselor Jon Scholl (right) learns about a “smart sprayer” from Bill Fitzgerald, owner of Mann Orchards in Methuen, MA. The sprayer turns off and on according to tree height, saving pesticides in this orchard bordered by homes and busy roads. Photo by C. Koplinka-Loehr



NRCS and IPM get together

Last December, two groups that rarely communicate met in Harrisburg, PA, and found they had a lot in common. How did it happen? Our Vegetable IPM Working Group received a grant from the Center to develop connections with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS, formerly known as the Soil Conservation Service). NRCS encourages many IPM-friendly practices, and two of its programs—Environmental Quality Incentives Program and the Conservation Security Program—involve working with growers on best management practices.

The working group’s leaders, Ruth Hazzard (University of Massachusetts) and Kathy Murray (Maine Department of Agriculture), invited staff from NRCS to meet with state IPM coordinators, farmers, extension staff, IPM Center staff, and others. The 35 people at the meeting wrote a long list of possible “to-do’s” that included

- creating web pages on the Northeastern IPM Center’s site with helpful information for IPM and NRCS audiences (our project coordinator Liz Thomas just developed a prototype);
- holding meetings for IPM coordinators and NRCS program staff at the state level to develop common goals;
- mentoring grower groups about how NRCS programs work;
- encouraging cover cropping and higher seeding rates to increase organic matter and decrease particle run-off;
- sharing technical resources for IPM and conservation across the region to enhance availability of up-to-date tools and information in each state.

IPM Centers are subject to review!

When the Regional IPM Centers were funded in 2003, the USDA required that we undergo a mid-term review as part of our four-year plan. The idea was for a national panel to be assembled that would assess how well the Centers were meeting their goals. That time has come, and our Center staff will meet in Washington, DC, this month to participate in a review with the three other Centers. We’ve been busily documenting our activities and accomplishments in anticipation of this event.

National IPM Symposium could draw 700

Scientists, Extension educators, state IPM coordinators, and hundreds of other people interested in integrated pest management will convene April 4–7 in St. Louis, MO, for the Fifth National IPM Symposium. The last symposium drew 700 people and offered about a dozen concurrent sessions. The four IPM Centers support this event financially, and this year we are co-designing a large exhibit to educate participants about IPM Center activities. If you’d like to learn more about the symposium, see www.IPMcenters.org/ipmsymposiumv.

Later this year we’ll describe results from some of the research, extension, and education projects we have recently funded. We hope 2006 is fruitful and meaningful for you!

Best wishes,

Carrie Koplinka-Loehr

John Ayers

Liz Myers

Liz Thomas