

INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT

# Insights



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## Center Advisory Council Member James Dill Receives Public Engagement Award

Dill named Presidential Award recipient by University of Maine, where he is faculty

**T**he Northeastern Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Center extends our congratulations to James Dill, one of the recipients of this year's University of Maine (UMaine) Presidential Awards.

The award names a winner in each of three subcategories, including the Presidential Public Engagement Award, which Dill received. It "recognizes outstanding achievement in impactful community engagement affecting Mainers of all ages and sectors from agriculture to schools."

(Read more at [umaine.edu/news/blog/2021/05/19/umaine-names-presidential-award-recipients/](http://umaine.edu/news/blog/2021/05/19/umaine-names-presidential-award-recipients/).)

Dill, an entomologist by training, has led a distinguished career in extension and public service. He has been the UMaine Extension pest management specialist since 1981, serves as an extension professor with several coordinating roles, and became Maine's first state IPM coordinator, a position he holds to this day. He has also served on the Maine state legislature since 2012 and has been a liaison to other governmental offices and agencies.



James Dill, an entomologist by training, has led a distinguished career in extension and public service. Photos provided by James Dill.

Using his extensive expertise on pest management and stakeholder needs, Dill helps shape the mission and priorities of the Northeastern IPM Center by serving not only on our advisory council (AC), but also on our steering committee, a subset of the AC with an even more central oversight role.

Please join us in congratulating Dill for this well-earned recognition.





## Register For the 10th International IPM Symposium

10th iteration of event to take place in Denver, CO, in early 2022

Registration is now open for the 10th International IPM Symposium, to be held February 28 through March 3, 2022, in Denver, CO, with a discounted registration deadline of February 4.

The International IPM Symposium is “your premier global event for presenting and learning about the latest research and strategies for effectively managing pests in agriculture communities and natural areas.” The 10th symposium, originally scheduled for early 2021, was postponed a year due to ongoing concerns around the COVID-19 pandemic.

The central theme of the 10th symposium is *Implementing IPM across Borders and Disciplines*.

Symposium participants have typically included academics (including research, extension, and teaching), private and government scientists, industry professionals, policymakers, and students, among others. The upcoming event will feature a broad range of sessions, exhibits, field trips, and award presentations.

To learn more about the symposium—including key dates, fee structures, program information, and logistical details—or to register, visit [ipmsymposium.org/2021/](http://ipmsymposium.org/2021/).

## Cornell Pesticide Program Adopts New Name

Updated identity aligns with counterparts in other states

Cornell Cooperative Extension’s Pesticide Management Education Program (PMEP) includes an outreach arm serving New York State that, until recently, also operated under the PMEP name. Late last summer, the program rebranded its outreach activities as the Cornell Cooperative Extension Pesticide Safety Education Program (CCE-PSEP).

This change brings the New York program more in line with other states’ counterparts, which frequently identify as PSEPs.

### What’s a PSEP? And How Is It Relevant to IPM?

Per federal mandate, most states have PSEPs, based at land-grant universities and operating under the auspices of the United States Environmental Protection Agency. The programs “provide pesticide applicator training on the safe use of restricted-use pesticides by applicators in agricultural, commercial, and residential settings.” (See [www.epa.gov/pesticide-worker-safety/pesticide-safety-education-programs-0](http://www.epa.gov/pesticide-worker-safety/pesticide-safety-education-programs-0).)

Since Cornell University is New York’s land-grant institution, its cooperative extension organization houses the pesticide program as well as the state integrated pest management (IPM) program and the Northeastern IPM Center—three units with distinct missions but overlapping interests.

Contrary to some misconceptions, IPM is not opposed to traditional chemical pesticides; it simply seeks to minimize their use when alternate methods produce better economic, environmental, and human-health outcomes. But pesticides are an important part of the IPM toolkit.

For IPM to succeed, growers and applicators must have access to the guidance to make informed decisions about when and how to use pesticides, which pesticides to use, and how to use them safely. PSEPs provide a critical resource and service.

### Benefits of Name Change, Related Updates

According to CCE-PSEP, “The new name will let our constituents know to come to us for pesticide safety training and information and for general pesticide questions.” In conjunction with the name change, CCE-PSEP has launched a new web address and redesigned website at [psep.cce.cornell.edu](http://psep.cce.cornell.edu).

Learn more about the changes and their benefits to stakeholders at [psep.cce.cornell.edu/announcements/](http://psep.cce.cornell.edu/announcements/). (Because the preceding is CCE-PSEP’s general announcements page, the story about the new name and website may not remain at the top of the page indefinitely.)

## NIFA Call For Panelists

USDA agency recruiting experts to review funding proposals on a rolling basis

The National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) is looking for new panelists to join its Peer Review System (PRS). Panelists are subject-matter-expert volunteers who read and review grant proposals, and their input is part of the process by which NIFA funds are allocated.

NIFA is the arm of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) that “provides leadership and funding for programs that advance agriculture-related sciences”

and “invests in and supports initiatives that ensure the long-term viability of agriculture” ([nifa.usda.gov/about-nifa](http://nifa.usda.gov/about-nifa)). Incidentally, the Crop Protection and Pest Management program—which funds the Northeastern IPM Center and the other three regional IPM centers—is one of many under NIFA’s purview.

This call for panelists is ongoing, with no specific deadline. NIFA selects panelists based on their expertise and credentials as well as NIFA panel needs. Learn more about the PRS and how to become a panelist at [nifa.usda.gov/tool/peer-review-system](http://nifa.usda.gov/tool/peer-review-system), or apply at [prs.nifa.usda.gov/prs/volunteerPrep.do](http://prs.nifa.usda.gov/prs/volunteerPrep.do).

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