
Oregon IPM Newsletter

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Introduction to the First Issue by Paul Jepson, State IPM Coordinator

This newsletter is a new venture, designed to promote the timely distribution of news about IPM (Integrated Pest Management) throughout Oregon. Although it is a product of the State IPM program and the Western Regional Pest Management Center, we intend the newsletter to be a shared product of the multiple agencies that have an interest in IPM within the state. The recipients for this first issue include OSU faculty with an interest in IPM, and IPM specialists in state and regional agencies; more than 190 individuals who are connected to the state IPM e-mail list, maintained at OSU. We hope however, that the readership for this newsletter will be expanded through e-mail and print distribution. We are not distributing printed copies ourselves, but we have formatted the Newsletter so that it is readily accessible and printable. We may be able to print copies of this, or future issues, to meet special needs, so please let us know if this is necessary.

The content will evolve to meet the needs of a broad audience over the first few issues, and we would like to have feedback, suggestions, and articles, from you! The next issue will be in May, following the National IPM Symposium. We hope to have articles about biological control programs in Oregon, and a summary of news from the symposium itself. What would you like an informed IPM readership and a diverse range of stakeholders to know about your program, or IPM challenges that you face? Given the size of the audience, and the breadth of interest of the readership, this is a great place to highlight aspects of your work. It is also a great place to outline problems relating to IPM that you think someone in the state may be able to help you with.

The State IPM program is being completely redesigned and we hope to be able to tell you more about this in future issues. If you would like to know more about our program, please get in touch with me. You can also blame me for the errors and omissions in this first issue! The USDA-funded Western Region Pest Management Center will increasingly support communication about IPM within the State and region, and the program in Oregon is jointly led by myself, and Jeff Jenkins, in the Department of Environmental and Molecular Toxicology at OSU. I'm sure that you will hear from Jeff in later issues.

Please send articles for the next issue by the end of March!

Best wishes

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This newsletter is a product of the State IPM program and the Oregon component of the Western Regional Pest Management Center. It is intended to bring news about Integrated Pest Management (IPM) in Oregon, to as wide an audience as possible within the State. To submit articles related to IPM, for incorporation in future newsletters, contact: *Linda Parks*

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Plant Clinics And Bioterrorism

What do plant clinics have to do with bioterrorism? Plenty. The USDA (APHIS, ARS and CSREES) is in the process of establishing an Animal and Plant Disease and Pest Surveillance and Detection Network. The plant side of this network will have 6 foci, or regional centers, located throughout the US. The regional centers have already been designated and will be based at Kansas State, Michigan State, Cornell, University of Florida (Gainesville), Texas Tech, and, for the Western region, the University of California at Davis.

The regional centers are to work in coordination with the National Agricultural Pest Information System (NAPIS), state departments of agriculture, the regional pest management centers, land grant universities, and private laboratories to, in the words of the CSREES national program leader, "Enhance bio-security by rapid detection of diseases and pests introduced into the US agricultural production system." Initially, each regional center is to survey the diagnostic resources in the region, facilitate coordination of diagnostic labs, and create an effective communication network within the region. Eventually a surveillance network and reporting system will be established. I am OSU's representative to Davis as the Western Region establishes its priorities.

The details of how the network will actually function are still evolving, so stay tuned for future developments. In the meantime, if you have comments or questions regarding the proposed network, please contact me.

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Pesticide Applicator Information

Need information about pesticide applicator recertification training courses, or the number of credit hours you still need, or the requirements for obtaining a pesticide applicator license? Where can you take the exam? What about the new fertilizer standards? Do you have difficulty sleeping at night and think it would be helpful to read the Oregon Pesticide Control Law (ORS 634) or the Oregon Pesticide Administrative Rule (OAR 603-57)? Perhaps you want to report your pesticide use under the new Pesticide Use Reporting System (PURS). All this and much more is available on the Oregon Department of Agriculture's Pesticides Division home page. You can access that at <http://oda.state.or.us/pesticide/>

I find the page a little difficult to navigate at first, but it certainly provides extensive information and useful links. Much of this information can also be accessed on my website at: <http://ippc.orst.edu/pat/>

Over the years, many of you have become familiar with the acronym PAT: Pesticide Applicator Training. The USDA formally changed the name of this program to Pesticide Safety Education Program (PSEP). Although the content and activities remain the same, I will adopt the new name.

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A New Series of Pocket IPM Guides from Michigan

The Michigan State University IPM Program in cooperation with MSU Extension specialists has produced two new pocket-sized scouting guides. A Pocket IPM Scouting Guide for Woody Landscape Plants — Compiled and edited by Diane Brown-Rytlewski

<http://www.msue.msu.edu/ipm/LandscapePocket.htm>, and A Pocket Guide for IPM Scouting in Stone Fruits — Compiled and edited by David Epstein, Larry J. Gut, Alan L. Jones, and Kimberly Maxson-Stein http://www.msue.msu.edu/ipm/Pubs_stone.htm. A third guide

about scouting grapes in the North Central States is under development and will be available April 2003. Editors are Rufus Isaacs, Annemiek Schilder, Tom Zabadal, and Tim Wiegel (Cornell Extension).

Contact: Joy Neumann Landis, Assistant IPM Coordinator, MSU at landisj@msu.edu

The Role of Pesticides in Integrated Pest Management

Pesticide use is and continues to be a key component of Integrated Pest Management (IPM). The goal of this column is to provide unbiased information regarding pesticides and to help foster the idea that it is possible to identify real threats posed by pesticides and protect users, the public, and the environment while preserving the benefits and availability of these important agricultural chemicals.

It is certain that the wide use of pesticides has led to environmental and human health problems. But increasing knowledge about pesticide chemistry, toxicity, environmental fate and behavior, persistence, and other factors provides us with the necessary tools to make rational decisions about pesticide use. This and future newsletters will contain many advantageous biological, cultural, and physical methods of pest management. But, more than likely, at some point growers will need to rely on pesticides to control a pest. I hope readers find the information provided here helpful in taking a balanced, realistic approach to IPM.

Important Information You May Not Find On a Pesticide Label

Inert Ingredients – Pesticide products contain more than just active ingredients. Formulations can consist of one or more active ingredients and multiple inert ingredients. Inert ingredients can range from 0.01% to 99.99% of the product formulation. Contrary to what the name implies inert ingredients are not necessarily harmless. In some cases it is the inert ingredients and not the active ingredients that poses a greater risk to exposed people and environments. Visit the EPA's inert ingredient web site. <http://www.epa.gov/opprd001/inerts/index.html>

Frequency of Application – Label requirements do not limit the frequency of most pesticide applications. Pesticide residues can build-up and pose an increased risk of exposure if applications occur frequently, especially indoors. It is more helpful to focus on pest management rather than pesticide application scheduling. Be thoughtful about how often you apply pesticides and understand the relative environmental persistence of the pesticide(s) you are applying.

Environmental Fate – Pesticide applicators do not always know the specific chemical characteristics of pesticide(s) they are applying, but they should have an

idea of a pesticide's soil and groundwater movement potential. Important values to know are:

- soil half-life – a measure of persistence
- soil sorption – the tendency to bind to soil
- vapor pressure – the tendency to volatilize
- water solubility – amount that will dissolve in water

You can obtain information to help you understand these complicated characteristics of different pesticides through the Oregon State University Extension Service.

The [OSU Extension Pesticide Properties Database](#) provides users with selected values for soil half-life, sorption coefficient, water solubility, vapor pressure, and Henry's Law constant. These values are summarized into a Groundwater Ubiquity Score (GUS) and a Pesticide Movement Rating that describe the likelihood (*extremely low to very high*) of a pesticide to move into groundwater.

EPA's Restricted Use Products (RUP) Report

Below is a list of pesticide active ingredients with restricted use product changes occurring within the last six months. Check with your state's lead pesticide agency to see if these changes have affected pesticide use in your area. Contact the [U.S. EPA](#) or [Oregon Department of Agriculture](#).

Month	Active ingredient
January	None
February	aldicarb, bendiocarb, diazinon, disulfoton, ethion, ethoprop
March	atrazine
April	aluminum phosphide, atrazine, diazinon, magnesium phosphide, permethrin
May	disulfoton, ethion, ethoprop, phorate
June	atrazine, bifenthrin, oxydemeton

Next six-month summary list available December 2002.

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Crop Profiles and Pest Management Strategic Plans

The concept of crop profiles and pest management strategic plans was introduced by the USDA Office of Pest Management Policy a few years ago as a means for commodity groups to concisely present, in a written document, their production practices and pest management problems and practices. These documents are stakeholder driven and developed with input from growers and other industry personnel, with the assistance of University researchers and Extension personnel.

A crop profile is a document that describes the production practices for a commodity, the pest problems associated with its production, and the pest management practices (chemical, non-chemical, and biological) used to control the pests. It identifies critical pest management needs, including the importance of individual pesticides to both IPM and resistance management programs. It also includes a description of the type and frequency of worker activities. The profile is usually written to include only one state and one commodity but can encompass several states if production practices, pest problems and control methods are similar across state lines.

A pest management strategic plan (PMSP) is a document that builds upon a crop profile. In addition to the information that is found in the crop profile, the PMSP helps set pest management priorities for the commodity group. The PMSP presents a prioritized list of research, regulatory, and educational needs of the commodity, which can then help facilitate the transition to alternative pest management practices, if needed. As mandated by the 1996 Food Quality Protection Act, the US Environmental Protection Agency is currently reviewing older pesticide registrations. If some are dropped during the review, alternative pest management chemicals and/or practices need to be clearly identified.

The benefits of each document are numerous. The EPA will often look at information presented in a crop profile or PMSP as they conduct occupational and environmental risk assessments for pesticide registrations. The crop profile or PMSP will highlight critical pests, pest management strategies or products, and use patterns that must be considered during their review of a certain pesticide chemistry (organophosphates being the chemistry currently under intense review). Increased funding for projects that will benefit the commodity is also a possibility. Competitive grants to support pest

management research and Extension programs oftentimes require evidence that the proposal address priorities established by stakeholders; the crop profile and the PMSP help meet this requirement. In addition, crop profiles and especially PMSPs, provide a snapshot of a commodity and can help that industry to develop a strategy for dealing with pest management and pest management issues now and in the future.

Completed crop profiles and PMSPs can be found on the internet at <http://www.pmcenters.org> (once there, click on "Crop Profiles/PMSPs", then search by state or commodity). Oregon currently has 29 crop profiles online; most are several years old and in the process of being updated (ryegrass for seed is the newest profile; blackberries and strawberries are two of the most recently updated). Oregon recently participated in a regional PMSP for potatoes (with Washington, Idaho and Alaska), for cranberries (with Wisconsin and Massachusetts), and for dry peas, chick peas, and lentils (with Washington, Idaho, Montana, North Dakota and several Canadian provinces). A regional PMSP for mint (Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Montana, and northern California) took place in October 2002. A PMSP for Oregon and Washington raspberries is tentatively scheduled for 2003.

The crop profiles and PMSPs for Oregon are being coordinated by me, under the direction of Jeff Jenkins and Paul Jepson, through a grant from the USDA/Western Region Pest Management Center. We can provide assistance for developing one or both of these documents if there is interest and commitment from a commodity group.

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Unique IPM Information Resource Is Available

Tucked away in Cordley Hall on the OSU campus, an extensive and unique body of IPM, crop protection, and related topics literature stands ready for daily use by anybody. The Professor Ray F. Smith IPM Library, an amalgamation of several collections, was dedicated in July 1999 as a fully functional resource and as a collaborative activity of the Consortium for International Crop Protection and Oregon State University's Integrated Plant Protection Center.

The collection comprises over 4,000 titles, plus approximately 700 volumes of archival serials (various weed society meeting procedures, historic journals, and non-English journals). An example is the extensive holdings of the JOURNAL OF ECONOMIC ENTOMOLOGY, ranging from the most recent printed edition back to the 1919 edition.

Nearly all the American Phytopath Society's disease compendia are on the shelves, as well as most of the British Crop Protection Council's annual Brighton conference proceedings. Numerous titles cover IPM (such as the widely acclaimed University of California IPM series), biological control, GM crops, resistance, pesticide use and safety, and crop protection topics in general. New titles continue to be added as resources permit.

The collection, organized and catalogued under the U.S. Library of Congress system, is considered an outlying

element of OSU's Valley Library. Thus, all the catalogued materials can be searched via the OASIS on-line database at <http://oasis.orst.edu>. There are other noncatalogued items that also can be useful for gathering information. Materials can be checked out of the Professor Ray F. Smith IPM Library for up to 14 days using material check-out forms on hand in the Library, located in Room 2033, second floor, northwest wing, Cordley Hall, OSU.

Some recent additions include:

- Weed Risk Assessment
- Managing Resistance to Agrochemicals
- The Biopesticide Manual
- Pest Management At The Crossroads
- Concepts In Integrated Pest Management
- Orchard Pest Management For Pears
- Integrated Pest Management In Lettuce
- Molecular Biology Of Weed Control
- Safety Equipment Handbook

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Published Chemical Use Data Available on New Web Site

USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) announced the availability of published chemical use statistics through a new Web site developed by North Carolina State University's Center for Integrated Pest Management. Data users can now 1) search agricultural chemical usage data based on crop, year, region, or active ingredient; 2) extract various chemical usage statistics from previously published data; and 3) create U.S. maps or descriptive charts based on these data. Data are currently available for crop years 1990 to 2001. NASS began collecting chemical usage statistics in 1990 in response to food safety and water quality concerns raised by U.S. consumers and Congressional initiatives passed to address these concerns. Crops and

states surveyed each year change based on evolving program needs and budgeted resources. Information on the chemical use program, by year, is available on the Web site. These data can be accessed either by going to the NASS home page at <http://www.usda.gov/nass> and clicking on the "Ag Chem Database" icon or by going directly to the USDA Regional Pest Management Center's National Database Web site at <http://www.pestmanagement.info/nass>. The sites also have information on contacts for technical and subject matter related questions.

(From an original article in the USDA CSREES Plant Sciences Update)

Biological Control Programs of Insect Pests in ODA

The cherry bark tortrix (*Enarmonia formosana*), first detected in Oregon in 2000, increased its population in Portland from 16 moths in 2001 to over 1000 moths in 2002. ODA's cooperative project with Agriculture Canada, Washington State University and USDA to find effective biological controls against cherry bark tortrix continues. An egg parasitoid - *Trichogramma cacoeciae* was released during 2002 in the infestation center in Portland to slow the spread of the cherry bark tortrix and to protect high value trees (see photo below).

The cereal leaf beetle (*Oulema melanopus*), first detected in Oregon in 1999, spread to four new counties in 2001 and three more counties in 2002. A total of 17 Oregon counties are now infested by this pest. For its current distribution, see the ODA web site - http://www.oda.state.or.us/Plant/nursery/nursery_img/clb2002map.png. The beetle feeds on grain crops (oats, wheat, barley, corn) and grasses and is a threat to the state's wheat, grass seed, and hay industries. Nursery and hay exports to California and Canada are also affected because of quarantine regulations. ODA, in cooperation with USDA and OSU, has released two parasitoid species attacking cereal leaf beetle eggs and larvae. Two field insectaries for these biological control agents were started in 2002 (see photo). Another



Trichogramma release against CBT in Portland

For more information on these projects, contact Barry Bai bbai@oda.state.or.us or Kathleen Johnson at kjohnson@oda.state.or.us or 503-986-4636.



CLB egg parasitoid field insectary in Washington Co



CLB biological control foreign exploration in China

By: Barry Bai
Entomologist
Oregon Department of Agriculture

cooperative foreign exploration project funded by the USDA and Washington also started in 2002 to search for effective biocontrol agents from Asia (see photo).

Biological Control Workshop Reveals a Great Deal of Current Research in Oregon

On December 13th, scientists interested in biologically-based pest management, particularly the use of biological control agents, met for an informal workshop, organized by the state IPM program. The organizers were Paul Jepson (IPM program), Joyce Loper (USDA), Peter McEvoy (OSU) and Sujaya Rao (OSU). The workshop included four introductory talks from OSU, USDA and ODA scientists, interested in invasive plant management, plant disease suppression and biological control of insect pests. This was followed by short contributions by workshop participants, to outline their current interests. The talks captured the dynamic and exciting scope of current biological control activities in the state, and there was enthusiasm for a continued forum that might help to accelerate adoption of biological control on a wider scale. The workshop program is given below, and also a summary of its main conclusions.

George Hoffman (OSU) has volunteered to coordinate future articles about biological control in Oregon, for this newsletter. We hope to be able to present news, details of programs etc. in each issue, and George will be seeking contributions. Please contact him at Crop and Soil Science, OSU (541 737 5851) george.hoffman@orst.edu. Thank you George!

Program

Introductory speakers

Peter McEvoy, OSU; Eric Coombs, ODA: Biological control of invasive plants

John Luna, OSU: Enhancing natural enemies with the right kind of biodiversity

Barry Bai, ODA: Biological control of cereal leaf beetle and cherry bark tortrix

Joyce Loper, USDA: Biological control of plant disease

Short presentations

Russ Ingham, OSU: Strategies for using crop rotation or cover crops for nematode management

Kathleen Johnson, ODA, Gypsy moth eradication

Denny Bruck, USDA: Entomopathogen etiology

Nate Miller, OSU: Microbial augmentation for suppression of soil-borne pathogens

Sujaya Rao, OSU: Biological control and related grass seed IPM

Phil VanBuskirk, Rick Hilton, OSU: Area-wide IPM in tree fruit, Southern Oregon (1994-2002)

The ODA has included a short article about its biological control programs in this issue.

Consistent messages that arose during the presentations

- One of our greatest challenges is that of early detection of candidate organisms for biological control (e.g. new invasive weeds, or newly invading insect pests and pathogens). This relies upon effective monitoring and diagnosis, and careful ecological analysis.
- Biological control is increasingly part of an integrated strategy of pest suppression, different from IPM as it is widely practiced, because pesticides are excluded, but using the same principles.
- Pathologists, entomologists and weed biologists working in biological control share the same key set of underlying concepts, but they tend to use different terminology that may have limited scope for collaboration in the past.
- A number of speakers discussed cultural and habitat factors that affect the level and success of biological control.
- The general goal of maximizing farm, and rangeland biodiversity to increase pest, weed and disease suppression, needs to be treated with caution, and we must seek out the elements of biological diversity that contribute to pest suppression, and limit enhancement of any elements that might increase the risk of pest outbreaks.
- The most successful programs all exhibited a rapid response after the target organism was first detected.
- A number of programs exhibited very active collaboration between University, State, and USDA biological control specialists.

Action Items:

- We agreed to establish an inventory of IPM expertise in the state. We are starting to compile this now, and if you are not contacted directly in the next few weeks, please contact Linda Parks at the address on page 1
- A poster, summarizing the meeting and its conclusions, will be presented at the National IPM Symposium. The abstract for this has been submitted and accepted by the conference organizers

- A conference on biological control in the Pacific Northwest will be organized in the 12-18 months. The International Organization of Biological Control may be approached as a sponsoring organization. Initial discussions about this have taken place with Sujaya Rao (OSU), who is an IOBC member.
- A course module on biological control should be developed for Pesticide Applicator Training programs. Action on this item still has to be taken.
- Themes for a number of short courses and workshops to be given in the State were identified. Please see announcements in future issues. Ideas included:
 - Biological control implementation in glasshouses
 - Commercialization and registration of novel pathogen agents
 - Compatibility between weed, insect and disease management techniques
- It was agreed that the group would pursue an NSF-sponsored graduate training grant in biological control. A pre-proposal will be due in October, 2003. This program, based at OSU, will seek to involve scientists at ODA, and the USDA, and also to involve growers and other organizations in Oregon and beyond, where students might benefit from internships. Details of the NSF grants program can be found at <http://www.nsf.gov/home/crssprgm/igert/start.htm>. A meeting about this proposal will take place before the end of January, and an announcement will be made on the IPM e-mail list. If you are not on this list, please let us know if you would like to be kept informed.

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Invasive Species Plan, Web Site

The National Invasive Species Council's Management Plan is available at <http://www.invasivespecies.gov>. This plan is a product of ten cabinet-level council members who were directed to provide leadership on this issue by a February 1999 Executive Order. The plan outlines prevention, early detection, rapid response, control, and management strategies to prevent the adverse effects of invasive species. The Web site also gives up-to-date information on a variety of invasive species issues. (From an original article in the USDA CSREES Plant Sciences Update)

CSREES Releases Integrated Pest Management Requests For Applications

On December 17, the USDA CSREES announced the release of two Requests for Applications (RFAs): (1) the Pest Management Alternatives Special Research Grants (PMAP) and (2) the Integrated Pest Management (IPM) portion of the Integrated Research, Education, and Extension Competitive Grants Program.

(1) The **PMAP Grant** – Supports development and implementation of IPM systems when regulatory action or voluntary cancellation has resulted in the present unavailability of essential pest control tactics. PMAP applications must be received by February 28, 2003.

(2) The IPM portion of the Integrated Research, Education, and Extension grant program contains five separate program areas. These include:

Regional IPM Centers (IPM) – Supports identification and prioritization of IPM research, extension, and outreach needs at the regional level, with the goal of enhancing collaboration among state programs and other entities.

Crops at Risk (CAR) – Supports research, education, and extension programs directed toward multiple tactic IPM systems for crops likely to lose certain pesticides in the near future due to regulatory action or voluntary cancellation.

Risk Avoidance and Mitigation Program (RAMP) – Supports long term development of IPM strategies that eliminate or minimize certain pesticide food residues (particularly residues of concern on foods most consumed by children).

Organic Transitions Program (OTP) – Supports IPM development and outreach for certified organic production.

Methyl Bromide Transitions Program (MBT) – Supports discovery and implementation of IPM alternatives for commodities affected by the phase out of methyl bromide.

Integrated Pest Management applications must be received by March 31, 2003. Both RFAs are available at the following Web site: http://www.reeusda.gov/1700/funding/rfaintegrated_03.htm.

(From an original article in the USDA CSREES Plant Sciences Update)

National IPM Symposium Scheduled

The 4th National Integrated Pest Management Symposium will take place April 8-10, 2003, at the Westin Hotel in Indianapolis, IN. The symposium will include sessions for invited speakers, posters, workshops, and informal conferences. The overall goal is to share pest management successes and challenges and build alliances for the future of integrated pest management. All disciplines relating to IPM including weed science, plant pathology, vertebrate management, entomology, nematology, horticulture, agronomy, communications, economics, sociology, etc. are encouraged to participate.

This symposium will launch the National Roadmap for IPM, a vision for IPM for the next 10 years in the U.S. Registration information can be found at the Symposium web site <http://www.conted.uiuc.edu/ipm> which you can consult for a full list of the topics included in the Symposium and program updates.

The New and Improved CSREES Pest Managers e-Mail Distribution List

The purpose of this distribution list is to share information about CSREES' pest management programs, including requests for applications and newsletters.

The list has been expanded to include a broader cross-section of those involved with IPM research and extension programs. The Pest Managers list now includes those involved with the Pesticide Safety and Education Program (PSEP), Pest Management Centers, the Integrated Pest Management Program (IPM), and the Minor Crop Pest Management Program (IR-4). In addition, applicants and others associated with CSREES' Plant and Animal Systems competitive grants programs and other interested parties have been added.

If you are interested in being added to the distribution list, please contact Kathy Kimble-Day (kday@reeusda.gov) with your name and e-mail address. If you have an e-mail address change, please contact Rashele Maclin (rmaclin@reeusda.gov) so that we can update. *(Modified from an original article in the USDA CSREES Plant Sciences Update)*

New Group Provides Bird Houses for Conservation and Pest Control

Foul Weather Housing is a not-for-profit citizens organization, based in Albany, that uses recycled timber to make housing for a wide variety of birds. Their main goal is to contribute to bird conservation, but they also

Pest Alerts Now Online And By Email!

IPPC in collaboration with several extension specialists has developed a new interactive, internet-based system for delivering near-real time pest warnings and management information. The Oregon Pest Alert System (ORPAS), based on integrating e-mail, websites, and databases, provides an electronic means for sharing immediate pest outbreak alerts, forecasts, and other timely information between growers, field personnel, extensionists, and researchers. The system encourages precise and judicious action and expected to improve pest management decision making by stakeholders.

ORPAS initially covers pome fruit and vegetable crops and will eventually expand to other commodities like stone fruits, grapes, ornamentals, and perhaps beyond. Events to be reported include pest development status and buildup, levels of biocontrol agents, and other pest-related occurrences. The system offers an advantage of immediacy and information sharing between various stakeholders. Users need to register (free) and can then customize their choices according to crops or situations of interest. Registered users are alerted via email as soon as new messages are posted by extension specialists or moderators. Any users can enter their location-specific pest monitoring data over the web; however, the moderator's approval is required to post information through the system.

Those of you in the Treasure Valley region of eastern Oregon and Idaho have access to the Treasure Valley Pest Alert System (<http://www.tvpestalert.net>). This is the system that first used on-line and email alerts in Oregon, and we should all feel indebted to the OSU and UI faculty involved in the project.

ORPAS is available through IPPC homepage at: <http://ippc.orst.edu/>.

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**Waheed has now left the IPPC, and inquiries should be directed to Len Coop, (541)737-5523, coopl@science.oregonstate.edu*

seek to enhance pest limitation by birds, and to promote pesticide reduction. If you are interested in their activities, or would like to participate, please contact Steve Boyce at 541 926-6770.

Oregon Tilth on: Organic Pest Management and Pesticides

Organic food is an increasingly important market sector for producers at any scale. The National Organic Program (NOP) is a program of the Agricultural Marketing Service, and was enshrined into law on October 21, 2002. The NOP production standards are codified in the Federal Register, 7 CFR Part 205, and are available online at <http://www.tilth.org>. To borrow from engineering terminology, organic standards set design criteria for agro-ecosystems. The NOP standards require operators to develop an organic production system plan, describing and demonstrating how their management practices comply with the standard.

According to section 205.206, organic growers must prevent pests by using crop rotation, soil and crop nutrition, sanitation and host plant resistance. Pests may be controlled mechanically or physically using, for example, natural enemy augmentation or introduction, development of natural enemy habitat, and non-synthetic inputs such as lures, traps, repellents, biological, botanical or mineral inputs. The use of most synthetic substances and specific toxic non-synthetic substances is prohibited. The list of allowed synthetic substances for crop production is in section 205.601. Synthetic is defined as: "a substance that is formulated or manufactured by a chemical process or by a process that chemically changes a substance extracted from naturally occurring plant, animal, or mineral sources, except that such term shall not apply to substances created by naturally occurring biological processes."

When developing innovative tools for use by certified organic growers, care must be taken to use only List 4

materials as inert ingredients for pesticides. List 4 is available at <http://www.epa.gov/opprd001/inerts>. Additional expert advice pertaining to the organic compliance of specific materials and formulations is available from the Organic Materials Review Institute (<http://www.omri.org>) in Eugene, OR. They register brand name materials allowed in organic production, and the organic industry has come to rely heavily on their services.

In order to comply with organic standards, successful organic growers have become creative agro-ecosystem designers and IPM practitioners. The NOP standards are interesting and profitable design criteria for growers and agricultural scientists alike. Oregon Tilth is an education and research organization, our purpose is to support and promote biologically sound and socially equitable agriculture. We currently certify 417 organic farms and 370 organic processors in 22 states and 8 countries. Certification has a strong educational component for producers who in turn help to guide our research activities. Oregon Tilth's research and education services are expanding rapidly, as an industry partner we look forward to fruitful collaboration with the IPPC, land grant universities and government agencies. Please feel free to contact the Tilth office or Nick Andrews at nicka@tilth.org or 503 378 0690 if you would like more information about organic production and research.

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