

## **NEERA\_TEMP2104: Northeast Region Technical Committee on Integrated Pest Management**

Thank you to our three reviewers for their expertise and their time taken in reading our proposal. Based on reviewer suggestions, we have made the following changes:

**Reviewer comment:** Does iPiPE still exist? iPiPE is mentioned as part of the 3rd priority. However, this program (I thought) has become IPMPIPE and is moving towards an integration with EDDMaps. More curious than anything if this is still a thing and warrants inclusion as a priority for the region.

**Our response:** Yes, thank you. Members who worked with iPiPe before the project was updated to IPM PIPE tend to use the two names interchangeably. The link also needed to be corrected.

**Find correction:** In our Statement of Issues and Justification section, we have updated our 3<sup>rd</sup> research and extension priority to read, “3. Support region-wide weather-based decision support systems (e.g. NEWA; <https://newa.cornell.edu/>) and cross-regional collaborations (e.g. IPM PIPE; <https://www.ipmpipe.org/>).” In our Education Plan, we’ve changed “iPiPe” to “IPM PIPE” under topics of regional collaboration

**Reviewer comment:** You mention "and more" but tar spot of corn has moved into your region and could be a very problematic disease for corn growers. May be worth adding to your list.

**Our response:** Tar spot was not identified by the group as a grower concern at our last meeting. However, this pathogen/disease has been detected in Pennsylvania and Western New York in 2021 and 2022, so well worth adding to our list of emerging concerns in the northeast.

**Find correction:** Find “tar spot of corn” in our list of emerging pests in research & extension priority #7.

**Reviewer comment:** The fifth objective mentions "maintaining a database of IPM Programs". What exactly is this? I did not see any expected outcomes or impacts that related to this.

**Our response:** The full objective reads “Collaborate with and advise the Northeastern IPM Center to publicize the accomplishments of all IPM research and extension programs in the region, develop the northeastern region IPM communications network, and maintain a database of IPM programs throughout the Northeast Region.” It might have been more appropriate to say, “maintain a repository of state reports” instead of “maintain a database.” While we have had lengthy conversations about how a searchable database would be helpful for IPM investigators who are developing new projects or writing new grant proposals, we have yet to identify a member who was interested in spearheading this kind of project.

**Find correction:** In our 5<sup>th</sup> Objective, we have changed “maintain a database” to “maintain a repository of state reports”. We have also separated out “Maintain a repository of state reports..” as it’s own bullet point under Expected Outcomes & Impacts.

**Reviewer comment:** Your second bullet point in Expected Outcomes seems to be two bullet points merged.

**Our response:** Thank you for the correction on this typo.

**Find correction:** Corrected in Expected Outcomes & Impacts

**Reviewer comment:** Why do some Expected Outcomes have no details and some have an abundance of already accomplished results. I would like to see this entire section have less focus in the past and more what will be accomplished in the future.

**Our response:** NEERA functions as a forum where all IPM Coordinators from the Northeast meet to discuss ongoing programs, issues, and stakeholder concerns in our own states. The detailed information provided in this section serve to provide examples for the kinds of projects or collaborations that might develop over the next four years. We're not really sure what challenges our stakeholders might face. Nonetheless, we agree that this section should reflect ongoing programs (e.g. SLF, NESIWG, MRIPM) or programs we anticipate being pertinent through the future.

**Find correction:** We've removed the language about the SWDWG in our Expected Outcomes and Impacts. While SWD remains a serious pest of small fruit, the working group has not been active since 2019.

**Reviewer comment:** Some of the items mentioned in the Educational Plan seem outdated (e.g., soybean rust)

**Our response:** The list in our education plan was generated from list of "hot button issues" submitted by coordination committee members over the past few years. Soybean rust may still be an issue for some of our members or it may have been a lingering hot button issue on a list, but soybean IPM remains a high priority for our region.

**Find correction:** In our Education Plan, we have changed "Soybean Rust" to "Soybean IPM Concerns (e.g. soybean rust, herbicide resistant weeds, etc.)" as Topic for Regional Collaboration.