

# IR-4 Update

**Jerry Baron**

Executive Director  
The IR-4 Project

# Overview

- IR-4 Research and COVID-19
- 2020/2021 Activities and Accomplishments
- IR-4 Headquarters Relocation
- Status of IR-4 Funding
- Integrated Solutions
- Next Year's Food Use Workshop

# IR-4 & COVID 19 -2020

- Field research completed with limited issues
- Laboratory-some slowdown at certain labs
- QA-most kept up inspections and audits
- HQ-limited in office-mostly work from home
- Companies/EPA-delays in processing IR-4 actions

# IR-4 & COVID 19 -2021

- Lost trials due to FRDs getting COVID-19
- Some labs remain closed-Further delays in timelines
- QA-continue to kept up inspections and audits
- HQ (NC) Mostly back to normal
- Companies/EPA- EPAs front end backlog eliminated

# 2020/2021 Activities & Accomplishments

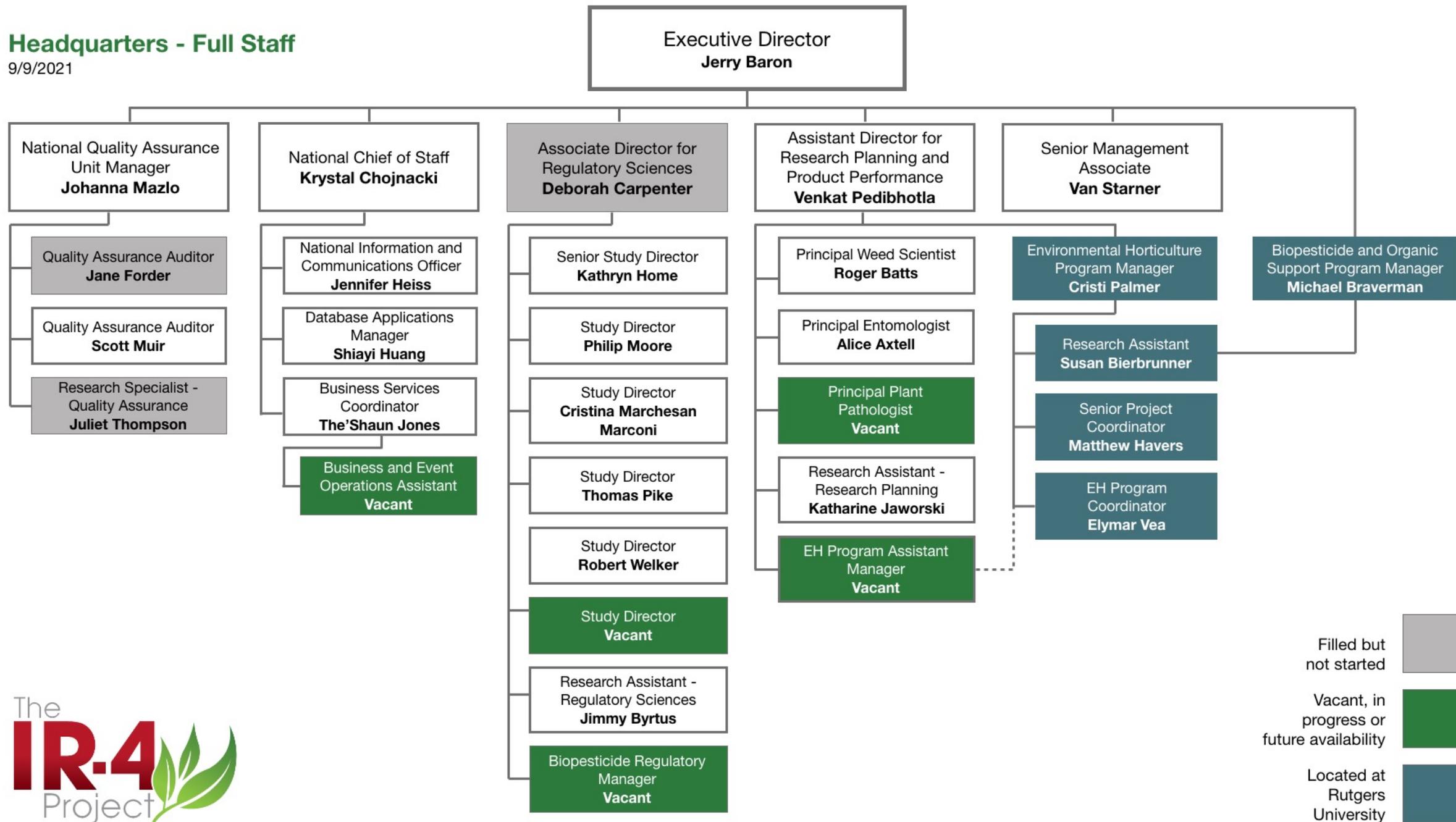
Item	2020	2021
Food Approvals (Tolerances/Registrations)	107/573	83/431
Food Residue Projects (Studies/Trials)	72/416	62/371
Food Product Performance (Projects/Trials)	44/88	66/123
Integrated Solutions Projects (New/Carry over)	7/7	13/7
Food Submissions to EPA (Chemistries/PRs)	22/126	13/83
EH Approvals (Registrations/Impacted Crops)	4/690	1/950
EH Research Summary Submissions	24	10
EH Protocols	28	53
EH Research (Studies/Field Trials)	473/609	405/546

# Relocation of IR-4 Project Headquarters

- Rutgers - Essentially closed..... Kudos to team!
- NC State – Has assumed full function of IR-4 operations
  - ✓ Files
  - ✓ IT
  - People

# Headquarters - Full Staff

9/9/2021



Filled but not started

Vacant, in progress or future availability

Located at Rutgers University

# Fiscal Update/Challenges

- Commodity Liaison Committee continue to pursue \$8.1 million increase from currently \$11.9 million to \$20 million
  - Significant Optimism & Progress
- Changes in 2021
  - Single grant to IR-4
  - First time allowed ability to pay university service fees/indirect costs
- Unfortunately funding remained level
  - Approx. 12% reduction of operation funds. Impact of reduced research and staff avoided because host institutions stepped forward and provided one-year waiver of indirect costs

# 2022 Funding Outlook

- Proposed Funding:
  - Biden Administration/USDA – **Full funding** \$20.0 million
  - House of Representatives - \$14.0 million
  - Senate -\$14.5 million
- IR-4 will not receive an additional indirect cost waiver
- Will not know what final funds until end of year
  - Going on worse case scenario - FY 2021 funding minus 12% for indirect
    - 38 “A Priorities”
    - If/When additional funding received will add projects back on

# Integrated Solutions

---

**What's up with this?**

# IR-4 is Technology Neutral

Give farmers the tools, let them make the decision on what products to use.

IR-4 supports conventional and organic farming practices with conventional pesticides, biopesticides, biotechnology and other pest management technology

# Changes in Biopesticide World

- Many new effective products with registrations
- Big companies are established in biopesticide market
- Consumer demand for green products for home and garden
- Seemingly, biopesticides had greater fit into conventional agriculture systems



# Integrated Solutions

---

“Integrated Solutions” initiative; coupling biopesticides with conventional products in research. Priorities include:

- **Pest Problems Without Solutions**

# Integrated Solutions

“Integrated Solutions” initiative; coupling biopesticides with conventional products in research. Priorities include:

- Pest Problems Without Solutions,
- **Resistance Management**

# Integrated Solutions

“Integrated Solutions” initiative; coupling biopesticides with conventional products in research. Priorities include:

- Pest Problems Without Solutions,
- Resistance Management
- **Residue Mitigation**

# Residue Mitigation

Extending the pre harvest interval (time from last application to harvest) to allow for residues to decline below MRLs of export markets and then maintain pest control with biopesticides at the end of the season.

# Integrated Solutions

“Integrated Solutions” initiative; coupling biopesticides with conventional products in research. Priorities include:

- Pest Problems Without Solutions,
- Resistance Management
- Residue Mitigation
- **Address needs in organic production systems**

# Research Planning-2023

- We plan to be back in person
- Near Minneapolis, MN
- Fulfills contract from 2020 cancellation
- Explore ways to make it hybrid with incentives to join in person

# Thank You!

---

