



Commodity Liaison Committee Update 2023-24

Food Use Workshop, Raleigh, NC, September 12, 2023

Pest Management Solutions for Specialty Crops and Specialty Uses

CLC Update



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CLC Update

- **IR-4 is 60 years old!**
- **What is CLC?**
- **Who are they?**
- **What activities are they doing?**



IR-4 is 60 years old!

- Created 1963



- Created 1965



WASHINGTON-IDAHO PEAS & LENTIL COMMISSIONS — Stateline, Idaho

Pest Management Solutions for Specialty Crops and Specialty Uses



IR-4 is 60 years old!

- | | |
|---|--|
| • President -John F. Kennedy | • President -Joe Biden |
| • Population -189,241,798 | • Population -339,996,563 |
| • Federal spending -\$111.32 Billion | • Federal spending -\$5.30 Trillion |
| • Cost of Home -\$19,300 | • Cost of Home -\$416,100 |
| • Cost of Stamp -\$0.04 | • Cost of Stamp -\$0.63 |
| • Gas -\$0.30 | • Gas -\$3.80 |
| • Milk -\$0.49 | • Milk -\$4.31 |
| • Lentils -\$0.07 | • Lentils -\$0.37 (WooHoo!) |

IR-4 is 60 years old!

- Wheat Harvest-1940's



- Chickpea Harvest 2023



Pest Management Solutions for Specialty Crops and Specialty Uses

IR-4 is 60 years old!

- Aerial Application 1960's
- Precision applications 2023



Pest Management Solutions for Specialty Crops and Specialty Uses



IR-4 is 60 years old!

- **1965**

- One Director and Secretary

- **2023**

- Headquarters and 4 Regions
- Partnerships including ARS, Land Grant Universities, Registrants, Regulators and Producers
- Reputation is International and National

IR-4 is 60 years old

- \$25,000 Budget



- \$15.0 Million Budget



Pest Management Solutions for Specialty Crops and Specialty Uses



IR-4 is 60 years old!

- **CODEX Committee on Pesticide Residues met 1969**
- **EPA Created on December 2, 1970**
- **Endangered Species Act signed into law, 1973**
- **Food Quality Protection Act approved 1996**
- **Dr. Jerry Baron joins IR-4 in 1986**



One thing has not changed

- **Mission:**

To facilitate regulatory approval of sustainable pest management technology for specialty crops and specialty uses to promote public well-being.



What is Commodity Liaison Committee (CLC)?

Purpose: CLC Charter

- The CLC is the **link between IR-4 and those who grow specialty food and ornamental commodities** or their representatives.
- Therefore, the primary purpose of the CLC is to **provide guidance and advice to the IR-4 Project Management Committee** in ways in which the program can best serve the needs of producers of specialty crops.
- The CLC serves an important role in **communicating the mission of the IR-4 Project to the agricultural community and provides visibility at the grower level.**
- The CLC also **supports federal funding initiatives** for the IR-4 Program and advocates for funding to maintain viable food and ornamentals research and registration programs.



What is Commodity Liaison Committee (CLC)?



- *IR-4 sees stakeholders as equals.*
- *Not just an advisory committee.*
 - *Position on Board of Directors*
 - *Weekly communication*
 - *Involved in hiring and evaluations.*



Who are Commodity Liaison Members?

- **Larry Elworth**, Executive Director, Pennsylvania Apple Commission
- **Jere Downing**, Executive Director, Cranberry Institute
- **Rocky Lundy**, Executive Director Mint Industry Research Council
- **Rich Bonano**, Owner, Pleasant Valley Gardens, MA (Present Director of Extension, NC State)
- **Michael Bledsoe**, VP Food Safety and Regulatory Affairs, Village Farms

Who are Commodity Liaison Members?

- **Todd Scholz, USA Dry Pea & Lentil Council (Pulses), Chair**
- **Keith Pitts, Marrone Bio Innovations, Vice Chair**
- **Mike Aerts, Florida Fruit and Vegetable Association**
- **Mark Arney, National Watermelon Promotion Board**
- **Chris Bardenhagen, Cherry Marketing Institute**
- **Pete Nelson, Cherry Marketing Institute**
- **Michael Bledsoe, Village Farms L.P.**
- **Jennifer Clarke, California Leafy Greens Research**
- **James Cranney, California Citrus Quality Council**
- **Alan DeYoung, Van Drunen Farms**
- **Maggie Eliot, Hops Growers of America, WA Hops Commission**
- **Bill Frantz, The Cranberry Institute**

Who are Commodity Liaison Members?

- **Michelle Grainger**, NC SweetPotato Commission
- **Bob Jones**, The Chef's Garden
- **Bob Kaldunski**, Ginseng Board of Wi
- **Michael Martin**, Horticulture Research Institute
- **Armando Monterosso**, Brooks Tropicals, LLC
- **Kam Quarles**, National Potato Council
- **Amy Plato Roberts**, Lallemand Plant Care
- **Rachel Roberts**, American Mushroom Institute
- **Steve Salisbury**, Mint Institute Research Council
- **Jonathan Sarager**, Western Growers
- **Alan Schreiber**, Ag Development Group, Blueberry Commission
- **Berry Tanner**, National Watermelon Association
- **Amy Upton**, MI Nursery & Landscape Association

Who are Commodity Liaison Members?

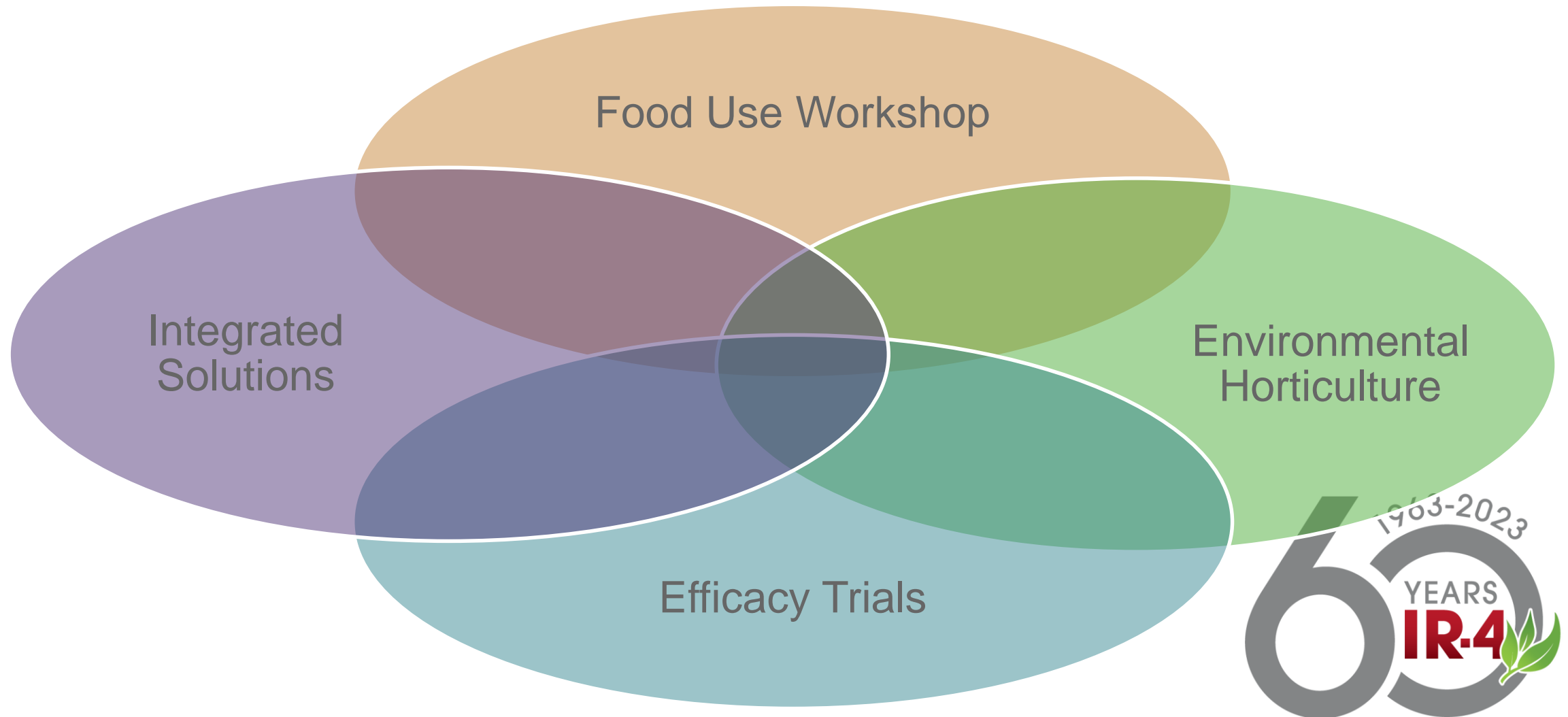
- **Lee VanWychen**, Weed Society of America
- **Herman Waguespack, Jr.**, American Sugar Cane League
- **Ryan Wysocki**, Michigan Blueberries
- **John Walt Boatwright**, American Farm Bureau
- **Ryan Yates**, American Farm Bureau
- (Katie Stump) Crop Life America—To be approved

What activities are they doing?

- Tell the IR-4 Story
- Work on Government Education
- Government Affairs Sub-Committee
- Friends of IR-4



IR-4 Story



IR-4 Story

- **History of Innovation and Leadership**
 - Crop Groups
 - International Harmonization
 - Minor Crop Foundation
 - Bio-Pesticides and Integrated Solutions



IR-4 Story

- **Economics**

- Specialty Crops—healthy, sustainable, underfunded
- Valued at \$65 Billion
- IR-4 supports 111,470 jobs, worth \$5.34 Billion
- Contributes \$8.97 Billion to Annual GDP



IR-4 Story

- **Incentives**
 - Wave registration fees
 - Develop residue data
 - Extend data protection
 - Reduced impact pesticides



IR-4 Story

- **Challenges for Future**
 - Need for Integrated Pest Management Solutions
 - Appearance of new pests or new crops
 - ESA Considerations
 - Looking for new solutions to old problems
 - Sustainability/Climate Smart Ag
 - Funding for ARS Partner



CLC Government Education



CLC Government Education

- **Annual Appropriations Process-(Completed Oct 1)**
 - Administration
 - Office of Management and Budget (OMB)
 - NIFA Leadership
 - ARS Leadership
 - Congress
 - House Ag Appropriations
 - House Ag Committee
 - Senate Ag Appropriations
 - Senate Ag Committee
 - Individual Members



CLC Government Education

- **Farm Bill 2023 (Every 5 Years)**
 - House Ag Committee
 - Senate Ag Committee
 - Individual Members
 - Agencies
 - NIFA
 - ARS
 - Partners



CLC Government Education

- **Tools**

- Zoom Meetings with Committee Staffs
- Zoom Meeting with OMB
- Direct meetings during March Fly-in
- Letters to Member
- Member Letters
- Lunch and Learn
- Members in District
- Allies—Minor Crop Farmer Alliance (MCFA), Specialty Crop Farm Bill Alliance, National Association of State Departments of Ag (NASDA)



Lunch and Learn Participants, March, 2023



CLC Government Education

- **Status for 2023**

- Farm Bill

- Looks like will need extension, Chairs are looking for January, may be later
 - IR-4 has allies for \$50 Million but nothing is for sure

- Appropriations 2023

- House is pretty hard to predict, will need an extension
 - Senate and House passed Ag Approps Bills—currently on hold.
 - Hopefully done by end of year. Increase to IR-4 not probable.

- Appropriations 2024

- Process is beginning but 2023 makes it a mystery



CLC GASC

- **Government Affairs Sub-Committee (GASC)**
 - Jonathan Sarager, Chair
 - Meet every two months
 - Keeps the CLC Connected and working together
 - All CLC Members are invited



CLC --Friends of IR-4

- **Friends of IR-4**
 - DC Legislative and Regulatory Services (DCLRS)
 - David Beaudreau
 - Prepare outreach tools
 - Coordinate Legislative Meetings
 - Coordinate meetings with OMB
 - Work with Champions to generate letters
 - Work to submit Appropriations requests



CLC Update-Summary

- We have a good story--60 years of success
- IR-4 is about healthy food and representing the needs of stakeholders.
- Future challenges need future funding, and the ag sector supports those increases.
- We have a great team in the CLC and we are representing a great organization.





#60YearsofIR4