

# IR-4 Impact - Commodity Group Perspective

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*2023 marks 60 years of IR-4*

**NC STATE**  
EXTENSION



# A Little Background



- Vegetable, flower and ornamental operation in MA
  - I pulled a lot of weeds
- Cornell, Cornell, Oregon State
- NC State, Asst. Professor Horticultural Science
  - Weed management vegetables and small fruits
  - 80% E, 20% R



# 40 Years with IR-4



- First Food Use Workshop - 1983
  - Stan Musial Hotel, St. Louis
- Research - 1983-1989
- Back to MA - 1989
  - Commodity Liaison Committee for IR-4, Chair
  - NEWSS and WSSA Science Policy Committees
  - UMass Extension
  - NE Vegetable and Berry Growers
  - MA Farm Bureau and AFBF Board
- Return to NC State - 2016



# IR-4 Relocation to NC State University

- Starbucks in Chattanooga at National Ag Agents Conf.
- Conversations with Rutgers and NC State
- Conversations with PMC, CLC, USDA, etc.
- Served on every hiring committee since the move



# Congratulations on Providing 60 Years of Service to Specialty Crop Agriculture!

*2023 marks 60 years of IR-4*



# IR-4 Has Provided Significant Deliverables

- New pesticide tolerances and registrations
  - Over 20,000 for food crops
  - Nearly 60,000 for ornamentals
- For many crops, IR-4 is only game in town when it comes to pesticide approvals



# IR-4 Has Provided Significant Deliverables

- Crop Groups
  - Extrapolation Models that promote efficiency for IR-4, industry and regulatory authorities
- Approved in US, Canada and many international countries via Codex



# IR-4 Has Provided Significant Deliverables

- Facilitate harmonization of pesticide residues regulations globally
  - Allow US growers greater access to international markets – remove trade barriers





# IR-4 Has Provided Significant Deliverables

- Advocacy for growers
  - Conduit of information from USDA/EPA/Industry so ag community is aware and can respond to issues
  - When appropriate, represent grower's interest with decision makers



# IR-4 Remains Relevant and Has Strong Support from Specialty Crop Commodities

- IR-4 is willing to change with times
  - Many associate IR-4 with chemical pesticides, but IR-4 has been working with biopesticides for over 40 years
    - Many successes
    - New focus on integrating biopesticides with conventional chemical pesticides to address lower and fewer residues in food
    - Focus on resistant management and support for international trade
    - Support pest management needs of organic agriculture
    - Exciting times with emerging technologies



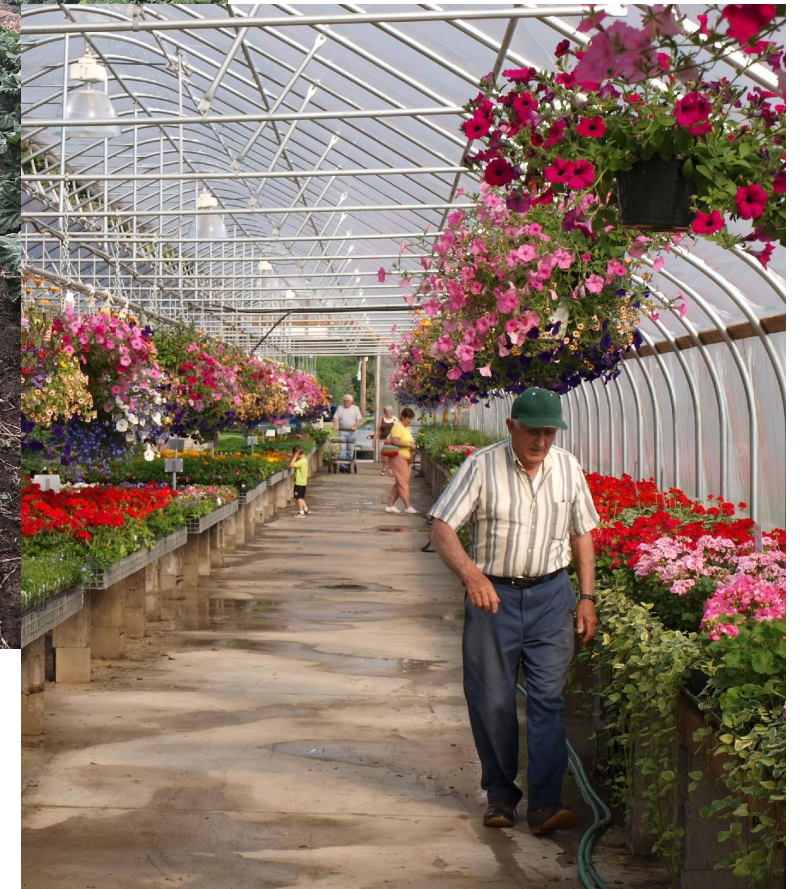
# IR-4 Remains Relevant and Has Strong Support from Specialty Crop Commodities

- Project does what it says it is going to do
  - You are part of the future
  - Today's decisions = tomorrow's new pest management tools
- IR-4 uses its government funds wisely
- Huge return on investment
  - Michigan State Univ. Economic Assessment
    - IR-4 success has contributed \$8.7 Billion dollars to the Annual Gross Domestic Product
    - Support over 120,000 jobs nationally



# Thank you!

- Ability to interact with IR-4 on many levels
- Proud to be a part of this organization
- Happy to still contribute to IR-4's success







#60YearsofIR4