Participant Survey - Summary

National Education Conference (NEC)

February 28 – March 1, 2017
Orlando, FL

The IR-4 Education and Training Committee requests your input for use in the planning of future NECs. Please complete the following survey and return it to Van Starner (vanstar@njaes.rutgers.edu). Thank you for your time.

Name (optional):
Summary by V. Starner, 4/17/17

Area of Affiliation with IR-4:
(e.g. Field, Lab, HQ, SD, RFC, QA, etc.)

34 responders

1. How satisfied were you with the overall quality of the conference?

☐ Very Satisfied - **23** ☐ Satisfied - **11** ☐ Dissatisfied ☐ Very Dissatisfied

How satisfied were you with the schedule of the NEC sessions?

☐ Very Satisfied - **19** ☐ Satisfied - **15** ☐ Dissatisfied ☐ Very Dissatisfied

How satisfied were you with the time that you had to network and share ideas?

☐ Very Satisfied - **22** ☐ Satisfied - **12** ☐ Dissatisfied ☐ Very Dissatisfied

Any comments you want to add regarding the questions above? **1) enjoyed roundtables - 2; 2) 30 min. breaks are good for interactions; 3) need more time for Regional breakouts; 4) too much discussion time; 5) great networking; 6) too much wasted time/slow pace; 7) provide roundtable topics pre-NEC**

2. What topics would you like us to address at the next NEC (2020)? **1) FDB info; 2) review application types; 3) EPA actions/interactions; 4) calculations vs spreadsheets – need to know both; 5) refresher on GLP basics for the field; 6) more lab/field interaction - 2; 7) a start to end case study; 8) temp. monitoring for TS/freezer & graphs; 9) on-station vs off-station trial pros/cons; 10) special trials (seed trt/airblast/GH, etc.) – 2; 11) sample "processing" in the field (soil removal/outer leaf removal, etc.); 12) joint studies w/Canada; 13) avoiding failed trials; 14) comparing weather (Part 9) with first rain (Part 6); 15) use same format and topic as in 2017 NEC**

3. What did you like best about this NEC? **1) roundtables/networking – 23; 2) "IR-4 Update" talk – 4; 3) sharing between field & lab – 6; 4) learning about what's on IR-4 website; 5) comparison of QA/QC – 2; 6) good balance of talks; 7) self-introductions not all at once – 2; 8) Regional breakouts**

4. What can we do to improve this conference for the future? **1) roundtables need multiple topics for different tables – 5; 2) make talks/etc. available on website/regional sites; 3) need even more interaction between SD/QA/field/lab, etc. – 4; 4) increase the pace and intensity of the NEC; 5) need better job of HQ presentations – 2; 6) add an FRD training session; 7) get a keynote speaker; 8) introduce new technology and crop/agri production; 9) omit "ceremonies"; 10) more central US venue – 3; 11) provide list of successful submissions; 12) what are expected highlights of the current year; 13) more varied food options**