

# THE IR-4 PROJECT



## Pest Management Solutions for Specialty Crops and Specialty Uses

### 60 Years of Impact

For 60 years, The IR-4 Project has been a trusted ally of the specialty crop community. By facilitating Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) registration of sustainable pest management products and technologies, IR-4 helps growers access safe products to protect their crops. Healthy and abundant specialty crop harvests are vital to public wellbeing.

### Food Crops + Environmental Horticulture

Specialty crops include both food and ornamental plants—essential components of a nutritious diet and a thriving landscape. Because these crops are under significant pressure from damaging insects, weeds, and diseases, the work of IR-4 is critical to preserving the biodiversity and variety that we enjoy.

### Strategic Pest Management

Putting farmers' needs first, IR-4 assesses tools of all kinds for both conventional and organic growers— including reduced-risk chemical and bio-based pesticides, as well as emerging technologies. In addition to working with EPA to secure product and use registrations in the U.S., IR-4 helps harmonize international pesticide regulations, removing barriers to agricultural trade.

### An Abundant Future

As envisioned by the land grant university system, IR-4 has championed farmers since its founding in 1963. IR-4 research has secured over **23,000 pest product registrations** for food crops through EPA, and countless others for ornamental crops. While the future of pest management is complex, IR-4 has the expertise to guide the specialty crop community forward with innovative, pragmatic and collaborative solutions.



---

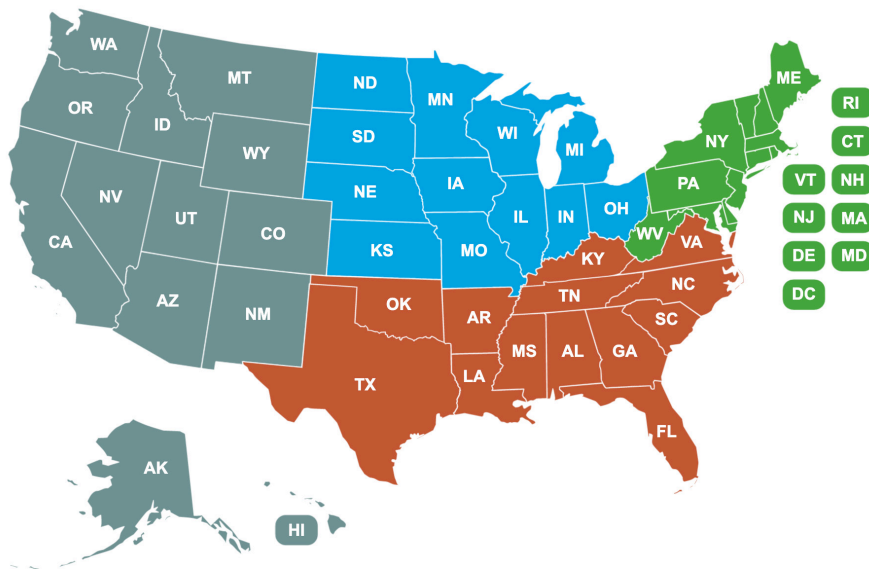
Learn more or submit a project request at [IR4project.org](https://www.ir4project.org).

# Economic Impact of The IR-4 Project

According to a 2022 report conducted by Michigan State University's Center for Economic Analysis, **The IR-4 Project contributes an estimated \$8.97 billion to the annual gross domestic product. In addition, seven jobs today can be attributed to every \$1,000 of public investment in IR-4.**

## National Scope of the IR-4 Project

From our headquarters (HQ) and regional offices, to partnering land grant universities and USDA Agricultural Research Service stations, IR-4's multifaceted team serves the specialty crop community nationwide. Collaborative relationships with USDA, EPA, growers, commodity groups, state liaisons, and industry leaders position IR-4 to guide the specialty crop community towards improved pest management solutions— as we have for 60 years.



**IR-4 Headquarters:**  
North Carolina State University

**Southern Region\*:**  
University of Florida

**Northeast Region:**  
University of Maryland  
Eastern Shore

**North Central Region:**  
Michigan State University

**Western Region\*\*:**  
University of California, Davis

**\*Southern Region also includes: Puerto Rico**

**\*\*Western Region also includes: American Samoa, Federated States of Micronesia, Guam and Northern Marianas**

Visit [IR4project.org](https://www.ir4project.org) to get in touch with HQ or regional offices, or to submit a project request.



This material is based upon work that is supported by the National Institute of Food and Agriculture, U.S. Department of Agriculture, under award number 2021-34383-34848 and 2020-34383-32455 with substantial cooperation and support from the State Agricultural Experiment Stations, USDA-ARS and USDA-FAS. In accordance with Federal Law and U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability.