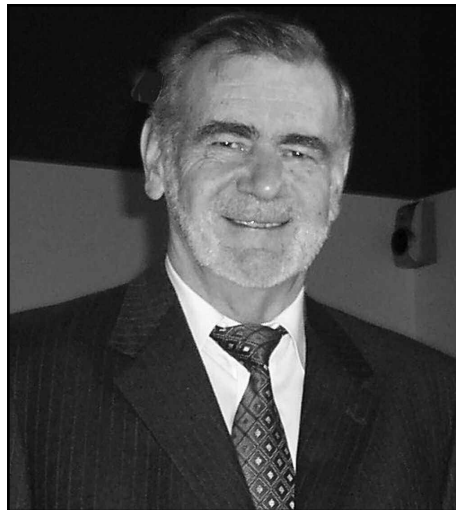


TEXAS

Pecan ipmPIPE: Aiding communications among pecan stakeholders Belt-Wide

Marvin Harris, Program Director; Monte Nesbitt, AL; Randy Luttrell, AR; Russ Mizell, FL; Jim Dutcher, GA; Mike Hall, LA; Bill Reid, KS & MO; Phil Mulder, OK; Brad Lewis, NM; Bill Ree, TX; Allen Knutson, TX

Technology breakthroughs in communications provide new opportunities to improve how we gather, process, transfer and use information. The amount and type of information that can be gathered, analyzed and integrated with other information for use in near real time decision making is prodigious, and pecan stakeholders (producers, scientists, industry, etc.) are just in the initial stages of learning how to do this well. Pecan scientists in the Southern Regional Project on Pecan Insects (S-1017) and Producer Cooperators are initiating a Pecan Belt-Wide decision support program that will become available on-line in the 2009 growing season. The program is called Pecan ipmPIPE (PIPE=Pest Integrated Pest management Extension and education). The public interface will be a web-site launched on the internet that will: 1) provide key real time decision information to pecan producers and advisors (first on pecan nut casebearer, with later efforts on other pests in planning stages) and 2) upgrade our Pecan IPM information system via a Toolbox for problem diagnosis, deci-



Marvin Harris

sion-making aids, and other informational resources. The Pecan ipmPIPE program is the beginning of an interactive near real time informational resource that will provide currently useful information relevant to stakeholder needs that will grow as new technologies become available for use.

The current Pecan ipmPIPE program structure is shown in Figure 1. Note that producer input is a key part

of this program.

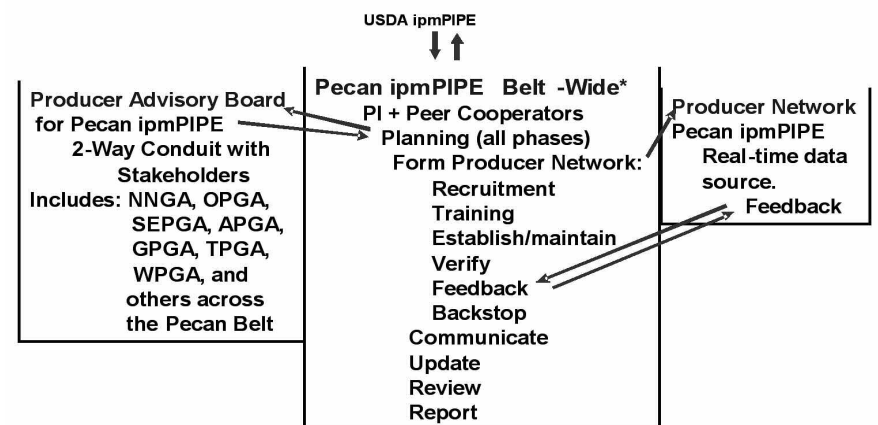
A more detailed description of Pecan ipmPIPE is shown in Figure 2.

Many key elements are needed to make this effort successful. Belt-Wide activities need to be facilitated and coordinated among key scientists (called Peer Cooperators) and Producer Network Cooperators to gather, synthesize, and report via the web near real-time information on key pest problems (pecan nut casebearer is

ual producers needs to be available for decision-making. The Pecan Belt extends over a vast area with pest incidence and severity varying widely through the region, thus the IPM Toolbox must be constructed to allow theory to be put into practice at the local level. These are the major internal elements of the Pecan ipmPIPE Program.

In order to ensure relevance of the Pecan ipmPIPE Program to producer

Figure 2. Structure and Purpose:



***The Purpose is to facilitate communications among Pecan Stakeholders using Information Technology via the Web to benefit the pecan industry. Stakeholders include producers, researchers, extension, and all that serve the industry.**

initial target). These Peer Cooperators are shown in Figure 3. They will recruit and help train the Producer Network Cooperators (we expect 150-200 Belt-Wide) to participate in this program and the PC will also participate in routinely keeping stakeholders informed through local, regional and other meetings as opportunities arise. The PC will also interface with stakeholders to help design the Pecan IPM Toolbox so that it can be tailored to serve needs of the producer at the local level; general theory of IPM principles is needed as background, but putting this theory into practice requires specific information relevant to individ-

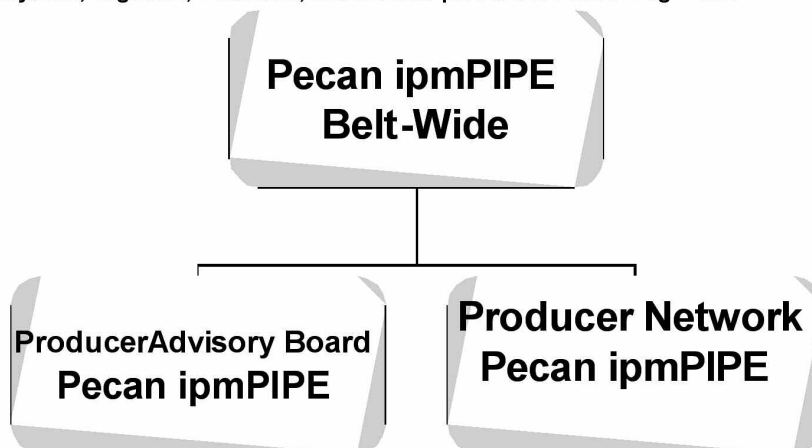
stakeholders and the pecan industry, a mechanism for Belt-Wide producer input to Pecan ipmPIPE is also needed. The Pecan ipmPIPE Producer Advisory Board is established to accomplish this. We are now initiating our plans to conduct this program and will be seeking more input from our stakeholders to ensure that what we can deliver will meet their needs.

We are soliciting your input for producer stakeholder representation, in the Producer Network and on the Pecan Advisory Board, as part of our (continued on Page 59)

See Belt-Wide

Figure 1. Structure of Pecan ipmPIPE : ipmPIPE is a Commodity Wide USDA IT* Program

The Pecan Belt -Wide Program is One Component;
Soybean, Legumes, Cucurbits, etc. are also part of the USDA Program



*IT = Information Technology; The ipmPIPE Programs are Designed to Facilitate Communications Among Stakeholders Via the Web.

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Belt-Wide

(continued from Page 58)

team that has begun work on the Pecan ipmPIPE program. We want our producers to provide their perspective on how we can best proceed and to provide feedback on program elements as they are developed for use by producers. This will be a great help in keeping our work on track and relevant to producer needs. Officers of our pecan organizations (APGA, OPGA,

SEPGA, TPGA, NNGA, WPGA, etc.) have been contacted to obtain views on which producer stakeholders will be best able and willing to participate in this aspect of our work. Producers can also volunteer directly by contacting their regional Peer Cooperator.

Producer Network cooperators will receive training in Pecan IPM and real time decision making on pecan nut casebearer (PNC). They will be provided PNC monitoring kits and be expected to provide real time data

three (or more) times/week during the key flight period in the spring via e-mail, as well as other background information relevant to the program. They will also have the opportunity to become involved with pilot trials of new technologies as they become available for testing.

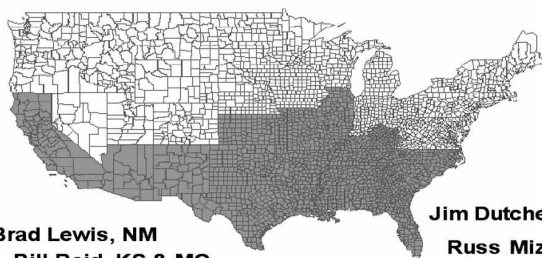
We expect each producer serving on the Pecan ipmPIPE Advisory Board to be able to interface with producer stakeholders from their area and work with producers Belt-Wide to facilitate Pecan ipmPIPE efforts to serve the pecan industry. Most routine communication is expected to be computer based via e-mail and other web resources. The purpose of the Board is to help develop, deliver and improve this Pecan ipmPIPE effort as the program matures.

We anticipate the Pecan ipmPIPE Program will be able to grow beyond current objectives into a new realm of information gathering, synthesis and transfer through the use of new technologies that continue to become available for implementation in production agriculture. We have an opportunity to work together to both make the present program successful and to map our way into the future.

Acknowledgements: Partial funding for this program has been provided by the USDA ipmPIPE, Southern Regional IPM Program, and Environmental Protection Agency Region 6, along with producer organizations (see list in text above) and their volunteer members, and CSREES institutions that support the scientists involved.

Figure 3:

Peer Cooperators in Pecan ipmPIPE Belt -Wide Program



- Brad Lewis, NM
- Bill Reid, KS & MO
- Phil Mulder, OK
- Bill Ree/Marvin Harris, TX
- Jim Dutcher, GA
- Russ Mizell, FL
- Monte Nesbitt, AL
- Randy Luttrell, AR
- Mike Hall, LA

(Peer Cooperators are networked with other regional scientists in this program.)

Cooperating Producer Organizations:

APGA, GPGA, NNGA, OPGA, SEPGA, TPGA, WPGA and others.

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