The Working Group meets via conference call on the **second Wednesday of each month at 1:00PM Central Time (2:00PM EST)**. The next conference call will take place **November 12th at 1:00PM Central**.

I. Roll
- Jill Auerbach, Hudson Valley Lyme Disease Association
- Herb Bolton, USDA-NIFA
- Tom Green, IPM Institute of North America, Inc.
- Laura Hayes, CT Agricultural experiment station
- Lynnae Jess, North Central IPM Center, MSU
- Tom Mather, University of Rhode Island
- Bob Maurais, Mainely Ticks
- Kathy Murray, Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry
- Jane Petzoldt, IPM Institute
- Chris Przybyszewski, US Biologic
- Jennifer Reid, BLAST Lyme Program
- Kirby Stafford, CT Agricultural experiment station
- Chloe Nelson, IPM Institute

II. Working Group Website Update, Chloe Nelson
a. **Link:** [www.tickipmwg.wordpress.com](http://www.tickipmwg.wordpress.com)
b. The website will contain meeting minutes, priorities and Working Group updates. Comments, corrections or suggestions can be sent to Chloe at[cnelson@ipminstitute.org](mailto:cnelson@ipminstitute.org).

III. Federal Funding Tracking Database, Chloe Nelson
b. Organization of the information will include:
   - Splitting information into categories specific to working group objectives (designating IPM projects from public health, etc.)
   - Separating by geographical location since some are international and some are U.S.
   - A pivot table may be used for ease of operation

IV. LymeShield Presentation by Chris Przybyszewski (US BIOLOGIC)
Contact Chris Przybyszewski at: [chris.przybyszewski@usbiologic.com](mailto:chris.przybyszewski@usbiologic.com) or (901) 490-5857
a. US BIOLOGIC developed a targeted vaccine for mice preventing Lyme disease transmission.
b. 300,000 new cases each year amounting to a total annual cost burden of $3,230,700,000 as reported by the CDC (many more undiagnosed, even higher cost).
c. US BIOLOGIC fits into the spectrum of IPM under disease prevention, working with all areas of existing integrated pest management: education, behavioral prevention, vector control, landscaping and mating host control.
d. **How it works:**
   - Distribute LymeShield into wooded area every other week for 4 months, ~150 pellets per acre of distribution, allowing mice more opportunities to find the vaccine.
   - Mice ingest the pellets made of specific size and hardness, with the vaccine coating able to withstand the elements for 48-72 hours.
• Mice create antibodies that ticks feed on, absorb the antibodies and resultantly are cleared of Lyme Borrelia bacteria. This breaks the transmission cycle from ticks to humans/pets.

  e. CDC-sponsored field trials reported a 76% reduction in infected ticks over 5 years
  f. LymeShield is regulated by the USDA. Product approval on track to meet 2015 distribution plans.
  g. Distribution is managed by US BIOLOGIC, working to find what works best for each state. Initial targets are public parks.
  h. US BIOLOGIC wants to expand farther than Lyme to make an impact against other diseases.
  i. **Summary:** LymeShield is a cost-efficient option that supports biodiversity and health ecosystems, is a disease prevention platform for added disease protection with a strong public health and financial return investment that prevents Lyme disease transmission.

**Questions/comments for Chris Przybyszewski:**

**Jill Auerbach:**
• The cost of Lyme disease is really much more considering the people undiagnosed and cost of taxpayers for the homeschooling of children.
• The parks definitely need this product: recently a 3 year old child went to the Duchess county parks and had 32 ticks removed from her body after.
• Commendable that US BIOLOGIC is interested in doing more than just Lyme disease because the problem goes way beyond it.

**Chris:** We have to use the CDC publications on cases and cost, but I definitely agrees that both are likely much higher.

**Bob Maurais:** Does LymeShield affect any other pathogens other than Borrelia right now?
**Chris:** Not right now, but we’re looking into more than Borrelia. Biotechnology comes with limits in terms of funding and timing, but figuring out what the next step is and what more we can prevent.

**Tom Green:** From graph on slide 6, do you have an idea of what happens to human infection?
**Chris:** As a USDA product we affect mice. What we have done is worked with a ton of public health and CDC folks who understand the further impacts of this and can make better claims than we can. The authors of the publication have said this will have a complete impact onto human incidence as the incidence of Lyme disease in ticks decrease. We have to stop the disease in people, but we can only say it is in mice.

**Jill Auerbach:** Mentioned a CDC test case from few years ago of spraying individual yards which showed no reduction of cases of Lyme disease for those households. The problem was the scattered approach of the test since people could simply pick up ticks in their neighbors’ yards or out walking their dog, etc. Prevention must occur not just at parks and not just at home sites. As part of IPM, results won’t be seen until the product is out in nature and we also have to get people to use prevention measures at home that really work. I think that’s what this group is about.

**Jill:** Another location I could see it being affective is recreation centers where children go for sporting events.

**Tom Green:** Does your business plan include retail sales? Will people be able to buy it at Lowes, etc.?
**Chris:** That’s a little ways into the future. Right now we have a public approach and want to have an impact on everyone, not just those who are able to pay for it for their houses.
Additional Items:
  a. Chuck Lubelczyk, Maine Medical Center Research Institute, is planning to submit a NEIPMC Partnership grant proposal to host a regional Tick IPM conference either in Maine or in New Hampshire.
     - Likely a 2-day conference
     - Opportunity to gather in person for large proceedings to come out of
   To get involved in this opportunity, contact Chuck at: LUBELC@mmc.org

Future Agenda Items:
  - Update on proposed Tick IPM conference (Chuck Lubelczyk)
  - North Central IPM Center RFA should be out by next month
  - Western IPM Center RFA now available, deadline December 3rd
    Link to website: [http://westernipm.org/index.cfm/center-grants/](http://westernipm.org/index.cfm/center-grants/)
  - Northeast IPM Center Partnership Grant RFAs are open NOW, deadline November 20th
    (Additional information below)

Information on Northeast IPM Center Partnership Grants RFA:
3 Project Types:
A. Working Groups ($30K max for 2 years, $15K for 1 year)
B. IPM Issues ($50K max for 2 years)
C. Regional IPM Communications ($20K max for 1 year)

Required Objectives from 2015 RFA:
1. Increase networking among individuals and/or groups: Increase connections, contacts, and strength of network.
2. Set priorities: identify and prioritize specific regional IPM extension and research needs, and the expected impacts if these needs could be met. All relevant stakeholders need to be involved in setting priorities. Such IPM priorities guide funding decisions for Center and USDA grant programs. Current priority lists can be found at [http://www.northeastipm.org/grant-programs/stakeholder-priorities/](http://www.northeastipm.org/grant-programs/stakeholder-priorities/)
3. In addition, two objectives from the following list in Year 2, three for Year 3
   - Increase collaboration among individuals and/or groups who are part of the working group.
   - Increase collaboration among external individuals and/or groups.
   - Increase working group knowledge.
   - Increase knowledge/awareness on the part of external stakeholders.
   - Implementation of IPM practices by targeted group.
   - Develop resources.
   - Share resources.

Link to website:

RFA:
[http://projects.ipmcenters.org/Northeastern/RFAs/RFA87.pdf](http://projects.ipmcenters.org/Northeastern/RFAs/RFA87.pdf)

Grant application package:
[http://projects.ipmcenters.org/Northeastern/public/ListRFAs.cfm](http://projects.ipmcenters.org/Northeastern/public/ListRFAs.cfm)