Public Tick IPM Working Group  
November 13, 2013  
Send corrections to jpetzoldt@ipminstitute.org

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 **December 11 at 1:00PM Central**.

I. Roll

- Jill Auerbach, Hudson Valley Lyme Disease Association
- Herb Bolton, USDA-NIFA
- Candy Brassard, EPA Office of Pesticide Programs
- John Carroll, Researcher [retired], USDA-ARS Invasive Insect Behavior and Biocontrol Laboratory
- Tom Delaney, National Land Care Network, National Lawn Care Association
- Holly Gaff, Old Dominion University
- Maria Gomes-Solecki, University of Tennessee
- Joe Laco, CDC National Center for Environmental Health
- Andrew Li, Research entomologist USDA-ARS
- Tom Mather, Professor and director of Center for Vector-Borne Disease, University of Rhode Island
- Nick Ogden, Public Health Agency of Canada
- Kerry Padget, California Department of Public Health
- Pat Smith, President, Lyme Disease Association

II. Discussing the draft Priorities and Deliverables

Participants on the call discussed the first three overarching priorities. Five overarching priorities are included in the Working Group Charter. The group will develop an additional list of specific priorities and deliverables to be updated regularly.

1. **Develop and promote adoption of IPM strategies to reduce risk of exposure to acaricides, ticks and tick-borne diseases.**

Call participants debated whether exposure to acaricides should be included in the first priority, since reducing acaricide exposure and tick exposure may be conflicting objectives. This priority has now been broken down into two parts, and reads:

1a. Develop and promote adoption of IPM strategies to reduce risk of exposure to ticks and tick-borne diseases.

1b. Reduce risk of exposure to acaricides and other products used to control ticks.

2. **Build partnerships and communicate with diverse stakeholders about the importance of and strategies for managing ticks for a healthy and safe environment.**

   **Important participants:** social scientists, advertisers, graphic designers and web engineers, school nurses, public health officials, primary care providers, veterinarians, landscapers, PMPs, NGOs, federal and state agencies, land-grants
Participants suggested changing “school nurses” to “school boards” since those are the people typically involved in landscape management decisions. Also added to the list were occupational groups such as NIOSH, farm groups, forestry groups, landscapers, park service works; recreational groups such as the American Camp Association, scout associations, state and national camp groups; advocacy and support groups, municipal agencies, and the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

3. Facilitate collaborative initiatives within working groups, especially between public employees and private individuals.

This priority was reworded to improve clarity, and states:
3. Facilitate collaborative initiatives within the working group, especially between academic, government and nongovernment organizations.

III. Action Items
- Candy Brassard has drafted a Working Group Charter to define the role of the working group, which will be discussed on the call in December.
- Jane will work with Tom Green to draft a proposal for working group funds through the North Central IPM Center’s Partnership Grant Program, due December 19. Interested co-Project Directors should contact Jane at jpetzoldt@ipminstitute.org.

VI. Other Notes
- EPA-registered products have been tested for efficacy and environmental and human health risk.
- Federal working group participants cannot endorse products and will need to remove themselves from discussions that pose a conflict of interest.
- It was suggested to look to Ellen Stromdahl’s work with the Department of Defense with developing educational materials for ticks.
- It was suggested that a concise, science-based summary of what is known about the effectiveness and risks of acaricides relative to other alternatives would be useful to decision makers and stakeholders. Group members should note that “Develop a Decision Support Model to assist individuals and organizations in choosing among tick control options” is included under Activity #6.

Send questions, comments, suggestions to jpetzoldt@ipminstitute.org