Public Tick IPM Working Group
April 10th, 2019

Please send additions, omissions or other corrections to neisner@ipminstitute.org

The Working Group meets via conference call on the second Wednesday of each month at 1:00PM CT (2:00PM EST). The following notes are for April 10th, 2019

Roll
1. Allegra Lowitt, Thermacell
2. Heather Szerlong, Ticknology
3. Joellen Lampman, New York State IPM Program
4. Mason Kauffman, US Biologic
5. Thomas Mather, University of Rhode Island
6. Alicia Cashman, Madison Area Lyme
7. Kirby Stafford, Connecticut Agricultural Experimental Station
8. Tim Fox, Madison Area Lyme
9. Chris Stelzig, Entomology Society of America
10. Jill Auerbach, Hudson Valley Lyme Disease Association, TRED
11. Kristin Garofalo, NJ Department of Health
12. Mike Mrozinski, Pike County Vector Control
13. Gloria Kim, Limiting Lyme
15. Bob Maurais, Mainely Ticks
16. Natalie Eisner, IPM Institute
17. Monica White, Colorado Tick-Borne Disease Awareness Association

Agenda
1. Presentation from Allegra Lowitt
2. Additional updates, comments and announcements from Working Group members

A recording of this call is available by visiting this link:
https://global.gotomeeting.com/play/recording/6b31fa4569de4a15773b70c1e2b15f96a590f46aa55c053d747007892360af71
Presentation, Allegra Lowitt

1. Intro: Allegra Lowitt, General Manager of the Tick Division at Thermacell Repellents. Today her talk will be about Tick Control Tubes as part of an IPM solution, Legislative Activity – Municipal vs State control of pesticides and Educating Tick Professionals.

2. Tick borne disease and IPM
   a. General public believes that mosquitoes cause more vector borne diseases than ticks. However, ticks are 6x more likely to infect people with diseases.
   b. Increase in US tick borne diseases. From 2016 to 2017, increase was 22%
   c. Many Americans are not aware that deer tick is vector for most TBD’s in the United States
   b. Most people are infected with Lyme in their backyards (or within 100 feet of their home). Very hard to see larvae and nymphs.
   c. Mice are the primary source of Lyme disease, major pests on property.

3. No one silver bullet to controlling ticks, hence IPM program
   a. Combination of sprays, landscape management
   b. White-footed mouse might have 50+ ticks on ears
   c. 90% of mice can carry Lyme
   d. Mice pass Lyme to ticks, commonly found in backyards.
   e. Sprays don’t do a good job with mice
   f. Tick tubes kills ticks feeding on mice. Tick Tubes developed by Harvard University researchers. How it works:
      i. Tick tubes contain cotton treated with permethrin insecticide.
      ii. Mice collect the treated cotton and use it to line their nest, rubbing the insecticide into their fur.
      iii. Ticks feeding on the mice die.
         1. Kills immature ticks, strengthening spray programs
         2. Easy application (apply 2x per year, no equipment required)
      iv. Kills immature ticks before they pass disease to humans and pets.

4. Regulatory issues & controlling ticks
   a. In some states, municipalities are proposing bills so they can decide which pesticides can be used in their towns.
      i. Pro: Municipalities can control pesticides used in their own town.
      ii. Con: entomologist to administer the program are expensive
      iii. Database has to be maintained
      iv. Bureaucratic hurdles reduce the number of chemistries available

5. PMP Educations
   a. Large range in what PMP’s know
   b. Ideas on how we may best disseminate information to them:
      i. IPM Info
      ii. Tick Academy
      iii. ITM site that is easy for tick professionals to find.
      iv. MPMA Association meetings
         1. May be opportunities for people on this call to bring the IPM info to more of these types of meetings and perhaps standardize this information

6. Questions
   a. What do PMP’s not know?
i. For example, PMP in technical department: wanted to understand better difference between bifenthrin spray vs. cedar oil. Were interested in outcomes due to legislative options but not sure how effective they are.

ii. Mather says CDC has a plan to have more testing done on natural products. Challenging to get test results.

iii. Professionals would be very interested in starting with Tick Management options doc then learning more about the softer chemistries. Need a better easily accessible resource for all.

b. Question about Tick tubes and bumble bees, are they impacted by the Tick Tubes
   i. No research on this to date

c. Comment on insecticide use & municipalities: Bob with Mainely ticks – several municipalities have banned synthetic pesticides but for public health issues controlling for ticks is exempt. Has always been and exemption for public health and safety.

These notes are for a Working Group call on April 10th, 2019. Future calls will continue to fall on the second Wednesday of each month at 1 PM Central time.

The Public Tick IPM Working Group is supported by USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture, Crop Protection and Pest Management Program through the North Central IPM Center. The Group is a forum for networking, collaboration and sharing science-based, unbiased information and is open to private and public-sector participation. Forum meetings, contact list, list-serv and other communications must not be used for commercial purposes or competitive advantage.