



Advocating for progressive integrated pest management to improve environmental, social and economic conditions through the application of scientific principles.

IPM Voice Update

November 17, 2011

Final Spending Bill Supports IPM

The House and Senate agriculture funding committees have convened a conference committee to resolve their differences. While final Senate action has not yet occurred, nothing will change in the Senate related to IPM funding in the final bill. Generally, IPM did better than expected in the conference.

In conference, the committee can choose either the House or Senate spending level, or adopt a compromise. On all of the IPM programs, the conference committee adopted the level that is best for IPM. In one category, the final bill is higher than either of the House or the Senate bills.

IPM funding is found in three budget categories: Integrated Activities, Extension, and National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA).

1. **Integrated Activities** includes the IPM Centers and the methyl bromide program. The Centers are funded at \$4 million (Senate level) rather than at \$2.994 million designated in the House bill. Centers were funded at \$2.994 million in FY 2011. Integrated Activities also includes \$1.996 million for the methyl bromide program.
2. **IPM Extension** - The conference committee chose the higher Senate level, \$9.918 million, rather than the lower House amount of \$8.4 million for IPM Extension. This is a small drop from the FY 2011 level of \$9.938 million.
3. **NIFA** - This bill consolidates all of the existing IPM programs and IR-4 into a budget category called "Improved Pest Control." This was proposed in the FY 2012 budget. The House had funded this category at \$14 million and the Senate at \$15.1 million. The final bill includes more than either the House or the Senate levels - \$15.830 million. This means that NIFA IPM funding will be about \$4 million - last year's level of funding.

Although these levels are still \$350,000 less than the Administration's request, securing higher levels across the board is a major accomplishment in the present budgetary environment. IPM Voice's work in Washington and the contacts made by IPM supporters locally has paid off. We could not have expected a better result.

Your membership support is critical to our ability to educate policymakers about the importance of IPM. Please join or renew now at www.ipmvoice.org.

Join IPM Voice!

Thanks to strong support from our members, IPM Voice has been able to accomplish several significant goals in 2011:

- We officially incorporated as a non-profit organization.
- Hired Jim Cubie, former chief counsel for the US Senate Agriculture Committee, to advise and assist with our efforts to educate policymakers.
- IPM Voice members were instrumental in saving USDA Regional IPM Centers in the FY 2011 budget by initiating a single contact to a key House decision maker. Combined with support letters from IPM stakeholders, this effort was able to restore partial funding to the Centers.
- We assembled a set of [fact sheets](#) to inform policymakers and others about the importance of IPM and its benefits to constituents.
- In October, we visited congressional offices in Washington, DC to inform key House and Senate members and staffers of the importance of IPM programs.

IPM Voice is proud of what we have been able accomplish with the help of our members, but as a new year approaches, there is much work to be done. Please take a few moments to join or renew your membership for 2012 to support and participate in advocating for progressive IPM.

Visit www.ipmvoice.org/join to join IPM Voice via our secure server.

IPM Mandated in European Union Member States by 2014

Per Article 14 of Directive 2009/128/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 October 2009, European Union "Member States shall describe in their National Action Plans how they ensure that the general principles of integrated pest management...are implemented by all professional users by 1 January 2014." Article 14 calls for all Member States to ensure that users of pesticides have all information necessary for the implementation of IPM including "tools for pest monitoring and decision making, as well as advisory services on integrated pest management." This Directive, put into effect to achieve more sustainable use of pesticides, applies to all 27 Member States.

[Join IPM Voice today](#), and support active advocacy for progressive IPM. Please forward this email to colleagues and ask for their support and participation.

IPM Voice is an independent, non-profit organization advocating for integrated pest management (IPM) that is genuinely progressive and seeks continuous improvement of environmental, social and economic conditions through application of accepted scientific principles. IPM Voice was formed in 2010 by more than 35 professionals working to expand the benefits IPM has provided to agriculture and communities for more than 40 years.