
United States Department of Agriculture
Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service



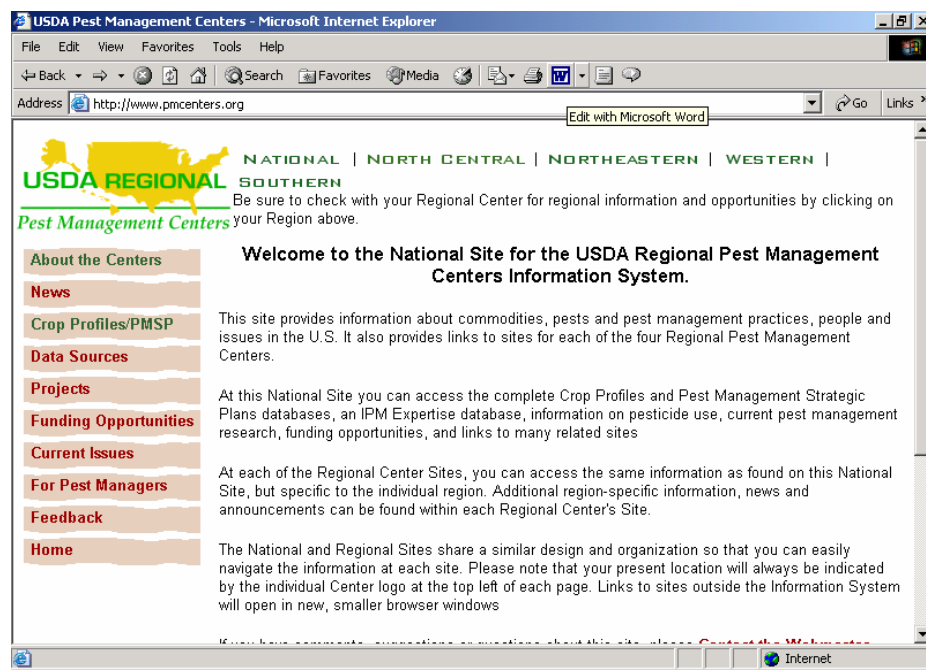
Regional Integrated Pest Management Centers

Promoting IPM Programs That Help Agriculture, Consumers, and the Environment

USDA has placed a high priority on the establishment of Regional Pest Management (IPM) Centers as a means of strengthening its connection with production agriculture, research and extension programs, and agricultural stakeholders throughout the United States. Regional Centers help USDA's Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service (CSREES) and its partner institutions identify, prioritize, and coordinate national pest management research, extension, and education programs. While Centers are regionally based, inter-regional collaboration that crosses parochial boundaries is an important component of the program's success.

Regional IPM Centers:

- Increase the effectiveness of public investments by enhancing the coordination of research and outreach efforts,
- Bolster interdisciplinary and multi-organizational IPM research and outreach efforts,
- Provide timely and high-quality information on IPM practices and use patterns to government agencies and agricultural stakeholders,
- Organize responses to emerging regional and national issues, and
- **Foster a high level of stakeholder involvement and support for public research and outreach IPM programs.**



More information about the Regional Integrated Pest Management Centers can be found at their National Web site: <http://www.pmcenters.org>. At this site you can access the Crop Profile and Pest Management Strategic Plan databases, an IPM expertise database, information on pesticide use, current IPM research, funding opportunities, and links to many related sites. It is intentionally designed with few graphics for fast and simple navigation.

Four Regional Centers are spread geographically across the United States. Some of their products and ongoing activities include:

Crop Profiles: Descriptions of IPM and crop production practices including regional differences and worker activities that occur throughout the growing season.

Pest Management Strategic Plans: National commodity based documents developed by stakeholder groups to identify and prioritize future IPM needs, strategies, and related information for IPM specialists, regulatory agencies, and decision makers.

Research & Outreach Opportunity Information: Details funding and cooperation opportunities for researchers, educators, extension professionals, and practitioners.

Lead Collaboration, Needs Assessment and Communication Among Stakeholders, Regulators and the University Community: Build working relationships with key stakeholders, organize formal stakeholder input sessions, target stakeholder information to proper research and extension personnel, and act as an information conduit for government agencies.

There is one Regional IPM Center in each of the four CSREES regions:

Northeast

Director:	John Ayers	jea@psu.edu
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North Central

Directors:	Larry Olsen	olsenl@msu.edu
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IPM Facilitator:	Sue Ratcliffe	sratclif@uiuc.edu
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Southern

Director:	Ron Stinner	nsoy@unity.ncsu.edu
Asst. Director:	Steve Toth	stoth@ncsu.edu
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Western

Director:	Rick Melnicoe	rsmelnicoe@ucdavis.edu
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The national Web site (<http://www.pmcenters.org>) is managed by the National Science Foundation (NSF) Center for Integrated Pest Management at North Carolina State University. The NSF Center also develops and maintains many searchable databases for the Regional IPM Centers.

Each Regional IPM Center has an advisory team that provides a broad vision and guidance to its staff. Team members represent a wide range of stakeholders and link the Center to stakeholder needs and priorities for IPM programs.

Who Benefits from Regional IPM Centers?

How were the current centers formed?

In 2003, CSREES accepted applications from institutions that wished to host a Regional IPM Center from October 2003 to September 2007. More information application processes and support for Land Grant Universities provided by CSREES can be found at the agency's website: <http://www.reeusda.gov>.

Ag producers and other pest managers – Each Regional IPM Center addresses dynamic pest management needs for the production systems within their region.

Consumers – Regional IPM Centers support efforts to ensure that food is produced in the safest way possible, employing the best pest control methods that science has to offer.

Regulators – Regional IPM Centers promote informed regulatory decision making and play a key role in engaging state and federal regulatory agencies to university-based IPM expertise.

Extension & research personnel – Regional IPM Centers share the latest pest management information available regionally and nationally with the land-grant universities.

For more information contact Mike Fitzner – mfitzner@reeusda.gov or Bill Hoffman – whoffman@reeusda.gov