

# IR-4 Update

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# IR-4 Project

- **Started in 1963 as a publically funded (USDA) program to facilitate registration of Sustainable Pest Management Technology for Specialty Crops and Minor Uses.**
- **Main program areas**
  - Food Crop Program
    - Residue studies, some efficacy & crop safety\*
  - Biopesticide and Organic Support Program\*
  - Environmental Horticulture Program
  - ~~Public Health Pesticides~~

**\* Moved into Integrated solutions program**

## Sustained Success

- Over 18,500 food uses registered for specialty crops and minor uses since 1963
- Expansion of crop groupings (US/Canada & Codex)
- Nearly 2500 new uses approved in last 36 months, accomplished under challenging regulatory conditions

# Modern Minor Use Problem

Registrations are plentiful but ability to use approved pest management products can be limited:

- Export issues
- Efficacy data needs
- Pest resistance
- Government use restrictions
- Public acceptance



# Reorganization 2018

Biopesticide Research will be consolidated into Food and Environmental Hort Programs

- Minimal impact on Environmental Hort Program
- Impacts Food Product Performance activities
  - Specific projects
  - Integrated Solutions (formally PPWS & majority of Biopesticide Projects)
- 2019 will be transition year, some traditional biopesticide projects, some Integrated Solutions



# Integrated Solutions

- Better service the needs of the IR-4 stakeholders by integrating products.
- Considerable increase in development of efficacious biopesticides, that continue to play a more significant role in both conventional and organic agricultural production systems.

## Focus

- 1) Integrated Solutions research will screen conventional products and biopesticides singularly and/or in rotation to fill a pest management voids. (Comparative Efficacy)
- 2) Will provide a greater focus on ways to manage pest resistance in conventional systems. (Resistance Management)
- 3) Use biopesticides and/or short-residual low risk products near harvest to reduce residue levels. Assist specialty crops for export markets, and reduce dietary exposure. (Residue Mitigation)
- 4) Maintain priorities to address needs for organic production systems

## 2019 Research Integrated Solutions and Biopesticides

- Projects for Integrated solutions
  - tuber decay on yam
  - Wireworms on sweet potato
  - Bacterial diseases on Onion
  - Verticillium wilt on eggplant
  - Cucumber beetle on Watermelon
  - Processing Tomato
  - Orobanche parasitic weed control
- Six Projects for BioPesticides
  - Viruses and Viroids/ GHTomato
  - SWD Attract kill – Organic production
  - Downy Mildew basil – Organic production
  - Weed screening
  - Bacterial diseases. Fruiting vegetables
  - Damping off Hemp



# New People/New Roles

## HQ

- Thomas Pike
- New Study Director

## Regions Field Coordinators

- Michael Horak (Western Region)
- Janine Spies (Southern Region)
- Anthony VanWoerkom (NC Region)

EPA – Nancy Fitz (MUTL)

**Thank You**

