



**IPM Institute of North America, Inc.**

*Harnessing Marketplace Power to Improve Health, Environment and Economics*

November 6, 2009

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*2003 Environmental  
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Wisconsin and  
Nationwide*

NAME, State Conservationist  
NAME, EQIP Program Manager  
Natural Resources Conservation Service  
## STREET  
CITY, STATE ZIP

Dear NAME and NAME:

The Integrated Pest Management Conservation Activity Plan (IPM CAP) presents a valuable opportunity for farmers to identify conservation practices which can help reduce risks from pest management activities including pesticide applications.

IPM CAPs represent a key opportunity to address natural resource concerns. For example, a 2006 study by the US Geological Survey found that 94% of fish samples, 94% of surface water samples and 33% of ground water samples were contaminated with pesticides, and 10% of stream samples and 1% of well samples exceeded a human health threshold for pesticide residues.

Beginning in 2010, growers in any state can apply for financial assistance from NRCS to develop an IPM CAP for their farm. On behalf of the National IPM CAPs Working Group, we strongly encourage you to offer IPM CAPs through EQIP to growers in your state.

Our working group is a collaboration of NRCS staff, independent Technical Service Providers (TSPs), University specialists, non-profit organizations and others working since June 2009 to support IPM CAP adoption. The opportunity for growers to obtain financial assistance for an IPM CAP is critical towards meeting a number of important environmental goals that EQIP was designed for, including improved water quality. To this end, the working group and partners have offered the following support:



4510 Regent St., Madison WI 53705

608 232-1410, Fax 608 232-1440

ipmworks@ipminstitute.org, www.ipminstitute.org

- Developing training curriculum for professionals interested in preparing IPM CAPs including prerequisite requirements. The curriculum will be first offered during a one-day training in conjunction with the National Alliance of Independent Crop Consultants annual meeting in January 2010. The curriculum will be available online and through other training events thereafter.
- A comprehensive set of support tools including model IPM CAPs and templates, and cost estimates for IPM CAPs for region and crop-specific scenarios based on farmer and TSP experience.
- Outreach to increase awareness of and appreciation for the IPM CAP opportunity.

These and additional resources will be posted to our website for anyone to access (<http://www.ipminstitute.org/IPMCAPs/>) as they are finalized.

Please contact Brenna Wanous ([bwanous@ipminstitute.org](mailto:bwanous@ipminstitute.org) or 608 232-1410) for more information about the working group. We welcome your suggestions on how we can support you in your efforts to make IPM CAPs a success in your state.

On behalf of the national working group,



Thomas A. Green, Ph.D.  
President

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