**Working Together to Develop IPM Programs on Tribal Lands**

In 2007, Dr. Susan Ratcliffe, Director of the North Central IPM Center, realized that there was a opportunity to share information about integrated pest management to 1994 Tribal Colleges and Tribal communities after participating in the USDA Tribal Colleges Research Grants Program Workshop at Haskell Indian Nations University. Dr. Ratcliffe presented information about the Regional IPM Centers and other IPM programs with representatives from the 1994 Tribal Colleges during the 2007 and 2008 USDA Tribal Colleges Research Grants Program to encourage collaboration. Together with Dr. Martin Draper, National Program Leader with USDA NIFA, she presented information to the EPA Tribal Pesticide Program Council. As a result of these presentations, discussions with Virgil Dupuis from Salish Kootenai Tribal College resulted in the submission of a grant proposal that funded this project.

Dr. Susan Ratcliffe, Virgil Dupuis, Dr. George Godfrey, member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation and John Phillips, Executive Director of First American Land-Grant College and Organization Network (FALCON), were awarded a USDA- CSREES grant in 2008 to begin work on the tribal IPM project. As a result of this grant, trusted relationships have developed to enhance IPM adoption on Tribal lands. Literally, this grant opened the door to numerous collaborations with 1994 Tribal Colleges, the EPA Tribal Pesticide Program and Tribal Communities. As a result, the North Central and Western IPM Centers are collaborating with the EPA Tribal Pesticide Program Council (TPPC), USDA Tribal Education Equity and Extension Programs, 1994 and 1862 Land-Grant institutions, FALCON, and First Nations to increase IPM practices and reduce pesticide usage and risk on reservations.

In October 2009, a Tribal IPM Summit was hosted in Washington D.C. to identify high priority issues. The action items identified were:

* Develop of library of IPM PowerPoint presentations and accompanying handouts that can be used as needed to provide IPM training at 1994 Tribal Colleges and on reservations.
* Conduct face-to-face trainings that will assist individuals involved in community gardens that provide insect, weed and plant disease identification.
* Develop regional/national teams to address the cultural, traditional and indigenous IPM programming needs of Native Americans.
* Create a tribal IPM listserv to facilitate communication.
* Develop a factsheet that lists potential funding opportunities for 1994 Tribal Colleges and Universities, tribal communities and small farmers located on reservations to develop networks with these groups and others including 1862 Land Grant Universities, water quality, environmental protection and endangered species programs.
* Plan future Tribal IPM Summits to continue the momentum from the October 16, 2009 session.
* Develop a IPM farmer/practitioner scholarship program to share information about their implementation and programming efforts.
* Develop a web-based pesticide tracking systems for use on small farms on tribal lands.

As a result, two trainings were conducted in 2010. A pesticide tracking and risk assessment training was conducted on September 8-9, 2010 in cooperation with Hector Duran, Colorado River Indian Tribe, in Parker, Arizona and the IPM Institute of America. The training will include information about tracking pesticide applications, improving pesticide storage, a tour of the Tribal farm and pesticide risk evaluation. A community IPM gardening training was conducted August 18-19, 2010 in cooperation with Virgil Dupuis, Salish Kootenai College, in Pablo, Montana, Barry Jacobsen (state-based IPM coordinator), and Montana State University. The training included IPM basics, insect, plant disease and weed management, fertilization, pest management options and crop rotation. In addition, two evening tours allowed participants to visit a local community garden and learn about aquatic weed management techniques.

Through funding from the NCIPMC, in collaboration with Dr. Godfrey an IPM curriculum was developed for use by 1994 Tribal Colleges and discussions are underway to pilot the new curriculum at Haskell Indian College. The development of culturally sensitive IPM curricula and training modules allows for greater acceptance and implementation of IPM practices on the 56 million acres of tribal land. The program focuses on developing relationships at the state, regional and national levels to share knowledge of existing practices and foster adoption of these practices by other First Nations.

In 2011, Virgil Dupuis met with the National IPM Coordinating Committee and provided an overview of Tribal IPM Programs and discussion included opportunities for 1862 IPM specialists to collaborate with 1994 Tribal Colleges on both research and Extension projects. A mini-symposium session was conducted during the 7th International IPM Symposium to provide information about IPM programs in Tribal Communities. The session was well attended and several new associations were developed including a partnership between leading experts in sudden oak death and the Kashia Band.

The group has received funding to develop a Native American Small Farm Working Group to address pest management issues and share successful IPM program on reservations that has resulted in two Food Sovereignty Workshops that were conducted in 2012 at the Oneida Nation of Wisconsin and Ft. Berthold Tribal College. As a result of these collaborations, additional Food Sovereignty Programs are underway through the leadership of Joanie Buckley, Oneida Nation of Wisconsin, including a three day summit that was held in March 2013 that included over 200 individuals representing over 70 Tribal Nations.

Other Programs that have benefited from the relationships built as a result of this grant include:

* School IPM
* HUD IPM in Public Housing
* Head Lice Pilot Project
* Invasive Species in Indian Country
* Pesticide Recordkeeping in Indian Country
* Western Region Tribal IPM Work Group

In addition to these activities, the North Central IPM Center has included Tribal members as part of the Stakeholder Panel and Steering Committees as well as establishing a Tribal listserv. Efforts continue to address the action items identified during the 2009 Tribal Summit and expand efforts for greater collaboration and sharing of knowledge between partners.