

Minutes
Final Planning Meeting to Renew Former SERA-IEG 23 Cotton Insects
Southeastern Branch Entomological Society of America Meeting
Tunica, MS – March 8, 2005

Background Information:

At the November 11, 2003 meeting of SERA-IEG 23 in Tunica, Mississippi, R. G. Luttrell and B. R. Leonard were asked to develop a plan to renew the Southern Region Information Exchange Group for Cotton Insects. This discussion was continued at the 2004 Annual Meeting of the Southeastern Branch of the Entomological Society of America (SEB-ESA), but the attendance was very low (<12 attendees). Electronic surveys of all interested scientists during 2003 generally indicated continuing support for such meeting. Based upon comments at the 2004 meeting another meeting was scheduled in conjunction with the 2005 Annual Meeting of the Southeastern Branch of the Entomological Society of America to accept or reject a draft proposal for a new SERA-IEG. Because the original IEG activity was scheduled to expire in 2004, Chairman Luttrell requested and received a one-year extension from the southern Region Extension and Research Directors. Minutes of all previous meetings are posted on the Southern Directors website at (http://cipm.ncsu.edu/ent/Southern_Region/SAAESD/cotton.html).

The 2005 meeting was held in conjunction with a formal symposium at the SEB-ESA meeting as suggested at the previous SERA-IEG meeting to generate more interest and a higher attendance. The symposium was organized by Drs. Jeff Gore (USDA-ARS, Stoneville, MS) and Mike Williams (MSU, Mississippi State, MS) with Dr. Angus Catchot (MSU, Mississippi State, MS). The title of the symposium was: NEW PESTS, RE-EMERGING PESTS, AND CHANGES IN PEST STATUS. The oral presentations and associated authors were:

- (1) OVERVIEW OF RECENT EVENTS INFLUENCING THE IMPLEMENTATION AND ADOPTION OF AGRICULTURAL IPM PROGRAMS. **Martin, S.**
Mississippi State University, Delta Res. and Extension Center, Stoneville, MS
- (2) NEW TECHNOLOGIES IN ROW CROP AGRICULTURE: GENETIC ENGINEERING, PRECISION AG, SELECTIVE INSECTICIDES. **Leonard, R.**
Northeast Research Station, LSU AgCenter, Winnsboro, LA.
- (3) TARNISHED PLANT BUG: IS IT MORE IMPORTANT NOW AND WHY?
Snodgrass, G. USDA-ARS, Stoneville, MS
- (4) STINK BUGS: FLOURISHING IN LOW SPRAY ENVIRONMENTS. **Greene, J.**
Univ. of Arkansas at Monticello, Monticello, AR.
- (5) SUGARCANE BEETLE: A THREAT TO CORN AND SWEET POTATOES IN THE SOUTHERN U.S. **Parker, D.** Mississippi State University, Raymond, MS.
- (6) SOYBEAN APHID: IS IT A PEST IN THE SOUTHERN U.S.? **Abel, C.** USDA-ARS, Stoneville, MS.
- (7) *PIEZODORUS*: IS THE THREAT REAL? **Baur, M.** LSU AgCenter, Baton Rouge, LA.
- (8) MEXICAN RICE BORER: AN INVASIVE SPECIES THREAT TO GRAMINACEOUS CROPS IN THE GULF COAST REGION. **Reagan, G.,**

F.P.F. Reay-Jones, LSU AgCenter, Baton Rouge, LA, and M. O. Way, Dept. of Entomology, Texas A&M Univ.
(9) CONSEQUENCES OF INSECTICIDE RESISTANCE. **Luttrell, R.** Dept. of Entomology, Univ. of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR.

Minutes of the 2005 meeting and associated program :

Randy Luttrell (Chair) called the business meeting to order at 4:30 pm on March 8, 2005 in Room 2 of the Grand Casino Conference Center in Tunica, Mississippi. The minutes of the meeting were recorded by Roger Leonard (Secretary). Twenty scientists were in attendance included 20 and represented the following organizations: Southern Agricultural Experiment Station Directors, Southern Cooperative Extension Service Directors, Cotton Incorporated, North Carolina State University, Clemson University, University of Florida, University of Georgia, University of Tennessee, Mississippi State University, USDA-APHIS-PPQ (Florida), USDA-ARS (Mississippi), University of Arkansas, Louisiana State University AgCenter, and Texas Agricultural Experiment Station. Written copies of the previous minutes (2004), pending proposal, and a list of previous participants, and meeting agenda were distributed to the group.

Randy Luttrell reviewed the purpose of the meeting and directed a discussion on the history of the regional projects and IEG groups associated with cotton entomology as it pertained to the current proposal. He recognized the support of several scientists from USDA-ARS (Texas) and University of Arizona that wished to continue a cotton SERA-IEG. Luttrell updated the group on the task assigned to the chair and secretary which included the development of a draft proposal for the former SERA-IEG. Ralph Bagwell and Jim Harper gave overviews of the purpose of SERA-IEG's and described the general differences between an Information Exchange Group (IEG) and Regional Project. Both advisors pledged support for the formation of an IEG or Regional Project if this was the consensus of the group. Luttrell commented that Dennis Kopp (CSREES Advisor) usually attends this meeting, but was no longer our contact at the national level. Mike Fitzner was appointed to be the CSREES representative at future meetings of the Cotton entomology SERA.

The group unanimously voted to renew the SERA-IEG and accept the proposed project as a draft that can be modified. A deadline of Friday, March 18, was accepted as the final date to accept changes to the objectives and content of the proposal to meet the submission deadline during early April. The current objectives focus broadly on the entire scope of insects attacking U.S. cotton and allow considerable latitude to include a number of diverse project areas. The former project was targeted primarily at boll weevil. The proposed focus of the new proposed group was the changing spectrum of pests and pest management programs.

An election of new officers was successfully completed after discussion of some limitation on the ability USDA-ARS personnel to serve in positions that require even minimal management of finances. The new officers include Megha Parajulee (Chair, 2005-2006) and Jeremy Greene (secretary and chair elect, 2005- 2006). Luttrell offered Parajulee the opportunity for comments. He then led a discussion on the format of the meeting, program, location, and time of the 2006 meeting. A general decision was made to allow the officers to solicit input from several sources before arranging the meeting. The group of attendees plans to schedule the SERA-IEG meeting to coincide with another conference to reduce travel costs and more efficiently utilize time for scientists.

The meeting was adjourned promptly at 5:45 pm.

Minutes summarized by B. R. Leonard and R. G. Luttrell