

E11-P

EXPANDING BIOINTENSIVE IPM THROUGH PARTNERSHIPS: THE WISCONSIN/FLORIDA RAMP EXAMPLE

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The University of Wisconsin (Madison, WI), Glades Crop Care, Inc. (Jupiter, FL), and Benbrook Consulting (Sandpoint, ID) received a USDA Risk Avoidance and Mitigation Program (RAMP) grant in 2001 to expand and enhance bioIPM vegetable programs in Wisconsin potato and Florida tomato and pepper systems. Through this unique partnership, specific grower advancements in bioIPM systems have been documented in both the Wisconsin potatoes and Florida vegetable systems. Funding provided for the development of credible, comprehensive measurement systems of IPM systems, pesticide toxicity measures, and resistance management risk indices. Targeted and focused grower outreach opportunities provided growers with one-on-one learning while hands-on grower tools were developed to provide growers with bioIPM educational materials. In all, this project provided the collaboration between two unique entities working on bioIPM programs. The enhanced agricultural research, synergy, efficiency, focus and productivity which occurred between the FL and WI project has resulted in a cooperative venture which is truly exciting and is proof of a well executed public/private relationship which has effectively enhanced both programs.