

# NORTHEAST MULTISTATE ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

The Northeast Multistate Activities Committee met by teleconference on September 15, 2016. Members present on the call included: Tim Phipps (WV), Gary Thompson (PA), Cameron Faustman (CT-S), Rick Rhodes (NERA). The agenda of the meeting was reviewed.

## 1. Multistate Project Proposals:

- Request to approve multistate proposal, NE\_TEMP1010 Improving Forage and Bioenergy Crops for Better Adaptation, Resilience, and Flexibility (10/01/2017 - 10/01/2022)
- The MAC considered the external reviews and the revised proposal. Cameron Faustman moved that NE\_TEMP1010 be recommended to NERA for approval and submission to NIFA. Tim Phipps seconded. Gary Thompson suggested that in addition to the MAC receiving the reviews and revised proposal, the MAC should also receive the response of the technical team to the review. The MAC then voted unanimously in support of the motion.

## 2. NRSPs:

- No action

## 3. Advisor assignments

- NE 1640: Plant-Parasitic Nematode Management as a Component of Sustainable Soil Health Programs in Horticultural and Field Crop Production Systems [10/2016-09/2021]
- Mark Rieger (DE) was suggested as the AA and approved by acclamation.

## 4. Other Business

- 2016/17 NERA Planning Grants.
- 12 Proposals were received by NERA. The MAC reflected that NERA had received a number of well-written and compelling proposals. After the committee evaluated all the proposals, 3 proposals were identified as strong and were co-ranked. Rick Rhodes shared with the MAC that NERA had budgeted \$20,000 for the Planning Grant competition. Hence, two full proposals could be funded. Gary Thompson motioned that the top three proposals be forwarded to NERA for consideration and that the final decision on funding of the proposals would be made by the NERA directors. Tim Phipps seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Rick Rhodes will forward the three proposals to NERA for review at the September 20, 2016 NERA meeting.

## 5. For information only:

- NE 1640 (formerly NE\_TEMP1640 and NE 1040): Plant-Parasitic Nematode Management as a Component of Sustainable Soil Health Programs in Horticultural and Field Crop Production Systems [10/2016-09/2021] is pending approval by NIFA

## 6. The meeting concluded at 4:01.

Current MAC members:

- Fred Servello, ME (2015-2018) – Chair

- Cameron Faustman, CT-S (2014-2017)
- Tim Phipps, WV (2013-2016)
- Gary Thompson, PA (2015-2018)
- Pat Vittum, MA/NEED (2014-2017)
- Dennis Calvin, PA/NEED (2017-2020)