



# NORTHEAST MULTISTATE ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE MEETING

## Report and Recommendations

The Mystic Hilton  
20 Coogan Boulevard, Mystic, CT 06355

July 10, 2011  
2:00pm to 4:00pm

**Chair, Jon Wraith (NH)**

**Members: Kirby Stafford III (CT-NH), Tim Phipps (WV), Stephen Herbert (MA) and Bob Schrader (NEED)**

**In Attendance:** Jon Wraith, Kirby Stafford III, Tim Phipps, Stephen Herbert, Dan Rossi, Fred Servello, Rubie Mize (Recorder)

### **Multistate Research Projects:**

1. Request to approve the proposal for a Rapid Response Multistate 500-series project, [NE\\_TEMP1861: Management of the Brown Marmorated Stink Bug \[08/2011-2013\]](#).

**Action:** MAC recommends approval of the proposal.

2. Request to approve the proposal, [NE\\_TEMP1741: Ecological Bases for Weed Management in Sustainable Cropping Systems \[10/2011-2016\]](#), currently NE1026.

**Action:** MAC recommends approval of the proposal.

### **Multistate Coordinating Committee (CC) and Education/Extension and Research (ERA) Projects:**

3. Request to approve the proposal, [NE\\_TEMP1821: Strategies to Evaluate and Mitigate Ozone Impacts on the Structure and Function of Vegetation \[10/2012-2017\]](#), currently NE1030. Note that at MAC's meeting in March, the members were concerned that the proposed project lacks a strong research component that demonstrates interdependence among the participating stations, and felt that the Coordinating Committee format may best suit this

multistate activity. The technical committee heeded your advice and submitted their full proposal as a Coordinating Committee.

**Action:** MAC recommends approval of the proposal to form a Coordinating Committee.

4. Request to approve the proposal, [NE\\_TEMP1781: Northeast Region Technical Committee on Integrated Pest Management \[10/2011-2016\]](#), currently NEERA1001.

**Action:** MAC recommends approval of the proposal to form an ERA. An Extension Co-Advisor will be needed. Dr. Roger Adams, Extension Advisor from UCONN had retired.

5. Request to approve the proposal, [NE\\_TEMP1761: Sustainable Wood Energy \[10/2011-2016\]](#), new project.

**Action:** MAC recommends approval of the proposal to form an ERA. An Extension Co-Advisor will be needed.

6. Request to approve the Request to Write a Proposal for NE1029, entitled [Community Health and Resilience \[10/2012-2017\]](#), renewal.

**Action:** MAC recommends approval of the request to write a multistate research proposal.

7. Request to approve the Request to Write a Proposal, entitled [Nanotechnology Risk Assessment \[10/2011-2016\]](#), new project.

**Action:** The field has some uncertainties but is an important issue in the region. MAC recommends approval of request to write a proposal for a Coordinating Committee.

#### **Midterm Reviews:**

8. Consideration of the following midterm reviews and request to terminate

- [Midterm Review](#) of NE1029 - Rural Change: Markets, Governance and Quality of Life [10/2007 to 9/2012]

MAC commends Advisor Dan Rossi for submitting the thorough and informative midterm review to update the Directors, and the technical committee for their accomplishments under the multistate project.

- [Midterm Review](#) of NE1037 - Wood Utilization Research : Biofuels, Bioproducts, Hybrid Biomaterials Composites Production, and Traditional Forest Products [8/2009 to 9/2014]

Action: MAC accepted the Midterm Report and charged the Advisor to move forward with his recommendation to terminate the project. The Committee commends Advisor Fred Servello for his thoughtful review of the project and for working with members of the technical committee under difficult circumstances.

- Termination of NECC63 - Research Committee on Commodity Promotion [10/2006-2011].  
A Request to Write was submitted and approved at the March 2011 MAC meeting, but the technical committee came back and expressed that the project had run its course and will terminate instead as scheduled on Sept. 30, 2011.

The project will terminate as scheduled on Sept. 30, 2011.

- NECC1011 - Balancing Natural Resource Recreation Management, Human Well-Being, and Community Resilience [10/2008-2013]. Dr. Fred Servello will give an update to MAC.

Advisor Fred Servello updated MAC that the group is active and plans to pursue with the multistate project on recreation and health. A Request to Write will be submitted for consideration at the September 2011 meeting.

**NRSPs:**

9. NRSP Review Committee Recommendations on the FY2012 Off-the-top Funding  
[Summary of NRSPRC Recommendations](#)

NRSP 2012 Budget Request Recommendations

<u>Project</u>	<u>Request</u>	<u>Recommendation</u>
NRSP-1	\$50,000	\$50,000
NRSP-3	\$50,000	\$50,000
NRSP-4	\$481,182	\$481,182
NRSP-6	\$150,000	Deferred
NRSP-7	\$325,000	\$325,000 <sup>1</sup>
NRSP-8	\$500,000	\$500,000 <sup>2</sup>
NRSP-9	\$175,000	Deferred

The NRSPRC recommended approval of the NRSPs off-the-top funding except for NRSP6 and NRSP9. Both needed further clarification. Since the June 6 NRSPRC Meeting, the NRSP6 had satisfactory addressed the issue about charging the private sector for their service.

---

<sup>1</sup> With the caveat that if funds equal to or less than this amount become available to NRSP-7 through a Congressional special grant or equivalent funding mechanism during FY2011-12, that amount will not be distributed to NRSP-7 from Hatch MRF. In addition, The NRSP-7 Committee requested a floor amount of \$100,000 in the event that federal budget approval is delayed. This request cannot be approved as no money is released unless the federal budget is approved.

<sup>2</sup> The Committee deferred a decision on NRSP-9 as it is awaiting confirmation that NRSP-9 has secured matching funds for FY2011 and can provide assurance of matching funds for FY2012.

*The NRSP-6 Technical Committee response, which the NRSPRC members found acceptable, is as follows:*

A vigorous effort has been made to procure funding to substitute for NRSP6 in FY11. Donations totaling \$25,500 (equal to more than 1/6 = 17% of the NRSP6 budget) were solicited and received from private industry in FY11 and deposited in UW accounts created for use by the genebank, and those funds are being used 100% for germplasm research support: Frito-Lay contributed \$15K, Kemin Industries contributed \$10K, and Controlled Environmental Technology Systems (CETS) contributed \$500. Our plan for FY12-15 includes several targets. We will ask Frito Lay, Kemin, and CETS to continue and increase their FY11 contributions, and will similarly approach Simplot, with a goal of increasing annual contributions from private industry to at least 20% of the NRSP6 budget (\$30K). In FY12, we will consult the National Potato Council, the leaders of the four US regional genebanks, and our sister potato genebanks in other countries for advice on how private donations can be most efficiently pursued. We will produce and distribute a brochure to all private-sector germplasm recipients which explains the value of the project to the public, and follow up with a personal contact suggesting voluntary donations. We have also had success in getting public sector funds. USDA has assumed the burden of ½ salary for one UW Genebank position and converted another former UW genebank position to federal. We got a \$50K USAID grant to facilitate cooperative work with our sister genebank in Peru. We sought and received a \$3500 federal grant to support germplasm acquisition. We are planning a proposal for the NSF grant program "Improvements to Biological Research Collections" in September. All of these efforts are aimed at maintaining the US Potato Genebank germplasm services which currently benefit SAES faculty.

The NRSP9 has yet to address the issue on raising the other half (\$175K) of the total funds required by the project. USDA-NIFA released the \$175K for FY2011. Technically, NRSP9 has until the September ESS Meeting to raise the other half. The NRSPRC will monitor this closely and will report at the Sept. meeting.

In addition to the NRSPs FY2012 off-the-top funding, the directors will also vote at the ESS Meeting on September, on the \$15,000 support for the 2011 ESS Excellence in Multistate Research Award.

### **Other Business:**

10. NERA Planning Grant Update - The return has been impressive with the amount that NERA had actually spent. Of the \$17,472 spent, a return of \$6.3M [NE0905=3.5M & NE1005=2.8M] has been awarded.

There still a need to improve the quality of proposals submitted for the NERA Planning Grant. The Directors should help facilitate the process and encourage their faculty to submit proposals, demonstrating to their faculty the strong leveraging possible using past grants as examples.

11. MAC Leadership and Membership

Nomination for MAC Chair – Kirby Stafford III, CTNH (2012-2015)

New MAC Member to replace Stephen Herbert - Fred Servello, ME (2012-2015)

An additional MAC Member - Gary Thompson, PA (2012-2015)

An additional NEED Member – will be discussed at the NEED-NERA Joint Meeting

12. Advisor Assignments for new projects
  - a. NE\_TEMP1761: Sustainable Wood Energy [10/2011-2016]
    - i. Research Advisor – Gary Thompson (PA) Extension Advisor – Vacant
  - b. Nanotechnology Risk Assessment [10/2011-2016]
    - i. Research Advisor – Fred Servello (ME)
13. Dr. Stafford reported that there are administrative issues related to NE1031: Collaborative Potato Breeding and Variety Development Activities to Enhance Farm Sustainability in the Eastern US. The group is active and has significant accomplishments, but there has not been good participation on technical committee positions and the group has been delinquent in submitting annual reports.