Funding Recommendations and Discussions by the PMAC Alliance
Grant Review Subcommittee
May 6, 2009

Reviewers: Rebecca Sisco (University of California, IR-4 Program), *Chair*, Bob Elliot (DPR), Marshall Lee (DPR), Dave Tamayo (Sacramento County Stormwater Program), Brian Hill (Pesticide Action Network of North America), Anne Katten (California Rural Legal Assistance Foundation), Renee Rianda (California Agricultural Production Consultants Association), Stacy Carlson (Marin County Department of Agriculture), and Pam Marrone (Marrone Organic Innovations). (Mr. Carlson and Dr. Marrone completed Alliance proposal scoring forms, but were not present for subcommittee deliberations.) The reviewers were provided a Conflict of Interest statement referencing Gov't. Code section 87100 and 87100 (a).

Funded Projects

1. Integrated Pest Management Continuing Education for Maintenance Gardeners
San Luis Obispo County Agricultural Commissioner's Office- Ms. Tamara Kleeman
Requested: $61,083

Recommendation:

Fund at $61,000.

Subcommittee comments

1. This is a good project with a reasonable approach in an important area of study.
2. Project goals clearly stated.
3. There is a strong management team to help—they note everyone involved from the university all the way to people using products.
4. There is a good history/track record in San Luis Obispo from past programs that involves the County Agricultural Commissioner.
5. Program will use currently existing materials provided by UC IPM program

Areas in need of revision

1. The budget seemed low for the bilingual training that is critical to the project.
2. There is some concern about pre/post surveys to measure success. Are there other ways to measure program success?

3. There is also a concern about incentives for gardeners to attend programs given the language barrier.

Public comment: None

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2. Healthy Homes Alliance
Physicians for Social Responsibility-L.A. – Ms. Martha Dina Arguello
Requested: $300,000

Recommendation:

Fund at $200,000, with a resubmitted budget to reflect funding cuts.

Subcommittee comments

1. They actually have a track record working in low-income housing—their experience isn't private but in public housing scenarios. There is a large capacity there already to work in those communities.
2. They don't have specific apartment complexes identified at this point.
3. I'm not familiar with this type of pest management and how it operates. I paid attention to CVs of applicants. I was very impressed with their track record of attaining grant funding and types of projects they worked on. I took that as a signal that they would accomplish what they set out to do.
4. One of the team partners, Luis Agurto of Pestec, gave a very impressive presentation on IPM work in Marin and won a DPR IPM Innovator award.
5. They submitted a proposal last year and it was weak on technical aspects. They brought in a pest control company (per our suggestion from last year) and improved their capabilities in that area.
6. The partner organizations have good tenant relationships.
7. Excellent proposal that outlines that appropriate management has been lined up.

Areas in need of revision

1. I understand what they are trying to do, but it seems like the team doesn't have the people they are going to need to effect with this project.
2. The applicants ignored possible barriers to the success of their proposal. And they were so thorough in other areas and that was cause for concern.
3. Allocate more of budget to implementation, hands-on contact, and training.
4. Better clarify staff roles.
5. Increase training to get more money
6. Reduce staffing/personnel fees.

7. Implementation might be a better place to use some of those funds.
8. The concept is great but the budget needs work.

Comment: (Brian Hill recused himself from scoring and discussion of this project.)
Public comment:

The incentive for the resident may be low. The managers are going to be quite interested because they have a stake in the building based on cost, etc.

The project only deals with 100 property managers, but that trickles out to the hundreds of residents they impact.

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3. Reducing Pesticide on Central Coast Strawberries
Cacuhuma Resource Conservation District (CRCD)- Ms. Claire Wineman
Requested: $ 65,000

Recommendation:

Fund fully at $65,000.

Subcommittee comments

1. Proposal included a good description of problems facing strawberries growers (pesticides, pests, etc).
2. Excellent plan to reach small growers, and for bilingual work.
3. This is not a perfect design, but they aren't asking for that much money, and it is important work.
4. If they are working with this population, I'm willing to fund because not a lot of groups are willing to get in with this group.

Areas in need of revision

1. We recommend getting partners that could help with IPM expertise.
2. Good start but needs more detail; they need to know who the producers are.
3. The project's goal is to delay or minimize one pesticide application. If they do ten, then this isn't a significant goal. More information is needed here. Their measure of success isn't significant as described.

Public comment:

There seems to be a lack of diversity in project team. They could increase impact if they include PCAs not just growers. It is coming from resource conservation district, and there

is likely other funding there.

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4. Almond Pest Management Alliance Outreach and Evaluation Project
Community Alliance with Family Farmers- Ms. Marcia Gibbs
Requested: $200,000

Recommendation:

Recommended to fund at $100,000 in order to specifically address pieces that move IPM strategies forward (at the suggestion of those familiar with the progress of the program).

Subcommittee comments

1. This is my strongest recommendation. This is the best proposal I've ever read based on RFP.
2. They have good people that know their stuff.
3. Laid out well for dissemination of information.
4. It has an impressive team of researchers
5. Almonds are an important crop/issue and there is a set of practices that need to be disseminated.
6. We want to make sure they will continue momentum.

Areas in need of revision

1. The one thing the proposal covers at length is PCAs, but they don't have any named on the team.
2. It seems more like an assessment project. It develops a tool but doesn't drive reduction in VOC pesticides.
3. This is the third time we are funding almonds. Is it time to give someone else a chance?
4. The project/proposal is too nebulous—this is a lot of money to be unsure what they are going to get out of it.
5. The self-assessment tool wasn't explained in terms of how it would be used and get beyond an implicitly low level of adoption.
6. I don't see how they are clear enough about how they are going use 200K of DPR money.

Public comment:

The solicitation doesn't mention being original or providing something new. I can sympathize with the feeling of giving the money to new project, but that isn't stated anywhere.

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5. Demonstration and Implementation of Integrated Pest Management in the Production of Bedding plants, Container Color Plants.
University of California, Davis-Dr. Michael Parrella
Requested: $247,175

Recommendation:

Fund at $159,000. Funding cuts represent the committee's desire to support the project but not any program elements involving chlorine dioxide. Changes should be made to other program areas as necessary to bring budget into alignment. In addition, the management team and team partners should be expanded to create a more robust team to cover gamut of all impacted and strengthen the alliance.

Subcommittee comments

1. The concept and project plan is good.
2. I think they rely pretty well on existing knowledge and only a small part of the proposed project is research.
3. The team is strong with expertise and breadth of experience.
4. Every aspect of the proposal measured up. It has several academic team members; lots of support from UCs. I rated it high.
5. There is a critical need for alternatives for nursery pesticides.

Areas in need of revision

1. *Specific concern:* Chlorine dioxide as a soil pesticide is kind of like a fumigant. It is hard to monitor, and is an irritant at low levels. They are trying to reduce fungicides, and I still have concerns of this chemical use.
2. I don't think they addressed the hands-on PCAs, applicators, etc.
3. They need individual nursery operators to feed them info on "is this alternative going to work?" Needs nursery-in-house demonstration blocks.
4. Their IPM protocols aren't quite in place yet. Maybe it is too early in the cycle. I would encourage them to come back with practices they are ready to go with.
5. There is no clean connection between this proposal and DPR priorities.
6. Economic review is too simplistic; there are no barriers to success/contingencies listed.

7. Deliverable detail was disappointing. What are they going to spend the money on?
8. Presently, there is no allocation for bilingual training needs, and there should be.

Public comment: None

Comment: (Rebecca Sisco recused herself from scoring and discussion of this project.)

Unfunded Projects

6. Evaluation & Promotion of Advanced Shank Injection/Compaction Application Technology for Metam Sodium Application
Responsible Farmers Coalition- Mr. John Guerard
Requested: $150,000

Recommendation:

This is worthwhile area of research, but given the limited amount of dollars, **the project is not recommended for funding**.

We would like to see VOC-reducing proposals to fit PMA guidelines, but this proposal emphasized research, not demonstration and outreach.

Subcommittee comments

1. This may be important work, but likely does not fit what these grants are supposed to be doing, namely demonstration and outreach. It isn't IPM oriented enough.
2. There are concerns about the methodology and structure of the study.
3. The research team does not include grower participation, or the involvement of technicians on the ground. While the study is early in the process, it is short on demonstration.

Areas in need of revision

This seems like a necessary place to begin researching, but the RFP clearly states that the project shouldn't emphasize research.

Public comment:

It seems clear that the focus is adoption and implementation of IPM. The purpose of the

grant is adoption and implementation of IPM that reduces risk to human health and environment. If this project reduces risk, it might fit.

In the future it might be useful to look at projects that reduces risk of fumigants. Can we rethink guidelines for next year to include this area?

I am concerned that each year we ask for these solicitations and each year we get VOC emission reduction and each year we say "they are too research focused." There was supposed to be a smaller grant program to cover these. It is discouraging to see these proposals year after year being rejected. It sends a mixed message from DPR because they want this type of proposal, yet they are continually rejected.

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7. Kids in Gardens
The Watershed Project- Mr. Harold Hedelman
Requested: $96,000

Recommendation:

Not Recommended for Funding

Subcommittee comments

1. Overall, the idea is good, but it lacked substance; it is civically strong but technically weak.
2. The project team acknowledges that the benefits will not be realized until the kids that are taught in this program reach adulthood, when they will be making pest management decisions in their own households.

Areas in need of revision

1. This is a great idea for public education, but doesn't focus enough on IPM.
2. Project team should be informed about current knowledge of home-use pesticides; diazinon and chlorpyrifos aren't used anymore.
3. List of deliverables wasn't clear.
4. There is no clear idea that program could continue after grant funding ended. There is no long-term plan.
5. Stipends aren't allocated appropriately to support programmatic description.

Public comment: None

8. Ornamental Nursery Alliance for Diaprepes Management
Regents, University of California Davis- Ms. Kris Godfrey
Requested: $268,091

Recommendation:

This is worthwhile area of research, but given the limited amount of dollars, **the project is not recommend for funding**.

However, we would like to see them come back with more confirmed practices that could be implemented as ready-to-roll IPM strategies.

Subcommittee comments

1. This project and the subject area are important.
2. Though thorough and well written, the proposal is a little heavy on research.
3. Laudable attempt to apply IPM when they legally may not be able to given constraints of transporting nursery materials from Diapretes-infested areas.

Areas in need of revision

1. This could be great area to fund after more information has been concluded.
2. The goal is to reduce pyrethroids use by 30%. Are they going to reduce other pesticide use?
3. They don't describe any potential obstacles and there will be contingences given all the unknowns.
4. This is a very ambitious project (i.e., measure of success: to change CDFA attitude and approach to APHIS quarantine and eradication).
5. So much depends on outcomes of other elements of the proposal (success of nematodes and parasitoids, ability to change quarantine regulations, etc.) There are too many unknowns to embrace this project.
6. This seems like more of a bio-control project than an IPM demonstration project.

Public comment: None

Concluding Comments

1. We need to revise the screening procedures that get projects and proposals to this point. We need to be clear that we are screening based on RFP criteria and need to take another look at how well the current scoring system is serving our needs. The

scoring should include a component that says, “Does this meet the requirements of the RFP.”

2. We should consider reducing the size of maximum grant given our hesitancy to give half of the pot to one project. However, this could be related to the nature of this year’s requests (i.e., most of the proposals requested large grants; only a few requested small grants).

California Environmental Protection Agency
Department of Pesticide Regulation

Pesticide Air Monitoring Network

May 2009

Background

- Food and Agricultural Code:
  - Section 11501. (a) . . . . . protection of public health and safety.
  - (b) To protect the environment from environmentally harmful pesticides . . . . . .
  - Section 12824. . . . . the director shall develop an orderly program for the continuous evaluation of all pesticides actually registered.

Background

- Air Resources Board (ARB), DPR, and others conduct pesticide air monitoring
  - Usually monitor single pesticide
  - Usually measure shorter exposures (hours – weeks)
  - Extrapolate data for longer exposures
- DPR gathered valuable data from its Lompoc and Parlier projects
  - Monitored multiple pesticides
  - Measured longer exposures (2 – 12 months)

Air monitoring network

- Air network will provide data for risk assessment and mitigation
  - Provide data for multiple pesticides, complementing monitoring for single pesticides
  - Provide data for long-term exposures (several years), minimizing need to extrapolate data based on assumptions
  - Provide data for developing suitable mitigation measures, minimizing need to extrapolate data based on assumptions
  - Measure effectiveness of regulatory and voluntary restrictions

Air monitoring network, cont

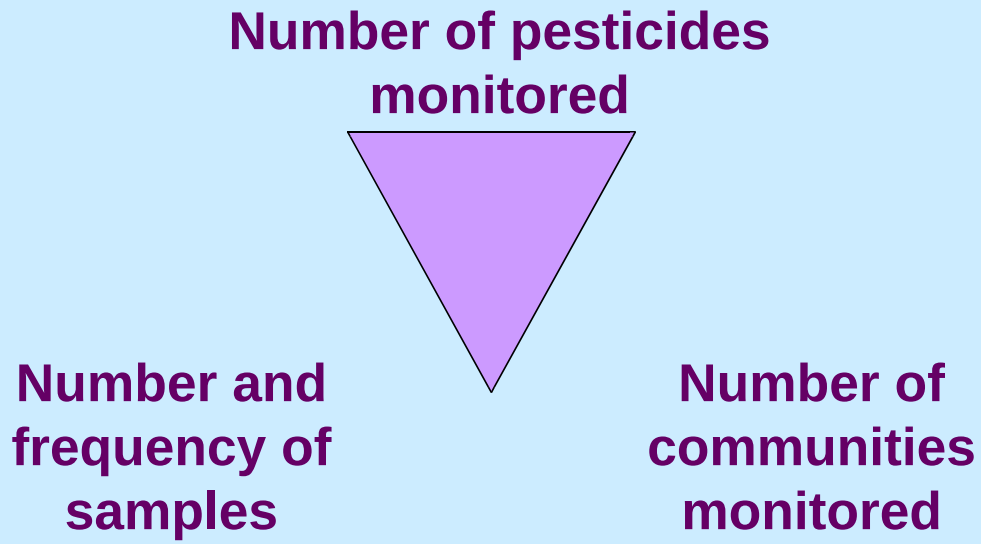
- DPR will develop air network based on methods from the Lompoc and Parlier projects
- DPR soliciting input on monitoring plan
  - Technical input (Pesticide Registration and Evaluation Committee)
  - Community input (public meeting)

Proposed air monitoring network objectives

1) Identify common pesticides in air and determine concentrations
2) Compare concentrations to health levels
3) Estimate cumulative exposure to multiple pesticides
4) Track trends in air concentrations
5) Correlate concentrations with use and weather patterns

Air monitoring network resources

- DPR will monitor with existing staff, equipment, and laboratory resources
- Assuming major new objectives are not added, air network will balance



Proposed criteria for selecting pesticides

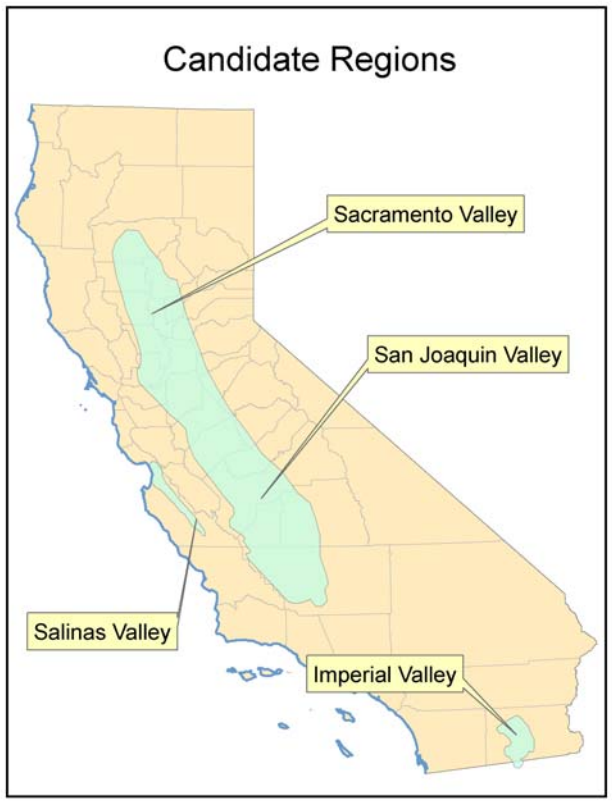
- Probably include approx 30 pesticides (and several breakdown products) based on
  - Statewide use (exposure factor)
  - Volatility (exposure factor)
  - DPR risk assessment priority (toxicity factor)
  - Feasibility of including in multi-residue monitoring method

Considerations for number and frequency of samples

- Number of monitoring locations in each community
- Number of days sampled each week
- Number of weeks sampled each year
- Consider longer sampling intervals to capture more days (48-hour instead of 24-hour samples)
- Consider sampling alternate communities in alternate weeks or years
- Consider other types of monitoring

Suggested regions for monitoring

- San Joaquin Valley
- Sacramento Valley
- Salinas Valley
- Imperial Valley
- Others?



Proposed criteria for selecting communities

- Use of approx 30 pesticides included in monitoring
  - Use within 1 mi of community
  - Use within 5 mi of community
- Demographic factors (Census data)
  - Population density of people less than 18 yrs old
  - Population density of people greater than 65 years old
  - Population density of people greater than 5 yrs old with disabilities
  - Non-white population percentage
  - Hispanic population percentage
  - Median family income

Additional considerations for community selection

- Weighting of criteria
- Suitable monitoring site identified – permanent location meeting U.S EPA siting criteria
- Communities with existing monitoring, complementary studies
- Geographic distribution of communities to monitor different cropping and pesticide use patterns
- Future changes in use, demographics, other factors

Planning process

- Discuss at public meetings
- DPR releases document with proposed pesticides and proposed communities for public comment; discuss at PREC meeting
- DPR selects communities and reassesses pesticide use
- DPR releases draft monitoring protocol for public comment; discuss at PREC meeting
- DPR finalizes protocol and begins monitoring
- Reassess protocol after first year; consider revising pesticides monitored, number of samples, communities

Public meetings

- May 15: PREC meeting
  - Cal/EPA building, 10:00
  - Webcast (www.calepa.ca.gov/Broadcast/)
  - Comments and questions taken in person or online
- June 25: public meeting in Tulare
- July 17: PREC meeting (tentative)

Questions, comments, additional information

- DPR web site: www.cdpr.ca.gov
  - Select “Air” under Quick Finder
  - Select “Air Monitoring Network”
- Lead staff

Pam Wofford
(916) 324-4297
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California Environmental Protection Agency
Department of Pesticide Regulation

The 2009/2010 Pest Management Alliance (PMA) Grants

Pest Management Advisory Committee (PMAC)
May 14, 2009

Subcommittee Report

Presentation Overview

- 2009/2010 Concept/Proposal Overview
- Alliance Grant Proposal Review
  - Subcommittee
  - Brief PMA Background - purpose
  - Scoring and Scores
  - Subcommittee Recommendation
- Discussion
- Wrap-up

Concept/Proposal Overview

2008/09	2009/10
18 Concepts	30 Concepts
9 Invited Proposals	10 Invited Proposals
9 submitted	8 submitted
3 funded	5 recommended
$585,000	$585,000

2007/08 Projects ($585,000)

- Almond – Marcia Gibbs, CAFF, apply PMA I practices to new growers and new areas, $217,860
- Ants – Mike Rust, UC Riverside, promote reduced risk pest management among pest control businesses in Orange County, $183,488
- Grapes – Joe Browde, CA Sustainable Winegrowing Alliance, apply sustainable winegrowing practices to table and raisin grapes, $183,640

2008/09 Projects ($585,000)

- Peaches – Dr. Michael Johnson, UC Riverside, develop BIOS and corresponding market certification rewards for canning peaches in the San Joaquin Valley, $195,000
- Urban Childcare – Dr. Amy Alcon, UC San Francisco, promote an IPM curriculum for urban childcare programs, $215,000
- Water– John Brodie, San Joaquin County RCD, develop IPM program to prevent pesticide runoff to surface water, $175,000

Alliance Grant Proposal Review

PMAC Alliance Grant Subcommittee

Thanks to 2009/2010 Alliance Review Subcommittee:

Rebecca Sisco, Chair
Renee Rianda
Stacy Carlson
Pam Marrone
Marshall Lee
Brian Hill
Dave Tamayo
Ann Katten
Bob Elliott

Background: What the Solicitation asks for –

A Pest Management Alliance is a collaborative team . . . to implement integrated pest management (IPM) practices . . .

- defined) widespread implementation and adoption of IPM . . .
- IPM (as in Urban Environments/Agriculture
  - for pesticides . . . found in water or air.
  - for reduction in VOC emissions

Background: (cont)

- Funding is limited to projects whose primary goal is implementation and adoption of IPM programs . . .
- Alliance projects must focus on increasing implementation of IPM programs with the goal of widespread adoption. Small-scale research can be a component of the overall project, but should not be the focus of the project or budget.
- Funding anticipated for up to five projects.

How Proposals Were Scored

1. Overview (20 points)
2. Goals and Objectives (10 points)
3. Adoption and Deliverables (10 points)
4. Measures of Success (10 points)
5. Team (15 points)
6. Scope of Work (25 points)
7. Budget (10 points)

The 7 main criteria above are divided into 16 sub-criteria.

Proposals Reviewed

- Integrated Pest Management Continuing Education for Maintenance Gardeners
- Healthy Homes Alliance
- Demonstration and Implementation of Integrated Pest Management in the Production of Bedding Plants, Container Color Plants
- Almond Pest Management Alliance Outreach and Evaluation Project

Proposals Reviewed (cont)

- Reducing Pesticide on Central Coast Strawberries
- Ornamental Nursery Alliance for Diaprepes Management
- Evaluation & Promotion of Advanced Shank Injection/Compaction Application Technology for Metam Sodium Application
- Kids in Gardens

Reviewer's Rank – (high to low) by Project

Project	Reviewer Scores									Avg.	Rank
Maintenance Gardeners	2	1	1	1	3	3	2	4	2	**2.1**	**1**
Healthy Homes	7	3	2	3	1	6		2	3	**3.4**	**2**
Bedding Plants	1	4	3	8		7	1	3	6	**4.1**	**3**
Almonds	4	2	6	2	7	5	4	6	1	**4.1**	**4**
Strawberries	6	7	5	4	4	4	3	1	7	**4.6**	**5**
Diaprepies	5	5	8	5	4	1	5	5	4	**4.7**	**6**
Metam Sodium	3	8	7	7	6	2	7	8	8	**6.2**	**7**
Kids Gardens	8	6	4	6	8	8	6	7	5	**6.4**	**8**

Integrated Pest Management Continuing Education for Maintenance Gardeners

Rank: 1

San Luis Obispo County Agricultural Commissioner's Office – Ms. Tamara Kleeman

Requested: $61,082, **Recommended funding: $61,000**

Subcommittee Comments:

- Good project, IPM education and outreach to landscape professionals
- Important area of work, goals clearly stated
- Strong management team
- Good track record from previous project
- Project will use UC IPM bilingual training materials

Healthy Homes Alliance

Rank: 2

Physicians for Social Responsibility – Ms. Martha Dina Arguello

Requested: $300,000, **Recommended funding: $200,000**

Subcommittee Comments:

- Project to demonstrate model IPM program in low-income housing is well outlined
- Track record working in low-income housing
- Appropriate management team is assembled
- Partner organizations have good tenant relations

Reduce funding by $100,000, reallocate available dollars for training. Group applied last year, lacking technical expertise. Added pest control professional to help in this area.

Demonstration and Implementation of Integrated Pest Management in the Production of Bedding Plants, Container Color Plants

Rank: 3

UC Davis – Dr. Michael Parrella

Requested: $247,000, **Recommended funding: $159,000**

Subcommittee Comments:

- Critical need for alternatives for nursery pesticides
- Project plan relies on existing knowledge with some research
- Strong team with respect to expertise and breadth of experience

Reduce funding by $88,000, remove support involving Chlorine Dioxide. Make changes to other program areas as necessary to bring budget into alignment. Also, expand team to include PCAs and in-house nursery demonstration blocks.

Almond Pest Management Alliance Outreach and Evaluation Project

Rank: 4

Community Alliance with Family Farmers – Ms. Marcia Gibbs

Requested: $200,000, **Recommended funding: $100,000**

Subcommittee Comments:

- Existing team is impressive, people that “know their stuff “
- Almond industry supports and encourages IPM
- Additional funding will help continue momentum

Reduce funding by $100,000 to specifically address pieces that move IPM strategies forward. Proposal does not clearly describe how the self-assessment tool would be used to increase adoption of IPM.

Reducing Pesticide on Central Coast Strawberries

Rank: 5

Cachuma Resource Conservation District – Ms. Claire Wineman

Requested: $65,000, **Recommended funding: $65,000**

Subcommittee Comments:

- Proposal has a good description of problem facing strawberries (pesticides, pests, etc.)
- Excellent plan to reach small and bilingual growers
- Project design is not perfect, however, budget is small
- Team partners and project audience needs further identification and explanation at project outset.

Ornamental Nursery Alliance for Diaprepes Management

Rank: 6

UC Riverside – Ms. Kris Godfrey

Requested: $268,000, **Not recommended for funding**

Subcommittee Comments: This is a worthwhile area of research, but given the limited amount of dollars, the project is not recommended for funding. Would like to see more confirmed practices that could be implemented as ready to roll IPM strategies.

Evaluation & Promotion of Advanced Shank Injection/Compaction Application Technology for Metam Sodium Application

Rank: 7

Responsible Farmers Coalition – Mr. John Guerard

Requested: $150,000, **Not recommended for funding**

Subcommittee Comments: This is important work, however, it is primarily research and does not meet grant criteria. Would like to see more emphasis on identification, adoption and implementation of IPM. DPR would like to see VOC-reducing proposals that fit IPM guidelines.

Kids in Gardens

Rank: 8

The Watershed Project – Mr. Harold Hedelman

Requested: $96,000, **Not recommended for funding**

Subcommittee Comments: Overall, the idea is good but it lacked substance; it is civically strong but technically weak. List of deliverables is not clear, no clear idea that the program could continue after grant funding ended.

Subcommittee Recommendations

Fund

$61,000 – Integrated Pest Management Continuing Education for Maintenance Gardeners

$200,000 – Healthy Homes Alliance

$159,000 – Demonstration and Implementation of Integrated Pest Management in the Production of Bedding Plants, Container Color Plants

$100,000 – Almond Pest Management Alliance Outreach and Evaluation Project

$65,000 – Reducing Pesticide Use on Central Coast Strawberries

$585,000 – Total funding

Subcommittee Recommendations (cont.)

Not funded

Ornamental Nursery Alliance for Diaprepes Management

Evaluation & Promotion of Advanced Shank Injection/Compaction Application Technology for Metam Sodium Application

Kids in Gardens