



MOSQUITO AND VECTOR CONTROL
ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA
1215 K Street, Suite 2290
Sacramento, CA 95814

**MOSQUITO AND VECTOR CONTROL ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA
ATTENDS IPM INNOVATOR AWARD CEREMONY**
California Department of Pesticide Regulation honors MVCAC

The Mosquito and Vector Control Association of California (MVCAC) was presented with the California Department of Pesticide's (DPR) 2010 Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Innovator Award for its innovative and effective reduction in pesticide use.

The DPR honored MVCAC and five other agencies during an awards ceremony held January 27, 2011 in the Sierra Hearing Room at the California Environmental Protection Agency building in Sacramento. In attendance were MVCAC Executive Director Catherine A. Smith, Past President Jerry Davis, President Robert Gay and Integrated Vector Management Chair Jamesina J. Scott, Ph.D., who accepted the award on behalf of the association.

For more information about MVCAC's achievement and the IPM Innovator Award, please see the attached press releases, award, and factsheet from the California Department of Pesticide Regulation.



Left to right: Mary-Ann Warmerdam, Director, Department of Pesticide Regulation; Robert Gay, MVCAC President; Jamesina Scott, MVCAC Integrated Vector Management Committee Chair; Catherine Smith, MVCAC Executive Director; and Gabriel Medina, Assemblymember Roger Dickinson's Office.



California Environmental Protection Agency
Department of Pesticide Regulation

IPM Innovator

Mosquito and Vector Control Association of California

is hereby recognized as an IPM Innovator for its leadership and
creativity in advancing the use of reduced-risk programs for
urban pest management.

Mary-Ann Warmerdam, Director

27 January 2011
Date





MVCAC

MOSQUITO AND VECTOR CONTROL
ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA
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For Immediate Release
December 17, 2010

**MOSQUITO AND VECTOR CONTROL ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA
TO BE HONORED WITH INNOVATOR AWARD**

Association honored by the California Department of Pesticide Regulation

SACRAMENTO — The Mosquito and Vector Control Association of California (MVCAC) is being honored by the Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR) for its advanced practices in mosquito and vector prevention and management. The IPM (Integrated Pest Management) Innovator Award recognizes California organizations' efforts to practice pest prevention while reducing health and environmental risks associated with pesticide use and sharing these successful strategies with others. This is the association's first IPM Innovator Award.

"The success of MVCAC really lies in the efforts of our members," said MVCAC Executive Director Catherine Smith. "Receiving recognition for our members' efforts to reduce vectors and vector-borne diseases throughout the state is a great honor," she stated.

The innovations MVCAC is being recognized for include:

- **California Surveillance Gateway:** Member contributions to this online portal for statewide data surveillance entry and analysis hosted by the University of California, Davis
- **CalSurv Online Resource:** MVCAC and California Department of Public Health (CDPH) collaboration providing statewide surveillance data for current and historical vector and vector-borne disease incidence.
- **Dead Bird Reporting Hotline:** MVCAC support and promotion of CDPH hotline and website (www.westnile.ca.gov) that provide clear, concise, and up-to-date information for all California residents and provide resources for residents to identify their local agency. The use of the hotline and website allows MVCAC members to coordinate and provide a uniform message to the public.
- **MVCAC Assistance and Outreach:** Ongoing, proactive outreach to many state and federal agencies, environmentalists, and anti-pesticide advocates to solve complex management issues. MVCAC has tackled Fish and Game wetlands management, created the Southern California Vector Control Environmental Taskforce, mobilized to address new NPDES permitting requirements and has worked with CDPH to develop the document "Best Management Practices for Mosquito Control in California."
- **Regulatory Outreach:** MVCAC provides critical input at the state and federal levels regarding legal challenges to pesticide use in waters of the U.S. MVCAC members are currently collaborating with the State Water Resources Control Board and the EPA to address statewide NPDES permitting and monitoring requirements for mosquito control.

MVCAC will receive the IPM Innovator Award during an awards ceremony to be held January 27, 2011 at the CalEPA headquarters.

MVCAC represents 63 special districts and other subdivisions of local government responsible for mosquito and vector control, surveillance of West Nile virus and other vector-borne diseases, and public education programs to help Californians protect themselves from vector-borne diseases. MVCAC advocates safe, effective and environmentally-friendly methods of mosquito and vector control.

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For further information, contact Executive Director Catherine Smith at 916-440-0826 or e-mail her at casmith@mvcac.org



Media contact: Lea Brooks
916.445.3974 lbrooks@cdpr.ca.gov

Jan. 25, 2011 (11-3)
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Six Organizations Honored by the Department of Pesticide Regulation for Reducing Pesticide Use

(Editors/reporters: Honorees are based in Alameda, Contra Costa, Mendocino, Sacramento, Santa Cruz, Solano and Yolo counties.)

SACRAMENTO – On Jan. 27, the California Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR) will recognize a diverse group of businesses and organizations as 2010 IPM Innovators. They control insects, weeds, rodents and other pests with a combination of natural and preventive strategies and pesticides less toxic than traditional treatments.

“Integrated pest management, or IPM, is being used by this year’s honorees in innovative and effective ways to reduce pesticide use,” DPR Director Mary-Ann Warmerdam said today. “We are proud to showcase their efforts that range from free tours of native plant gardens that thrive without pesticides, pioneering strategies to grow organic walnuts and winegrapes, technology that helps farmers make data-driven decisions and incentives to encourage more environmentally friendly pest control.”

Warmerdam will present the IPM Innovator Awards at 1:30 p.m. Thursday in the Sierra Hearing Room on the second floor of the California Environmental Protection Agency building in Sacramento. The public is invited.

This year’s recipients are:

- Bringing Back the Natives Garden Tour, Contra Costa County
- Dixon Ridge Farms, Solano and Yolo Counties
- Bonterra (Fetzer) Vineyards, Mendocino County
- Mosquito and Vector Control Association of California, Sacramento County
- SureHarvest, Santa Cruz County
- University of California Statewide IPM Program and Natural Resources Conservation Service Partnership

Since IPM Innovator awards were initiated in 1994, more than 100 California organizations have been recognized for their efforts to reduce risks associated with pesticide use and for sharing their research and methods with others. Candidates are evaluated in seven categories: innovation; value; effectiveness; supports research; organizational education; outreach; and leadership.

A brief description of the 2010 IPM Innovators follows:

Bringing Back the Natives Garden Tour

The Bringing Back the Natives Garden Tour, which attracts more than 6,000 participants annually, is a free, self-driven tour of gardens in Alameda and Contra Costa counties that contain at least 50 percent native plants and are free of synthetic pesticides. The tour demonstrates that both seasoned and novice gardeners can implement sustainable practices that protect the environment. In 2010, 20 percent of the gardens on the tour were hosted by people who had attended the event, been inspired by it and transformed their gardens.

The primary goal of the tour is to motivate attendees to garden with California native plants to eliminate pesticide use, preventing contaminated runoff to urban creeks and San Francisco Bay. Other goals are saving water, generating less solid waste and providing habitat for wildlife. The gardens on the tour show that California native plants are beautiful and display a sense of place that is uniquely Californian.

Planning for the seventh annual tour in May is already under way. The tour is supported with funding from local stormwater control agencies and a native plant sale held in conjunction with the tour and donations. More information is available on the tour's Web site, www.BringingBackTheNatives.net, or by contacting coordinator Kathy Kramer at Kathy@KathyKramerConsulting.net or 510/236-9558.

Dixon Ridge Farms

This Solano and Yolo counties-based pioneer in sustainable walnut production took a sustainable farming and processing system that works for smaller, diversified farming and raised it to the commercial scale. Its cover-crop management technique provides habitat for beneficial insects, produces seed and returns organic matter to preserve soil fertility.

The walnut growing and processing operation converted to organic production in 1989 after implementing a number of IPM practices to control pests and water runoff. These include replacing synthetic nitrogen fertilizers with composted turkey manure; incorporating chipped prunings back into the orchard; encouraging beneficial insects; using earthworms to improve water infiltration and soil health and prevent rootrot; and freezing insects to death rather than killing them with methyl bromide during processing. The business has further reduced its environmental footprint by converting walnut shells

into energy, using recycled materials in its packaging and installing solar panels on its buildings.

Dixon Ridge Farms has collaborated with researchers on a number of projects and hosted hundreds of workshops, conference and field days. More information is available at www.dixonridgefarms.com or by contacting Manager Jenny Lester Moffitt at jenny@dixonridgefarms.com or 530/795-4619.

Bonterra (Fetzer) Vineyards

This top producer of organic winegrapes in California is a wine industry pioneer, using certified organic practices and an IPM approach to manage pests on its 950 acres in Mendocino County. The Bonterra (Fetzer) brand is the No. 1 selling wine made with organic grapes in the United States.

For more than 20 years, Bonterra Vineyards has been an innovator in developing cover crops to attract beneficial insects; using weather forecasting to monitor for pests and diseases; mechanically controlling under-the-vine weeds; and conserving and enhancing habitat to attract beneficial insects and birds. On some of its vineyards, Bonterra also grazes sheep and chickens between vines to control pests and weeds and provide soil nutrients. In addition, it has collaborated with the local Resource Conservation District on creek restoration projects.

Bonterra has a long history of working with University of California Cooperative Extension scientists and others on pest management and related research. Bonterra staff regularly provide education through seminars, workshops, conferences, field events and technical advising to growers on organic and sustainable viticulture practices. More information is available at www.bonterra.com or by contacting Maggie Peak, public relations manager, at maggie.Peak@b-f.com or 502/774-7140.

Mosquito and Vector Control Association of California

This Sacramento-based nonprofit that represents 63 mosquito and vector control districts promotes IPM principles to control mosquitoes and other vectors to protect public health. It has been a leader in the transition from vector management based primarily on pesticides to IPM strategies that include water management and biological controls. This change includes a switch from broad-spectrum pesticides targeted at adult mosquitoes to less-toxic pest-specific larvicides such as insect growth regulators and biopesticides.

The association educates government agencies and environmental groups about IPM to control mosquitoes in wetlands, storm drains and other permanent and temporary water sources; rears and provides mosquito fish as a form of biological control; and

works with banks and realtors to prevent foreclosed home swimming pools from becoming mosquito breeding sites. The association worked with state departments to develop a manual, *Best Management Practices for Mosquito Control on California State Properties*, available at www.cdph.ca.gov/HealthInfo/discond/Documents/CDPHBMPMosquitoControl6_08.pdf. It also helped develop CalSurv, a nationally recognized surveillance system that monitors West Nile virus (WNV) activity by testing mosquitoes, dead birds, sentinel chickens, horses and people.

The association produces posters, fliers and other outreach materials for its members and partners designed to educate the general public about the importance of eliminating standing water where mosquitoes could breed and other IPM strategies to prevent exposure to WNV and other vector-borne diseases. More information about the association is available at www.mvcac.org or by contacting Executive Director Catherine Smith at casmith@mvcac.org or 916/440-0826.

SureHarvest

This privately held company based in Santa Cruz County was founded in 1999 to develop farming management information systems and sustainability self-assessment programs that help growers make data-driven decisions about IPM and other sustainable farming practices.

In 2001, SureHarvest was hired by the California Sustainable Winegrowing Alliance to head an effort that resulted in the Sustainable Winegrowing Program. Building on the work of the Lodi Woodbridge Winegrape Commission, SureHarvest President and Chief Executive Officer Jeff Dlott led a team of scientists and others to develop the Code of Sustainable Winegrowing Practices, a self-assessment, Web-based program. The intent of this first-in-the-nation program is to improve sustainable agricultural performance with specific benchmarks. It now covers more than 68 percent of California's 526,000 winegrape acres.

SureHarvest is extending its self-assessment model to almonds, pears, pistachios, walnuts, tomatoes, peppers, stone fruit, raisins, table grapes, carrots and other specialty crops. The National Grape and Wine Initiative is studying the California program as a model for adaptation to other winegrowing areas throughout the country. More information is available at www.sureharvest.com or by contacting Jeff Dlott at jdlott@sureharvest.com or 831/477-7797.

University of California Statewide IPM Program and Natural Resources Conservation Service Partnership

The University of California Statewide IPM Program (UCIPM) and the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), in cooperation with other groups and

individuals, have significantly increased their efforts to promote IPM in California over the past two years. UCIPM develops and promotes integrated ecologically sound pest management programs in California for farmers, urban communities and natural resource managers. NRCS provides technical and financial assistance to protect farmland and the environment. The East Stanislaus Resource Conservation District (RCD), one of the cooperators in the partnership, also stands out for its efforts to promote IPM locally.

The NRCS-UCIPM partnership has defined and clarified effective IPM practices for a wide range of commodities and provided appropriate stakeholders with this information and incentives to increase their adoption and implementation. In 2007 and 2008, approximately 117,000 acres of California farmland were under NRCS pest management contracts, and growers representing some 18,000 acres implemented year-round IPM programs.

Examples of the partnership's efforts include development of year-round IPM programs for 19 different crops, including nut and fruit trees, row crops and vegetables. These programs help to reduce pesticides in water runoff and volatile organic compound pesticide emissions that contribute to smog. The partnership also resulted in cross training between the two organizations and financial incentives for private-sector consultants to develop IPM plans for farmers. The RCD promoted development of IPM plans and year-round programs with local farmers and private consultants, resulting in significant gains in implementation of IPM. More information is available at www.ca.nrcs.usda.gov or www.ipm.ucdavis.edu or by contacting NRCS State Resource Conservationist Diane Holcomb at diane.holcomb@ca.usda.gov or 530/792-5667.

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One of five departments and boards within the California Environmental Protection Agency, DPR regulates the registration, sale and use of pesticides to protect people and the environment. For more information about DPR and previous IPM Innovators, see www.cdpr.ca.gov.

* A map of the meeting location may be found at www.calepa.ca.gov/EPABldg/Location.htm. All visitors to the Cal/EPA building are required to sign in and receive a security badge. Valid picture identification may be required. Please allow up to 15 minutes for this process.



**California Department of
Pesticide Regulation**

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916-324-4100

Northern Regional Office
916-376-8960

Central Regional Office
559-243-8111

Southern Regional Office
714-279-7690

Environmental Monitoring
916-324-4039

Fiscal Operations
916-324-1350

Information Technology
916-445-4110

Medical Toxicology
916-445-4233

Product Compliance
916-445-4159

**Pest Management
and Licensing**
916-445-3914

Licensing/Certification
916-445-4038

Personnel
916-322-4553

Pesticide Registration
916-445-4400

Worker Health and Safety
916-445-4222

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

about

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF PESTICIDE REGULATION

IPM Innovator Awards

The California Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR) has given out more than 100 IPM Innovator awards to honor California organizations that emphasize pest prevention, favor least-hazardous pest management, and share their successful strategies with others. The awards provide rare public recognition to groups and individuals who are quietly revolutionizing pest management through their efforts to reduce risks associated with pesticide use.

IPM – integrated pest management – works with nature to encourage beneficial plants and animals while making it difficult for pests to survive.

DPR's IPM Innovator awards are part of a comprehensive, reduced-risk pest management strategy aimed at homes, schools, farms, and the environment.

Demonstrating Leadership

In 1994, DPR presented its first IPM Innovator awards to acknowledge agricultural and urban organizations demonstrating leadership and creativity in new methods of pest management. DPR hosts an annual event where the Innovators are recognized.

DPR developed the program to recognize pioneering pest control managers for their leadership in voluntarily implementing reduced-risk pest management systems and for their work in sharing those solutions with others.

An IPM Innovator typically has a history of using pest management systems to reduce the risks posed by the use of traditional control practices, showing that their pest management concept is economically viable, and documenting and sharing that system so others can learn and apply the information to their situation.

Relying on a Systems Approach

IPM Innovators typically rely on pest management systems based on sound scientific principles of IPM, including a preference for using beneficial organisms and cultural practices for pest control when feasible. Pest problems are addressed as part of the overall situation, rather than pest by pest or at only one time of the year.

IPM Innovators often conduct research to find new ways for managing pests. This may include a range of activities from contracted research with academic institutions to on-site trials of participant-identified techniques.

The organizational structure of the IPM Innovator may be very formal, such as a commodity advisory board, a resource conservation district, or a school district, or it may be less formal, such as a community organization that promotes reduced-risk pest management. Many successful IPM Innovators also have representatives from federal, state, or local government, academia, and the business community as

IPM works with nature to encourage beneficial plants and animals while making it difficult for pests to survive.

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IPM Innovators emphasize pest prevention, favor least-hazardous pest management, and share their successful strategies with others.

advisors to or as members of their organization.

In addition, many IPM Innovators have a well-developed organization – and an educational component responsible for coordinating and working with participants to encourage the sharing of ideas and information. Many Innovators provide training and educational programs for participants. Their outreach programs identify potential new participants and encourage them to join the system. In fact, several of these IPM Innovators went on to receive funds from DPR's Pest Management Alliance Grants Program, which allowed them to further increase sharing of ideas and information.

Nominating an Innovator

Nominations for IPM Innovator awards can be submitted year round. DPR looks for several characteristics to identify these exceptional achievers in pest management (*see box below*).

If you would like to nominate your organization or another group or organization as an IPM Innovator, please complete the nomination form and send to DPR. The form is on DPR's Web site. Go to www.cdpr.ca.gov and click on the "A-Z Index" at the top of the page. Scroll down to "IPM Innovator Awards" and click that. You will find not only a link to the nomination form but also previous award recipients and a short description of each group.

To find out more about the IPM Innovators Program or DPR's other pest management programs, you can also contact:

IPM Innovators Program
c/o Ann Pingitore
Department of Pesticide Regulation
Pest Management & Licensing Branch
P.O. Box 4015
Sacramento, California 95812-4015
(916) 324-4156
Fax (916) 324-9006
apingitore@cdpr.ca.gov

WHAT TO LOOK FOR IN AN IPM INNOVATOR NOMINEE

- **A pest management systems approach based on preferential use of cultural practices, beneficial organisms and other scientific principles of IPM that reduce risk.**
- **An organizational structure that allows for research and the continued development of new ideas.**
- **Education and outreach that encourages the sharing of ideas and information.**
- **An administrative organization that unifies and supports the collective efforts of participants and provides opportunities to expand the number of participants.**

