Wisconsin’s Integrated Crop and Pest Management Program center is a collaborative information network that addresses Wisconsin and the region’s pest management priorities. Wisconsin continues to take a proactive approach toward the development of interdisciplinary programs and the state programs involved in IPM including IPM, NPM, PAT, and the former PIAP programs collaborate fully on all IPM-related priorities. Wisconsin’s ICPM Center developed and analyzed information on pesticide use and pest management practices on the commodities grown in the state. The Center analyzed information on pesticide use and pest management practices on the state’s commodities and addressed pest control issues related to health and the environment. The objectives and accomplishments of the Center’s third and final year are described below.

**Objective 1. Establish, coordinate and provide a network that produces information such as pesticide use and usage, pest management practices, production and revision of crop profiles and pest management strategic plans and descriptions of occupational exposure scenarios.**

**Fresh Market Survey**
A survey of pest management and marketing practices of the fresh market vegetable and berry growers of Wisconsin is done. Karen Delahaut completed the report while working as Wisconsin’s Pest Management Center program manager and she is now in a new position as Fresh Market Vegetable Specialist in the Department of Horticulture and is delivering educational meetings and outreach based on survey. The final report is posted at [http://ipcm.wisc.edu/piap/vegsurvey/default.htm](http://ipcm.wisc.edu/piap/vegsurvey/default.htm).

**Corn IPM Survey**
Analysis of the survey of Wisconsin corn and dairy farmers’ pest management practices and use of crop consultants continued. The results relating to adoption of Integrated Weed Management (IWM) were presented at the North Central Weed Science Society meetings in December (C.M. Boerboom, R.T. Proost, A.D. Jacobs, M.D. Peterson, and P.J. Nowak, “Can a corn IPM survey guide extension programming?”). The authors suggest that extension IWM programs should focus on weed interference and population dynamics based on the perceptions of the effect of early and late season weed competition and the long-term effects of weed escapes. Programming on resistance management will continue. The survey information will continue to be valuable in defining future extension IPM programs.

**Potato Pest Management Strategic Plan**
The Potato Pest Management Strategic Plan for Wisconsin, Minnesota, North Dakota and Michigan was developed from the input of a group of growers and technical experts that
met in Madison, Wisconsin on April 1, 2003. The plan summarizes the critical needs for the potato industry in these four states and discusses the issues pertaining to production and pest management. Critical research, education and regulatory needs were identified for each pest type (insects, weeds, disease) as well as general production issues. These issues were then prioritized for future use and reference by EPA and USDA. The plan reflects the opinions and suggestions of growers, processors, crop consultants, land-grant extension specialists, grower association, state departments of agriculture, IR-4, EPA and the North Central Pest Management Center at Michigan State University. The regional Potato PMSP is complete and available at http://pestdata.ncsu.edu/PMSP/pdf/MidwestPotatoPMSP.pdf.

Crop Profiles
The profiles for Wisconsin cabbage, carrots, and sweet corn were updated in 2003. The revised profiles now contain current crop statistics, labeled pesticides, pest management alternatives, economics and pest complexes. The revised profiles are available on the web at http://www.pmcenters.org/cropprofiles/pmstatecrop.cfm.

Objective 2. Strengthen the connection between pest management programs and stakeholders.

Phosphorus Roundtables
Beginning in May of 2001 the Nutrient and Pest Management (NPM) program initiated a series of discussions called the Phosphorus Research Roundtables. These gatherings concluded in May, 2003. Over the two years, fifteen experts gave thirteen presentations which focused on phosphorus (P) and water quality implications. The roundtables brought together researchers, educators and policymakers to share information and to learn about the issues. A Phosphorus Roundtable website holds the archives (abstracts, PowerPoint slides, meeting minutes and resolutions) for the series. (http://www.soils.wisc.edu/extension/p_roundtables/title.htm).

IPCM Advisory Committee
We continued to actively involve stakeholders through twice a year meetings. The committee’s roster and summary notes are found at http://ipcm.wisc.edu/advisory/default.htm.

Objective 3. Respond to information needs of public and private sectors

Vegetable IPM
The IPM faculty obtained additional research funding from USDA RAMP and EPA/AFT to expand research and outreach with vegetable crop growers. Using commercial fields and with extensive input from cooperators, they have explored multiple pest management options for both carrots and succulent beans. These techniques include the following: crop rotation, frequent field scouting, cultivar tolerance to key pests, use of treatment thresholds for insect management, use of weather-based thresholds for disease management, and integration of reduced-risk pesticides for treatment. They have found that the combination of these methodologies promises to provide tangible benefits to the
processing crop industry by reducing input costs, reducing the amount of pesticides applied to the crops, reducing the toxicity of season-long pest management programs while maintaining crop health, quality of harvest product and yield. Data collected in the field trials provide evidence that the eco-production of processing vegetable in central Wisconsin can move forward and set the stage for potential eco-labeling of processed products in the near future. These results and information on practices was recently presented and published (W.R. Stevenson, J.A. Wyman, P. Roger, L. Granadino, and C. Granadino, Eco-label opportunities for processing vegetable crops, Proceedings of the 2004 Wisconsin Fertilizer, AgLime and Pest Management Conference, pp 308-321).

**IPM Diagnostic Training Center**

In 2003, the Crop Diagnostic Training Center continued on its mission of providing hands-on, in-field training in integrated crop and pest management. The following workshops were offered to the public at the Arlington Ag Research station and were attended by growers, agronomists and many others who have a vested interest in production agriculture:

1) **Corn & Soybean management Workshop** – July 30, 2003. A multi-disciplinary and in-depth look at several corn and soybean production topics such as post-emergent nitrogen techniques on corn, weed responses to cropping systems, corn rootworm management, assessing herbicide injury and mode of action, and field scouting techniques.

2) **Insect Management Workshop** – August 6, 2003. A ½ day workshop covering insect identification, bean leaf beetle, beneficial insects and soybean aphid management.

3) **Diagnostic Troubleshooting Workshop** – August 20, 2003. This very popular workshop begins with an in-depth discussion on troubleshooting in-field problems followed by an opportunity for participants to work on their diagnostic skills. Participants rotate through 10 field problems with UW specialist’s role playing as farmers. Through digging up plants, asking questions, and consulting references participants make a diagnosis of the problem and a recommendation for correction.

The evaluations of all sessions combined confirmed that the following combined ratings by workshops were very well received. All (100%) of participants thought that the workshops met the goal of improving the participants understanding of new technologies and current issues in production agriculture. On a scale of 1-5 (with 5 being the most effective), the attendees rated the overall effectiveness of the training session as 4.5.

**Crop Care Clinics for 2003**

Four hands on training days for farmers and crop consultants were held throughout the state. Using corn and soybean field demonstration plots, IPM experts discussed weed and pest problems. Field plots demonstrated examples of 2-pass herbicide control strategy compared to a 1-pass system. Another troubleshooting focus engaged attendees and University specialists in crop management and crop injury discussions. Evaluations collected at the Western Wisconsin Regional CCC were highly positive of the learning approach.