No data on azinphosmethyl appeared in the 1978 report, so we omitted that year from our results.

Insecticide use dropped dramatically from 1982 through 1987, probably as a result of IPM research — cultural controls for the navel orangeworm developed by UC IPM, better monitoring of navel orangeworm and peach twig borer populations, and therefore better timing of insecticide applications and the reduced price per pound for almonds. Annual insecticide applications per thousand bearing acres of almonds averaged 786 pounds from 1982 through 1987, 45% below the average of 1,430 pounds for the period 1979 through 1981. Assuming that a constant 360 pounds per thousand bearing acres were used primarily to control peach twig borer, the reduction in pounds used for navel orangeworm control would be 60%.

Figure 3 shows the pesticide use information reported as a proportion of bearing acres treated. Pesticide use increased dramatically after azinphosmethyl and carbaryl were registered for navel orangeworm on almonds. Approximately 21% of the total bearing almond acreage was treated annually between 1974 and 1976. The percentage of bearing almond acres that were treated peaked in 1981 at about 92%, and with an average of about 77% from 1979 to 1981.

The almond insect IPM program has resulted in an estimated \$4.1 million reduction in pesticide costs. In the 1985 grower survey, 53% of growers reported spraying pesticides as part of their routine worm control practices as compared to 77% in the 1981 grower survey - a 24% reduction. We also know from the 1985 grower survey that those growers who sprayed used an average of 1.43 sprays per acre. The average bearing acreage between 1982 and 1988 was 387,000 acres. The 24% reduction in sprays has meant a reduction of 124,614 acre-sprays per year. At a cost of \$32 per spray, this has meant a direct savings in input costs to California almond growers of over \$4 million per year. This all adds up to an estimated benefit of \$12.8 million, including an increase of \$8.7 million in revenues resulting from increased salable production and a decrease of \$4.1 million in pesticide costs.

Additional benefits with less tangible economic values have accompanied the reduction in insecticide use: less risk of injury to the grower or farm workers, fewer secondary pest outbreaks (principally spider mites) resulting from disruption of the natural enemy complex, and less toxic wastewater and fewer empty pesticide cannisters needing disposal.

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Frank Zalom, Director of the IPM Implementation Group, places a pheromone attractant into a codling moth trap. Moths drawn by the scent are caught on the trap's sticky inner surface.

# Research results: Statewide IPM's first 10 years

James I. Grieshop 😐 Robert A. Pence

![](_page_0_Picture_10.jpeg)

Sampling for tomato fruitworm (*Heliothis zea*) eggs in processing tomatoes.

An independent review of research funded by UC IPM in its first ten years provides evidence of a successful program with practical impact on pest management practices. The review also suggests that some research projects have led to reductions in pesticide use.

Since 1979, the University of California's Statewide Integrated Pest Management Project has addressed pest management problems through a combination of research and education. Integrated pest management (IPM) stresses ecologically and economically sound practices for the control of agricultural pests. IPM practices include biological, cultural, and mechanical control, as well as the judicious, reduced use of chemical pesticides.

The IPM Project was created by the California legislature, partly as a response to apparent agricultural production problems and to growing public pressure for alternatives to pesticide use. The project also builds bridges between academic specialties (e.g., entomology, plant pathology, nematology, plant sciences, etc.) by supporting interdisciplinary research and development efforts that can lead to a more balanced approach to pest management. In ten years, the IPM Project has allocated over \$7.1 million, or 46% of its total budget, to 180 research projects.

The project's tenth anniversary is an appropriate time for evaluating its operation, accomplishments, and impacts. Ideally, such an evaluation would use multiple review and assessment methods to sketch an accurate portrait. As a first step in this evaluation, in 1989 we undertook an independent review of program-funded research. Our intent was to assess the program's effectiveness in promoting practical, interdisciplinary, goal-oriented research from the perspective of the researchers.

#### Method

Cross-commodity

Between 1979 and 1988, 180 research projects received funding from the Statewide IPM Project. These projects were conducted by 229 principal investigators (PIs), so several projects must have been managed by multiple PIs. A number of researchers received funds for multiple projects. After we identified the PIs, we sent each a previously fieldtested questionnaire for each funded project. The original questionnaire was sent in August, 1989; if no completed survey was received within three weeks, we sent a reminder letter. A few PIs were contacted by telephone or in person for their response. The questionnaire requested specific information about the interdisciplinary nature of their research (Who assisted you in the research and implementation processes?); any useful products or information produced (Were any products such as databases, sampling equipment, sampling procedures, or nonchemical pest control measures developed through this research?); and field use of those results (Have the information or products developed in this research been used in-field by growers or pest control advisors?). We also requested information on published papers written as a result of a funded project, including journal and popular press articles.

TABLE 1. Distribution of IPM projects according to commodity group				
Commodity	Distribut all funde (n :	tion among ed projects = 180)	Distribution among projects in survey response (n = 162)	
		%		%
Grape	29	16	20	11
Citrus	29	16	28	16
Cotton	25	13	20	12
Tomato	17	9	17	10
Alfalfa	17	9	18	18
Almond	9	5	9	5
Rice	6	3	7	4
Cereal	4	2	2	1
Walnut	4	2	4	2
Other crops	25	13	22	13
Cross-commodity	15	8	15	9

TABLE 2. Distribution of IPM projects according to the principal investigators' academic specialization

Academic specialization	Distribut all funde (n :	ion among ed projects = 180)	Distribution among projects in survey response (n = 159)	
		%		%
Entomology	44	24	36	22
Plant pathology	21	11	15	9
Plant sciences	21	11	18	11
Nematology	11	6	15	9
Wildlife biology	4	2	4	2
Interdisciplinary	70	38	64	40
Other	9	4	7	4

TABLE 3. Distribution of IPM projects by principal investigators' intitutional affiliation

Institution	Distribut all funde (n :	ion among ed projects = 180)	Distributi projects (n =	on among in survey 161)	
		%		%	
Cross-institution*	66	36	62	38	
UC Davis	47	26	43	26	
UC Riverside	42	23	35	21	
UC Berkeley	14	7	12	7	
Cooperative Extension	10	5	8	4	
Statewide IPM Project	1	1	1	1	

Signifies two or more University of California campuses or Cooperative Extension and one or more academic departments on the same campus.

## Response rates

We received completed, usable survey forms from 167 (73%) of the 229 listed principal investigators. One hundred sixty-two, or 90% of all 180 funded projects were represented in those responses. Comparisons on the basis of commodity and academic specialty between the total number of funded proposals and those represented by at least one survey response indicated that individuals responding were representative of all PIs (tables 1, 2, and 3). Responses were compiled and tabulated by the authors, neither of whom was affiliated with the Statewide IPM Project.

Before 1986, IPM research efforts had emphasized a narrow commodity focus: alfalfa, citrus, tomatoes, cotton, rice, grapes, walnuts, and cereals. In 1986, the research emphasis was expanded to cut across commodity lines. Thereafter, research proposals were evaluated on the basis of pest management strategy: cultural controls, biological controls, monitoring systems, systems application, and commodity-pest interactions rather than on the basis of commodity. This change substantially increased the range of commodity-based projects as well as the number of cross-commodity projects funded by the program (table 1).

#### Interdisciplinary bridges

Most research projects (68%) were managed by two or more researchers. Nearly two out of five projects involved researchers from two different agricultural disciplines (38%) and two or more institutions (36%) (tables 2 and 3). These results suggest, at least superficially, that the IPM Project was successful in fostering and generating interdisciplinary research. While the management of projects by investigators from different academic specializations may not guarantee the "ecological systems approach to pest management research" (as outlined in the 1979 IPM Annual Report), activities by interdisciplinary management teams suggest coordination and cooperation across traditional research boundaries.

Researchers reported receiving assistance from a variety of sources. Most commonly, PIs were assisted by other university faculty, Cooperative Extension Specialists, and Farm Advisors. Over half of all investigators (51%) had Farm Advisors help them evaluate the practical usefulness of their proposed research, and 65% of the projects' investigators indicated that Farm Advisors helped them implement their results as field practice (table 4). Individual growers were reported as important contributors to IPM research. Growers provided field trial space for 58% of the projects, and evaluated one out of five projects (26%) for practical utility. Organized commodity groups cooperated with researchers in 28% of all projects to help the investigators implement their research ac-

TABLE 4. Number of projects receiving various types of assistance from various types of person (n = 150, percentages are in parentheses)

	Persons assisting								
Type of assistance	Individual growers	PCAs	Farm advisors	IPM advisors	Commodity groups	UC UC facuity	Cooperative Extension specialists	IPM project staff	Other
Developing research	25/16)	10(12)	69(45)	36(24)	25/16)	119(74)	77 (51)	29 /19)	20 (12)
Evaluating project	23(10)	19(12)	66(45)	30(24)	23(16)	112(74)	77 (51)	20 (10)	20 (13)
usefulness Providing field trial	39(26)	35(23)	77(51)	36(24)	26(17)	76(50)	75 (50)	29 (19)	16 (10)
space Managing	87(58)	27(18)	42(28)	10 (7)	4 (3)	33(22)	21 (14)	5 (3)	31 (21)
field trial	44(29)	22(15)	57(38)	21(14)	3 (2)	48(32)	33 (22)	3 (2)	34 (23)
assistance	0 (0)	0 (0)	10 (7)	8 (5)	1 (1)	55(36)	21 (14)	39 (26)	21 (14)
data	22(15)	23(15)	63(42)	24(16)	8 (5)	57(38)	39 (26)	10 (7)	40 (26)
Other	1 (1)	1 (1)	2 (1)	2 (1)	4 (3)	4 (3)	4 (3)	2 (1)	7 (5)

tivities. According to these findings, most funded proposals were researched and implemented with interdisciplinary and multi-level approaches that went beyond the specializations of the principal investigators.

## **Research outcomes**

The IPM research projects have generated "products" to be used for pest management. These products include in-field pest management strategies, monitoring systems, and equipment. They also include publications of various types to disseminate researchbased pest management information.

Ninety-one percent of reporting projects claimed to have developed identifiable products. Products ranged from improved nonchemical pest control procedures to improved sampling methods, and from more effective decision-making procedures (e.g., action thresholds) to new pest monitoring equipment (table 5). In all, PI responses indicated that 148 of the 162 projects led to development of one or more products, a result that suggests the UC IPM goal for "practical, goal-oriented research" was addressed and probably achieved.

More than 75% (125) of the projects resulted in some type of publication, including 104 refereed journal articles. Other publications included popular press articles, Cooperative Extension publications, and book chapters. As of the end of 1989, 578 publications based on project-funded research had been produced.

Principal investigators also reported that such products as sampling and pest control procedures were in use in the field. Based on PI responses, about 43% of the funded research resulted in pest management products or information that is now being used by growers and pest control advisers (PCAs) (table 6). Besides field application, funded research has reportedly led to further pest management studies and research (54%) and to subsequent non-program funding for continued research (32%).

## Effect on pesticide use

An important question was whether research had contributed to the IPM goal of reducing the agricultural use of pesticides. Principal investigators were asked if they had any evidence that their research had resulted in

TABLE 5. Productivity of IPM research projects

Product	Projects that have		
	generated t		
		%	
Published papers	138	77	
Refereed journal			
papers	104	58	
Databases	61	39	
Decision-making			
procedures	59	37	
Nonchemical pest			
control procedures	56	35	
Sampling procedures	49	31	
Computer programs	31	19	
Chemical pest			
control procedures	21	13	
Equipment	12	8	

TABLE 6. Utilization of the products of IPM research

Product use	Projects whose products were so used		
		%	
In-field use by growers	64	43	
In-field use by PCAs Support in obtaining	63	43	
subsequent funding Support in conducting	48	32	
subsequent research	81	55	

#### TABLE 7. Effect of IPM research on pesticide use, as reported by principal investigators

Effect on pesticide use	Projects that have had the effect		
Reduction	57	36	
No effect	37	23	
Unknown	48	30	
Research still in progress	15	9	

a reduction in pesticide use. Thirty-six percent of all projects' PIs responded that they did have evidence of such pesticide reduction (table 7). In the questionnaire, we made no effort to document the nature or the validity of evidence, and the respondents' claims have not been verified. This result is intriguing and potentially significant. Moreover, it provides great incentive for the detailed study of the projects claiming to have reduced the use of chemical pesticides.

## Discussion

This study gives important but preliminary evidence that the research efforts of the UC IPM program have led to numerous and significant results. Taken together, the responses of the PIs validate the effectiveness of a research grant allocation program that has succeeded in facilitating applied, problem-solving research. Funded proposals have resulted in many usable and used products. In a surprisingly large number of cases, IPM research may have led to reductions in pesticide use. The research program has led to the development of pest management information, equipment, and procedures that have been applied in the field, of publications, and of continued research activities. The research program has also involved Cooperative Extension Farm Advisors, growers, commodity groups, and pest control advisers in organized research activities.

Our conclusions are preliminary. Since our means for collecting information were limited to the questionnaire and our review of IPM Annual Reports, results have to be dealt with carefully. The validity of PI responses is an open question. This study also raises many questions that merit further investigation. For example: What is the connection between Farm Advisor or PCA involvement and the nature of in-field pest management practices? What evidence is there to indicate that pesticide reductions result from IPM research? To what degree are research-based "products" actually used, and how wide-spread is their use? Are products developed 10 years ago in wider use today than those developed 5 years ago? These are among the questions that can be included in future studies.

Nevertheless, the results of this review should help UC IPM staff and advisory committees evaluate their effectiveness in supporting research that meets the project's original mandates. The results can also be used to modify the grant allocation process by identifying research proposals that are most likely to meet project emphasis on rapid, practical field implementation.

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