

*The University of California Statewide Integrated Pest Management Program (UC IPM) is examining how integrated pest management (IPM) can be more effectively understood and delivered in urban and rural settings.*

### Assumptions

- Pests are part of the human experience.
- Pest management is needed for preventing disease, protecting structures, producing food and fiber, and preserving our natural lands.
- Californians are served well by using integrated pest management (IPM) to reduce risks associated with managing pests.

### Scope of the Project

The Pests, Pesticides, and IPM Project (PPI) is a California Department of Pesticide Regulation-funded project to enhance dialogue about pest management across a variety of IPM settings: landscape, structures, and agriculture. Practitioners, scientists, and consumers have been convened to identify common concerns and to make specific recommendations to agencies, institutions, and stakeholders.

### Project Goals

- To articulate the diversity of pest management needs and perceptions of risk at the field, research, regulatory, and policy levels.
- To suggest policy, innovation, and communication approaches that support increased adoption of IPM.
- To equip leaders with this broadened knowledge in order that all stakeholders might consider and utilize IPM-based approaches.
- To establish ongoing and productive dialogue between diverse stakeholders in IPM.

### Background

This project began as a way to discuss the challenges pests pose for society and the controversies surrounding pesticide risk. Conflicts may arise over use of rodenticides, fumigants, and organophosphate and neonicotinoid insecticides, with specific concerns about misuse and exposure to people, pets, and wildlife. Notable examples include Medfly programs, pollinator health, pheromone use, methyl bromide fumigation, and invasive pests such as Asian citrus psyllid (ACP). UC IPM and DPR agree there is a need to explore ways in which IPM can be better understood by the public, and more quickly adopted.

Seasoned thought leaders, researchers, extension personnel, IPM practitioners, people that use pesticides, people impacted by pesticide use, retailers, regulators, and others have been convened throughout this process. As this project has been designed to establish benchmarks for future IPM leaders, a significant portion of our participants have been young or emerging professionals.

Our approach has been to gather relevant information from highly informed people in order to more effectively bridge the gaps between pest management and society's concerns going forward. Synergies between research-based information, new technology, knowledge engineering, educational theory, and social science can be used to design more practical, efficient, and sustainable pest management solutions for the future

### How the Information Will be Shared

- An **IPM Summit** will be held on **April 17, 2018 in Davis** to share findings and to collect additional stakeholder input.
- A **White Paper** and **non-technical summary** will equip policy makers, legislators, government officials, agency personnel, scientists, and the general public with specific recommendations to move forward.

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