



Ecologically-based Participatory and Collaborative Research and Capacity Building in Integrated Pest Management in Central Asia

By using an ecologically-based and multidisciplinary systems approach, this project is promoting the development of a comprehensive IPM initiative.



Wheat is a major crop in Central Asia, as illustrated by this woman selling her bread in a market. New IPM initiatives aim at enhancing educational and outreach programs to increase knowledge and training in more effective IPM practices.

A Regional Program under the IPM CRSP

Managed by Virginia Tech
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USAID is sponsoring a Collaborative Research Support Program for Integrated Pest Management in Central Asia (IPM-CRSP). The project is designed to foster development of a comprehensive IPM initiative, using an ecologically-based and multidisciplinary systems approach. Michigan State University, the University of California-Davis, and ICARDA serve as the host institutions for implementing this collaborative and participatory research-education program, designed to facilitate capacity building in IPM in Central Asia.

The project consists of three components: landscape ecology, biological control, and education-outreach. The specific activities to be implemented are based on the needs assessment and priorities identified at the regional IPM Stakeholders Forum organized in Uzbekistan in May 2005.

Component 1: Landscape ecology to enhance biodiversity and biological pest management. This component is designed to investigate the use of native plants for conserving natural enemy communities and enhancing biological control of field crop pests in Central Asia and to investigate and implement the most promising landscape management techniques in partnership with governmental agencies, universities, NGOs, and farmers in the region.

Component 2: Enhance efficiency, product lines, and crop usage of Central Asian biolaboratories. The overall goal of this component is to work with Central Asian researchers, educators and farmers to identify, produce, and introduce into vegetable production systems candidate entomophages for management of spider mites and insect pests which are not currently targets of those produced by Biolaboratories.

Component 3: Develop and implement IPM extension/outreach and university education programs. This project component aims at enhancing IPM educational and outreach programs in the region through training of trainers (TOT), farmer field schools, and the development of IPM educational resources to integrate new information, teaching tools, and methodologies into existing IPM outreach and educational programs.

Funding

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Cooperators

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