

## Public Tick IPM Working Group

**May 13th, 2020**

Please send additions, omissions, or other corrections to [vmcgoldrick@ipminstitute.org](mailto:vmcgoldrick@ipminstitute.org) or [mweber@ipminstitute.org](mailto:mweber@ipminstitute.org)

The Working Group meets via conference call on the second Wednesday of each month at 1:00PM CT (2:00PM EST). The following notes are for **May 13th, 2020**

### Roll

1. Allegra Lowitt, Thermacell
2. Bob Maurais, Mainely Ticks
3. Dawn Gouge, University of Arizona - MAC Experiment Station
4. Joellen Marie Lampman, New York State IPM, Cornell University
5. Kirby Stafford, Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station
6. Neeta Connally, Western Connecticut State University
7. Valerie McGoldrick, IPM Institute
8. Maria Weber, IPM Institute
9. Ashley Kennedy, US Army Public Health Center
10. Gloria Kim, Limiting Lyme
11. Scott William, Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station
12. Tom Mather, TickEncounter, University of Rhode Island
13. Rebecca Bingham, The University of Memphis
14. Scott Larson, Metropolitan Mosquito Control District
15. Thomas Simmons, Indiana University of Philadelphia
16. Larry Scrapper, Inter-Tribal Environmental Council
17. Jill Auerbach, Hudson Valley Lyme Disease Association
18. Monica White, Colorado Tick-Borne Disease Awareness Association
19. Lynnae Jess, North Central IPM Center

### Agenda

1. Review of the survey for working group members which can be taken here:  
<https://forms.gle/319K4wrWNFrNwCBK6>

Analyzed results of the survey as of 5/14/2020 can be seen here:

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1jyy\\_XzzCmZ\\_blxQzgaso5\\_cG7EitWTIVh7McoED8ne8/edit](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1jyy_XzzCmZ_blxQzgaso5_cG7EitWTIVh7McoED8ne8/edit)

2. Updates, comments, and announcements from the working group members

A recording of this call is available by visiting this link:

<https://transcripts.gotomeeting.com/#/s/6b698bb98a0ba5ec9fc6de16921d69547e21a73640dacd6e38fddca64d28b60a>

## **Introduction - Valerie McGoldrick, new co-facilitator for the Public Tick IPM Working Group**

- Valerie is the Community IPM Coordinator at the IPM Institute of North America

### **1. Survey**

- 16 people took the survey
  - The survey link will remain open
  - Wide variety of representation of who is joining the calls
- Question: Monthly conference calls typically last one hour. In your opinion, monthly calls should be scheduled to last:
  - Dawn: Is good with keeping it at an hour
- Question: Do you want more opportunities for discussion? Opportunities could include a call where everyone shares a little bit about their research, dedicated collaboration time, and/or chances for you to pose questions for the other working group members.
  - The group is split on having more discussion times.
    - Dawn: Would like to have a discussion-based call scheduled every 6 months
- Question: In addition to presentations on tick and ITM research, would you find it beneficial to hear from speakers on a wider variety of topics including how to present research and how to engage citizens?
  - Dawn: It is good we have a variety of topics.
    - Doing the pest alerts is a good idea and can bring other ideas forward
    - The group should share more out of the box research ideas.
  - Tom Mather: Brainstorming idea is good
    - Example: His group is looking at how the stay at home orders will impact people's tick encounters
    - Also suggested finding a platform to enhance networking
      - Dawn: Suggested Slack
        - Spring activity for looking for vectors has not happened in AZ, but COVID-19 has seriously impacted their vector control including dog-tick treatment for RMSF and rabies shots
  - Valerie will investigate starting a group Slack

### **2. Updates, comments, and announcements from the working group members**

- Ashley K: Introduced herself as a new tick biologist for the state of Delaware
  - Looks forward to collaborating with everyone!
- Tom M: Has anyone started tick collecting?
  - Kirby S: Started active surveillance program, and public submission still going forward.

- Many institutes are under real restrictions and it is impacting some research activities.
- Tom M: Survey by the University of Georgia with URI had 4,200 respondents.
  - He will send to Valerie and she will forward it to the group.
- Jill A: What are you finding for tick activities including *H. longicornus*/Asian longhorned tick?
  - Tom M- has reported on one
    - <https://www.facebook.com/TickEncounter/> if you want to see the picture
  - Tom M seen a giant jump in tick submissions by tick spotters
    - Suggests people are getting out more and exposing themselves to more ticks.
  - Tom M: Nymphal Blacklegged tick submissions suggest this was an earlier than normal spring
    - Kirby S: Agrees it was an earlier than normal spring
  - Tom M: His team is finding people are letting ticks seed on them slightly longer than normal.
    - Also suggests that people who are not as educated on ticks are coming into contact with them more frequently.
- Jill A: Has anyone started dragging for ticks? How is COVID-19 affecting this research?
  - Tom M: His team is going to keep working to the best of their abilities for summer projects.
  - Kirby S: He is continuing work for the summer. Some universities are shut down for summer, restricted seasonal hiring, closed labs, and it is influencing the research for a number of researchers
  - Jill A: Working on getting more appropriation for tick research including NIH. Would TRED be okay putting this out for everyone? It is the sign on email from Monica White
    - Kirby S: Need to remind legislature it is important to fund the Kay Hagan Tick Act for tick research during COVID-19.
      - We may see an increase in Lyme disease.
- Maria W: 2021 International IPM Symposium program session proposals are due Jun 30<sup>th</sup>
  - Monica White is looking for industry contacts to join forces with for the part of the session
  - Also looking for regional speakers in CO
  - Will regroup in about one week

These notes are for a Working Group call on May 13th, 2020. Future calls will continue to fall on the second Wednesday of each month at 1 PM Central time.

**The Public Tick IPM Working Group is funded by the USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture, Crop Protection and Pest Management Program through the North Central IPM Center.**