Lettuce Insect, Disease and Weed Losses Workshop

April 20, 2016 (RSVP requested)
12:00-3:00 pm (Lunch Provided)
Yuma Agricultural Center
6425 W. 8th St., Yuma AZ 85364

3 Arizona CEUs, 2 California CEUs, 2 CCA hours

Goal: To develop insect losses, control costs, and insect control information for the state of Arizona.

Background: In 2001, the UA began to develop an insect loss survey for head lettuce in Arizona. At that time estimates were derived from data and opinions provided in response to questionnaires that were mailed out to pest control advisors, other crop consultants, county agents, and industry personnel. In order to increase the level and quality of response, we are sponsoring a live meeting for the express purpose of reviewing the process and deriving individual level responses from PCA’s. You are invited to help develop the real world data that makes the resulting estimates so valuable to scientists, other researchers, regulatory personnel, policy makers, and your own industry.

Value: These data have been used in defense of chemistry that has been threatened by regulatory action, in support of new regulatory initiatives (e.g., Section 18 and 24c applications), and in support of research and public policy with respect to insecticide usage and insect pest management. In recent years these data have specifically been used to defend or otherwise comment on the use of acephate (e.g., Orthene) and endosulfan, and to defend the use of diazinon and Lannate in lettuce and melons. Furthermore, these data will be useful in assessing the impact of new classes of insecticide chemistries on the lettuce industry.

Unique Role: These data play a unique role in the understanding of insect losses and the role of pesticides in lettuce production. Because the information is by pest insect and based on your understanding of the intended targets of the insecticides used, it provides a unique source of information on losses due to individual pest insects and the specific costs to control them. Furthermore, these are the only data provided directly for fall and spring head lettuce production.

Please let us know if you are planning on attending the workshop by either faxing this announcement back to us at 928-782-1940, or calling our office at 928-782-3836. Thanks!

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Agenda

12:00-12:15  Welcome and Introductions  John Palumbo

12:15 – 12:45  Explanation of the Lettuce Insect Losses Survey  John Palumbo

A. Fall vs. Spring Lettuce Production
B. What is an “idealized” potential average yield?
C. Defining yields relative to dynamic market forces
D. What are insect losses?
E. Overall losses due to non-insect pests and other stressors
F. Planted, infested and treated acres
G. Interpreting insecticide usage in the context of the questionnaire
H. Insecticide costs

12:45-1:30  Individual Completion of Questionnaires*

1:30-2:00  11 year Trends: Results from 2004-2015 Review  John Palumbo

2:00-3:00  New Insecticide Chemistry Update  John Palumbo

* Questionnaires to be completed anonymously by PCA’s to ensure confidentiality.

If you have any questions in regard to the workshop, please call Marco Pena at (928) 782-3836.