



New Mexico State University

IR-4 FIELD RESEARCH CENTER

The mission of the IR-4 Project is to facilitate registration of sustainable pest management technology for specialty crops and minor uses

The IR-4 Project:

Agri-chemical companies are hesitant to pursue EPA registrations for use in specialty crops, such as food crops (fruits, vegetables, nuts, herbs and spices), since projected sales for these uses don't cover costs of registration. In order to insure that growers have the safe and effective pest management tools that they need, the IR-4 Project has evolved as the primary resource for facilitating registration of conventional pesticides and biopesticides for these uses.

The IR-4 Project is a federally funded program that serves as a bridge between the market goals of the agri-chemical industry and the needs of the specialty crop grower by developing research data to support EPA registrations. These data are generated at cooperating field centers and regional laboratories, and then are submitted to EPA for review and new-use registration. The program is remarkably effective: over 60% of all annual EPA registrations result from IR-4 efforts.

The NMSU IR-4 Field Research Center

In New Mexico, specialty crops account for one-half of the yearly farm receipts. The NMSU IR-4 Field Research Center (FRC) was established in 2001 to address the pest management needs of our state. Since inception, the FRC has:

- Conducted over 150 field trials, resulting in registration for minor uses in 14 food crops important to New Mexico agriculture.
- Submitted over 100 requests to IR-4 National Headquarters for specific pesticide uses important to New Mexico agriculture.
- Cooperated with numerous State Agricultural Experiment Stations, USDA-National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA), USDA-Agricultural Research Service (ARS), EPA, commodity growers, and the crop protection industry.
- Lobbied for pest management needs of New Mexico growers during annual prioritizing conferences at the regional and national levels.

