

**Report and Recommendations**  
**NORTHEAST MULTISTATE ACTIVITIES**  
**COMMITTEE MEETING**

**February 16, 2021**  
**9:00-10:00 am Zoom Teleconference**

**Members: Jan Nyrop (Cornell, chair), Matt Wilson (WVU), Puneet Srivastava (UMD), Andra Johnson (PSU), Amy Ouellette (UNH), Eric Wommack (UD – not in attendance)**

***MAC decisions and discussion***

- ESS Excellence in Multistate Research Award: a strategy for selection of Northeast nominees (click to view the [2021 call for nominations](#))
  - No nominations have been received by the NERA OED
  - Jan Nyrop proposed the nomination of the Chemical Ecology project, NE1501 (Jan serves as AA)
  - NE1501 (now NE2001) is an active group that coalesced around an important question: *can chemical ecology make significant contributions to reduce the reliance on toxic measures for crop protection?*
  - Rick suggested that the MAC, with its extension representation, be involved in crafting a compelling nomination.
  - Cornell's communications office can review the nomination prior to submission.
  - The award review committee seeks a description of quantitative and qualitative impact. (e.g. what funding has been leveraged? How does the community or industry utilize this group's work?)
  - Jan Nyrop will work with Denis Willett (NE2001 Chair) to put together a Qualtrics survey **to be shared with the MAC** prior to distribution. Project participants will be asked to:
    - 1.) list publications catalyzed by the project
    - 2.) list funds leveraged by participation on the project
    - 3.) identify 1-3 impacts on science
    - 4.) identify 1-3 impacts on management

***Request to Write (requires MAC approval only)***

- NE\_TEMP2105 *Motivations for Growing Industrial Hemp: Farmers, Producers, Processors, Manufacturers, Retailers, Consumers, Citizens, and Policymakers*, 10/1/22-9/30/27. New, AA: Matt Wilson. (Co-sponsoring station: Cornell.)
  - Only one prospective participating station in the Northeast (WVU)
  - There is an existing hemp multistate project in the Southern region with participating faculty from the Northeast
  - Hemp production is limited because of few allowable hemp products in the US. This multistate project would be best suited to focus on hemp utilization – draw participants from food science, social science, engineering.

- Rick suggested that the project editor Sunidhi Mehta (WVU) identify more prospective participants from other discipline areas and revisit the request to write.
- Amy shared the names of some researchers who might be interested in collaboration: Clare Hinriches, Dept. of Ag Econ at Penn State and Heather Darby, agronomist working in hemp production, University of Vermont.
- Jan Nyrop will seek interested collaborators from Cornell, more from a utilization perspective rather than social science.
- **The request to write was not yet approved at this meeting and will continue to be developed.**

***Administrative Adviser Assignment (MAC recommends to NERA)***

- NE1640 and NE\_TEMP2140 *Sustainable Management of Nematodes in Horticultural and Field Crop Plant Health Systems*, proposed AA: Rick Rhodes (former AA Mark Rieger)
- NE1701 *Mycobacterial Diseases of Animals*, proposed AA: Rick Rhodes (former AA Gary Thompson)
- NE1938 *Carbon Dynamics and Hydromorphology in Depressional Wetland Systems*, proposed AA: Mark Stolt (URI, approved by RIAES Director, John Kirby; former AA Mark Rieger)
- NE1941 *Environmental Impacts of Equine Operations*, proposed AA: Rick Rhodes (former AA Mark Rieger)
- NE\_TEMP2105 *Motivations for Growing Industrial Hemp: Farmers, Producers, Processors, Manufacturers, Retailers, Consumers, Citizens, and Policymakers*, 10/1/22-9/30/27. New, AA: Matt Wilson.
- **Matt Wilson moved to approve the full slate of recommendations to NERA, and the MAC was supportive of those recommendations.**

***Informational items***

- Two NE multistate projects are under review including: NE\_TEMP2140 *Sustainable Management of Nematodes in Horticultural and Field Crop Plant Health Systems* and NECC\_TEMP2103 *High tunnel specialty crop production*.
- NE\_TEMP2101 *Eastern White Pine Health and Responses to Environmental Changes* is in the final throes of drafting the full proposal.
- NEERA1603 (will be NEERA\_TEMP2103) *Northeast Pasture Consortium*, AA: Margaret Smith and NEERA1604 (will be NEERA\_TEMP2104) *Northeast Region Technical Committee on Integrated Pest Management*, AA: Margaret Smith both intend to renew.
- NE1602 *Explorations in the Turfgrass Phytobiome: Understanding Microbial Associations and Developing Tools for Management*, AA: Bill Miller, does not appear to be renewing. The project has been dormant for several years, meeting for the last time in 2018.