



Cornell University
New York State
Integrated Pest Management Program

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Dear Friend of IPM:

I am writing to alert you to the fact that the state IPM funding that the NYS IPM Program receives through the Department of Ag and Markets has been totally eliminated in the Governor's Budget, and no funds are allocated for Community IPM through the Department of Environmental Conservation. The bottom line is that if this funding is not restored, the NYS IPM Program will be forced to end in July 2010. For your information, we have put together a list of critical examples of impacts to both NY agriculture and communities if our funding is not restored and the NYS IPM Program ends. Please see the accompanying impact statements. If more impacts for specific commodities or settings would be helpful, just let me know and we can provide these to you as well.

We need your help and we need it now!! I hope that you would be willing to write a letter or an email, or make a visit, supporting the restoration of the funding for IPM in New York. These should be directed to the Agriculture Committee Chairs, Magee in the Assembly and Aubertine in the Senate; the Environmental Conservation Chairs, Thompson in the Senate and Sweeney in the Assembly; the Majority Leaders in both houses, Espada in the Senate and Silver in the Assembly; as well as your own State Senator and Assemblyperson. Here are their addresses:

Assemblyman William Magee
Assembly Ag Committee Chair
Legislative Office Building 828
Albany, NY 12248
518-455-4807
MageeW@assembly.state.ny.us

Assemblyman Robert Sweeney,
Assembly En Con Committee Chair
Legislative Office Building 625
Albany, NY 12248
518-455-5787
Sweeney@assembly.state.ny.us

Senator Antoine Thompson, Senate En Con
Committee Chair
Legislative Office Building, Room 902
Albany, New York 12247
518-455-3371
athompso@senate.state.ny.us

Senator Darrel Aubertine
Senate Ag Committee Chair
903 Legislative Office Building
Albany, New York 12247
518-455-2761
aubertin@senate.state.ny.us

The Honorable Pedro Espada, Jr.
State Senate Majority Leader
420 State Capitol
Albany, NY 12247
518-455-3395
espada@senate.state.ny.us

The Honorable Sheldon Silver
State Assembly Majority Leader
932 Legislative Office Building
Albany, NY 12247
518-455-3791
speaker@assembly.state.ny.us

Your own State Senator and Assemblyperson addresses can found here:

<http://www.nysenate.gov/>

<http://assembly.state.ny.us/>

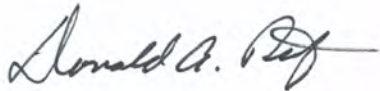
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I do hope that you will be willing to send a letter or an email, or make a visit or phone call. It would be great if you would send a copy of any correspondence to me as well at my Geneva office. When engaging Senators, please specifically ask them to sign onto a letter that Senator Thompson is writing to the Leadership in support of the NYS IPM Program. When writing to Senator Thompson, please thank and encourage him for leading this effort.

Thanks in advance for your assistance with this very critical matter. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Donald A. Rutz". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent initial "D" and "R".

Donald A. Rutz
Director, NYS IPM Program
Professor of Veterinary Entomology