

**Areawide Integrated Pest Management Act (AIPM) of 2015 (H.R. 3893)**  
*Introduced by Congresswoman Tulsi Gabbard and endorsed by the Entomological Society of America, Weed Science Society of America, and the National Farmers Union.*

AIPM has a proven record in helping to increase return on investments for farmers, ranchers, dairymen, and land managers in their efforts to control invasive species. Invasive species are responsible for crop loss, livestock deaths, and deforestation that cost our economy billions of dollars each year. The goal of the AIPM Act of 2015 is to:

- ◆ Support long-term and sustainable solutions to reduce the impact of invasive species on agriculture, including grazing, dairy farming, and natural resources.
- ◆ Increase the return on investments for farmers, ranchers, dairymen, and land managers by providing them with multiple invasive species management options.
- ◆ Empower end-users – farmers, ranchers, dairymen, and land managers – to take a larger role in creating solutions for their agricultural businesses and industries.
- ◆ Support improved use of federal dollars through competition to control and/or eradicate invasive species.
- ◆ Protect human health and the environment.



Congress, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), scientists, farmers, ranchers, and land managers agree that AIPM strategies have important economic, health, and environmental benefits. The Food Quality Protection Act (FQPA) of 1996 directs federal agencies to use IPM techniques in carrying out pest management activities and promote IPM through procurement and regulatory policies, and other activities.

Former Presidents have highlighted the significance of IPM techniques. President Nixon directed the USDA, the National Science Foundation, and the Environmental Protection Agency “to launch a large-scale integrated pest management research and development program.” President Carter directed federal agencies to “support and adopt IPM strategies wherever practicable.” In 1993, the Clinton IPM Initiative was launched with a goal of having 75 percent of U.S. crops acreage under IPM by 2000. More recently, President Obama, directed federal departments to utilize IPM tactics to enhance pollinator habitat.



Clearly, the mandate to develop and implement large scale AIPM has been around and supported for many years. The AIPM Act of 2015 is a step forward to support IPM tools to address and minimize invasive species negative impacts on agriculture, livestock, grazing, dairy, and natural resources.

If you would like additional information about AIPM, or cosponsor or endorse the AIPM Act of 2015, please contact my legislative assistant Dave Chun at [Dave.Chun@mail.house.gov](mailto:Dave.Chun@mail.house.gov) or 202-226-1205. Thank you for your support.

# Areawide Integrated Pest Management (AIPM)

## *What are AIPM projects?*

- ◆ AIPM represent a positive long-term sustainable solution to many pest and disease management problems.
- ◆ AIPM projects are pest control efforts at a scale larger than a single field or farm using multiple management tactics to control and/or eradicated invasive species.
- ◆ AIPM take into account key factors to manage pests within complex production systems, including cropping sequences, crop/livestock production and protection, and other important factors.



## *What are the benefits of AIPM projects?*

- ◆ Better use of federal dollars to control and/or eradicate nuisance pest.
- ◆ Provides farmers with multiple pest management tactic options.
- ◆ Cost effective way to protect human health and the environment.
- ◆ Increased return on investments for farmers and ranchers.

## *What is the purpose of the AIPM Program Act of 2015?*

- ◆ Cut costs and other outlays by reducing duplicative efforts in the implementation of AIPM projects.
- ◆ Maximize the efficient use of resources on AIPM projects when addressing pest management.
- ◆ Protect the health and safety of humans and the environment through biocontrol applications.
- ◆ Ensure stable funding for programs by developing a sustainable management and assessment process that is not challenged every budget cycle.
- ◆ Ensure AIPM projects are largely influenced by farmers, ranchers, and pest management experts most familiar with local needs, with guidance provided by federal agencies, land grant universities and colleges, other institutions, and private individuals important for specific projects.
- ◆ Ensure ongoing positive AIPM project outcomes by requiring a comprehensive business plan showing how the project will continue once federal funding ends.

## *Why place the AIPM Program Act of 2015 in NIFA?*

NIFA is the federal agency best suited to administer these projects as its primary mission is to provide and manage grant funds in a systematic and fair manner.

NIFA has a long history of managing large research grants that adhere to a consortium approach, involving multiple institutions, federal agencies, and research, education and extension efforts. They have the necessary infrastructure in house to do this work.

Additional guidance for multi-institution/interagency collaborations is provided in the AIPM Program Act of 2015 to ensure resources are wisely spent, properly managed, and adequately assessed for effectiveness.

## *Who has undertaken AIPM projects in the past?*

The U.S. Department of Agriculture has coordinated AIPM research projects for many years through various agencies: Agricultural Research Service, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, US Forest Service, and through state/university partnerships managed by the National Institute of Food and Agriculture.

