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Senator Hoffmann Receives NYS IPM Award

by Carrie Koplinka-Loehr

SYRACUSE, NY: The NYS Integrated Pest Management Program awarded Senator Nancy Larraine Hoffmann (R-49th), who chairs the New York Senate Agriculture Committee, the "Friend of IPM Award," at the 172nd Annual Forum of the NYS Agricultural Society in Syracuse, NY. The award is the highest honor given by the IPM Program, which is part of Cornell University. The award recognizes outstanding efforts by individuals who encourage the practice of "integrated pest management"-the practice of managing insects, weeds, and diseases in ways that minimize environmental, health and economic risks.



Suggested caption: Senator Hoffmann received the "Friend of IPM Award" at the NYS Agriculture Society's 172nd Annual Forum in Syracuse. (I-r) Ruth Moore, 1st Deputy Commissioner of the NYS Dept. of Agriculture and Markets; Dean Susan Henry, Cornell's College of Agriculture and Life Science; Senator Hoffmann; Mike Hoffmann (no relation), Director of the NYS IPM Program; and Bill Pool, of Wegmans. CREDIT: J.Ogrodnick/NYSAES/Cornell

Susan A. Henry, the Ronald P. Lynch Dean of Cornell's College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, applauded Senator Hoffmann's unwavering support and commitment to New York farmers in supporting the development and implementation of practical and cost-effective tools for agriculture. Said Henry, "We honor Senator Hoffmann for her support of the IPM program and her partnership with the College on behalf of New York State agriculture. She works at every level to ensure a sustainable and successful future for New York agriculture."

"Agriculture is more important to New York than many in Albany realize," said Senator Hoffmann, in receiving the award. "It is sometimes a struggle to get my colleagues to understand the need for high quality research, when compared to other issues that have more powerful public images and lobbiests, like medical care, education and senior citizens."

From 2001-2003, in part with support from Senator Hoffmann, the NYS IPM Program was able to fund 128 projects focused on improved methods for producers. Some of the funded projects included posting pest-management guidelines on the web, offering electronic weather information, and developing record-keeping software that helps apple growers meet market demands.

Senator Hoffmann represents Madison and parts of Cayuga, Oneida and Onondaga counties, and is serving her 10th term. Hoffmann encourages production agriculture and the preservation of family farms, has ensured that the conservation efforts of Northeast farmers were represented in the 2002 Federal Farm Bill, and helped create the Upstate New York Agritourism and Education Program, which assists farmers in making their properties destinations for tourists and schoolchildren.

For more information about IPM, access www.nysipm.cornell.edu/

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