

WIPMC funded project Final Report

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“Working Group for Curly Top Virus Biology, Transmission, Ecology & Management”

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We established the “Curly top working group” and had our first meeting June 14-15, 2004 at New Mexico State University in Las Cruces, NM. We had 33 attendees at the meeting. Sessions at the meeting included the history and overview of Beet Curly top virus, biology of beet curly top virus, weed hosts of beet curly top virus, the beet leafhopper and its control, plant resistance to beet curly top virus, and field perspectives of curly top. For each session there were speakers and a discussion. A transcription of all the discussion sections was prepared and distributed to all that attended the meeting.

In June 23-24, 2005, we held our second meeting at New Mexico State University with 25 attendees. We had sessions on beet curly top virus, beet leafhopper and its control, weed hosts of curly top virus, plant resistance to curly top, field perspectives and new approaches to virus control. Once again there were talks followed by discussions. We also included a field tour showing virus-infected plants. As is the previous year, transcripts of the discussions were prepared and distributed.

From these two meetings we had several beneficial outcomes. The group shares information and ideas. Several proposals were submitted for grants from participants and one proposal between Greg Walker (University of California, Riverside) and myself (New Mexico State University) to study the mechanism of leafhopper transmission of curly top virus was funded.

Another significant outcome of the project was continuing the workgroup meeting in August 2006 without funding and successful initiation of a regional coordinating committee WERA1007 - Curly Top virus Biology, Transmission, Ecology, and Management. The coordinating committee will carry on the plans made by the WIPMC funded project.