



WESTERN CENTER FOR AGRICULTURAL HEALTH AND SAFETY

University of California, Davis

NIOSH

Grant # OH007550

2009 End-of-Year Report

(September 30, 2009 – September 29, 2010)

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December 2010/February 2, 2011

I. Executive Summary

The Western Center for Agricultural Health and Safety (WCAHS) celebrated its 20th year in 2010 - successfully facilitating a collaborative environment amongst the Center investigators, agricultural community stakeholders, and the national and international communities interested in agricultural health and safety. It was a record year of accomplishments. The well-established successes of this Center are a direct result of the systematic approach to accomplishing the goals of the Administrative and Planning Core by providing the infrastructure to promote interactions among the core, programs and projects. This Core helps to ensure translation of new farm safety measures at the local level so as to directly improve outcomes for impacted populations, and also promotes translational efforts at the regional and national level.

The Administration and Planning Core office is centrally located within WCAHS region, serving as the focal point for coordinating the Center's efforts. The administrative offices for WCAHS are located at the Center for Health and the Environment (CHE) on the UC Davis campus. It receives additional administrative support from the Department of Public Health Sciences (PHS). The WCAHS Administrative and Planning Core provides general oversight and management of the Center.

The administrative personnel, including the Director, Associate Director, and the Center Manager, prepare and administer all aspects of the budget and report on the budget to the university and NIOSH. They oversee compliance, data sharing, technology transfer, and all aspects of privacy protection. Administrative support personnel also perform day-to-day activities and operations of the Cooperative Agreement.

Center Administration

The Center is under the direction of principal investigator, Dr. Marc Schenker. Dr. Kent Pinkerton is the Associate Director and Dr. Stephen McCurdy serves as Director of Research. Sandra Freeland is the Center Manager and is responsible for public relations, program development, project coordination, strategic planning, administration, personnel, center publications and electronic media resources.

The **WCAHS** continues to bring together a unique, multidisciplinary team of experts to address the substantial and complex problems of health and safety in western agriculture. The Center is composed of 11 Principal Investigators from the School of Medicine, the College of Agricultural and Environmental Science, the School of Veterinary Medicine, College of Engineering, state agencies and other programs (*e.g.*, California Farm Bureau, CalOSHA, CalEPA, Small Farms Program, *etc.*). In addition, over 16 graduate students and assistant researchers collaborate on Center projects.

Campus support for the Center

The University of California at Davis continues to be extremely supportive of the Center. This support has included commitment of space for office, laboratory, and fieldwork, matching funds for equipment purchases, and in-kind salary support for faculty, staff, graduate students and administrators involved with the Center. The UC Davis Academic Administrative Council provides graduate student funds.