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The University of Georgia

Office of the Vice President for Instruction

August 17, 2007

UNIVERSITY CURRICULUM COMMITTEE – 2007-2008
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Graduate Student Representative – Mr. Chris Johnson

Dear Colleagues:

The attached proposal to offer the Masters in Plant Protection and Pest Management as an External Degree in Tifton will be an agenda item for the August 24, 2007, Full University Curriculum Committee meeting.

Sincerely, David Shipley

Mr. David E. Shipley, Chair
University Curriculum Committee

cc: Dr. Arnett C. Mace, Jr.
Professor Jere W. Morehead

APPROVAL PAGE
COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES
CURRICULUM PROPOSALS

Proposal: Masters in Plant Protection and Pest Management in Tifton

Department Head	Date 2/08/07
Department Head	Date 2/13/07
Department Head	Date 2/13/07
Faculty Council Graduate Committee Chair	Date 2/8/07
Faculty Council Executive Committee Chair	Date 2/8/07
Associate Dean for Academic Affairs	Date 2-8-07
Dean and Director	Date 2/9

January 22, 2007

Appendix A
Proposal for an External Degree
The University of Georgia

Institution: The University of Georgia **Date:** December 12, 2006

College/School/Division: Agricultural and Environmental Sciences

Departments: Crop and Soil Science, Entomology, and Plant Pathology

Degree: Master of Plant Protection and Pest Management

CIP Code: 0656

1. Assessment: The Masters of Plant Protection and Pest Management (MPPPM) is an advanced terminal degree program currently offered only on the Athens campus. A similar program is needed in Tifton and would provide several important benefits to the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences (CAES) and the University of Georgia. Due to professional and family responsibilities, many County Agricultural Extension Agents and other working professionals in South Georgia who would be most interested in the MPPPM program may be unable to travel to Athens to complete the course requirements. Offering the MPPPM degree program in Tifton would provide a very attractive opportunity for these individuals, who have indicated a preference for just such an applied advanced degree program. The MPPPM program would also provide a second graduate degree option for the graduates of our undergraduate program here in Tifton who major in Agriscience and Environmental Systems (AES). A number of former and current AES students have expressed interest in the MPPPM program if it were offered in Tifton. The opportunity for graduate education in Tifton also would give UGA graduate students whose research is focused in Tifton an opportunity to complete course work in Tifton with minimal disruption of their research activities. All of the courses that are required for the MPPPM degree are currently taught by UGA faculty located in Tifton. Several excellent field facilities are available on-campus and nearby for use in applied, hands-on instruction. Tifton's ideal location in the heart of the Georgia's diverse and economically important agricultural industry would give students many valuable opportunities for the internship requirement of the program. Offering the MPPPM degree in Tifton would enable the University to extend degree programs to qualified students who might not otherwise have access and assist the University in carrying out its mission of serving the entire state of Georgia. See attached letters of support.

2. Admission Requirements
The admission standards for the MPPPM program would be the same as those for the program that is conducted in Athens. Applicants must have an undergraduate degree from an accredited institution. A minimum combined GRE score of 900 and a 3.0 grade point average (out of 4.0) is required for admission to the MPPPM program. Final decisions on admittance will be made by the MPPPM coordinating committee. A sliding scale as in the Athens-based program can be used as follows if the above requirements are not met. Overall GPA >= 2.8 and GRE >= 1000; or overall GPA >= 3.0 and GRE >= > 900; or overall > GPA >= 3.5 and GRE >=800. Each student

will have a home department (Crop and Soil Sciences, Entomology, or Plant Pathology) designated at the time of admittance.

3. Program Content
The completion requirements for the MPPPM program offered in Tifton will be the same for all MPPPM graduates and will include successful completion of a minimum of 34 hours of graduate courses, an internship experience, a written internship report, and a final written examination. A detailed listing of the degree requirements, including required course work, is attached.

4. Student Advising
The MPPPM program offered in Tifton would have a local advisory committee that would work closely with the advisory committee in Athens; however, the committee in Tifton would be expected to help develop the curriculum, direct students enrolled at the Tifton campus, and aid in making the final decisions on student admittance for those seeking acceptance into the program at Tifton. The committee has not yet been developed but will consist of one member of each department involved in the MPPPM program (ENTO/CRSS/PATH). This has been approved by the current MPPPM advisory committee. There will be a chairman of the entire committee who will act as a liaison to the Graduate School and oversee the actions of the entire committee, as well as break deadlock votes. The six-member advisory committee will also coordinate distance education classes between the two campuses when required courses at each location have so few students enrolled that a combined enrollment between Tifton and Athens is warranted. Each student will also have an individual major advisor whose academic credentials conform to Graduate School requirements for faculty advisors. The advisory committee will develop a program of study with the student, including approval of an internship assignment and internship report, and will administer the written examination.

5. Resident Requirements
The cohort of students will be based in Tifton and will be part of the teaching program there.

6. Program Management
The program management plan is attached.

7. Library and Laboratory Resources
Students in the program will have access to library resources on the Tifton Campus and at the immediately adjacent campus of the Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College (ABAC). In addition, UGA students in Tifton have access to the same web-based library databases, inter-library loan programs, and other resources that are available to students on the Athens Campus. There are several research labs on the Tifton Campus that are currently used for instruction. Funding also has been requested for renovation of the Rural Development Center (RDC) to create additional classroom and teaching laboratory space for academic programs on the Tifton Campus.

8. Budget
Since the courses in the degree program are already developed and offered in Tifton, there should be very little, if any, additional cost associated with offering this degree in Tifton.

9. Program Costs Assessed to Students

There will be no additional costs other than regular tuition.

10. Accreditation

All instruction based on the Tifton Campus will be conducted in accordance with the same regulations and requirements as Athens-based instruction.

Addendum for Distance Education Delivery of New Programs

Institution: The University of Georgia **Date:** December 12, 2006

College/School/Division: College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences

Departments: Crop and Soil Science, Entomology, and Plant Pathology

Degree: Master of Plant Protection and Pest Management

CIP Code: 0656

Proposed Start Date: Fall 2007

1. Description of the Delivery System
The majority of courses will be delivered to students located in Tifton by UGA faculty also located in Tifton. All required core courses for the MPPPM program will be taught on location in Tifton unless a combined enrollment between Athens and Tifton would be more efficient and prudent. These required courses along with a limited number of elective courses may be delivered via the existing video-conferencing system on the Tifton and Athens campuses to take advantage of faculty expertise.

2. Assessment of Societal Need and Demand for Distance Education Delivery
For several years, many Extension agents have expressed the need for a technical degree program that will help them with their day-to-day activities when addressing the crop protection needs of the commodities grown in their counties. The MPPPM degree is the best option for Extension faculty that are in need of a Masters degree that is technical and does not require a thesis. To date, agents that have enrolled in this program have had to travel to Athens to take classes. This commute is difficult to manage for agents located in the southern part of the state. Students in the AES program in Tifton would also benefit from this degree program in that they could continue their education in Tifton while working on an advanced degree program. Graduate students whose major advisor is located in Tifton would also benefit from this program in that they could take graduate classes in Tifton, without significant disruption of their research in Tifton. In the future, this program also could be offered in Griffin, making the MPPPM degree program available to students statewide.

3. Readiness of the Institution to Offer the Program
a) The MPPPM program offered in Tifton will be the same degree that was approved by the Board of Regents in 1974. The program will not duplicate any other degree program offering by any of the institutions under the Board of Regents. The objective of this degree program is to provide applied education beyond the Bachelors degree for individuals already employed by the Cooperative Extension Service, employed by private industry, or others seeking a terminal Masters degree in applied plant protection that does not require a thesis. The program is designed to produce graduates with comprehensive, multidisciplinary training in entomology, plant pathology, and weed science for employment by industrial, extension, and regulatory agencies. The goal of the MPPPM program is to train students to be proficient in solving the types of pest management problems routinely encountered by growers and other agricultural

professionals. Integrated pest management using pesticides, cultural operations, and biological solutions to pest problems is stressed.

(b) Faculty Inventory with Delivery Expertise
The following faculty will be involved initially in the program:

Dr. John Beasley, Crop & Soil Sciences, Tifton
Dr. Steve Brown, Crop & Soil Sciences, Tifton
Dr. James Dutcher, Entomology, Tifton
Dr. Peng Chee, Crop & Soil Sciences, Tifton
Dr. Timothy Grey, Crop & Soil Sciences, Tifton
Dr. James Hook, Crop & Soil Sciences, Tifton
Dr. David Langston, Plant Pathology, Tifton
Dr. Peggy Ozias-Akins, Horticulture, Tifton
Dr. Eric Prostko, Crop & Soil Sciences, Tifton
Dr. David Riley, Entomology, Tifton
Dr. John Ruberson, Entomology, Tifton
Dr. Harald Scherm, Plant Pathology, Athens
Dr. Katherine Stevenson, Plant Pathology, Tifton

All of the faculty listed above currently serve as instructors either in the undergraduate program in Tifton or teach graduate courses in Tifton and/or Athens. Dr. Scherm, located on the Athens Campus, has previously taught PATH 8410 Advanced Plant Disease Management to students located in Tifton via video-conferencing. Other faculty may be included as instructors in the program as new elective courses are developed or as changes in personnel dictate.

(c) Facilities
Instructional facilities currently available on the Tifton Campus include two classrooms, each with a 30-student capacity, two small conference rooms (10 students each), a large seminar room (100 students), four research laboratories (15-25 students each) that are also used for teaching, the Academic Program Coordinator's Office, and a Student Center and restroom facilities. The current space available for instruction is considered to be adequate for the first cohort of students; however, as the undergraduate and graduate programs on the Tifton Campus grow, as we anticipate, additional classroom and laboratory space will be required. In anticipation of this future growth, our goal is to find a permanent home for Academic Programs. Renovation of the Rural Development Center wing of the UGA Tifton Campus Conference Center is currently under consideration, pending availability of funding. The renovated space would include four large classrooms, two teaching labs, a student center, and additional office space.

(d) Instructional Support
To ensure student and faculty access to information and resources necessary to support the teaching and learning process, the program will utilize existing resources that are currently in place at the University of Georgia and across the state of Georgia. Backups, encryption, passwords, firewalls and other electronic security measure are ensured by the University of Georgia Office of Information Technology (OIT). This office has personnel located on the Tifton Campus and is responsible for, and equipped to deal with, the ongoing challenges to network security and user authentication needed to ensure the validity of student identification

and university resource protection. This office also provides training and technical support for maintaining instructional equipment in the classroom, including computers and computer projectors, video cameras, video-conferencing equipment, and other equipment used in classroom instruction. Library resource options for students include the brick-and-mortar libraries located on the UGA Tifton and ABAC campuses, web-based library databases, and the inter-library book loan program.

(e) Student Services
The College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences has an established teaching program on the Tifton Campus. In addition to the library and instructional support services provided by the University of Georgia, students in Tifton also have the opportunity to participate in recreational activities and extracurricular clubs and health services available on the ABAC campus.

(f) Cooperative Links with the Community
The MPPPM program is especially well-suited for individuals employed by the Cooperative Extension Service, private agriculture-related industries, or other individuals with a professional interest in applied plant protection. Because Tifton is located in the heart of Georgia's diverse and economically important agricultural industry, availability of the MPPPM program in Tifton would provide a valuable educational opportunity and opportunity for professional advancement for members of the agricultural community in South Georgia. Skills learned and developed by graduates of this program will be an asset in the development of communities in which they live and work.

(g) Accreditation and Legal Issues
Accreditation concerns fall within the context of the current MPPPM program. The same standards, expectations, and outcomes will be required of the MPPPM program in Tifton as with the Athens campus based program. Intellectual property and legal compliance concerns are covered through established University of Georgia programs and policies regarding graduate instruction.

4. Recruitment and Admission of Students
The MPPPM program in Tifton will be advertised through the statewide network of County Extension Offices. We anticipate considerable interest in this degree program among County Extension agents in the southern half of the state. The other major source of potential students for this program is the undergraduate program in Tifton, especially students graduating with a major in Agriscience and Environmental Systems (AES) major. Availability of the MPPPM degree program in Tifton will be advertised to these students. In the near future, Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College (ABAC) will begin offering a 4-year undergraduate degree in agriculture. Graduates of the 4-year ABAC program may also serve as a pool of potential students for the MPPPM degree program.

Applicants must have an undergraduate degree from an accredited institution. A minimum combined GRE score of 900 and a 3.0 grade point average (out of 4.0) is required for admission to the MPPPM program. Final decisions on admittance will be made by the MPPPM coordinating committee. A sliding scale as in the Athens-based program can be used as follows if the above requirements are not met: overall GPA >= 2.8 and GRE >= 1000; or overall GPA >= 3.0 and GRE >= > 900; or overall > GPA >= 3.5 and GRE >=800. Each student will have a

home department (Crop and Soil Sciences, Entomology, or Plant Pathology) designated at the time of admittance.

5. Curriculum

Students in the MPPPM-Tifton program will be expected to complete the same degree requirements and will be held to the same academic standards as MPPPM students in the Athens campus-based program. The same set of required courses for the MPPPM degree will be taught in Tifton. In addition to formal coursework, students in the MPPPM program are required to complete an internship experience, prepare a formal internship report, and pass a written final examination. A complete list of MPPPM degree requirements is attached.

6. Consistency with Principles of Good Practice

Student-faculty contact: Through face-to-face classroom instruction or video-conferencing, students and faculty will interact on a daily basis. In addition, each student will have a faculty advisor who will help direct the student's program. The student cohort will be in the Tifton area and will have ample opportunity to interact with faculty on that campus.

Cooperation among students: The MPPPM-Tifton program will initially be delivered to a specific cohort of students. A cohort is a group of individuals that moves through a program together. There will be approximately 5-10 individuals in each cohort. Students will take all required classes with the same individuals for the duration of the degree program. This allows them to build a strong network of support that will help not only in coursework, but in professional careers as well. Group projects and cooperative research will be more meaningful with a cohort of professionals. The cohort approach will also ensure that all required classes have sufficient numbers of students enrolled and will be taught as scheduled.

Active learning: Coursework will be enhanced by encouraging active participation by the students in the learning process.

Prompt feedback: Faculty involved in the MPPPM program understand and apply the concept of prompt feedback in all coursework.

Time on task: Coursework in the MPPPM program incorporates high standards of teaching and learner outcomes. This means that students will have to attend class, complete all assignments and pass all assessment requirements to complete the program.

High expectations: The same level of expectations and requirements will be demanded of the students in the MPPPM-Tifton program as the MPPPM program on the Athens Campus.

Diverse talents and ways of learning: The students in the cohort will be highly motivated, graduate-level students who have entered the program for professional improvement. Class assignments and projects will be designed for individual creativity and independent work and learning styles. At the same time, some class assignments will require group interaction which will provide the opportunity to mesh individual styles with group cooperation and outcomes.

7. Fiscal Implications of the Program

The basic facilities and equipment are in place to initiate the MPPPM degree program in Tifton. No additional state funds are being requested at this time.

8. Assessment

Student learning outcomes for the culmination of the program will be assessed by a formal end-of-program written exam, as well as a submission of a written internship report prepared by the student.

The proposed program will be assessed in a number of ways. First is through the program review process conducted by the Office of the Vice President for Academic Affairs. Second, the graduate coordinators of the participating departments will monitor student success of graduates in finding/retaining jobs, and make annual reports to the participating department's faculty.

9. Evaluation Plan

The program will be evaluated through student questionnaires and surveys, follow-up studies, and a program of peer review of teaching. Follow-up studies consist of a survey at the end of one, three, and five years after completion of the degree to ascertain the effectiveness of the program in terms of student employment, perceived program benefits, and job advancement.

Specific outcomes and evaluation of the outcomes are as follows:

Outcome 1: Proficiency in comprehensive knowledge of plant protection and pest management, encompassing the disciplines of entomology, plant pathology, and weed science.

Evaluation of Outcome 1: The student will demonstrate proficiency in his/her knowledge of plant protection and pest management by successful completion of the performance standard set by the student's Advisory Committee, including designated course work, final written exam, internship, and written internship report.

Outcome 2: Proficiency in identifying and solving the types of pest management problems routinely encountered by growers and other agricultural professionals.

Evaluation of Outcome 2: The student will demonstrate proficiency in solving pest management problems through successful completion of designated course work, passing the final written exam, completion of an appropriate internship experience, and submission of a satisfactory written internship report.

Outcome 3: Ability to understand the basic and practical implications of plant protection, and organize and communicate information, in writing, in a clear and professional manner.

Evaluation of Outcome 3: The student will complete an internship experience designed to strengthen a student's background in agriculture and related areas and to provide practical experience, such as with a chemical company or the Cooperative Extension Service. Students are expected to prepare and submit a written internship report during the semester following the internship semester for approval by the student's advisory committee.

ATTACHMENTS

Degree Requirements

Masters of Plant Protection and Pest Management (MPPPM)

Core Curriculum

The core curriculum for the MPPPM major in Tifton is the same as is required in Athens (see Table below). Some of the core classes are already being offered in the AES major, but at the 4000 level, e.g., ENTO(CRSS)(PATH) 4740/6740-4740L/6740L Integrated Pest Management (3 hrs) and ENTO(CRSS)(PATH) 4250/6250-4250L/6250L Pesticides and Transgenic Crops (3 hrs). Other core courses, such as CRSS 4340/6340 Weed Science (3 hrs), CRSS 4340L/6340L Weed Science Lab (1 hr), and PATH 6280 Diagnosis and Management of Plant Diseases (4 hrs) have been offered in Tifton as electives in the undergraduate Agriscience and Environmental Systems (AES) major, but have not been taught due to insufficient student enrollment or scheduling problems. ENTO 4000/6000-4000L/6000L General Entomology (3 hrs) has not been offered previously, but the Entomology faculty in Tifton have agreed to teach it.

The Area II and III electives will be chosen from classes currently being offered at the Tifton Campus. A proposed cohort schedule of classes is shown in Attachment A.

Area	Credits
Area I All are required courses: CRSS 4340/6340 Weed Science (3)* CRSS 4340L/6340L Weed Science Lab (1) ENTO 4000/6000-4000L/6000L General Entomology (3)* ENTO(CRSS)(PATH) 4740/6740-4740L/6740L Integrated Pest Management (3) ENTO(CRSS)(PATH) 4250/6250-4250L/6250L Pesticides and Transgenic Crops (3) PATH 4280/6280-4280L/6280L Diagnosis and Management of Plant Diseases (4)*	17
Area II Select at least one 2- to 4-credit graduate course from each of the three MPPPM departments (CRSS, ENTO, or PATH).	6-12
Area III Electives: select any graduate course related to pest management in the student's area of interest.	6-8
Internship	1
Total	34

* If a student has had the 4000-level equivalent of CRSS 4340/6340, ENTO 4000/6000-4000L/6000L, or PATH 4280/6280-4280L/6280L, then a substituted course must be selected from the same MPPPM department.

Internship

Since the MPPPM program leads to a professional degree, an internship is required instead of research for a thesis. The internship is designed to strengthen a student's background in agriculture and related areas and to provide practical experience, such as with a chemical company or the Cooperative Extension Service. Prior to the internship, the student will meet with the major professor and discuss such things as the general mission of the employer, nature of anticipated work, and goals of the institution related to plant protection. These and other types of information will need to be collected during the internship for inclusion in a written report. If possible, the student and major professor should meet 4 to 6 weeks after initiation of employment and evaluate the student's progress. It may be desirable to alter the original goals and to be observant for different plant protection principles during the remainder of the internship.

An internship report is required and should be reasonably concise, substantial in character, and reflective of biological principles related to plant protection. The report should demonstrate to the faculty that the student understands basic and practical implications of plant protection and has the ability to: (i) organize information in a clear manner, (ii) produce a professionally useful and technically acceptable report (supervisor can verify that privileged information is being used properly), and (iii) present material in a well-structured form, written in acceptable English. The report should include:

Title: The title should be descriptive of the nature of the work.

Title page (one page for two reports): This should include title, name of student, previous academic degree(s), date of internship, name of employer, name of supervisor, degree program.

Approval page: Signatures of all members of advisory committees and internship supervisor(s) for each report.

Table of Contents.

Introduction: This section should cover two important points: (i) a description of the employer, its mission in agriculture, and how its mission relates to plant protection, and (ii) the anticipated goals of the student (it may be desirable to prepare an initial draft of this).

Description of work: Details should be presented concerning the nature of day-to-day activities and various procedures used during the internship.

Results: Factual information (data) of accomplishments and "failures" should be presented in this section. The information may be either, or both, objective or subjective, and it may be presented in the text, tables, and/or figures.

Discussion: The Results information should be evaluated, interpreted, and discussed. The discussion should demonstrate independent thinking and an understanding of principles of plant protection. Although not required, references may be used to support conclusions.

Summary: In this optional section, the internship can be evaluated: how was it important, problems encountered, how could it be improved, etc.

Literature cited (if needed): Cite pertinent references.

Appendix: Include information that is not suitable for the Results section.

The report will be typed on 8.5" x 11" paper. The margins and page numbers should correspond to the Graduate School requirements for theses and dissertations. Section headings, tables, and

figures should follow the guidelines set forth by a discipline journal. The length of the report should be commensurate with the internship; the number of pages is not very significant, but the report(s) should be representative of the nature and variety of activities performed.
A grade of I (incomplete) will be assigned to the Internship until the student's advisory committee has approved the internship report. Furthermore, students should be expected to complete the report during the semester following the internship semester. Students on academic probation may not enroll for an internship.

Final Examination

The Masters Degree of Plant Protection and Pest Management Program (MPPPM) has a final examination requirement of all students. The purpose of the examination is to measure education capabilities that encompass the entire program of the student. The examination consists of a written exam that is taken after all courses have been completed and will be administered by the student's advisor. The written exam will cover specific information and general concepts learned during the overall graduate program, including prerequisites, and core courses in area I. The student must pass the exam and have the written report approved before completing requirements for graduation.

Attachment A: 2007/2008 Proposed Course Schedule

Masters of Plant Protection and Pest Management (MPPPM)

Fall 2007
PATH 4280/6280-4280L/6280L (4 hrs) Diagnosis and Management of Plant Diseases – Stevenson/Langston
*PATH 4300/6300 (2 hrs, repeatable up to 6 hrs) Clinical Plant Pathology - Langston
CRSS 4340/6340 (3 hrs) Weed Science – Prostko/Grey
CRSS 4340L/6340L (1 hr) Weed Science Laboratory – Prostko/Grey
ENTO(CRSS)(PATH) 4740/6740-4740L/6740L (3 hrs) Integrated Pest Management – Dutcher/Langston
***PATH 8410 (3 hrs) Advanced Disease Management – Scherm

Spring 2008
ENTO(CRSS)(PATH) 4250/6250-4250L/6250L (3 hrs) Pesticides and Transgenic Crops – Brown/Brown/Langston
*HORT(CRSS) 4800/6800 (3 hrs) Agricultural Biotechnology – Ozias-Akins/Chee
*CRSS 4580/6580-4580L/6580L (3 hrs) Soil Erosion and Conservation – Hook

Summer 2008
*CRSS 7050 (3 hrs) Advanced Crop Production – Beasley
**ENTO 4350-4350L (4 hrs) Crop-Specific Insect Management – Riley

Fall 2008
ENTO 4000/6000-4000L/6000L (3 hrs) General Entomology – Dutcher/Riley/Ruberson
**ENTO 4500-4500L (3 hrs) Biological Control Pests of Pests - Ruberson
*PATH 4300/6300 (2 hrs, repeatable up to 6 hrs) Clinical Plant Pathology – Langston
ENTO(CRSS)(PATH) 4740/6740-4740L/6740L (3 hrs) Integrated Pest Management – Dutcher/Langston
***PATH 8410 (3 hrs) Advanced Plant Disease Management – Scherm

Spring 2009
ENTO(CRSS)(PATH) 4250/6250-4250L/6250L (3 hrs) Pesticides Management and Transgenic Crops – Brown/Brown/Langston
*HORT(CRSS) 4800/6800 (3 hrs) Agricultural Biotechnology – Ozias-Akins/Chee
*CRSS 4580/6580-4580L/6580L (3 hrs) Soil Erosion and Conservation – Hook

Other Courses

ENTO 6130 (1 hr) Internship in Crop Protection and Pest Management

*This is an elective.
** This is an elective that currently exists as a 4000-level course and is being submitted for 6000-level status.
***This is an elective that is already offered using a GSAMS type delivery method.

Total elective hours = 24
Total core hours = 17
Total hours available = 41
Total hours needed = 34

There are also several courses listed as "Special Problems," "Topics," or "Advanced Topics" in each participating department that can be taken for graduate credit.

The University of Georgia

College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences

December 8, 2006

Dr. Scott Angle
Dean and Director
College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences
University of Georgia
101 Conner Hall
Athens, GA 30602-7501

Dear Dr. Angle:

The Master of Plant Protection and Pest Management (MPPPM) program was established in the mid-1970s and is an excellent terminal professional degree that many county extension agents, industry representatives, and consultants have and continue to show an interest in pursuing. The program was designed to provide a platform to develop expertise in all aspects of pest management and is supported by the faculty and administration of the Departments of Plant Pathology, Entomology and Crop & Soil Sciences. While this program has traditionally been taught by faculty at the Athens campus, the emerging interest and opportunity for faculty at the Tifton campus to become engaged in instruction provides the advantage for the courses required for this program to be offered at the Tifton location. The Tifton campus, and perhaps the Griffin campus in the future, are well suited for offering classes for this program as the infrastructure and qualified faculty are in place. Additionally, the research and extension programs of many Tifton based faculty are directly related to the desired outcomes of the MPPPM program.

A schedule for the courses for the MPPPM at the Tifton campus has been developed and approved by the Tifton curriculum committee. The courses offered are not new courses, but additional sections of classes already approved at the College and University level. As indicated by signature below, the committed Department Heads as part of their administrative responsibilities outlined in the University of Georgia Statutes will facilitate the assignment of teaching loads "within the department and maintain insofar as possible an equitable and mutually agreeable distribution of courses and sections" to see this proposal comes to fruition.

The Department Heads for the departments engaged in the MPPPM would like to see the courses for the MPPPM program offered at Tifton as soon as possible. This would increase the enrollment in the MPPPM program by providing better access to the program, and meet the goals of the College to provide opportunity for county faculty and those in other agriculturally related industries to obtain an advanced degree. It is envisioned that this greater visibility would also provide more contact with industry and provide more opportunities for students to pursue the required internship for this program of study. Thus, on behalf of the faculty in the respective departments that participate in this program, the Department Heads request that the faculty at the Tifton campus be permitted to proceed in offering the sections of the courses leading to the MPPPM as soon as this request can be processed.

Sincerely,

Donn Shilling
Professor and Head
Crop & Soil Sciences

Ray Noblet
Professor and Head
Entomology

John Sherwood
Professor and Head
Plant Pathology

Julian H. Miller Plant Sciences Building · Athens, Georgia 30602-7274
Telephone (706) 542-2571 * http://www.plant.uga.edu * FAX (706) 542-1262
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1785
The University of Georgia

College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences
Department of Horticulture

2 April 2007

Dr. Scott Angle
Dean and Director
College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences
101 Conner Hall
Athens, GA 30602

Dear Dr. Angle:

The Department of Horticulture and I strongly support the offering of the Master of Plant Protection and Pest Management (MPPPM) program at the Tifton Campus. While Horticulture only plays a minor role (contributes instruction for 50% of one course), we realize and appreciate the potential and the need for this major and wish to see it successfully implemented as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Doug Bailey

Douglas A. Bailey
Professor and Department Head

Horticulture Department • 1111 Plant Science Building • Athens, Georgia 30602-7273
Telephone (706) 542-2471 • Fax (706) 542-0624
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