

## FPRW Testimonials from participants

August 2008

**1. FPRW has impacted our lab in a very positive way over the last 20 years.**

We have used this opportunity to meet with multiple vendors in one sweep and make decisions about instrument purchase.

We have met our counterparts in other states and learned how they deal with states issues from collecting samples to instrument issues to laboratory design and building and restricted budgets. In fact, we gave a talk about our new laboratory building when it was completed.

Information on new methods has been invaluable. Just this year we returned from the meeting and found we had a sample of honey to be analyzed for Bifenthrin. We had enjoyed the talk given by Roger Simonds of USDA and we were lucky to have heard it. We emailed him for details and used the method the next day with great results.

The User meetings are also great. It is a relaxed atmosphere where you can ask the technical questions that you can't always get a practical response from the vendor help lines. I began to analyze Glyphosate using a new method after hearing a colleague discussing the method in the MS Users meeting. We talked after the meeting and began corresponding. I don't know if I could have gotten all the details ironed out without that kind of direct contact.

When you are a new employee and you get the opportunity to attend a meeting like this, you have your eyes opened. I never realized until my first meeting in 1995 what a huge scope pesticide analysis has around the world. Coming from a small budget state, we don't have exposure to all the new technologies without seeing these technical talks. Free vendor seminars are getting fewer and fewer, so this is becoming one of the last opportunities to have information directly addressing our needs and the issues relating to pesticide analysis.

Luckily the administration has also recognized the value of this meeting and has allowed at least one person to attend every year for at least the last 20 years if not longer. We were invited to help with the meeting this past year and I found that to be a great experience as well. Our administration completely supported us in this endeavor to the point of allowing three of us to attend this year.

Amy Hernandez  
Pesticide Supervisor  
Agricultural Chemistry Laboratory  
Louisiana Department of Agriculture & Forestry

2. Amy,

**I could not say it any better!! Everything you said has been true for me and our Lab. I cannot thank the state of Florida and all their dedicated Laboratory staff enough for 45 years of excellent workshops!! I have attended FPRW for over 25 years and each workshop has helped me and our Lab in so many ways. If you could only attend one workshop a year, this would be the one I would choose!!**

**Sherry Garris**

### **Supervisor Chemical Residue Lab -South Carolina Dept of Agriculture**

3. This is absolutely the most important conference/workshop currently available to our lab. We have already incorporated techniques for extracting glyphosate in a more efficient manner. Modifications of Quechers by OK Dept of Ag and a specific extraction column developed by UCT. I have received copies of all presentations and posters that I requested, those pertaining to modified Quechers and LC MS/MS instrumentation methods. If it were in our budget we would send every chemist in our lab to the workshop because of the vast amount of information and interaction available in such a concentrated amount of time.

**Gale Hagood  
Lab Supervisor Environmental Residue  
Mississippi State Chemical Laboratory**

4. I have attended this meeting for about 10 years and cannot begin to tell you the benefits I and the Department have gained. First this is an excellent meeting for networking. I have made many contacts at this meeting that have let me call experts in the analysis of food products for advice for both routine analysis and emergency analysis. Due to a contact that we made several years ago we were able to identify a brominated flame retardant on a pear sample. This was many years ago before these contaminants were considered to be ubiquitous. I have developed many contacts with various FDA people they allow us to get analytical and policy questions answered very quickly.

Over the years we have been able to use and develop new technologies at this department due directly to contacts at this meeting. This includes the development on large volume injection GCMS, retention time locking and LCMS.

The introduction of new methodology and instrumentation has been a focus point of this meeting and a very important asset for our department. This year a speaker demonstrated the ability to analyze from a single method approximately 150 pesticides and 50 mycotoxins. Many of the extraction methodologies used in our laboratories at this time have come directly from presentations at this meeting.

This meeting is well known for it's openness to help others. Very often small groups get together and go well into the night discussing current analytical problems or developing technologies. This one on one contact is the most import part of attending any meeting and this meeting is especially open to ongoing discussions of topics well outside the normal meeting hours. These discussions are open to both beginners and experts and in my experience all are equally accepted and embraced. There are not enough thanks to go out to all of those that have organized and participated in this meeting over the many years of my attendance. They have educated me over the years on all aspects of food analysis.

**Marc Engel  
Food Laboratory, Food Safety, FL Dept of Agric and Consumer Services (FDACS)**

5. I learned a lot from the FPRW. This year I learned more about the QuChERS method as well as the new DPX Clean-up method. I will use these in the lab. The Vendor contacts are excellent. I bought my Mass Spec after talking to a vendor at the FPRW. The poster presentations are great too. I am using a new phenoxy extraction method I learned there. Keep up the good work.

**Deo Picart**

Chemist 111  
West Virginia Department of Agriculture

6. FPRW was a great learning experience for our facility, being mainly concerned with human toxicology it was exciting to see other aspects of essentially Forensic type work and learn how other scientists approach their analysis.

Regards

Jeffery Hackett  
Northern Tier Research  
Mayfield PA

7. For me I hadn't been to any kind of Scientific Forum in many years. Prior to this Conference I had attended the California Pesticide Workshop (I believe that we were still using Integrator Recorders and Strip Chart Recorders at the time), and about ten years before that I attended an FDA Pesticide Workshop in Texas (at which time all of our recorders were strip chart recorders). Over my twenty Years with the agency technology has changed, and as technologies change Scientists need to get together and talk. We need to share ideas and bounce things off of one another, and workshops such as yours provide an opportunity for us to do so. Getting out of the office and into a more relaxed environment allows for our minds to relax from our normal way(s) of thinking and expand into other modes and think about things differently. Having the vendors there to allow us to observe and compare their technologies/techniques is also good because it helps us to generate ideas.

I found information on Colony Collapse Syndrome informative (though we obviously still do not know the cause(s)), and I can share what I learned with entomologists as well as other chemists.

The information on Aflatoxins in Corn used in Ethanol Production can be shared with microbiologists as well as environmentalists and other chemists.

Information on Genetically Modified Foods is of interest to many,

Kathleen Cortese  
Pacific Regional Laboratory South-West of the Food And Drug Administration  
Located in Irvine California

8. Dear colleagues,

I am pleased to say that I found the recent FPRW 2008 meeting to be completely on point and very relevant to my specific concern: the determination of organophosphorus pesticides in citrus. I was able to speak to and get specific input from experienced, published scientists with similar interests; they had much to offer.

As this was my first FPRW, I was surprised and gratified to have such access to such an excellent cross-section of scientific colleagues.

Please keep up the excellent work!

William G. Gaboda  
Senior Chemist, Analytical R&D

Abc  
250 Plainsboro Road, Plainsboro, NJ 08536

9. Robert McIntyre wrote:

The 45<sup>th</sup> Florida Pesticide Residue Workshop was a hit as usual. We have been weighing out our own salts here at the lab for QuEChERS. From this meeting I'm going to take the advice and order preweighted salts in centrifuge tubes. Not only should this help us eliminate contamination but will also free up an analyst time to do other things. The discussion on the use and meaning of Identified vs Confirmed was interesting.

10.

Please publish anonymously.

FPRW benefits our lab as a source for practical sample preparation and instrumental applications that are beneficial when developing and improving methods for the analysis of crop protection residues.

Additionally, in 2007, I attended Pittcon and FPRW for the first time. After reviewing the number of presentations maintained for quick reference, I found they were equal. Recognizing that each meeting has different purposes, the benefit is value: I can spend more time focused on gaining useful information in a small and interactive setting. In my opinion, the FPRW 2008 meeting was even better.