

Rufus Isaacs

Professor of Entomology at Michigan State University

East Lansing, MI, US

Expert in bees, pollination and bees impact on crops

Biography

Over the past decade, our research has supported pest management in Michigan berry crops with greater adoption of monitoring and use of selective insecticides. This progress has been undermined to some extent by the recent arrival of spotted wing Drosophila, but the Early Detection Rapid Response that we put in place has helped develop an effective approach to SWD management in the affected crops, with a ~\$20 million reduction in the economic impact of this pest during 2014 compared to the years before. In the crop pollination arena, development of the Integrated Crop Pollination concept, and its development into a national project is changing the dialogue about honey bees vs. native bees and helping to foster a more holistic view of farm management for pollination.

Industry Expertise

Education/Learning, Research, Renewables and Environmental, Biotechnology

Areas of Expertise

Pest management, Pollination, Grape, Berry Corps, Pollinator Conservation, Crop Pollination

Education

University of London, Imperial College at Silwood Park

Ph.D.

University of London

B.S.

Accomplishments

Grant to Develop Sustainable Pollination Strategies

U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Institute of Food and Agriculture

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