

LAB

Integrated Pest Management Program

PURPOSE:

Integrated Pest Management (IPM) is the practice of combining your knowledge of the pest and host plant with multiple tactics for long-term, safe pest control. The goal of IPM is pesticide reduction, by using cultural, mechanical, and biological controls before the last option, pesticides. When pesticides are used, we choose the least toxic first, with the idea of preventing environmental degradation and preserving natural enemies. Following the components of an IPM program will allow you to harvest a healthy crop.

STARTING AN IPM PROGRAM:

✓ *Description:*

Before deciding to take any control action, you must correctly identify the pest. Learn pest and host life cycle, anatomy, biology, color, shape, mouthpart, and size. Often, other stages of the life cycle are susceptible to preventative actions.

✓ *Damage:*

In creating a pest management program, you must identify where the pest is located on the plant. This will help you know what type of damage the pest can create. In identifying damage signs, you can create a preventive action plan.

✓ *Management:*

Monitor or sample environment for pest population - How many are here? Preventative actions must be taken at the correct time if they are to be effective. For this reason, once the pest is correctly identified, monitoring must begin before it becomes a problem. Choose an appropriate management tactics for any pest situation. Options include mechanical or physical control, cultural controls, biological controls, and chemical controls.

ACTIVITY:

- a. Around the room are various pests and diseases that attack our greenhouse community. The object of this activity is to learn the basic steps of creating an IPM program. The task is to describe one pest that you find.
- b. After you identify your pests, you are to choose a pest to research and create a basic IPM program for our greenhouse community. Your IPM is to be displayed in a brochure, having information on both sides that include all needed information to implement a preventive action plan. To be effective, you must include pictures of the pest, the life cycle, etc. The more descriptive you are the better your plan will be.
- c. Sites: <http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu>, <http://ipm.osu.edu/>, New York State IPM, <http://extension.usu.edu/yardandgarden/>, MSU IPM, Purdue IPM, Penn State IPM, www.utahpests.usu.edu/ipm
- d. Hand in IPM program:

