

The Maine IPM Toolbox

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My goals with this presentation & document



- Broadly introduce integrated pest management concepts
- For each IPM Concept provide:
 - Context & Background
 - Toolbox "Shopping List"
 - Resources Available in Maine
 - Resources Available Online
- The PDF of this presentation is available freely online with clickable links to use as a guidebook



What is integrated pest management?





- Proper identification of pest
- Understanding the system where the pest exists

IIIII Prevention, Cultural & Mechanical Control

- Prevent and control through physical means
- Set your location up for success

□ Monitoring & Recordkeeping

- Monitor in a tracked and systematic way
- Make it useful for the future!

Action Thresholds

- What is the population level?
- What methods are needed at this level?

Biological and Pesticide Control

Dynamic and flexible as methods change

IPM is the standard, and many institutions are involved

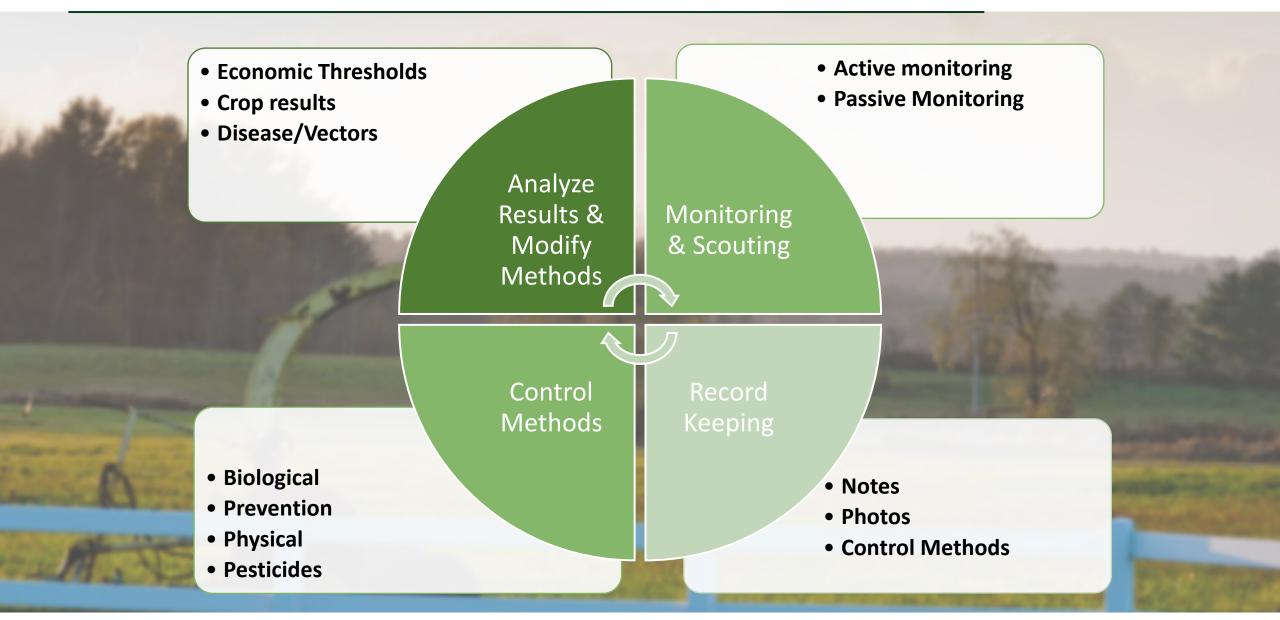






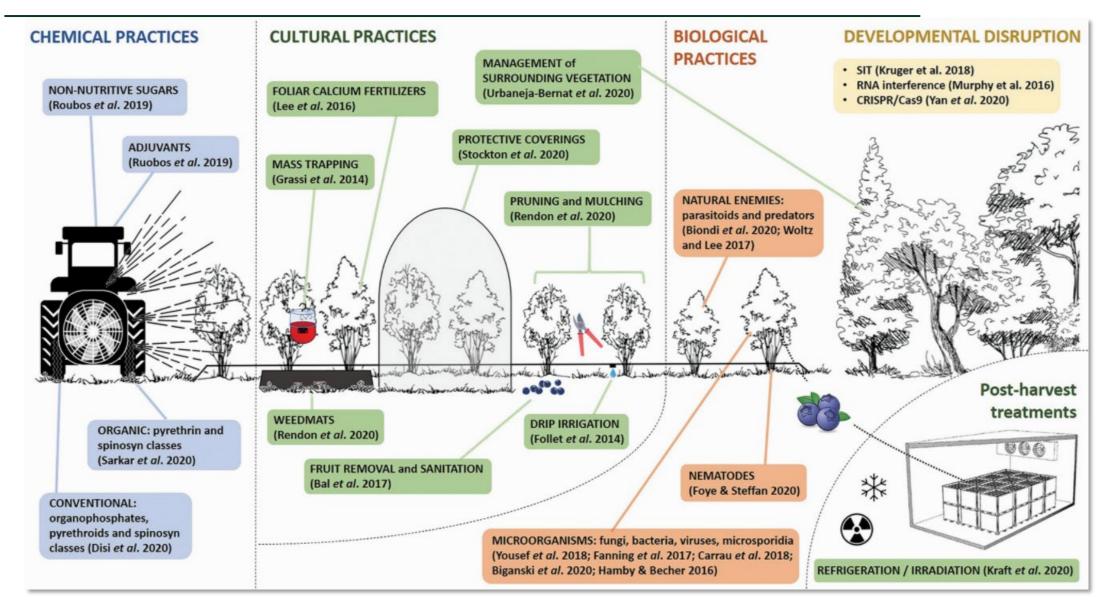
The IPM Cycle





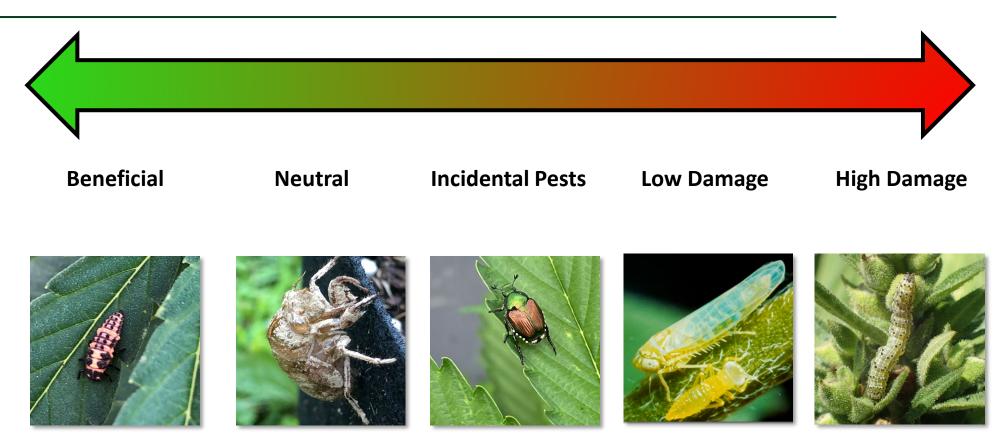
IPM is an Ever-Evolving System – Internally and Externally!





What is a pest?





Factors:

Context, Perception, Personal Allowance, Understanding, Population Size, Health of Plants, Indoor vs. Outdoor etc.

Pests, Pathogens, and Friends, oh my!



Fungal Pathogens



Invertebrate Pests



Viral Pathogens



Vertebrate Pests



Abiotic Diseases & Problems

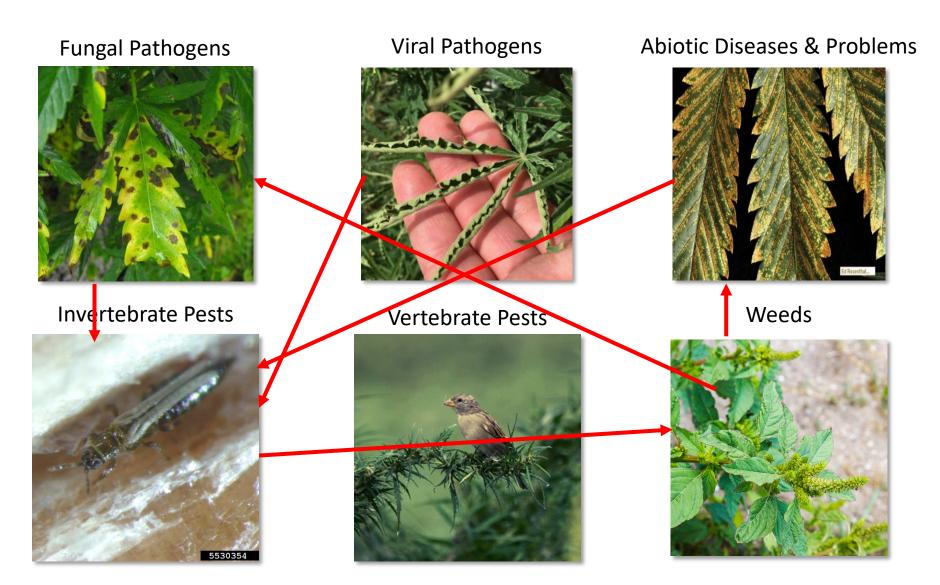


Weeds



Pests, Pathogens, and Friends, oh my!

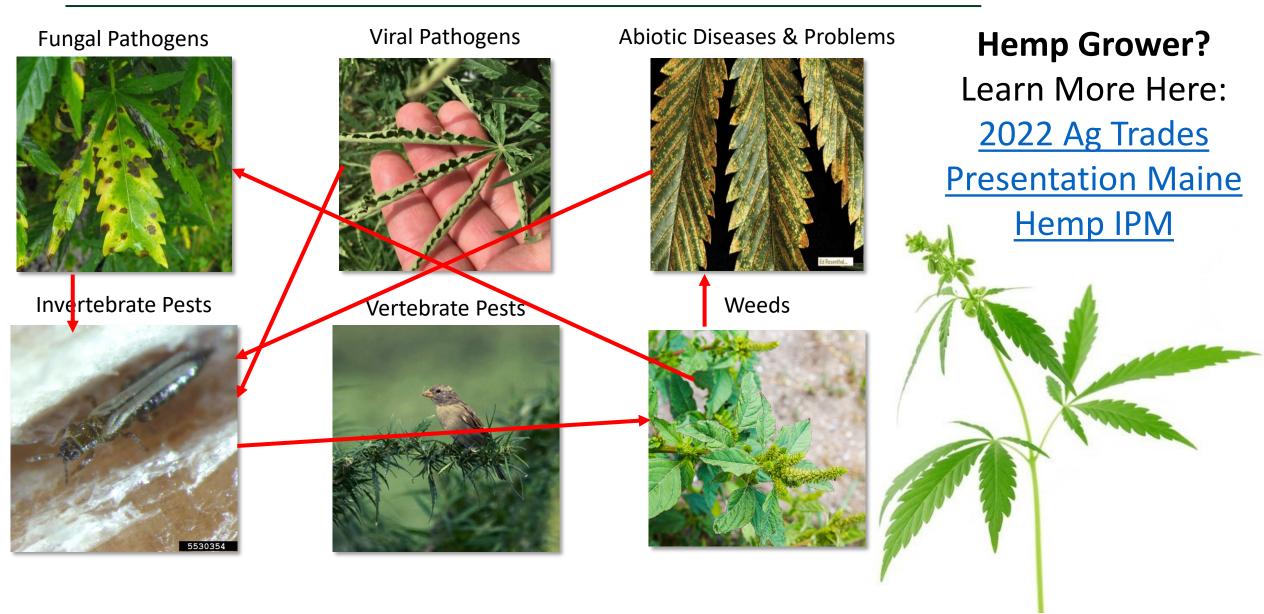




Photos: University of Vermont; Shouhua Wang (Nevada Dept. Ag); Bruce Watt, University of Maine, Bugwood.org; Royalqueenseeds.org

Pests, Pathogens, and Friends, oh my!

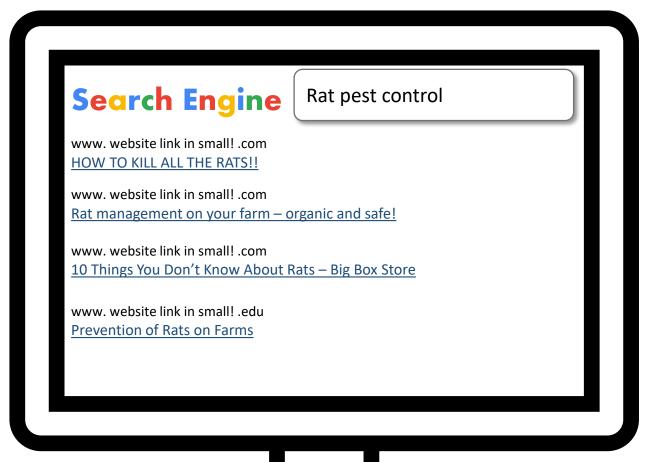




INTERNET SEARCHES:

a tool you need to know how to use properly



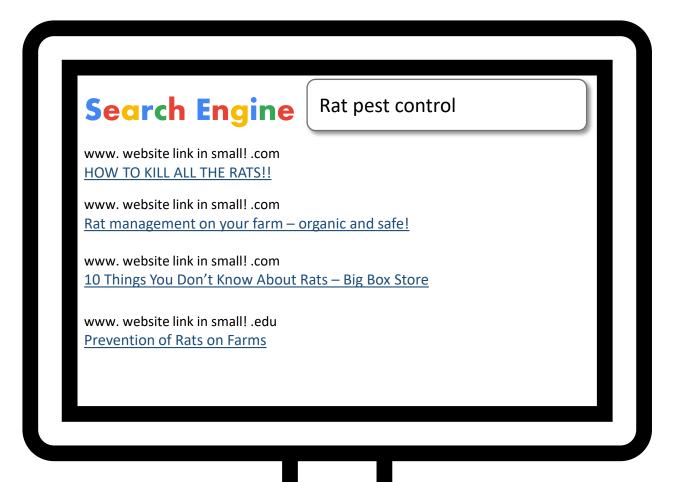


- The first few links are likely to be ads
- Careful trusting information written by those will profit from it (pest control companies, big box stores)
- Just because a website claims to be "natural" or "earth friendly", information needs to be backed by research (references and citations)

INTERNET SEARCHES:

a tool you need to know how to use properly





- Generally, better resources can be found under .edu and .gov
- Writing the question in a different way can help (instead of "kill rats", search for "rat prevention" or "rodent IPM")





Identification

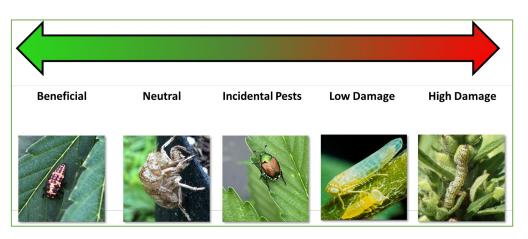


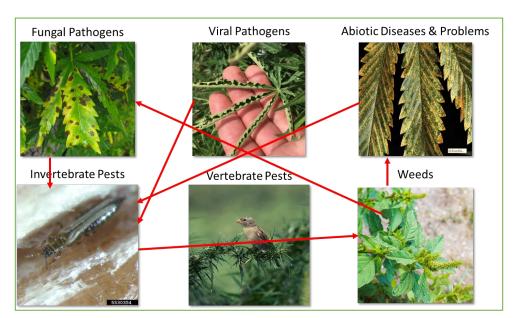
Identification: Overview & Considerations



Without proper identification, you cannot understand the organism or problem you are having with your crop.

Imagine trying to treat a broken arm without knowing that your arm is broken. What types of mistakes could you make?









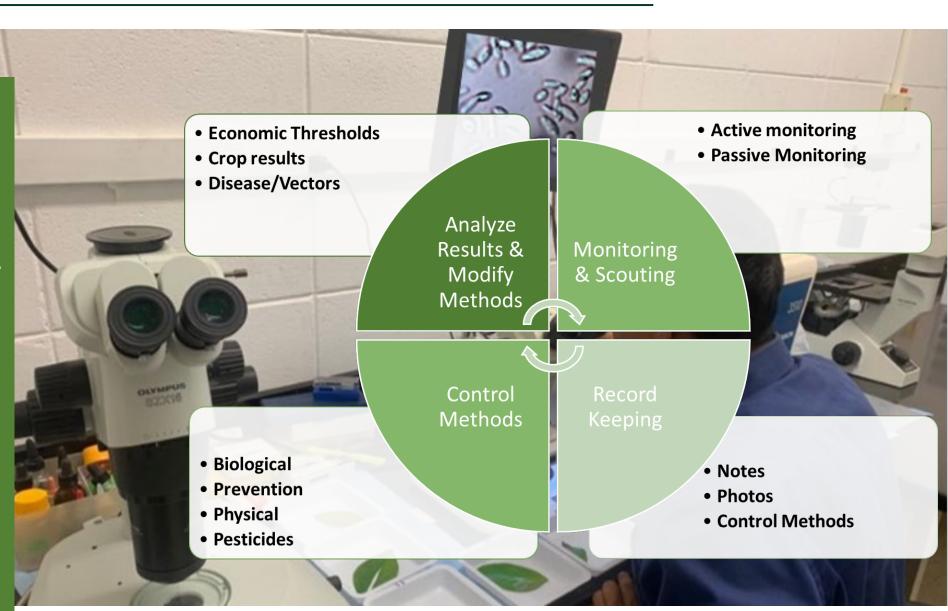


Identification: Overview & Considerations



It takes time, money, and expertise to identify most problems and organisms properly.

The crucial step is to know who to ask for expertise, and to also become the expert in your own system by following the IPM cycle constantly.



Photos: <u>University of New Hampshire</u>



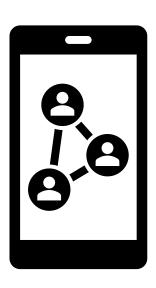
Identification: Overview & Considerations



Careful where you get information when trying to identify a problem or organism...



Smartphone identification applications may get you close, but may also give you false information.



Anyone can post on social media, blogs, and forums. Ensure claims are backed by scientific evidence.



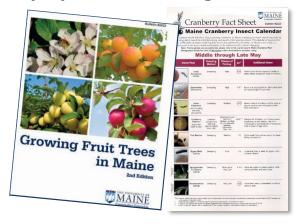
Identification: Toolbox for DIY Identification



Good Quality Online Resources



Crop Specific Growing/Pest Guides



Containment Forceps



Past Records



Hand Lens and Simple Microscope



Phone or Camera



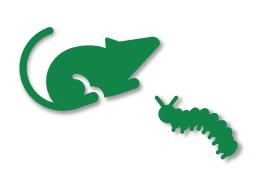
Education & Courses





Identification: What to look for... and make note of!





Features of the organism (if seen)



Damage to buildings or crops, Sick Animals, Lost Yield



Biological Evidence



Changes in environmental conditions, care routines, or new pesticide use

A good recordkeeping system ensures you (and your employees)

make note of what is going on.

Photo evidence is important!



Identification: Submitting insect specimens



How to properly submit an insect specimen for identification:

- All insects (excluding butterflies and moths) should be placed in a small leakproof container with just enough rubbing alcohol to cover specimen for preservation.
- Butterflies and moths should be packed in tissue or cotton for best possible preservation.
- You can mail or drop off specimens at your local County Extension Office or at the Pest Management Unit's Insect ID Lab.

Important Note: Please do not submit floor sweepings, vacuum cleaner contents or specimens from the body (although ticks, suspected nits and lice will be accepted). Due to potential health risks to our diagnosticians, we CANNOT accept bodily fluids or other human debris. We are happy to work with a physician to identify any arthropod pest, but submissions of that nature MUST come directly from a physician.





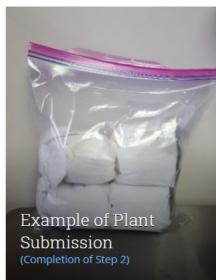
Identification: Submitting plant specimens

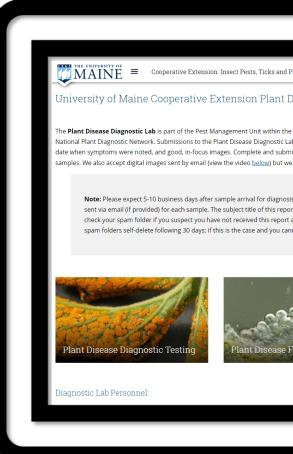


How to properly submit a plant specimen <u>summarized!!!</u> Complete instructions found <u>here</u>, and a <u>video found here</u>:

- 1. Examine all plant parts and determine the parts which you believe to be diseased. Ideally the whole plant should be sent when possible.
- 2. Place root ball in a plastic bag with some soil and tie it so the soil doesn't contaminate the foliage. Wrap the plant in a barely damp paper towel or newspaper and place the entire plant in a sealed plastic bag.
- Samples should be packaged and sent as quickly as possible. If mailing, try to mail early in the week so samples will not sit over the weekend.
- 4. All samples must be sent with a completed <u>Plant Disease Diagnostic Submission Form</u>. Provide complete information on the form and keep the form separate from the sample. Limit sample information to one (1) sample per form and indicate which form goes with each sample.









(*) Identification: Resources in Maine & Online



Resource	What they can help with
County Extension Office (Gardening)	 Ask your gardening questions, including assistance with identifying plants, insects, and plant diseases.
UMaine Extension Diagnostic and Research Lab	Submit insect specimens for identification free of charge
UMaine Extension Plant Disease Diagnostic Lab	 Accepts samples of plants with symptoms of disease or possible disease by mail or by digital submission form
Crop Specific Guides	 <u>UMaine Extension Online Publications</u> <u>Northeast IPM Center Crop Profiles</u> <u>Northeast IPM Center Pest Management Strategic Plans</u>
Online Insect ID Resources	 Gotpests.org – Maine-specific website with click-through photos and factsheets. A great place to get started! UMaine Extension – Insect ID with click through photos and factsheets Bugguide.net – Free resource with verified photos of insects

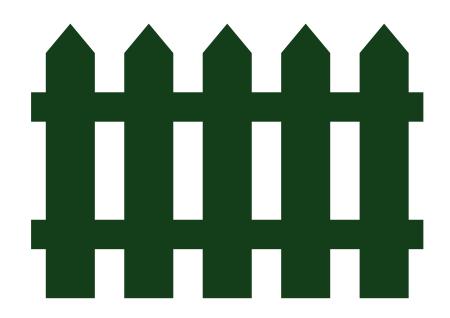


(*) Identification: Resources in Maine & Online



Resource	What they can help with
UMaine Extension Crop- Specific Pests	 Grains, Pulses & Oilseeds - Weed and Disease Factsheets Potatoes - Insect and Disease Factsheets and Publications Blueberries - extensive resources on the UMaine blueberry IPM website including pest factsheets, a weed ID tool, and disease resources Cranberries - cranberry IPM site including insects, weeds, diseases, and pest reports Tree Fruits - including insect pests, disease, and wildlife damage And more!
Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Pest Reports	 A compilation of short discussions of pests and diseases either working the fields or soon to be seen. Website includes a link to sign up for emails.





Prevention



Prevention: Toolbox (generalized)





Well communicated expectations for sanitation



Shears for pruning, thinning, etc. (clean between use!)



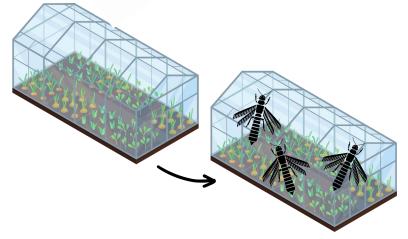
Crop Specific Growing/Pest Guides (set your crop up for success!!!)



Weeding (many methods depending on crop and situation)



Regular Cleaning Schedule & SOPs (including outdoors!)



Move from areas with low pest to high pest density – prevent spread!





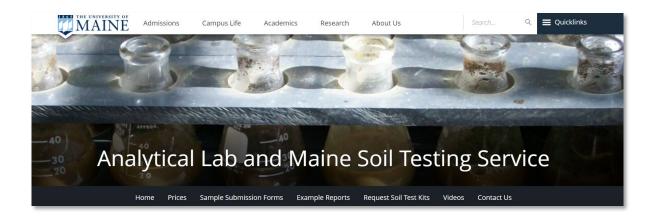
Ensure the best growing conditions to minimize plant stress

Soil:



UMaine Soil Lab – Submit soil test (and conduct a lead test for safety)

<u>Total Sorbed Metals Test</u> is a great option.



Inspect weeds and naturally growing plants – avoid areas with wetland plants and moisture-loving weeds





Resource	What they can help with
UMaine Extension County Offices	 Get soil test kits and support interpreting soil test reports. Borrow the hay/forage quality analysis sampler and testing kits.
Crop Specific Guides	 <u>UMaine Extension Online Publications</u> <u>Northeast IPM Center Crop Profiles</u> <u>Northeast IPM Center Pest Management Strategic Plans</u>
UMaine Analytical Lab and Maine Soil Testing Service	 Analyzes soil, plant tissue, compost, manure, irrigation water, wood ash, fertilizers, organic residuals and other materials for nutrient content, organic matter, lead and other trace elements.
Environmental Conditions	Drought - Resources and information from UMaine Extension for monitoring and preparing
Soil & Nutrients	 Maine Lime Directory (UMaine Extension) Maine Compost School (2024 sessions: June 10-14, October 7-11) UMaine Precision Agriculture Resources (site-specific farming) UMaine Extension Soil Health Resources





Resource	What they can help with
UMaine Extension Crop-Specific Information	 Grains, Pulses & Oilseeds – Variety Trial Data, seed and planting, and soil and fertility management factsheets Potatoes – Production factsheets including nutrient management, seed cutting and handling, and harvester calibration Blueberries – extensive resources on the UMaine blueberry IPM website including nutrient management, irrigation, and weather and crop modeling tools Cranberries – cranberry IPM site including management calendars, and tissue testing Tree Fruits – including tree spacing, planting information, thinning, pruning, fertilization, and winter preparation And more!



Mechanical Control: Resources in Maine & Online

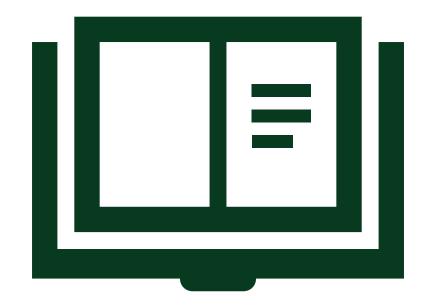


Resource	What they can help with
UMaine Extension Soil Health	Resources for cover cropping, no-till, and reduced tillage
UMaine Extension Crop- Specific Information	 <u>Blueberries</u> – blueberry pruning, burning, and mowing information including a cost calculator in "Blueberry Tools." And more!



Further resources for mechanical control





Monitoring & Recordkeeping

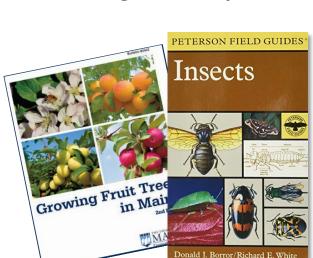


Monitoring & Recordkeeping: Toolbox





Logbook or System



Identification Guides & Understanding of Your Crop!



Hand Lens with LED



Yellow Sticky Cards



USB Microscope



Smartphone

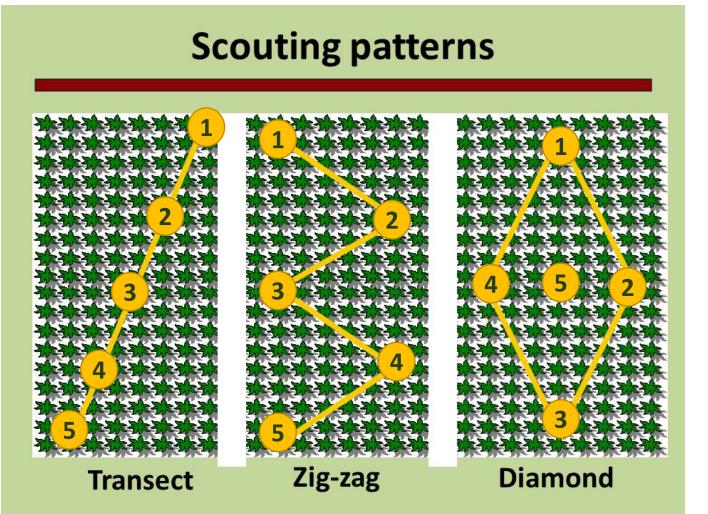




Active/Visual/Scouting Monitoring Systematic Sampling = Useful Results

Examine 5-10 plants at each of 5-10 spots per field

Look for damage, pests, natural enemies, plant growth / shape / color









Passive Monitoring Systematic Sampling = Useful Results

- Hang cards on plants (and below plants if in pots indoors)
- Replace cards at intervals that work for you (weekly preferable)
- Inspect cards for potential pests (hobby microscope helpful)
 - Counts
 - Averages
 - Estimates (e.g., % of card) for large volume
- KEEP DATA RECORDS

Monitoring cards/devices are for monitoring – NOT for trying to capture all pests (they never will).

May be more suited for indoor use.

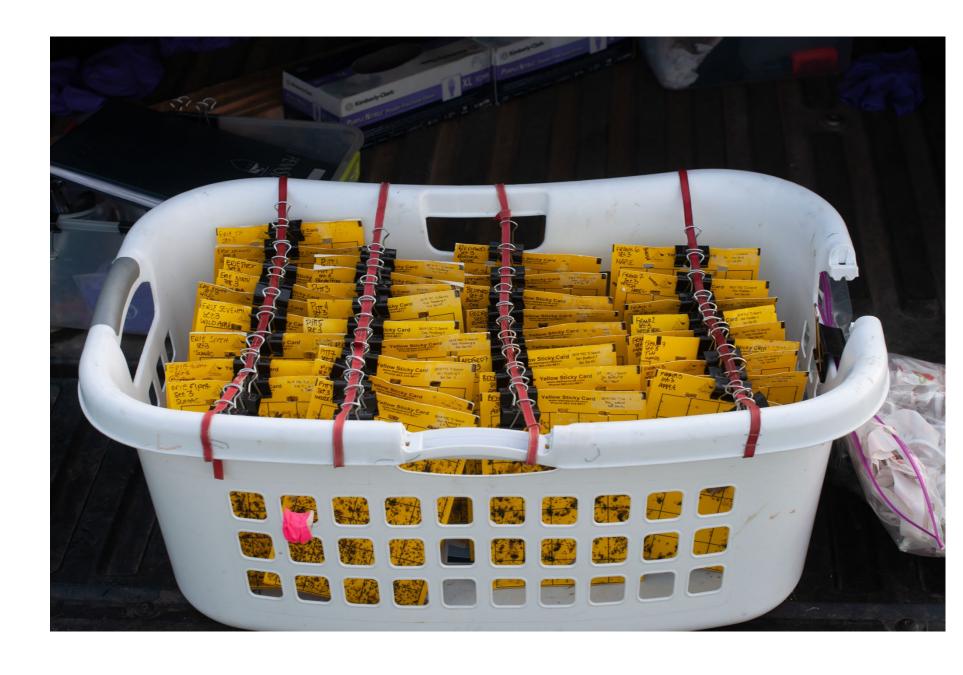


\$145 hobby microscope



This is a method I came up with for collecting many yellow sticky cards at one time

Come up with what works for you!







Date	Time	Initials	Crop Location	Observation Type	Description	Many options

- Visual scouting a big box to write in all pests seen *or* many columns with pest species
- Passive Monitoring cards with unique identifiers, and columns with pest species
- Control methods keep track of biocontrol releases, fertigation, watering, planting dates...etc!

Set up weekly and repeatable systems:

Creating your logbook is a great place to start!





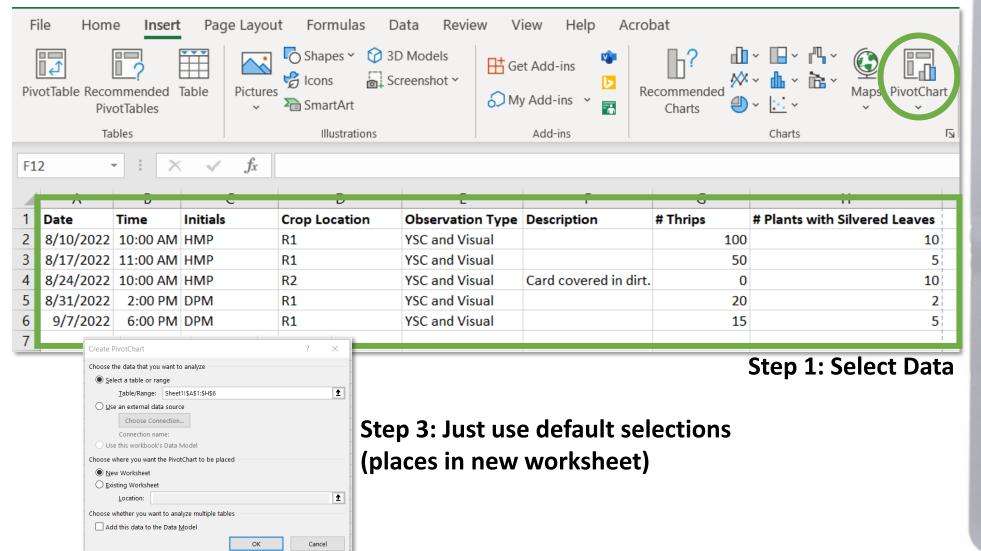
Date	Time	Initials	Crop Location	Observation Type	Description	# Thrips
8/10/2022	10:00 AM	НМР	R1	YSC		100
8/17/2022	11:00 AM	НМР	R1	YSC		50
8/24/2022	10:00 AM	НМР	R2	YSC	Card covered in dirt	0
8/31/2022	2:00 PM	DPM	R1	YSC		20
9/7/2022	6:00 PM	DPM	R1	YSC		15

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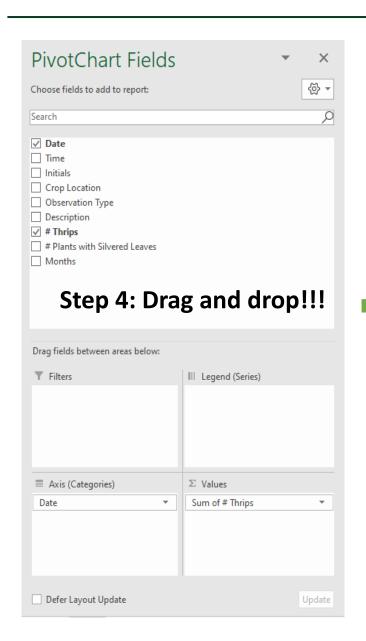
I am a huge excel fan and I am not afraid to show it.

Let me show you the magic of pivot tables!

Photos:













Monitoring & Recordkeeping: Scouting



Date	Time	Initials	Crop Location	Observation Type	Description	# Thrips	# Plants with Silvered Leaves
8/10/2022	10:00 AM	НМР	R1	YSC and Visual		100	25
8/10/2022	10:00 AM	HMP	R2	YSC and Visual		10	0
8/10/2022	10:00 AM	HMP	R3	YSC and Visual		1	0
8/17/2022	11:00 AM	HMP	R1	YSC and Visual		250	30
8/17/2022	11:00 AM	HMP	R2	YSC and Visual		10	0
8/17/2022	11:00 AM	HMP	R3	YSC and Visual		0	0
8/24/2022	10:00 AM	HMP	R1	YSC and Visual	Card covered in dirt	350	25
8/24/2022	10:00 AM	HMP	R2	YSC and Visual		10	0
8/24/2022	10:00 AM	HMP	R3	YSC and Visual		1	0
8/31/2022	2:00 PM	DPM	R1	YSC and Visual		425	25
8/31/2022	2:00 PM	DPM	R2	YSC and Visual		10	1
8/31/2022	2:00 PM	DPM	R3	YSC and Visual		1	1
9/7/2022	6:00 PM	DPM	R1	YSC and Visual		600	1
9/7/2022	6:00 PM	DPM	R2	YSC and Visual		0	0
9/7/2022	6:00 PM	DPM	R3	YSC and Visual		10	0

As you gather more data, you can learn more!

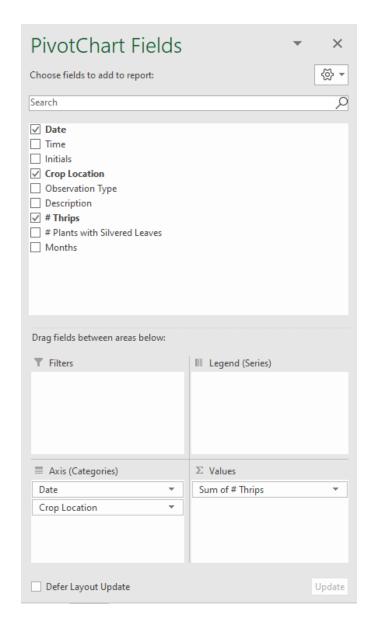
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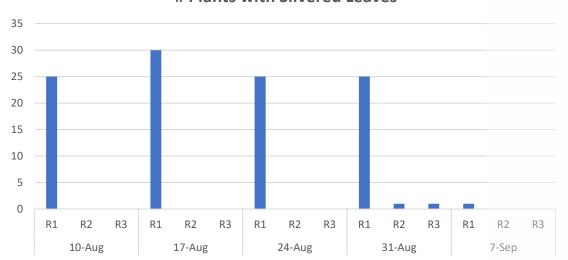


Monitoring & Recordkeeping: Scouting













Monitoring & Recordkeeping: Scouting



Another option for record keeping: Pre-made programs and tools.

- Google Forms (free) create your own custom forms for filling out data in the field (Google sheets output -> excel)
- <u>Crop-Scanner</u> tool by BioBest
- Koppert iPM tool by Koppert Biological Systems
- <u>Greenhouse Management Software</u> tool by Redbud
- <u>Pocket IPM Greenhouse Scout Mobile App</u> tool by Cornell

These are just a few examples of the types of programs that exist on the market.

Inclusion is not an endorsement of these pieces of software.



I recommend starting with a simple solution to assess your needs.

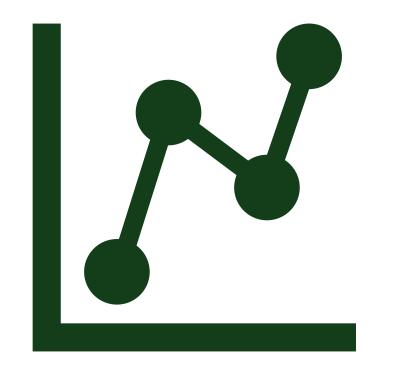


Monitoring/Recordkeeping: Resources in Maine & Online maine



Resource	What they can help with
UMaine Precision Agriculture Team	Data Management
UMaine Extension Crop- Specific Information	 Potatoes – IPM website includes regional scouting reports, insect scouting reports, disease forecasts, and more Blueberries – extensive resources on the UMaine blueberry IPM website including pest monitoring data and how-to guides for monitoring for SWD Cranberries – IPM guides including specific monitoring information for some species And more!



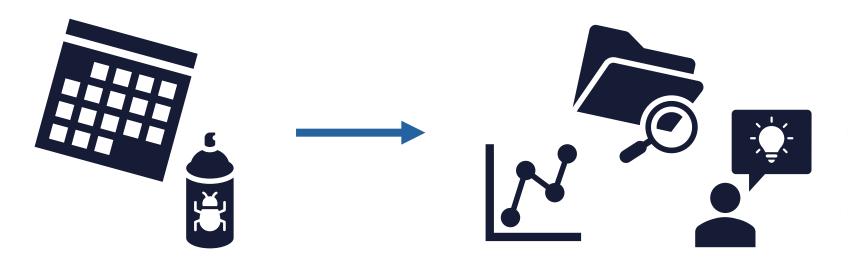


Action Thresholds

Action Thresholds: Overview



"Decide ... the level of pests/damage when you will implement a management action to control the pest population."





Action Thresholds: Overview



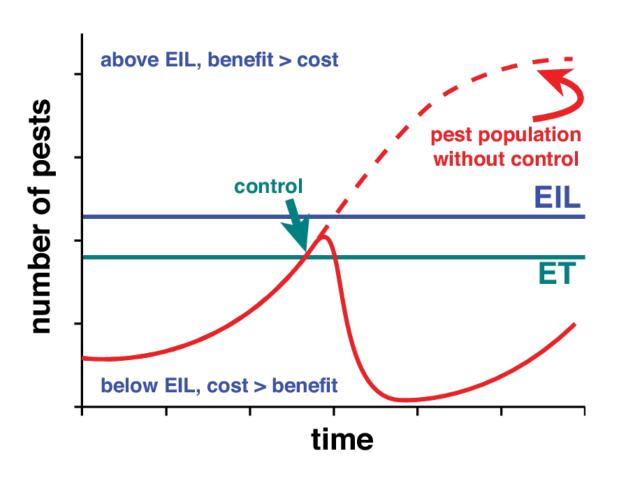
"Decide ... the level of pests/damage when you will implement a management action to control the pest population."





Action Thresholds: Overview





Economic Injury Level

Crop loss is more expensive than controlling the pest

Economic Threshold

Pest abundance or damage level that will exceed EIL if not treated



Photo: Joy (CC by 2.0)

Action Thresholds: Maine Blueberries



The data is based upon three traps/field edge, BUT the thresholds can be based upon any number of traps in a field."



Table 1. ACTION THRESHOLDS. Data from 2012-2017 that show the frequency (# fields) of cumulative SWD male captures in fields that the following week had infested fruit.

CUMULATIVE <u>MALE</u> SWD FLIES CAPTURED (average from three traps/field)	Probability of NOT having infested fruit the following week
0.25	99.9%
0.5	99.5%
1.0	99%
2.0	95%
3.5	90%
7.0	75%
16.0	50%

Photo: <u>Joy (CC by 2.0); Table and Photo – UMaine Extension</u>



Action Thresholds: Maine Cranberries



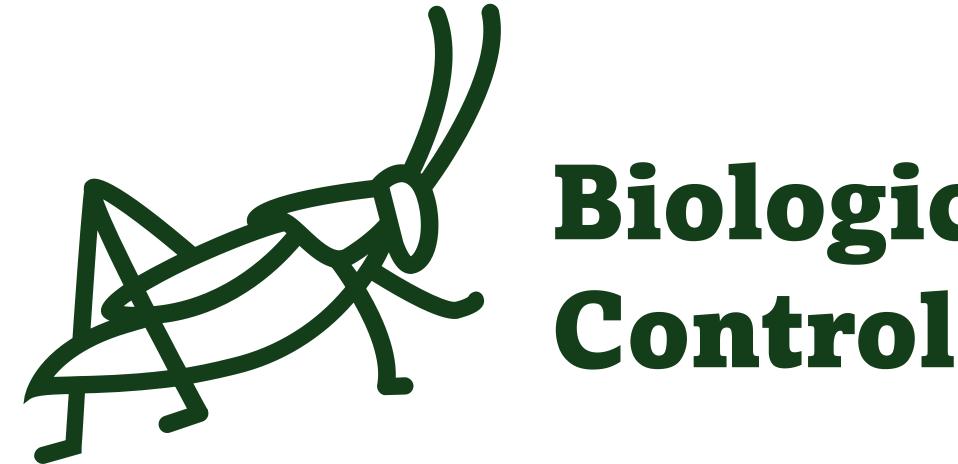
Percent out-of-bloom is monitored in cranberries to assist in the management of the cranberry fruitworm.



TABLE RECOMMENDED (for all practices) TO DETERMINE NECESSITY OF ADDITIONAL SPRAYING FOR CRANBERRY FRUITWORM:

Number of Acres	Number of Berries Checked	Number of Viable Eggs Needed to Trigger Spray during profitable berry prices	Number of Viable Eggs Needed to Trigger Spray during very low berry prices (< \$0.30 per lb.)
0-5	200-250	1	2
6 or 7	251-350	2	4
8 or 9	351-450	3	6
10 or 11	451-550	4	8
for each additional 2 a	cres add 100 berries	add 1 egg	double the number determined at left





Biological











Often Insects or Other Non-Insect Arthropods

Entomopathogens

Predators *e.g., rove beetles*



Parasitoids *e.g., larval parasitoids*



Fungi *e.g., Beauveria bassiana*

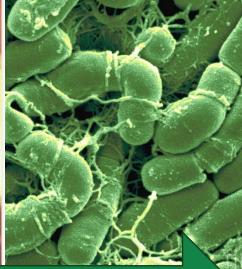


Nematodes e.g., Oscheius onirici



Bacteria & Viruses

e.g., Bacillus thuringiensis (Bt)



Generalist

Specialist





Conservation Biocontrol



Augmentative Biocontrol



Classical Biocontrol

Ganapsis brasiliensis releases in Maine for Spotted Wing Drosophila





Learn more – 2022 Ag Trades Talk on Berries & Biocontrol





Check the Maine Unrestricted List

"Maine law allows the Department to maintain a list of species of fish and wildlife, including tropical fish and invertebrates, which do not require an importation, exhibition, or possession permit"



<u>Link to the Unrestricted List</u> <u>Link to Learn More</u>

Get a permit from APHIS

"Under the authority of the <u>Plant Protection Act of 2000</u>, a Plant Protection and Quarantine (PPQ) 526 permit is required for the importation, interstate movement and environmental release of biological control organisms of plant pests and weeds."

Resources American Rescue Plan Act and Strategic	Register for ePermits	
ramework	Last Modified: Nov 8, 2021	♣ Print
Permits (ePermits and eFile)		
ePermits System	Login to ePermits— Registered users may access the ePermits system at https://epermits.aphis.usda.gov/epermits. ☑	Related Links
eFile System		Animal Health Permits
imployee Services	To access ePermits, you must have a USDA eAuthentication account, eAuthentication is a registration system that enables customers to access USDA Web applications and services via the	Plant Health Permits
inforcement Actions	Internet.	Biotechnology
arm Bill Funds	The USDA eAuthentication system supports different levels of eAuthentication. ePermits requires that users have a "Verified	Vet Biologics
orms	Identity" authentication account in order to submit a permit application. Identity verification can be done online if you are able to	ePermits system
ruits and Vegetables Import Regulations FAVIR)	answer the verification questions. If you unable or unwilling to answers the online questions, you may visit a USDA Service Center in- person to have your identity verified.	ePermits FAQs 📜
nspection Reports	<u> </u>	Register for ePermits
aws and Regulations	To obtain an authentication account to access ePermits:	Technical Support
	Navigate to https://ePermits.aphis.usda.gov Girk the Create Account tab.	Login to ePermits [2]

Link to register for ePermits

Get a permit from the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

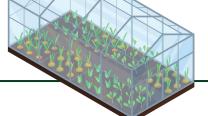
	Wildlife Imp	ortation F	Permit Application	on	
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			ion 12152, 3-D. A. I hereby appl that presents a risk to humans i		it allows me to
Application Fee: \$2 Permit Fee: \$27	250				
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Name of Owner/M	anager:		Dat	te of Birth:	/ /
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Link to the Wildlife Importation

Permit Application



Biological Control: Toolbox (Augmentative!)







IPM System (Especially Scouting)
Already Set in Place



Magnification on the Go



USB Microscope



Deployment Plan & Tools



Good relationship with biocontrol sales rep



Patience & Managed Expectations



Biological Control: Considerations



Indoors, Purchase, and Release

- KNOW your pest species first great guidelines by the Association of Natural Biocontrol Producers
- Determine if biocontrols to be released are compatible with other control measures
- Purchase from trustworthy sources many guides are available online through the <u>Association of Natural</u> <u>Biocontrol Producers</u>
- Keep records of release information date, amount, control achieved

Any organisms to be released in Maine must be on the IF&W unrestricted list.

		predatory mites	14
		predatory insects	31
	leafminers	parasitic wasps	52, 55
Greenhouses and Interiorscapes	maalyhuas	predatory insects	25, 41, 42
interiorscapes	mealybugs	parasitic wasps	54
	mites	predatory mites	19-24
	mites	predatory insects	28, 33
	scales thrips whiteflies	predatory insects	30
		parasitic wasps	46
		predatory mites	14, 18, 20
		predatory insects	31
		predatory insects	26, 35, 41, 42
	winternes	parasitic wasps	
		A TOTAL STREET	

Predatory mite
Phytoseiulus
persimilis





Pesticide Control: What is a pesticide?



Under Maine Law, a pesticide is any substance or mixture of substances intended for preventing, destroying, repelling or mitigating any pest and includes disinfectants, insecticides, herbicides, fungicides, plant regulators, defoliants and plant desiccants.

Pesticide Control: Overview & IPM



Broad spectrum chemicals

Pyrethroids, neonicotinoids (used in rotation)

Selective chemicals

Spinosad, Indoxacarb, Emamectin
Microbial biopesticides

Biological

Release of natural enemies
(lacewings, ladybugs, predatory mites, parasitoid wasps)

Conservation of vegetation to support
beneficial arthropods

Physical - Mechanical

Hand removal of pests

Traps

Fly screens and bed nets

Sealing entrances to houses

Cultural

Sealing up food
Correct waste storage
Public education
Monitoring of pests



Importance of identification – pesticides need to target the correct species AND life stage!



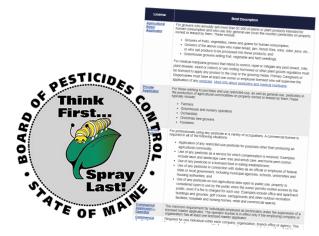


Sources: Pyramid (Lowe et al. 2019)



Pesticide Control: Toolbox





Proper pesticide applicator license and credits



Pesticide label (fully read)



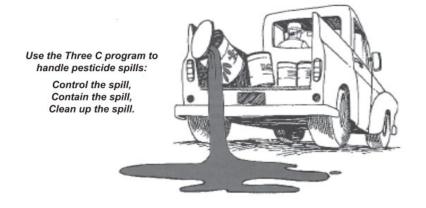
PPE (the label will guide you)



Calibrated equipment (and a calibration plan!)



Proper pesticide storage



Emergency plans

Rodenticides kill wildlife

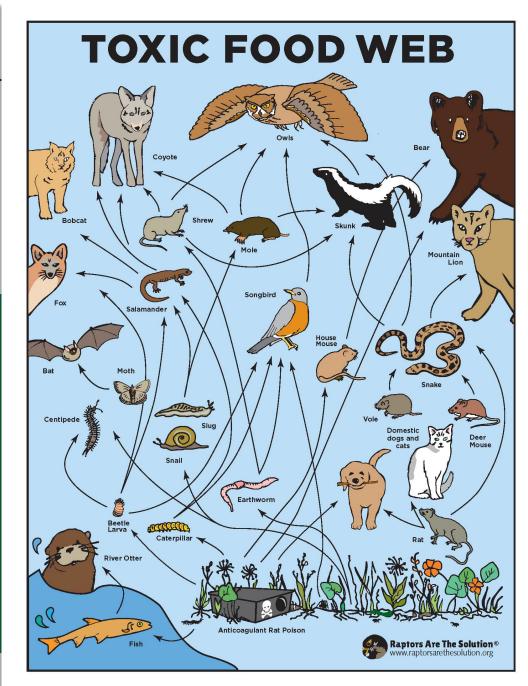
Exposure pathways of anticoagulant rodenticides to nontarget wildlife

John E. Elliott · Sofi Hindmarch · Courtney A. Albert · Jason Emery · Pierre Mineau · France Maisonneuve

Rodenticides detected in liver samples of Norway rats at **both baited and non-baited farms.**

Also detected in a vole, song sparrow, carrion beetles.

A house sparrow was seen entering bait stations and feeding on bait.







farm.



Carrion Beetle:
University of Wisconsin
Free Poster Download:
Raptors are the Solution



Pesticide Control: Site Specific Farming



- Consider the spatial and temporal variability within your farm (even from a "low tech" perspective)
- Satellite imagery and small flying units (drones and raptors) have shown promising results to detect the difference between nutrient deficiencies and insect/weed problems
- Site-specific farming requires farmers to think ahead and think differently than conventional farm practices do. It involves some important steps that must be followed properly:
 - Finding your location using Global Positioning System (GPS)
 receivers, Global Information System (GIS) mapping, ground-based sensors, and/or satellite imagery
 - 2. Evaluating your location by gathering information
 - 3. Applying variable-rate inputs





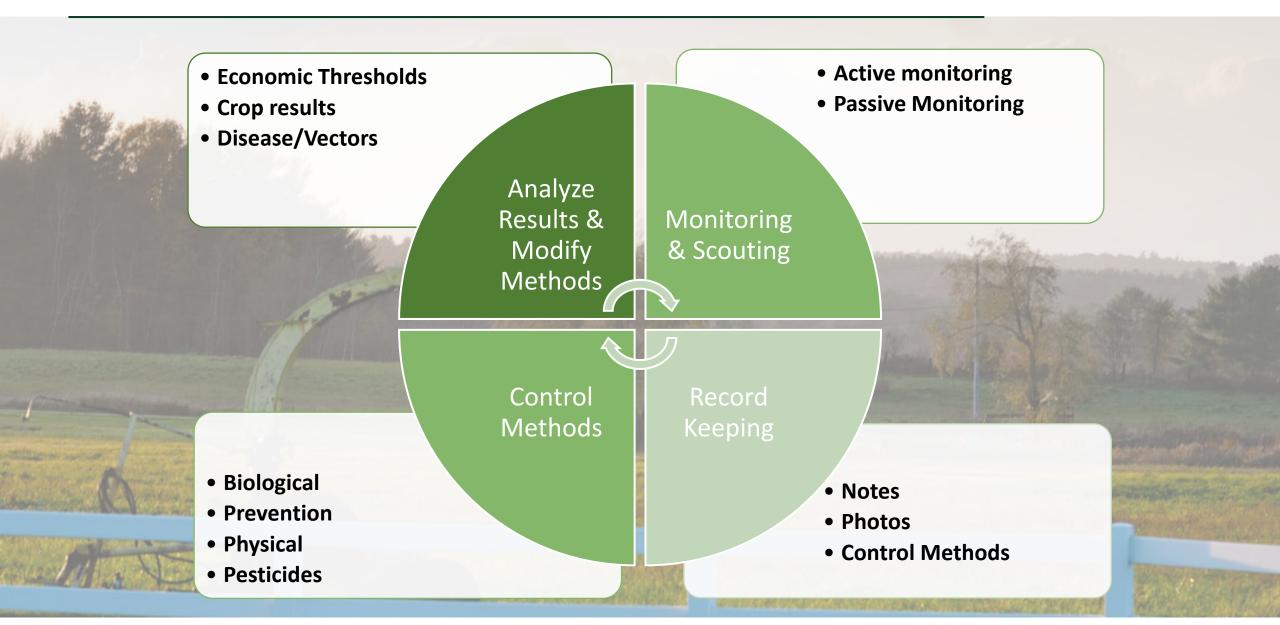
Pesticide Control: Resources in Maine & Online



Resource	What they can help with
Maine Board of Pesticides Control	 Applicator registration, credit calendar and trainings, search for Maine Registered Products, "Ask the Expert" contact list, and more! <u>Calibration resources</u>
<u>UMaine Precision</u> <u>Agriculture Team</u>	 Reducing unnecessary insecticide/herbicide applications in areas where no insect/weed problem exists
UMaine Extension Crop- Specific Information	 Potatoes – Pest Control Guide; a list of recommended chemicals labeled for use on potatoes in Maine Blueberries – IPM website with publications and several tools including pesticide charts Cranberries – Pest management updates and recommendations And more!

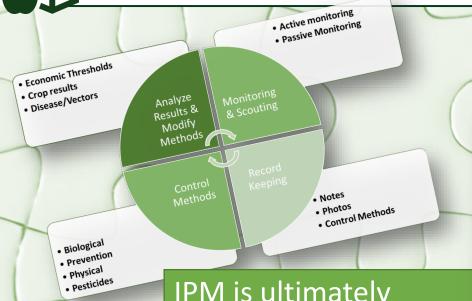
The IPM Cycle – putting it all together





Photos: John Howell (CC BY-NC 2.0)





IPM is ultimately a learning process & a puzzle

This is what makes well-thought out pest management fulfilling & interesting

BENEFITS OF LIFELONG LEARNING

04

01

NURTURES CURIOUS MINDS

BUILDS NEW SKILLS, IMPROVES THOSE YOU ALREADY HAVE

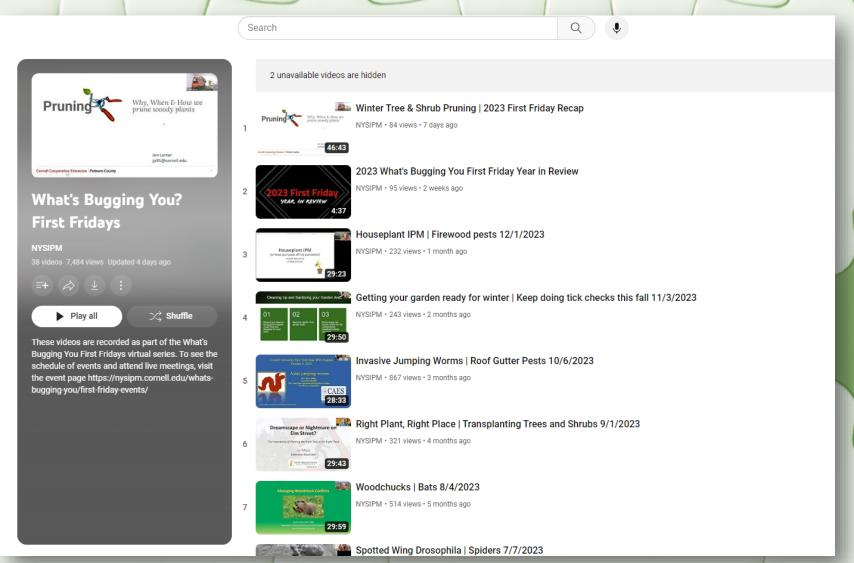


IMPROVES
MEMORY AND
INCREASES
SELFCONFIDENCE

Photo: Center for Interactive Learning & Collaboration

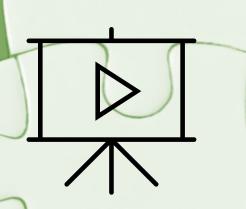






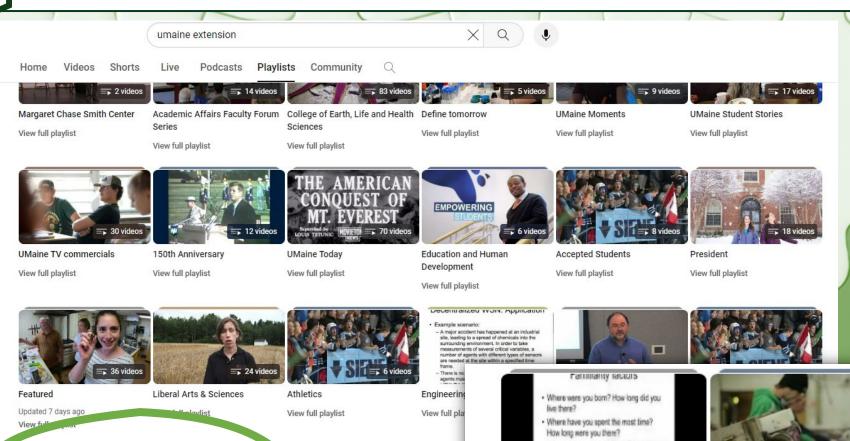
There are many good quality webinars available free online. Look for good quality webinars from:

- IPM Centers
- Government Accounts
- University / Extension Accounts









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View full playlist

Screenshot from University of Maine playlists page on YouTube





Resource	W	/hat they can help with
Maine Organic Gardeners Asso		Farmer resources including pest reports and many useful training events online and in-person under "Farmer Resources" and "Trainings".
Crop-Specific G	·	Maine Pomological Society – nonprofit comprised of apple orchards throughout Maine. Wild Blueberry Commission of Maine - supporting the development of promotional opportunities and other activities related to the wild blueberry industry. Maine Potato Board - represents over 300 growers statewide.
DACF Grower R	Resources •	Horticulture Program – Invasive plants, MELeaf Newsletter, DACF Resource Library IPM Council & Maine IPM Program Gotpests.org – Pest identification resource with factsheets
Free online wel	binars! •	First Friday Series from New York State IPM, archived online, and upcoming events