What is IPM?
Integrated pest management (IPM) is a sustainable approach to managing pests, including insects, weeds, diseases, and more. IPM practitioners base decisions on information that is collected systematically as they integrate biological, economic, environmental, and social goals. IPM can be used within the context of both agricultural and urban environments and is flexible enough to accommodate the changing demands of agriculture, commerce, and society.

- Cultural control
- Mechanical and physical control
- Host plant resistance
- Biological control
- Chemical control
- Regulatory control

What does UConn IPM Include?
- On-site training
- Email and website pest alerts
- Newsletters, webinars, and fact sheets
- Pest management recommendations
- Conferences and field demonstrations
- Programs and workshops
- Applied research projects
- Pest identification
- Email and phone consultations
- Diagnostic lab services

Who uses IPM?

Who is the UConn IPM Team?

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(Not pictured: Candace Bartholomew. Photo: Zach Donais)
Vegetables
The Vegetable Crops IPM Program utilizes a hands-on approach to managing crops in a sustainable manner. The implementation of new techniques and management practices along with regular local pest updates make the program comprehensive and useful for farmers new and old.

Invasive Species
Invasive species include plants and animals that are non-native to Connecticut. Invasive plants have been introduced into our area either accidentally or intentionally. The establishment and spread of invasive plants will decrease biological diversity and ultimately reduce the value of natural areas, including woodlands, wetlands, and meadows.

Fruit
The Fruit IPM Program utilizes a pro-active approach to pest management by working to increase knowledge and utilization of the latest IPM techniques including cultural practices, alternative pest management tools, pest and beneficial life cycles, impacts of a changing environment and more.

Greenhouse
More greenhouse growers are interested in using biological controls (beneficial insects, mites, nematodes and fungi) to help manage their pests and diseases. It’s a complex system, so a long learning curve is common. By using biological controls, growers report improved plant quality, safety to workers and the environment.

Nursery
The IPM Program for Nursery Crops offers training programs for wholesale and retail commercial nurseries and garden centers. Information is provided on key horticultural pests of woody trees and shrubs to improve plant health.
Turf & Landscape
IPM work in turf and landscape covers the development of and education on alternative pest management tools for ornamental plant and turf grass pests. Research projects have examined the use of biopesticides, beneficial nematodes and Tiphia wasps for white grub management.

School
The Connecticut School IPM Coalition supports Connecticut municipal and school grounds and turf managers that care for and maintain properties using IPM turf care protocols and/or pesticide-free management.

Plant Diagnostic Lab
Lab services include pest and plant identification, plant problem diagnosis, and management recommendations. Both digital photos and physical plant or pest samples can be submitted. Try the Plant Diagnostic Sample Submission app, now available as a free download for iPhone, iPad, and android devices.

Pesticide Safety
The Pesticide Safety Education Program (PSEP) serves to educate and train individuals who are required by the state to be certified to use pesticides and all other individuals who handle and apply any pesticide. The objective is to ensure the safe use and handling of pesticides to protect humans, the environment and wildlife.

Curriculum
The IPM curriculum for grades K-8 combines science, math and language arts to solve environmental and human health concerns. The interactive lessons and supplemental resource materials will enable participants to make environmentally sound, economically smart decisions when facing the growing problem of pest management.