

## IPM Plan

IPM is a step-wise approach to managing pests that combines accurate knowledge of the pest and level of potential harm with multiple tactics to prevent, reduce or eliminate pests. In this planning workshop, we will select a few key pests to focus on, and come up with new ways to tackle old pests, based on the IPM principles of monitoring, scouting, and implementing relevant cultural, biological, and chemical controls at the right time.

1. **Crop & Pest Columns: Choose just 4-5 pest issues you would most like to work on this season.** We have found it is helpful to tackle a few things at a time, and spend a few seasons in a row focusing on those issues to really dial in on sound management practices and reduce pest populations over time.
2. **Past Control Strategies Column: Write down what strategies you have tried before.**
3. **Management Plan Column: Take a minute to think about:**
  - a. Why didn't those past strategies work?
  - b. What other strategies are available?
  - c. Which new strategies will work for your scale, budget, equipment, etc.?

Jot these ideas down in the **Management Plan** column

4. **IPM Goals Column: Which IPM strategies will you plan to use in the coming growing season?** Write your goals in this column.
  - a. Proper pest identification: determine what the true underlying cause of damage through soil, plant, disease testing, weed ID, etc.
  - b. Pest scouting: Determine pest levels, damage, life stage, and keep records over time (in season or over many years)
  - c. Monitoring & Forecasting: Use traps, online networks, pest models and forecasts to monitor or predict pest arrival and damage
  - d. Cultural practices: e.g. crop rotation, mulches, irrigation, resistant varieties, row covers
  - e. Biological control: Attract and/or release beneficials, predators or parasitoids to control pests.
  - f. Chemical control: Choose the right materials, time to spray, improving coverage, managing for resistance
5. **Farmer Tasks Column: Write down the steps necessary to implement your plan**
6. **Calendar Alert Column: When does each task need to be done or planned?**

Jot down dates or set calendar reminders to make sure you get traps set up on time, know when to begin scouting for a pest, etc.

7. **Notes Column:** Keeping records of what you did and did not do will allow you to better gauge what worked and did not. What tasks were you able or unable to implement and why? Did you notice anything you missed in planning you'd like to try next year? Keeping all these observations together will help you fine-tune your plan and reduce pest populations over time!

<b>Crop</b>	<b>Pest</b>	<b>Past Control Strategies</b>	<b>Management Plan</b>	<b>IPM Goals</b>	<b>Farmer Tasks</b>	<b>Calendar Alert</b>	<b>Notes</b>

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