Why is IPM Good for You?

- The use of chemical pesticides is reduced.
- IPM is environmentally friendly.
- Crops are healthier.
- IPM minimizes economic and human health risks.

What Can You Do To Help Promote IPM?

- Support businesses that use IPM to produce their crops.
- Tolerate plants that have beneficial insects on them.
- Encourage your growers to use IPM.
- Become familiar with ways you can use IPM at home.

How can YOU use IPM in your home garden?

- Grow plants that are less susceptible to pests or diseases.
- Keep your garden free of weeds and maintain proper moisture and fertility levels.
- Identify the insect or disease and make sure it is a serious enough problem to warrant control.
- Use chemical pesticides only as a last resort. If you must use a pesticide, make sure it is the right one.
- When using a pesticide, **always read the label first**, follow the instructions, and wear protective clothing.
- Contact your local Master Gardener Program or Extension Service for more information.

Hotlines for Homeowners

Maine:	1·800·287·0279
Orono Area:	1·207·581·2963 (insects) 1·207·581·3883 (diseases)
New Hampshire:	1·877·398·4769
Vermont:	1·800·639·2230
Burlington Area:	1·802·656·5421

Where Can You Learn More About IPM?

The University of Maine Extension Service
http://pmo.umext.maine.edu/Homeowner/HomeownerIPM.htm

NH Master Gardener Program
http://www.ceinfo.unh.edu/Pubs/PubsHG.htm

VT Master Gardener Program
http://www.uvm.edu/mastergardener/

Information and General Pest Identification
http://plantfacts.osu.edu/web/
http://northeastipm.org
http://pronewengland.org
http://www.gardening.cornell.edu/

For copies of this brochure, contact Margaret Skinner at 802·656·5440 or at mskinner@uvm.edu.

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Integrated Pest Management

IPM is a holistic approach to pest management.

IPM is better for our environment.

Plants are monitored to detect problems early.

IPM uses 'good bugs' against 'bad bugs.'

Our Goal:
Healthy Plants
A Healthy Environment

What is Integrated Pest Management (IPM)?

Integrated Pest Management (IPM) is a way to control insect pests and diseases on crops by combining several complementary strategies such as sanitation, pest detection, and biological control. Chemical pesticides may be used, but only when absolutely necessary.

Growers who use IPM can produce high quality plants and crops for their customers and reduce their chemical pesticide use.

IPM is Good for the Earth!

Key Components of IPM

Sanitation

Start Clean to Stay Clean

Growers who use IPM keep their plant-growing areas free of weeds and algae, which harbor pests and diseases. Cropping areas are cleaned and diseased plants are removed promptly so problems do not spread.

Good sanitation

Bad sanitation

Pest Detection

Look for What's There

Early detection of a pest is critical for IPM. Growers check their crops regularly and use colored sticky cards to monitor insect pests. They must recognize the insect damage and disease symptoms to diagnose problems correctly. They assess a problem carefully before taking action. This reduces the unnecessary use of pesticides.

Biological Control

Using "Good Bugs" Against "Bad Bugs"

Lady beetle predator

Several kinds of biological controls are available to growers. They can release predators or parasites that attack pests, or apply natural pesticides made from plants or beneficial microorganisms to control insects and diseases.

Young lady beetle

Predatory bug

Insect parasite

Pesticides

Used only as a Last Resort

Growers who use IPM apply chemical pesticides only if absolutely necessary when a pest or disease problem is so severe that it will reduce the quality of the crop. They use pesticides that are specific to the problem and will not disrupt biological control.