# Orchard IPM Monitoring Program Participation Agreement

UVM Fruit Program / Vermont Tree Fruit Growers Association (VTFGA)
2026 Growing Season

Effective Date: _____, 2026
Parties:
- University of Vermont (UVM) Fruit Program ("UVM Fruit Program")
- Vermont Tree Fruit Growers Association ("VTFGA")
- Participating Orchard/Grower: _____ ("Grower")

## 1. Purpose

This Participation Agreement outlines the roles, responsibilities, data-sharing expectations, and resources that support collaboration between participating growers, the UVM Fruit Program, and the Vermont Tree Fruit Growers Association as part of the Orchard IPM Monitoring Program for the 2026 growing season.

## 2. Program Overview

Growers will install and maintain monitoring traps, conduct weekly scouting, and submit pest monitoring data using the Farmable mobile application or other agreed-upon methods. These observations contribute to regional pest monitoring efforts and help the UVM Fruit Program provide timely information and recommendations to participating orchards. The success of the program depends on participation from growers across the region, and we appreciate the time and effort growers contribute each season.

The Farmable app is being introduced this season to make it easier for growers to record and share observations while in the orchard. This year is considered a trial to explore how well the tool supports growers in their scouting and reporting practices.

## 3. Materials & Resources Provided

Growers will receive:

- A monitoring trap kit (estimated $225 value) for tarnished plant bug, European apple sawfly, codling moth, oriental fruit moth, dogwood borer, and apple maggot fly
- Access to the Farmable platform, including:
    - A free account for orchard mapping and note-taking (including trap counts).
    - The option to upgrade to a Farmable Pro subscription at a discounted rate for VTFGA members ($149 in 2026), which includes additional features such as spray records, job management, and harvest tracking.
- Training and technical support

Monitoring protocols are available at https://go.uvm.edu/orchardmonitorguide.

The Vermont Tree Fruit Growers Association (VTFGA) is funding a Farmable Enterprise account for the 2026 season, which enables participating growers to share scouting and orchard data with the UVM Fruit Program. These tools and resources are provided to support efficient data collection and improve communication of pest trends and management recommendations across the region. Feedback from growers on the Farmable platform will help inform future decisions about tools and program support.

## 4. Grower Participation

Growers participating in the program agree to:

- Deploy traps according to UVM monitoring protocols
- Conduct weekly scouting
- Record and share observations using the Farmable app or another agreed-upon method
- Participate in onboarding and training
- Share monitoring data with the UVM Fruit Program throughout the season

Consistent reporting is essential to the success of the program. The data shared by growers helps the UVM Fruit Program identify regional pest trends, provide timely guidance during the growing season, and support research and outreach efforts that benefit Vermont orchards.

The UVM Fruit Program provides traps and lures to participating growers at an estimated cost of $225 per orchard each season. In return, growers are asked to share their scouting observations throughout the season. This exchange of tools and data is what allows the program to operate effectively and continue supporting the orchard community.

Growers are encouraged to use the Farmable app to make reporting easier; however, those who are interested in participating but are not comfortable using a mobile application are encouraged to reach out to discuss alternative options.

## 5. Data Ownership & Use

All data are owned by the Grower. Data may be aggregated and shared by the UVM Fruit Program, without orchard identification, in newsletters, publications, and regional IPM recommendations.

## 6. Funding Acknowledgment

This program is supported by the UVM Fruit Program, the VTFGA, and the USDA CPPM award 2024-70006-43502.

## 7. Program Timeline & Termination

This agreement is effective through December 31, 2026. Either party may withdraw from participation with written notice.

## 8. Program Disclaimer

UVM Fruit Program and VTFGA are not liable for crop loss or damage resulting from participation in the Program.

Thank you for being part of the Orchard IPM Monitoring Program for the 2026 growing season.

**Signatures**

Grower / Orchard:
Name: _____
Signature: _____ Date: _____

UVM Fruit Program:
Name: _____
Signature: _____ Date: _____

Vermont Tree Fruit Growers Association:
Name: _____
Signature: _____ Date: _____