



Integrated Pest Management and Biological Controls

While high tunnel technology helps to prevent some pest issues, growers must be cautious and vigilant to ensure that their valuable tunnel grown crops remain pest and disease free. Techniques employed in Integrated Pest Management programs may help.

Penn State Extension notes that, “Integrated Pest Management (IPM) is an approach to pest control that focuses on pest prevention by eliminating the root causes of pest problems.” and indicates a four main steps to follow when implementing any IPM plan. This includes, identification, prevention and exclusion, monitoring, and employing multiple tactics.¹ Penn State Extension has a variety of resource for using IPM techniques for both field and high tunnel or greenhouse growers, as well as non-agricultural situations such as home and school.

Penn State Extension publications that may be useful include:

¹**What is Integrated Pest Management?** <https://extension.psu.edu/what-is-integrated-pest-management>

Greenhouse IPM: <https://extension.psu.edu/greenhouse-ipm>

IPM Tactic: Biological Control: <https://extension.psu.edu/ipm-tactic-biological-control>

IPM Tactic: Chemical Control: <https://extension.psu.edu/ipm-tactic-chemical-control>

Designing a Scouting Plan for Insect and Mite Pests and their Natural Enemies in High Tunnel Vegetable Crops: http://www.capitalrcd.org/files/pdfs/High_Tunnel_Articles/HighTunnelTalk_Vol1No5_Elsa_Sanchez_Designing_a_Scouting_Plan.pdf

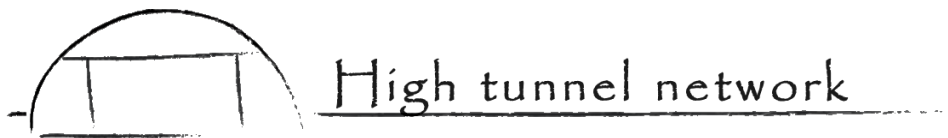
Additional IPM Resources

North Carolina State University houses the National Science Foundation’s, **NSF Center for Integrated Pest Management** (<https://www.cipm.info/>), which also supports the **Pesticide Environmental Stewardship** website. This site provides information about handling, storing, using, and disposing of pesticides, as well as information about equipment management and issues of concern, such as soil or water contamination. In addition, it features an excellent introduction to IPM: <https://pesticidestewardship.org/ipm/introduction-to-ipm/>

(Continued from page 1)

The University of Connecticut Integrated Pest Management Program website is another valuable resource with specific pages to address IPM in fruit crops, vegetables, nursery products, as well as in greenhouse spaces: <http://ipm.uconn.edu/root/index.php>

For more information about IPM or for questions specific to your operation and crops, contact your local extension office.



Visit www.hightunnelnetwork.org for additional resources specifically for high tunnel growers.