

ATTACHMENT C* - Plan of Work
Integrated Pest Management Program
Agency Name

Integrated Pest Management (IPM) is the judicious use and integration of various pest control tactics in the context of the associated environment of the pest in ways that compliment and facilitate the biological and other natural controls of pests to meet economic, public health, and environmental goals. Wherever applicable, IPM uses scouting, pest trapping, pest resistant plant varieties, sanitation, various cultural control methods, physical and mechanical controls, biological controls, and precise timing and application of any needed pesticides. With IPM, the decision to use pesticides is made when an action threshold for a pest is reached and no other alternative management methods are available that will provide effective control. When pesticides are needed, the safest and most effective materials should be selected for use. The goals of IPM are to achieve the effective management of pests in the safest manner. ***See also Addendum I**

The Agency will provide the following services to Connecticut farmers/growers participating in the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP):

1. An Agency staff member will initially meet with farmers selected by The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) to participate in the IPM program of the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP). During this initial meeting, Agency staff will discuss with the farmer past disease, weed, insect, and other pest problems. Also, notes will be taken about soil practices, crops and varieties that will be grown, and the site locations of the crops. Farmers will be asked to provide past pesticide records.
2. Agency staff will present and discuss with the farmer a set of IPM standards that would need to be implemented. Agency staff will explain the various IPM standards and together with the farmer will produce a plan suitable for the farmer's situation. Agency staff will request that the farmers keep accurate pesticide use records.
3. The Agency will begin IPM training services once the grower and Agency staff agree on a plan. Training services will include education on the identification and monitoring techniques for insect, disease, weed and other pest problems. Appropriate management tools (e.g. biological control, cultural control, physical/mechanical controls, host plant resistance and chemical controls) will be explained to the farmer. When appropriate, instruction on taking soil tests will be included. Agency staff will provide to the farmers educational materials and monitoring tools needed to implement an IPM plan.
4. Agency staff will make timely visits to the farm and provide the following:
 - a. Training in monitoring techniques for disease, weed, insect, and other pest problems and methods of control.
 - b. Instruction on record-keeping of pest abundance, use of pesticides, presence of beneficial organisms, cultural practices, and mechanical procedures.
 - c. Assistance in evaluating control practices.
 - d. Assistance in selection of fences for control of deer, when a crop damage evaluation demonstrates the need.
 - e. Assistance in completing the final report to NRCS.

The Agency will coordinate with NRCS staff on evaluating procedures, record keeping, and interpretation of results. The Agency will complete form SF-270 and submit this form annually to NRCS.