



Regional IPM Centers: Connecting People, Programs, and Resources

Regional IPM Centers encourage the development and adoption of integrated pest management (IPM), drawing expertise from many disciplines to support effective, economical pest management practices that reduce risks to the environment and human health. Established in 2000 by the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service, now the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA), the Regional IPM Centers play a key role in implementing the National Road Map for IPM, which identifies strategic directions for IPM research, implementation, and measurement for all pests, in all settings, throughout the nation.

Integrated pest management offers tools for combating plant diseases, weeds, nematodes, and insect and wildlife pests that can harm food supplies and infest areas where we live, work, and play. The IPM toolbox is packed with high-tech pest forecasting models, sensible pest scouting practices, innovative biological controls, least-toxic chemical options, and much more.

IPM is successful when these tools target the most important pest problems, draw on our best scientific knowledge, are widely available to people who contend with pests, and are put to use in the real world. *The Regional IPM Centers make these things happen.*

IPM Centers serve as a hub where groups such as farmers, regulators, scientists, consumers, government agencies, pest control companies, and environmental organizations can share information and work together toward common goals. The Centers also complement and strengthen state IPM programs by promoting communication among programs and encouraging states to collaborate and build on each others' successes. The IPM Centers:

- organize responses to regional and national pest problems
- create information networks that promote good pest management decisions
- manage funds to ensure the greatest possible benefit from public support of IPM
- communicate successes so that the benefits of IPM are fully understood and valued.

By fostering connections among groups and agencies that care about safe, affordable pest management, the nation's four IPM Centers help to solve real problems and fulfill the promise of IPM.



Northeastern IPM Center

The Northeastern Integrated Pest Management Center works in partnership with stakeholders from agricultural, urban, and rural settings to identify and address regional priorities for research, education, and outreach. The Center is jointly administered by The Pennsylvania State and Cornell Universities, with work covering the New England states, Delaware, Maryland, New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, West Virginia, and the District of Columbia. The Center is a focal point for regional IPM team-building efforts, communication networks, and stakeholder participation. Our mission — to foster the development and adoption of IPM — is accomplished through the work of staff, the participation of advisory groups, and through grants programs that fund research, extension, education, and partnering to address stakeholder needs in the region. We help people and institutions to set IPM priorities and then to collaborate on work that will address these priorities, focusing the expertise needed to successfully address emerging IPM issues (e.g., water quality, pest resistance, invasive species, regulatory changes, and biotechnology) and improve regional access to information and technology in all settings. We are enthusiastic about alternative, nonpesticidal strategies that unite several disciplines and lead to sustainable solutions.