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Northeastern IPM Center Partnership Grants Impacts

Northeastern IPM Center

www.northeastipm.org

New England Fruit and Vegetable Scouting Network (2014-2015)

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THE NEED

- IPM is based on robust, accurate, and current data about evolving pest threats.
- Scouting is an essential IPM tactic for monitoring pest data.

IMPACTS

Pest scouting. Photo: Katie Campbell Nelson.

Pest scouting. Photo: Katie Campbell Nelson.

Pest scouting. Photo: Katie Campbell Nelson.

Training for pest scouting. Photo: Katie Campbell Nelson.

- The impact of field walk training, scouting, and the pest advisory system will be to **prepare the next generation of IPM farm scouts** to be familiar with pest life cycles and able to use available tools to make educated decisions in IPM.
- **Directly impacted over 300 acres of fruit and vegetable farmland on 12 farms in MA, RI and VT**. IPM strategies implemented on these farms, and their benefits, included:
  - Improved timing of pesticide applications on crops by using monitoring.
  - Correct identification of pests, relying in part on enhanced knowledge of insect life stages, resulted in better pest control.
  - Using traps to monitor pests such as squash vine borer and European corn borer (ECB) resulted in better-timed release of the parasitoid *Trichogramma* wasp to control ECB in peppers and sweet corn on three farms.
  - Improved sprayer mixing and calibration for better pest control.
- Project **participants performed over 240 hours of IPM scouting and monitoring**.
- **Reached 3,500 people and received $582,000** over three years via a grant titled "Multi-Level Extension Delivery to Support IPM for MA Vegetable and Fruit Growers," funded by USDA-NIFA.

WEBSITE

ag.umass.edu/vegetable/outreach-project/new-england-pest-scouting-network

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