

2018 Priorities NEERA-1604 (revised 3/19/18)

Background

The 2018 NEERA-1604 Priorities include updates to the [2014 Priorities](#) and were developed by NEERA members during the 2018 annual meeting. The Priorities tie in with the [Northeastern IPM Center's \(NEIPMC\) five Signature Program areas](#): IPM and Organic Systems; Climate Change and Pests; Rural and Urban IPM; Next Generation Education; and Advanced Production Systems. "Pests" are defined as insects and mites, diseases, and weeds, including invasive plants.

Research and Extension

1) IPM and Organic Systems

- Create up-to-date lists of reduced-risk pesticides.

2) Climate Change and Pests

- Create resources that increase understanding of the effect of climate change on pests and the role IPM can play in climate change.
- Support region-wide weather based decision making systems, such as NEWA and iPiPE.

3) Rural and Urban IPM

- Develop Best Management Practices for school grounds and athletic fields.
- Develop programs and tools for young farmers, non-English speakers, and diverse communities.
- Develop programs and tools focused on urban/public health IPM (mosquitoes, ticks, bed bugs, Lyme disease).
- Create IPM resources for the public, such as garden, landscape, and household pests.
- Increase resources dedicated to pollinator health.

4) Next Generation Education

- Develop programs and tools for young farmers, non-English speakers, and diverse communities.
- Adopt innovative programming technologies, such as Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs), social media, and video.
- Link with workforce development efforts.

5) Advanced Production Systems

- Support region-wide use of big data systems.
- Support region-wide weather based decision making systems, such as NEWA and iPiPE.
- Promote and implement precision ag technologies to enhance IPM.

6) Emerging and Invasive Pests

- Use resources to increase knowledge and available tools to address challenges created by emerging and invasive pests such as spotted lanternfly, boxwood blight, and Palmer amaranth.

Other

- Conduct outreach and education on insect, disease, and weed management issues.
- Improve metrics of IPM adoption by creating standardized IPM performance metrics.
- Work collaboratively to locate alternative sources of funding.
- Increase resources dedicated to pollinator health.
- Increase collaboration among regions to more effectively use resources and better coordinate research and outreach.
- Create and disseminate guidelines for use of biological controls.