

# Integrated Pest Management And the ecology that

makes it necessary and effective New York State IPM Program

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# About me

• Life-long environmental educator



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- Garden dabbler and lawn minimalist
- Prefer set-it-and-forget-it methods I'd rather be fishing!



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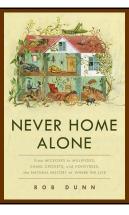
- Life-long environmental educator
- Garden dabbler and lawn minimalist
- Prefer set-it-and-forget-it methods I'd rather be fishing!
- New favorite plant mountain mint





#### **Book Recommendation**

 A natural history of the wilderness in our homes, from the microbes in our showers to the crickets in our basements.







# Your Turn!

- County?
- Favorite Master Gardener Program activity?
- Recent plant discovery?

IPM

# Integrated **PEST** Management

What is a pest?

#### WHAT IS A PEST?

• Living organism





#### WHAT IS A PEST?

- Living organism
- Not what it is; but what it does: • Property damage



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- Eats and/or contaminates our food





#### WHAT IS A PEST?

- Living organism
- Not what it is; but what it does:
- Property damage
- Eats and/or contaminates our food
- Health risks

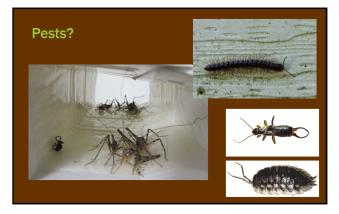
















# I found a bug!





# Today's plan

- Integrated Pest Management
   Overview
- Ecology 101
- What's Bugging You?



# Your Turn!

- What does IPM mean to you?
- Let us know if you have never heard of it before.

#### **Integrated Pest Management**

• Goal: manage pests while minimizing the human health, environmental, and economic risks of pests and pest management.



#### **Integrated Pest Management**

- Is a science-based, decision-making process
- Relies on knowledge of:
- pest biology
- environmental information, and
- available technology

**Integrated Pest Management** 

IPM integrates all aspects of pest control.
Use multiple strategies or "many small hammers"



#### **IPM** versus organic

• Organic food production is regulated by the USDA National Organic Program.

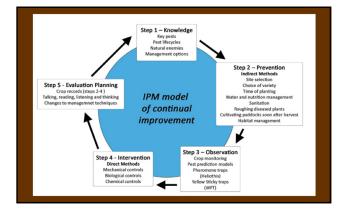
National Road Map for Integrated Pest Management, 2013

- Both IPM and organic approaches seek to minimize the environmental impacts of pest management practices.
- **Organic** is IPM, but with less hammers in the tool chest (mostly synthetic chemical pesticides).

# Integrated Pest Management

- IPM integrates all aspects of pest control.
- IPM does include the prevention of problems before they happen.





#### Why is IPM important?

• There are health concerns and risks from pests, pest allergens, and pesticides.





#### What is a Pesticide?

- A pesticide is any substance or mixture of substances intended for:
  - Preventing,
  - Destroying,
  - •Repelling, or
- Mitigating any pest.



#### What is a Pesticide?

- Pesticides include:
  - Insecticides
  - Rodenticides
  - Herbicides
  - Bactericides
  - Repellants
  - Insect repellants can be an insecticide
  - Biopesticides made from microorganisms or natural products



#### Pesticides impact targets and non-targets by:

- Lethal poisoning
  - Of individuals
  - Of food
  - Of beneficial and other off-target organisms

• Sublethal poisoning

- Increases chance of dying from other stresses
- Decreases ability to attract a mate, defend a territory, or feed young
- Lessens ability to escape from predators

#### **Pesticide Resistance – Evolution!**

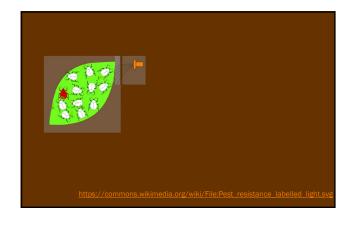
Target Site pesticide no longer binds to the target site

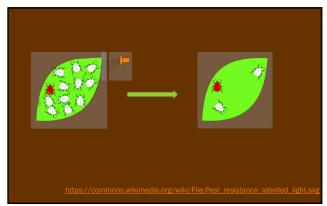
Metabolic insect detoxifies pesticide to less harmful substance

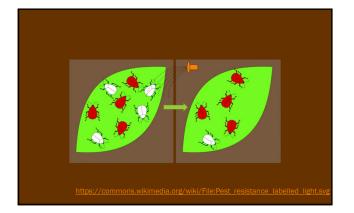


Penetration thicker cuticles prevent pesticide penetration









NOTE: Resistance is not restricted to pesticides



#### Pesticides and Sub-Lethal Off-Target Impacts

- Kill food plants
- Reduce insect populations through loss of food plants
- Reduce berry and nut crops through stress or killing of beneficial pollinators
- Degrade shelter

# How to Minimize Off-Target Impacts?

- Read the label
- Choose pesticides based on environmental impacts



#### NYS IPM Program Resource

Environmental Impact Quotient - <a href="https://nysipm.cornell.edu/eig">https://nysipm.cornell.edu/eig</a>



#### What about home remedies?

- If used to kill or repel, it is a pesticide. We CANNOT recommend!
- A story of an idea: Would adding a surfactant make a yellow jacket trap more efficient or would the soap be a pesticide?



# DEC Decision – surfactants can be used for mechanical efficiency – let the testing begin!



# DEC Decision – surfactants can be used for mechanical efficiency – let the testing begin!



# DEC Decision – surfactants can be used for mechanical efficiency – data doesn't support



# Your Turn!

• Let's check what recommendations you have heard and whether they are legal.

#### Questions about IPM process or pesticides?

# Ecology 101

- Ecology is the study of living things in relation to each other and their environment.
- IPM Assessment
  - What is it?
  - Why is it here?How does it survive?
  - How many are there?



#### Levels of Ecology

- Species
- Population
- Community
- Ecosystem

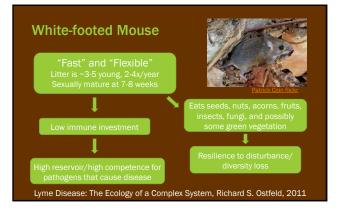


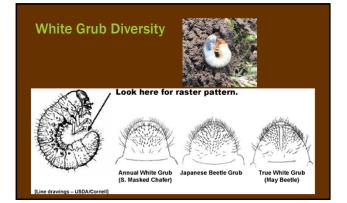
#### **Species**

• A single type of organism, such as a white-tailed deer, Asian tiger mosquito, or spinach



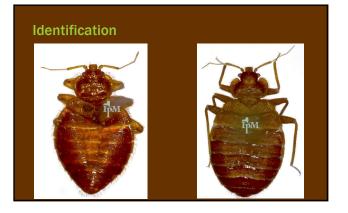








Insect		Jan- Mar	Apr	May		June	July	Aug	s	ep	Oct	Nov- Dec
European Chafer		3 <sup>rd</sup> instar larvae		3 <sup>rd</sup> star larvae		Adults emerge, mate & lay eggs		1 <sup>st</sup> instar larvae	2" inst larv	tar	3 <sup>rd</sup> instar larvae	3 <sup>rd</sup> instar larvae
June Beetle	Year 1	Adults ov	Adults emerge, mate & lay eggs		1" instar larvae			2 <sup>nd</sup> Instan Iarvae	-	2 <sup>nd</sup> instar larvae		
	Year 2	2 <sup>nd</sup> instar larvae		2 <sup>nd</sup> instar larvae		3 <sup>rd</sup> instar larvae 3 <sup>rd</sup> ir				3 <sup>rd</sup> inst	tar larvae	
	Year 3	3 <sup>rd</sup> insta	3 <sup>rd</sup> instar P larvae		Pup	pation and adults remain in soil to hibernate and overwinter						
Japanese Beetle		3rd instar larvae 3		3rd	3 <sup>rd</sup> star larvae		Adult emerge, & lay e	mate in	star star	2 <sup>nd</sup> , 3 <sup>th</sup> instan	3 <sup>rd</sup> inst	tar larvae







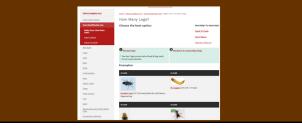
#### **NYS IPM Program Resource**

• What's Bugging You? l.edu/whats\_bugging\_you



#### **NYS IPM Program Resources**

• Pest Identification Key



## **Population**

• A group of the same species, such as a bale of turtles, herd of deer or swarm of mosquitoes.



#### Population

- Intraspecies Competition
- Density
- Distribution
- Behavior



#### **IPM Implications – IPM Thresholds**

- There is a big difference between an incident and an infestation.
- Individuals rarely give us problems.
- Population size matters.
- The goal is not to kill every individual but to manage populations at tolerable levels.
- Thresholds tell us when its time to take action

#### Threshold Example

- White Grubs
- Sample 1 square foot
- Count Grubs
- Threshold Levels
  - 8-10 grubs per square foot If irrigated and well fertilized lawn, then 12-15 per square foot



#### We often can't stop introductions



# Community

• An ecological community is made up of *different* populations of species.



#### Community

- Interspecific competition
- Food Web
- Species diversity



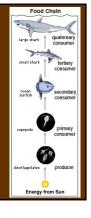


IN AN ATTEMPT TO SLOW DOWN THE CARPENTER ANTS, THE DUFFY'S RELEASE INSPECTOR ANTS



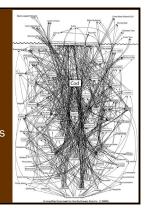
#### Food Chain

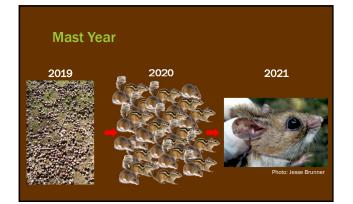
- Looking at Community-based Ecology
- Very simple
- Arrows point in one direction
- If true, highly susceptible to disruption

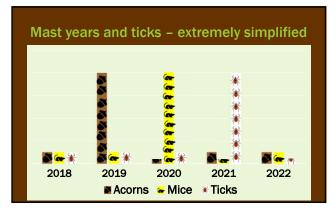


# Food Web

- Very Complex
- Rich biodiversity
- Copious connections
- Significant overlap
- High resistance to disruptions







- Simple systems are vulnerable systems
- Diversity is a casualty of control



## **IPM Implications**

- Whenever possible, manage for diversity
- NYSIPM Research Increasing plant diversity on Christmas tree farms





#### NYSIPM/CCE Research

• Increasing plant diversity in lawns



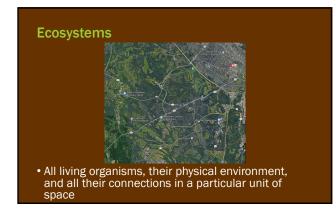
# NYS IPM Program Resources

Blog - <u>https://blogs.cornell.edu/biocontrolbytes</u>



• Crop rotation or skipping years can prevent crop specific pests from increasing year to year





# Ecosystems

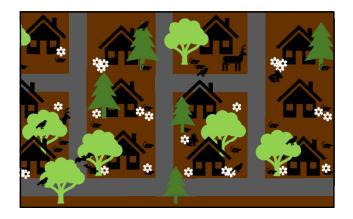
- Include Abiotic Factors
- Geology
- Precipitation
- •Sun
- Wind
- Water
- Soil
- Climate
- Microclimate





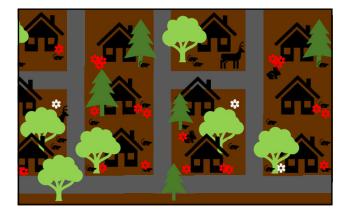






• Populations interact with each other and the physical environment in obvious, and not so obvious, ways.





# **IPM Implications**

• Populations interact with each other and the physical environment in obvious, and not so obvious, ways.



#### Your turn

• What pest issues are we bringing on ourselves?

#### Ecosystems versus Habitat

- Ecosystems All living organisms, their physical environment, and all their connections in a particular unit of space
- Habitat a place where a species naturally lives; its address

#### Ecology 101 - Habitat

• Consists of four basic needs

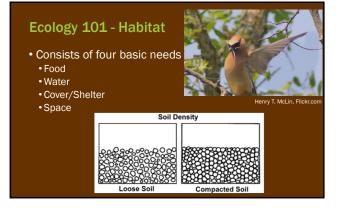
# Ecology 101 - Habitat

• Consists of four basic needs • Food





# Ecology 101 - Habitat • Consists of four basic needs • Food • Water • Cover/Shelter



#### **IPM Implications**

- We can manage the landscape to: • Prevent problems
  - Provide the best possible habitat for the desired species
- Degrade the habitat for undesirable species
- Enhance beneficials' habitat

#### Habitat

- Food
- Water
- Cover
- Space













# **IPM Implications – Exclusion**

- Deer
  - 8-foot barrier fences Individual plant protection
- Electric fences





# **IPM Implications - Increase competition**

• Grow healthy plants that can tolerate pest pressure



# **IPM Implications**

Use food as bait to capture pests.



# Habitat

- Food
- Water
- Cover
- Space



# **IPM Implications**

- Too much or too little water damages roots
  - Is it pest damage or drought damage?
    Yellow color attractive to insects



#### Water – Unintended sources





# **IPM Implications**

• Look for standing water and dump it out.







# Habitat

- Food
- Water
- Cover/Shelter
- Space





# Shelter – Supplemental Structures





# **Shelter - Leaves**





# **Shelter - Poor maintenance**





# **IPM Implications – Remove shelter**

• We can degrade pests' habitat.



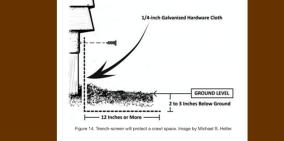
# **IPM Implications – look for entryways**











# Habitat

- Food
- Water
- Cover/Shelter
- •Space







Weeds are the result of poor turf, not the cause of poor turf. - Randy Prostak, UMass Extension

# **IPM Implications - Cultivate**

- Cultivating Benefits:
- Remediate compacted soils
- Aid in overseeding
- Help manage thatch

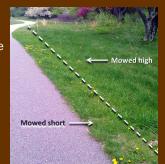


# **Additional Needs - Sunlight**



# Sunlight

 Raising mowing heights decreases the light available to weeds.



• We can put cultural practices into place to benefit plants and discourage pests.



#### Ecology 101

- Each **Species** has a habitat (barrel)
- Each **Population** has a **Carrying Capacity** for a given area (water)
- Short term solution mimic natural population reduction
- Long term solution change available habitat



#### **Mimicking accidents**

 Most mechanical pest control methods fall under this category





#### **Mimicking Accidents**





#### **Mimicking Accidents**







# Starvation

SanitationBuckthorn bags – stop sprouting



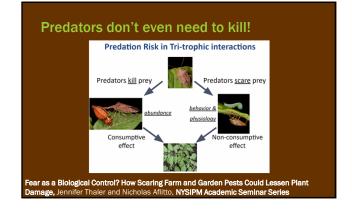


Starvation









# Predators don't even need to kill!





Predators don't even need to be real!



#### **IPM Components**

- Planning & Prevention
- Monitoring, thresholds
- Diversity of control options
- Pesticides can be a tool, but does not have to be
- Minimizes economic, health and environmental risks

# More learning opportunities

- Annual NYS IPM Conference
  - Past Conferences
  - Protecting Pollinators
  - Climate and Weather
     Invasive Species
  - Ticks and Mosquitoes
  - Spotted Lanternfly
  - School IPM
  - Coming Soon to a Screen in
  - Your Home!
  - Vegetable Gardening IPM from the Ground Up
- NYSIPM Seminars
   NYSIPM Academic Seminar Series



#### In Summary:

- The yard, garden, school, business, community is part of a larger whole.
- Each part is connected to every other part.
- Understanding the parts will lead to greater management choices and successes.
- Keep learning!
- Keep asking good questions!
- Be creative!

The real voyage of discovery consists not in seeking new lands, but in seeing with new eyes. *Marcel Proust* 

