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Disclaimer

- OSU Extension Service does not endorse or recommend the use of any of the products listed or mentioned in this module.
- Product trade names are listed purely to provide examples of certain types of pesticides that you may come across in your home and garden store.
- The information in this presentation shouldn't be regarded as a substitute for professional consultation.

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What are we talking about today?

- · Informed decision making
- Developing a tool kit to holistically monitor your home garden
- Choosing management strategies that align with your goals and ethics



What is a pest?

Pests can be

- insects • mice, deer and other animals
- · unwanted plants (weeds)

microorganisms (fungi, bacteria and viruses)

Pests are living organisms out of place.







- Family in known to take over entire fields



What is integrated pest management?

Integrated Pest Management aims to reduce crop losses from pests that are effective, economically viable and ecologically compatible (Pedigo 2008).

Integrated Pest Management (IPM) is a strategy to prevent and suppress pests with minimum impact on human health, the environment and nontarget organisms (Steve Dreistadt, University of California)

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ABC's of IPM

- A: Always be monitoring
- Scout your garden
- B: Be confident in identifying the pest
- Learn to identify pests and diseases
- C: Choose the appropriate control
- Learn when to use cultural, physical, biological, and chemical controls



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Always be monitoring

- In the garden:
- Scouting (looking for problems)
- Diagnosing early
- Applying controls at the optimal time

Outside the garden:

- OSU Extension Garden
- Calendar
- PNW Handbook
- Social Media! (PNW Disease management on Facebook)
- Degree day monitors

Monitoring

- Look for pests and their damage
- Look for beneficial organisms Keep a garden journal



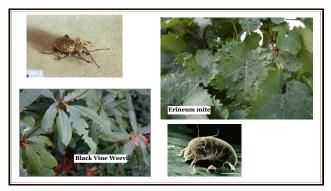


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Monitoring your garden

- What pests am I seeing? How many?
- Color traps
- Sticky cards and water bowls
- Shelter, food, and Mate traps
- Beer and bread traps
- Pheromone traps











Home-made traps

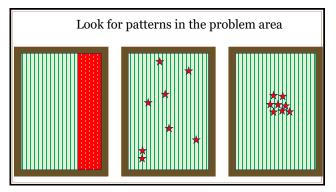












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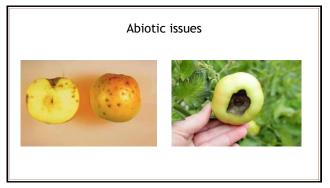
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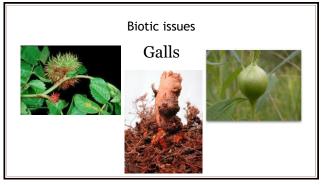


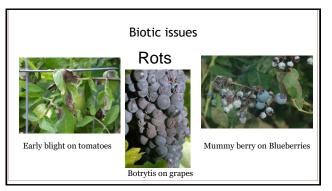


Key Pests: Plant disease



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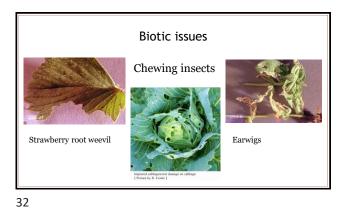


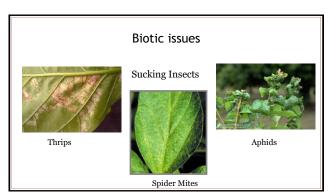


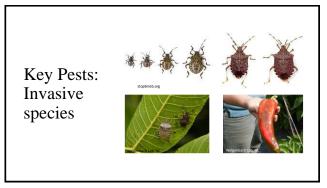
Key Pests: Insects



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Thresholds

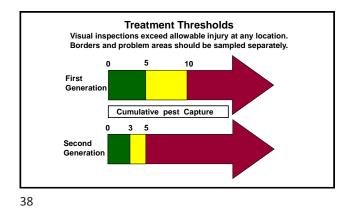
- Depends
 Treatment thresholds are determined by grower tolerance
 Is it worth it to spray?
 Your tolerance for pests may vary among plants













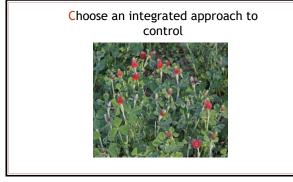


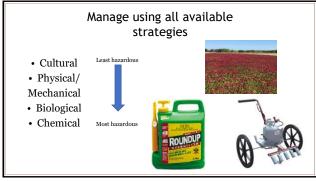
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Cultural controls

- · Plant healthy stock Select for plants with resistance
 Plant them correctly!
- Maintain your garden, water deep, fertilize (but don't over do it), water the soil, prune for airflow, and get rid of diseased plants.
- Sanitize tools

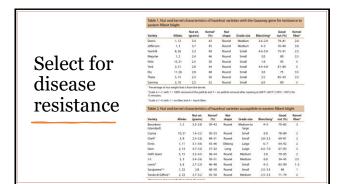


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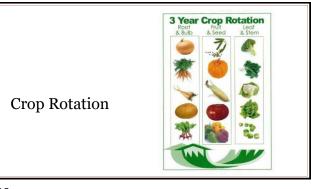
Planting healthy stock

- Be cautious of stores that aren't primarily in the sales of plants
- · Look for certified stock when possible
- Inspect plants for diseases and pests before planting
- Choose reputable brands

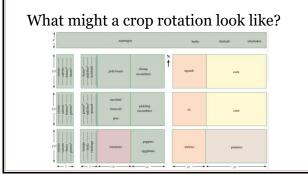




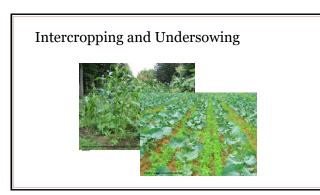




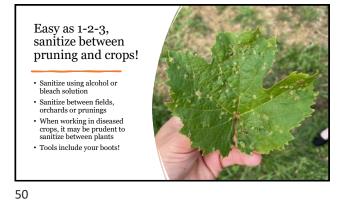




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What is pest habitat?



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Physical controls

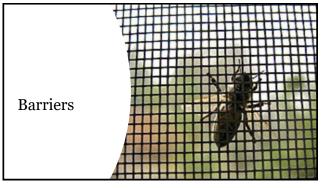
- · Prevent Infestations
- Row covers
- · Barrier or bait crops
- · Bird netting or sound deterrents
- Use water to remove small infestations
- Remove diseased or infested material
- Pick off the bugs!







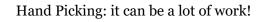




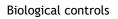












- Using biological organisms to control pests
- Parasites
- Predators
- Pathogens





Approaches to bio-control

- Conservation
- Augmentation
- Importation

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How can I conserve natural enemies in my garden?

- Garden-scaping

 Habitat conservation and creation
- Modify cultural practices if needed
- Planting beneficials to attract natural predators
- Chemical choice and timing

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Garden-scaping Parking lots are not good habitat for beneficial insects

When preparing a garden, think about the surrounding area

What can be done to increase beneficial habitat?



Creating habitat for beneficials

- Don't fall into the trap of Chocolate box ecology
- Consider timing of available nectar and pollen from plants, does it line up with when pests are present?
- Think about your predators, are they present when the pest is?
- Look for insectary plants







Bugs need water too!

- If you are using overhead irrigation, you are good to go
- If not, you can spritz water on your plants in the morning
- Fountains and other sources of moving water are great
- Do not leave stagnant pools of water in your garden



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Question!

- What habitat do you have in your garden for beneficials?
- What can you do to improve habitat for beneficials?



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Cultural modifications

- If it doesn't need to be pulled, consider keeping it
- Reduce tillage to a minimum
- Keep living roots in the ground
- Keep overwintering habitat (be careful with this one)



Biological control

- Research before you implement
- Native biological controlsencourage habitats
- Some programs exist to implement new species
- Some controls available to purchase



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Approaches to bio-control

- Conservation
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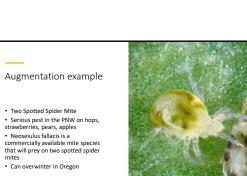
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Augmentation

- Supplemental biological control
- Mass production of a control species
- Usually repeated use of species
- Often used to target slow moving species like mites









Augmentation

- Mass production of treatment species
- Parasitic controls are pest-specific
- Need more predators than prey
- Boom and bust- When they prey species run out, the controls can die-off or leave
- Meant to have an acute effect
- More effective when pest densities are lower

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Approaches to bio-control

- Conservation
- Augmentation
- Importation

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Importation (Classical biological control)

- Classical biological control is the importation of natural enemies for release and permanent establishment in a new region
- Sometimes its best to bring the predator to the pest
- Pest's country of origin is determined
- Natural enemy is determined
- Put in quarantine and studied to determine effectiveness, other species targeted
- Permit is obtained and then species is bred

Importation Example

- *Trioxys pallidus,* the Filbert Aphid Wasp
- Introduced in Oregon by OSU in the 1980's
- Has helped to keep aphids under economic thresholds in Oregon since



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Importation

- Raised in insectaries Long term control or
- suppressionBoom and bust cycles for pest-specific species
- Tested to make sure they only feed on intended species



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Importation

- Requires multiple releases over several growing seasons
- Requires population build up
- ${\boldsymbol{\cdot}}$ Can be intolerant to insecticide sprays
- Wind, heavy rains, and other environmental factors can change effectiveness

Should you import bugs to your garden?

- Depends!
- Long-term populations have needs
- Habitat
- Prey
- Space that is not treated with pesticides



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Chemical controls

- The label is the law: READ BEFORE YOU APPLY
- Choose the appropriate chemical for the pest- check the PNW Handbook for recommendations
- Talk to your local extension agent before you apply



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Why should I care about pesticides? • A pesticide may be the best or only choice • Pesticides can be used to avoid worse problems • Making informed management choices • Knowing how handle and dispose of pesticides safely increases efficacy and decreases mystery around pesticides

Misconceptions of pesticides

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What is a pesticide?

US Environmental Protection Agency definition

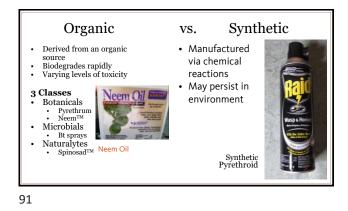
A pesticide is:

- Any substance or mixture of substances intended for preventing, destroying, repelling, or mitigating any pest.
- Any substance or mixture of substances intended for use as a plant regulator, defoliant, or desiccant.

Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) of 1947

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Ready-to-Use Concentrate vs. Pesticides that are pre-Pesticides that must be mixed or packaged in measured and mixed by containers that double as user applicators. • Better for larger areas • Fewer steps ٠ No measuring and mixing Less chance of mistakes •







Minimizing Negatives of Pesticides

- Choose narrow over broad-spectrum insecticides.
- Spot treat, rather than broadcast a pesticide.
- Always read the label, follow directions and do not apply more than is recommended.
- Wear protective clothing and eyewear.
- · Dispose of unwanted pesticides and empty containers properly.
- Use the appropriate timing when spraying

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Mating Disruptors

- · Disrupts mating signals for pests
- · Releases pheromones that deter males typically
- Works better in large areas



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Before Using Pesticides • IPM steps review: · Scout your plants <u>Identify</u> the problem · Establish an injury threshold • Evaluate appropriate management steps • Manage using all available strategies · Cultural control · Physical control · Biological control

- · Chemical control
- (In this order!)



Case Scenario #1: Aphids







