



# Pest Identification & IPM Approach Go Farm Hawaii 2016

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Managing Pests to  
Sustain & Expand  
Hawaii's  
Diversified  
Agriculture  
Industry





What is a PEST?







# Agricultural Crop Pests



- \* Plant or animal detrimental to humans or human concerns (agriculture or livestock production)
- \* includes insects, animals and plant diseases that predate upon, or otherwise cause damage to plants



# Pest Identification



- \* Proper identification and understanding the nature of the pest are the key steps in selecting the best pest management strategy.





In commercial;  
farming...







New diseases..

Taro Vein Chlorosis Virus







## Bagrada Bug

### *Bagrada hilaris* (Burmeister)

(Hemiptera: Pentatomidae)

#### Background

The bagrada bug, a serious economic pest of agricultural crops, was discovered in several areas of Maui Is. and in October and November, 2014. A small population was found attacking Chinese cabbage and tatsoi in a student garden at the University of Hawaii Maui College campus, Kahului. Shortly after, the bagrada bug was found in Makenaw and Kula.

#### Description

This small stink bug has five immature life stages (Fig. 5B-E, Reed et al., 2013) before maturing into an adult (Fig. 1 & 5F). Adults are shield-shaped and can range in size from  $\frac{1}{16}$  to  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch; females are larger than males (Fig. 3 middle). Adults are black with orange and white markings. They are similar-looking to the harlequin bug, *Murgantia histrionica* (Fig. 2), but much smaller in size (Fig. 4). The bagrada bug may also be confused with ladybird/ladybug beetles, however, unlike beetles, stink bugs have piercing needle-like mouthparts which they use to insert into and feed on host plants. Females lay oval, cream-colored eggs, which mature to become more of an orange-red color, on the undersides of leaves, on stems, and in soil around plants (Reed & Perring 2012). Eggs laid in soil are camouflaged and very easily mistakenly transported to uninfested areas.



Figure 1. Adult bagrada bug, dorsal view. Photo: John Sullivan. (<http://www.hawaiiagriculture.com/2014/12/02/bagrada-bug/>)



Figure 4. A bagrada bug, showing dorsal view of a harlequin bug, showing dorsal view of a harlequin bug. Photo: John Sullivan.

#### Hosts

Preferred hosts are cruciferous vegetable crops including broccoli, tatsoi, cabbages (head cabbage, Chinese cabbages, etc.), cauliflower, kale, radish, turnip, mustards, brussels sprouts, sweet alyssum, collards, and arugula. The bagrada bug can also feed on corn, cucumbers, okra, sugarcane, papaya, potato, cotton, figs and some legumes. In the absence of preferred host crops, this polyphagous pest will feed on a variety of weeds, also in the Brassicaceae plant



Figure 1. Adult bagrada bug, dorsal view.



Figure 3. Eggs of bagrada bug, showing dorsal view of a harlequin bug. Photo: John Sullivan. (<http://www.hawaiiagriculture.com/2014/12/02/bagrada-bug/>)



Figure 5. Life stages of the bagrada bug. A: Egg cluster. B-E: Immature stages (1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th). F: Adult. Photo: John Sullivan. (<http://www.hawaiiagriculture.com/2014/12/02/bagrada-bug/>)

for the population.

ing damage causes stippled, wilted leaves and flower break. Fig. 6 shows early signs of damage to a bug, however, in heavy infestations (Fig. 7), reliable. Feeding on apical meristems of cde age) lead to multiple, unmarketable head development at all (Fig. 9). Heavy feeding can (atwick 2010, Reed et al., 2013).

been very expensive for Brassica crop growers aticides, and the organic farmers have taken clous control measures acceptable to organic

a, India, and Asia (Howard 1906). In 2008, it a first time in California, and now spread to Arizona, New Mexico, and Texas (Reed et al., 1 from Maui Is. and.

**bagrada bug, please call:**

hy of Arizona), Surendra Dera and Eric Hawick n of Agriculture and Nature Resources hel photos with permission.

node (n/a). Retrieved April 1, 2014, 168-173.

3 December 2014.

bagrada bug (Hemiptera: Pentatomidae): A new invasive [Online]. *Plant Health Progress* doi:10.1094/PHIP-2014-01

<http://web.archive.org/web/20140101000000/http://www.aphis.usda.gov/pressroom/2014/01/01/20140101000000>

May 2013. Bagrada bugs (Hemiptera: Pentatomidae), ent. Manage., 4(3): 1-7.

bug biology, host range and effects on cole crops. nity of the domain. *Bluestate*. [Online]. Available at: <http://www.bluestate.com/2013/09/20/bagrada-bug-biology-host-range-and-effects-on-cole-crops/> (Accessed: 28 November 2014).



Figure 6. Damage to leaves, showing stippling and early signs of wilting.



Figure 7. Damage to leaves, showing stippling and early signs of wilting.



Figure 8. Damage to leaves, showing stippling and early signs of wilting.



Figure 9. Damage to leaves, showing stippling and early signs of wilting.





Banana Bract Mosaic Virus



Canna Yellow Mottle Virus



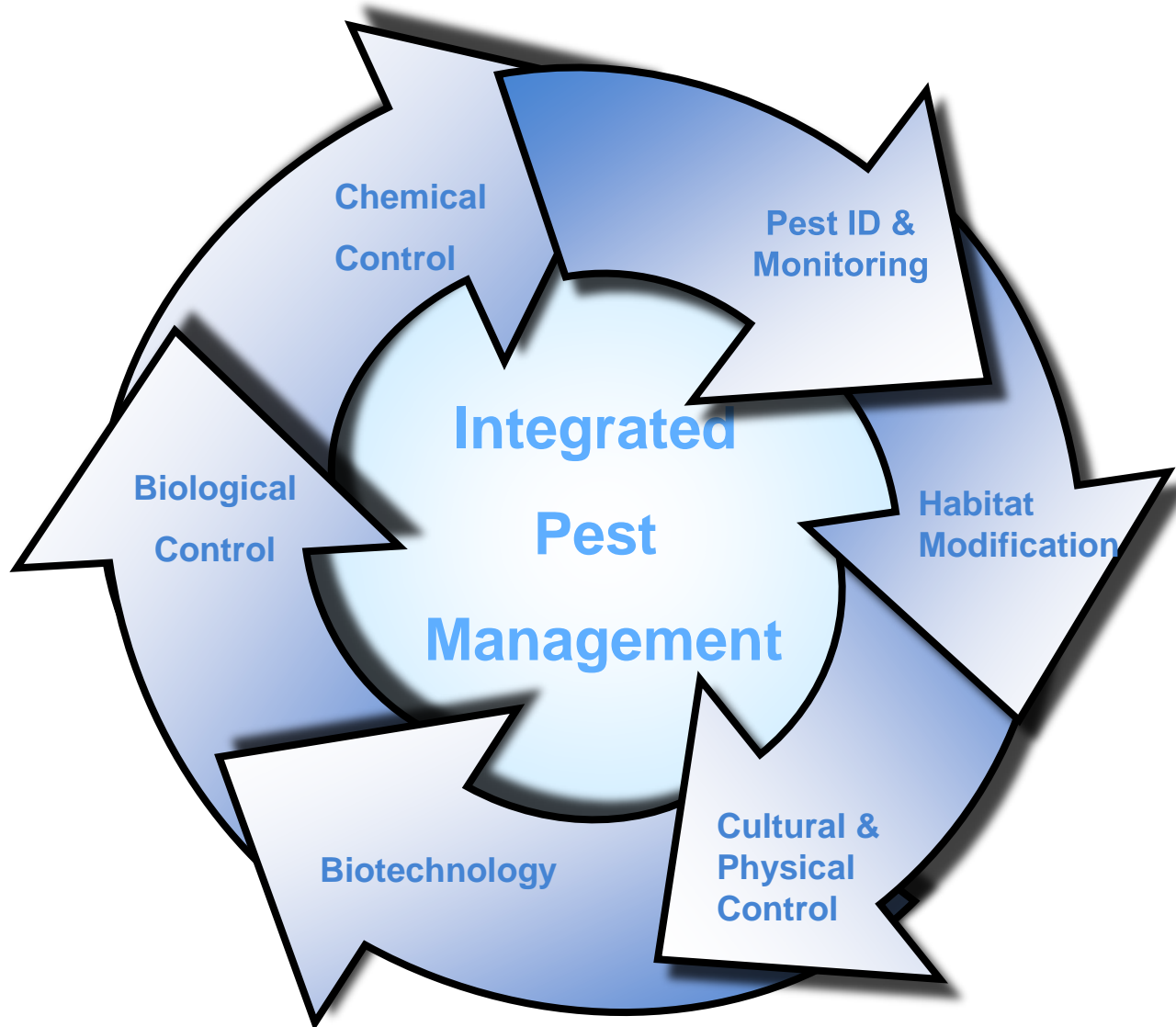


# Industry Need: Integrated Pest Management Programs

The use of all **possible pest control methods** in a well organized and harmonious way in order to achieve long term pest control.

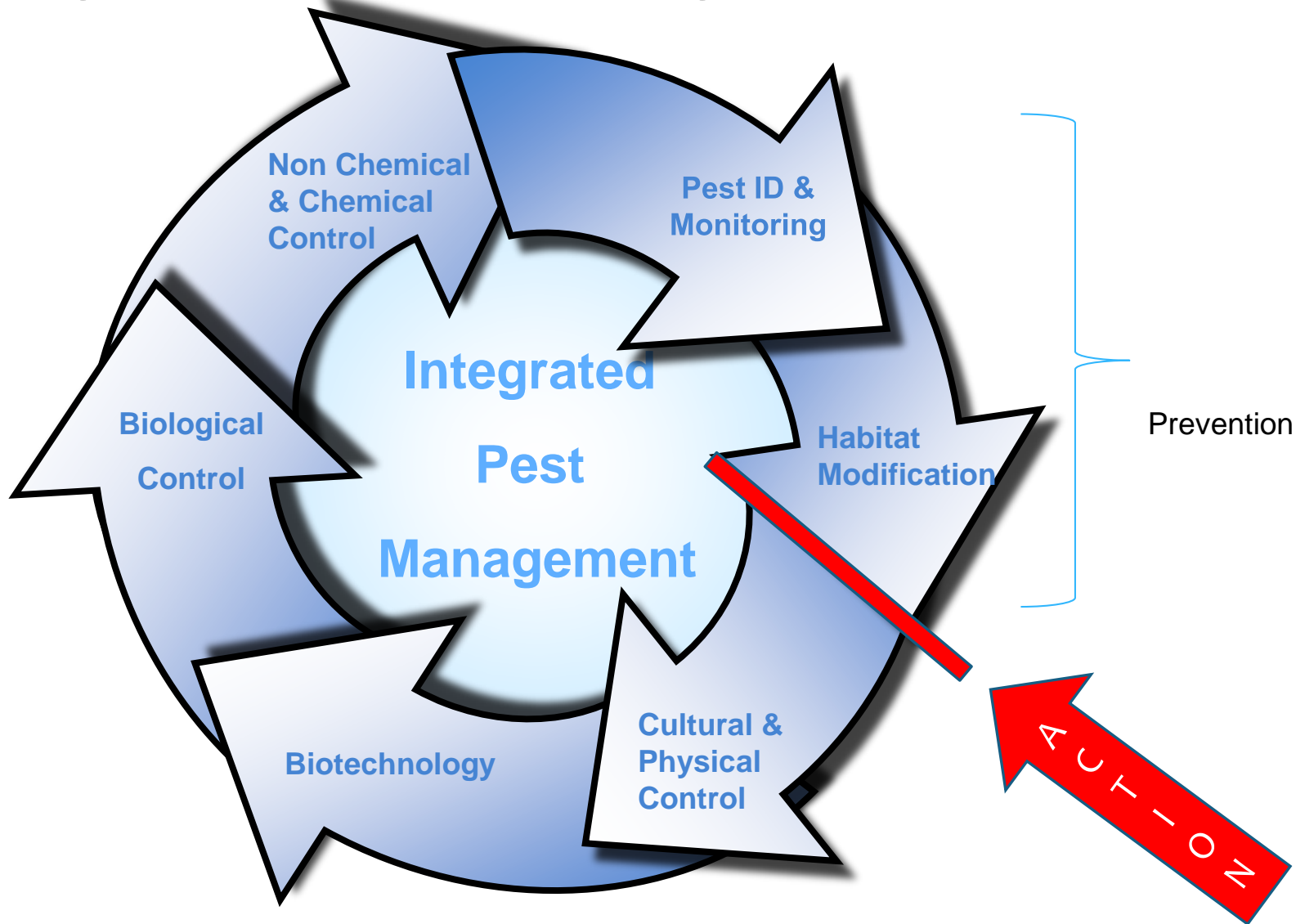


# Components of IPM



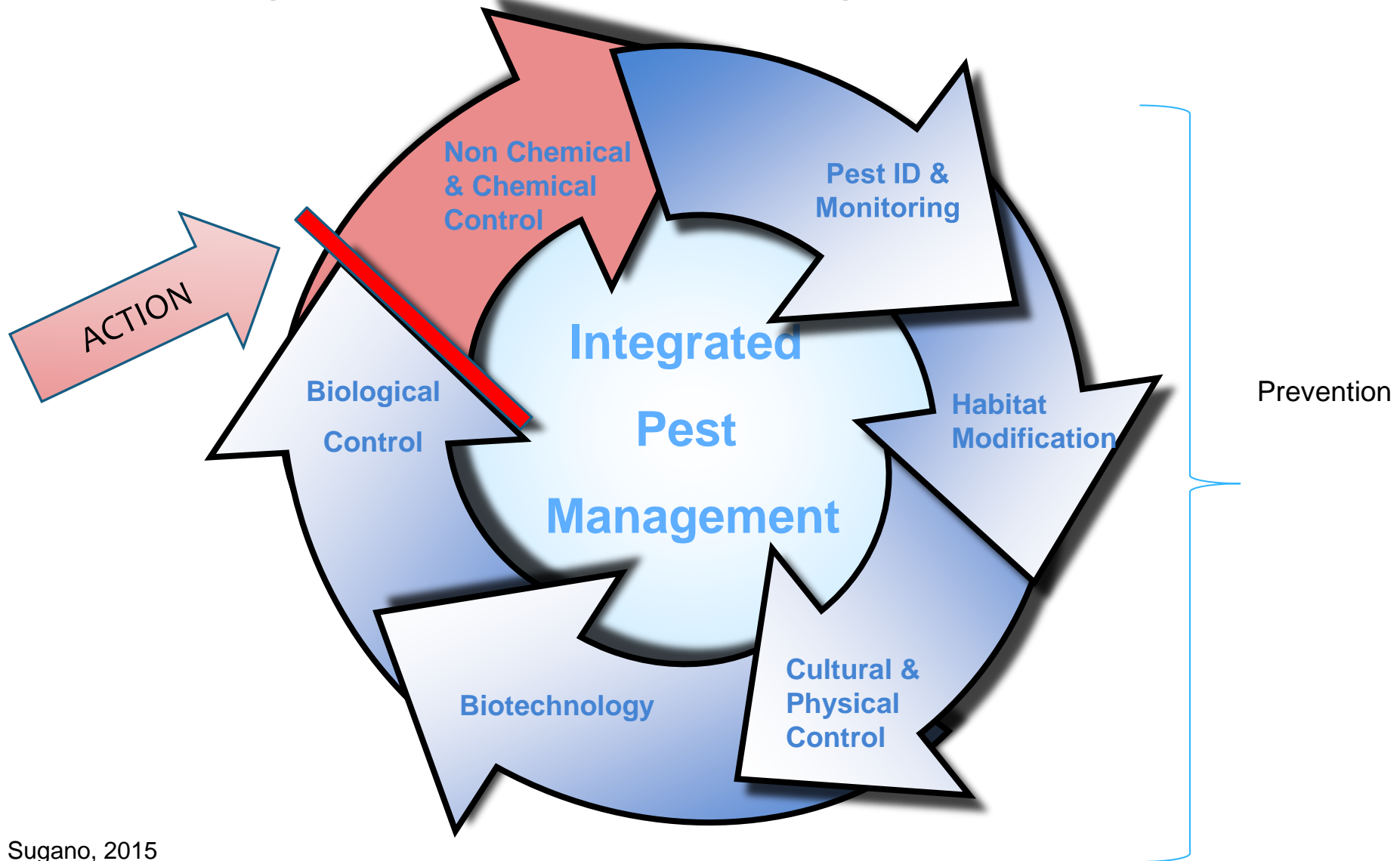


# Components of Traditional Integrated Pest Management (IPM)



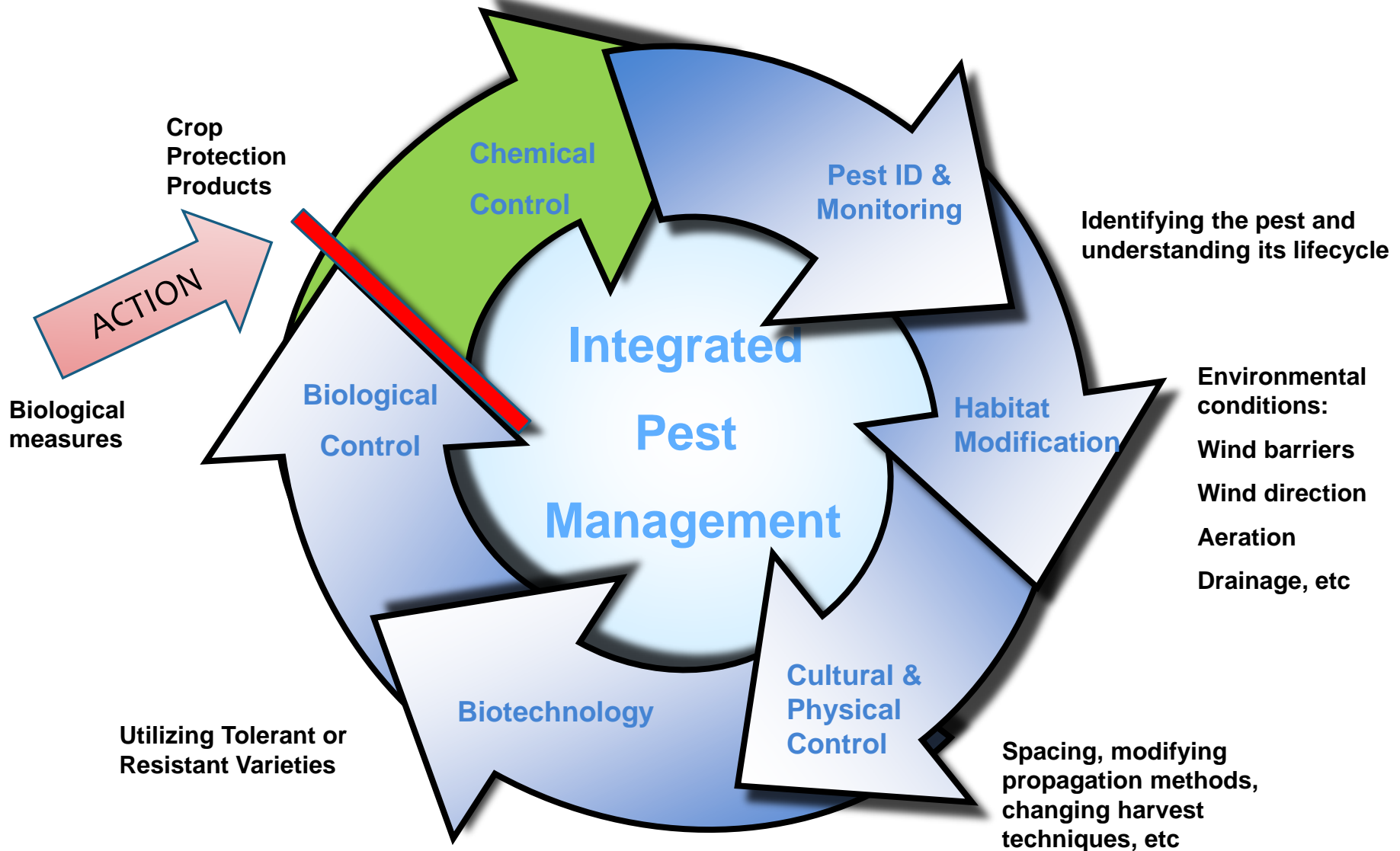


# Components of Modified Integrated Pest Management (IPM)



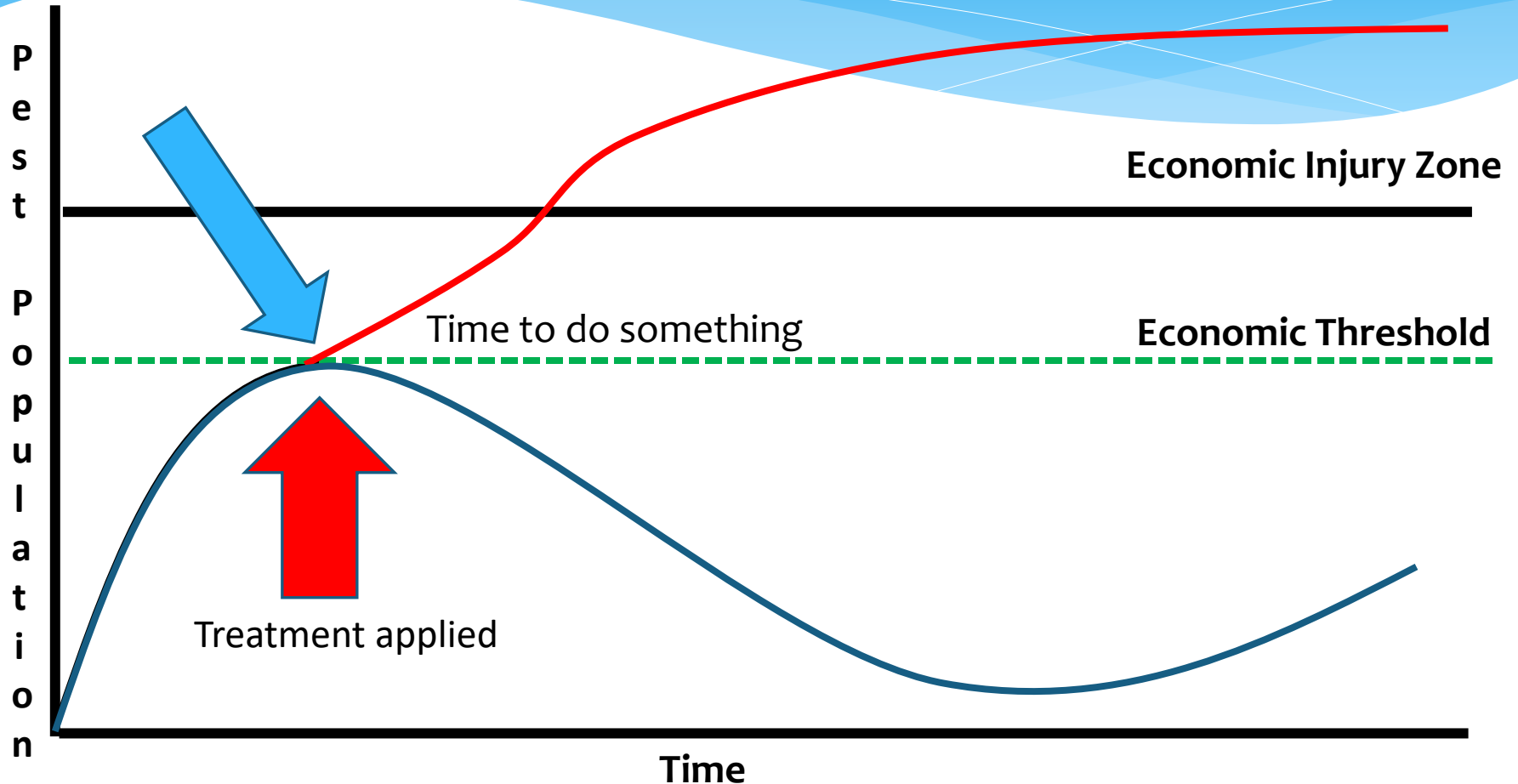


# Ex: Basil Integrated Pest Management





# Implementation of Pest Management Treatments





# Vs. Calendar Based



- \* Routine applications
- \* Requires less
  - \* Skill
  - \* Decision making
  - \* Management



# PROPER Pest Identification

- \* Proper identification
- \* Utilize correct pest control techniques for specified crop











# Chewing Pest:

Feeding on the foliage, stems, fruit or roots.

Pests within this group include beetles, caterpillars, earwigs, leaf miners, etc.















# Sucking Pest

These pest pierce plant's vascular tissue and withdraw plant sap. They cause plants to discolor, twist and distort. Pests within this group include aphids, whiteflies, mealy bugs, scales etc.



Photo Credit University of California, IPM Project ; Jari Sugano, Ming Yi Chou, Jensen Uyeda, Steve Fukuda, CTAHR Oahu County

UC Statewide IPM Project  
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# Thrips

Thrips have rasping and sucking mouthparts. Damage results in discoloration and scarring of leaves, stems, fruit and flowers. They are also plant vectors which are organisms that can transmit a pathogen such as a bacterium, virus, or phytoplasma into a plant.















# Mites

Mites have rasping and sucking mouthparts. Damage results in a brown to russet discoloration of leaves, stems, fruit and flowers.

A075 1280x1024 2011/12/08 06:52:45



Photo credit: Dr. Ted Radovich Dr. Scot Nelson & Jari Sugano









# Fruit Flies

There are 4 fruit flies in Hawaii: Oriental fruit fly, Melon fly, Mediterranean fruit fly, Malaysian fruit fly. Adult females sting fruits and vegetables resulting in blemishes. Larvae tunnel within fruit.



Photo credit: USDA ARS







# Plant Hoppers

Plant hoppers damage leaves, stems, fruits, and flowers. They also serve as vectors for plant diseases, especially phytoplasmas.



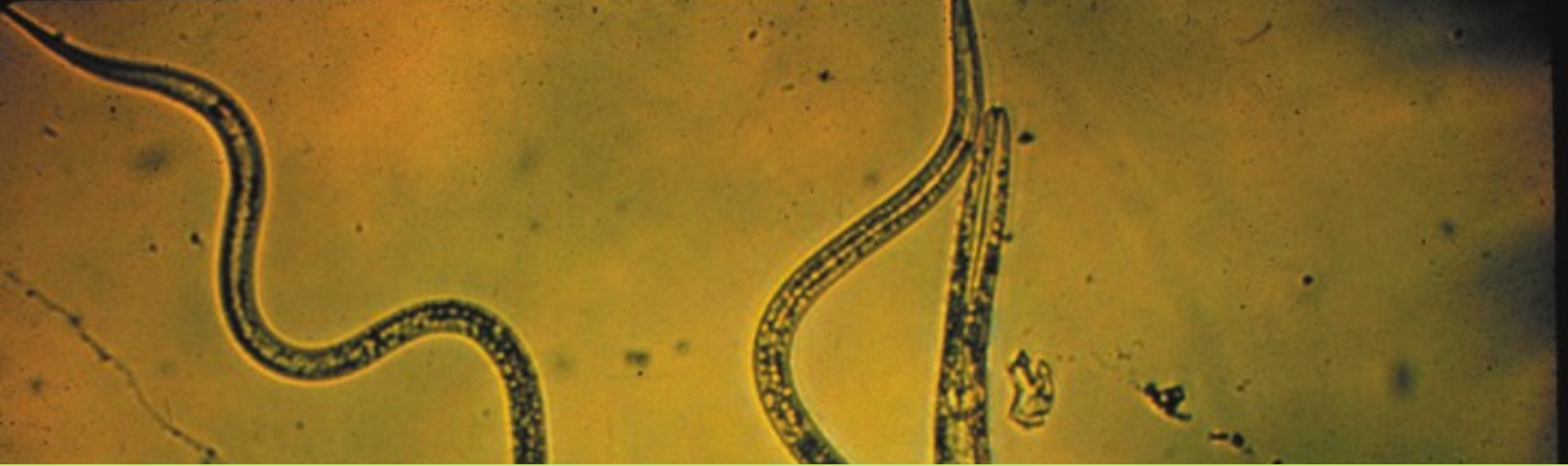


# Slugs and Snails

Slugs and snail are problem for low-growing vegetables. They are active in the evenings and are commonly associated with seedlings magically disappearing overnight.







# Nematodes

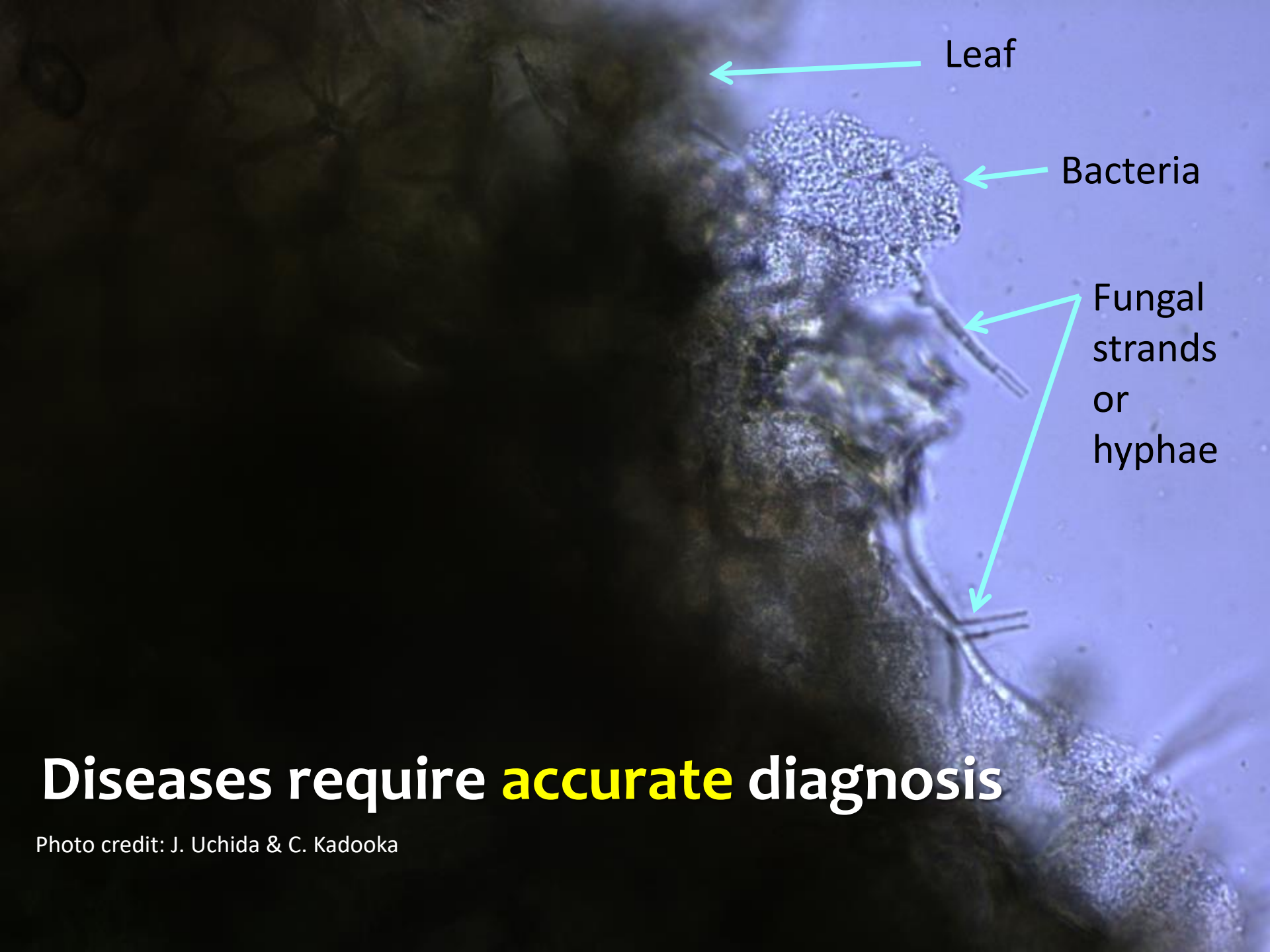
Roundworms that attack the root system of plants and impair water and nutrient uptake. Symptoms: stunting, poor plant growth, narrow and weak stems, foliar chlorosis, root rotting and galling, plant toppling and poor root development.



Photo credit: Dr. Scot Nelson & USDA







Leaf

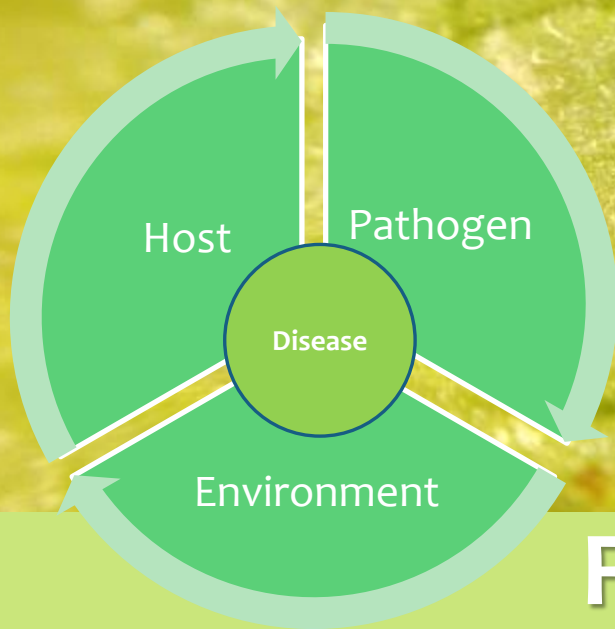
Bacteria

Fungal  
strands  
or  
hyphae

Diseases require **accurate** diagnosis

Photo credit: J. Uchida & C. Kadooka





# Fungal Diseases

Fungal diseases are caused by fungal pathogens. Reproduce and disperse by spores (air, water, soil and via humans too). Common fungal pathogen include: powdery mildew, downy mildew, *Alternaria*, *Cercospora*, *Phytophthora*, etc.











# Bacterial Diseases

Bacterial pathogens reproduce quickly and cause damage by degrading cell walls produce toxins, alter hormones, clog xylem of plant tissue. They are spread primarily via rain, or splashing water (seed and soil as well). They often enter plant tissue through natural openings or injury sites. Examples include: *Xanthomonas*, *Pseudomonas*, *Erwinia*, etc.







# Viral Diseases

Viruses are caused by viral organisms which cause stunting, ,malformation, mosaic mottling symptoms, etc. They can only survive on living plant tissue. Once infected there is no cure. They are mainly transmitted by insect vectors, farm tools, etc. Common plant viruses include: Banana Bunch Top Virus, Tomato Spotted Wilt Virus, etc.







# Phytoplasma

Phytoplasma are plant diseases that are caused by a bacteria which parasitizes on the phloem of plant tissue via a sucking type of insect vector. Symptoms range from yellowing of plant tissue, cupping of leaves, witches broom, stunting and even death of infected plants. Leafhoppers are often associated with vectoring of phytoplasmas like the Watercress Aster Yellow (WAY)



Photo credit. S. Fukuda





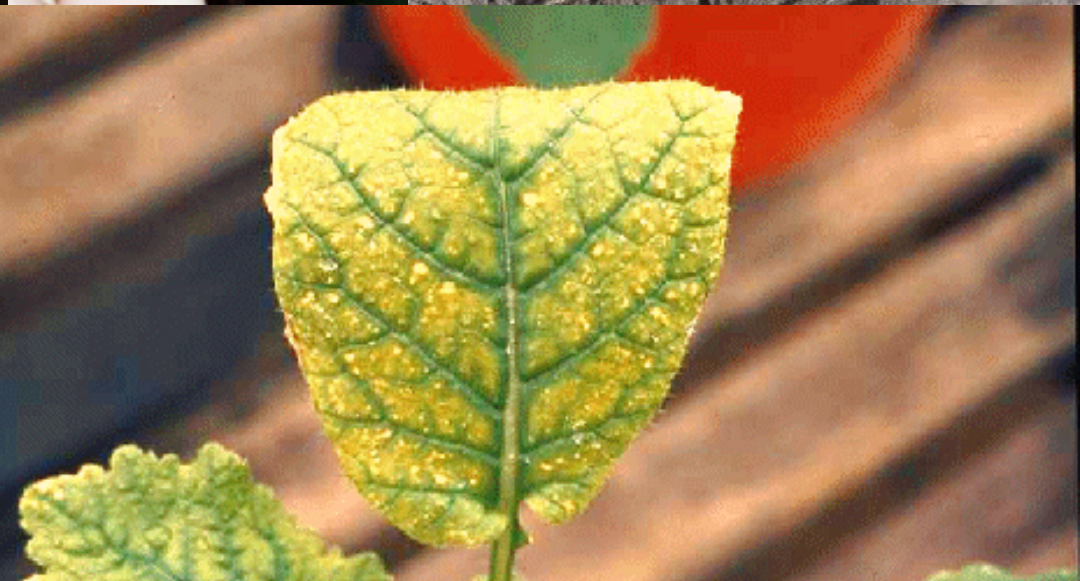
# Weeds

Weeds (annuals, biennials, perennials, etc.) often outcompete plants for food, sunlight, etc. They are fast growing, prolific seed producers, etc. Some weeds may be alternative hosts for crop pests (insects and diseases).





# Proper Pest Identification is Essential for Pest Control





# Symptoms









# Identify, Understand...before CONTROL

Example: Pickleworm  
*Diaphania nitidalis*

- \* Pest of squash, cucumber, cantaloupe, and pumpkin.
- \* Tunnel and feed on foliage, stems, and fruit
- \* Leave behind a distinctive hole and frass





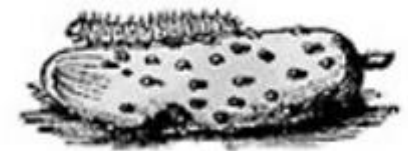
# Ex. Pickleworm Lifecycle

## *Diaphania nitidalis*

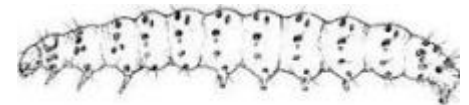
- \* Complete metamorphosis in 30 days
- \* **Eggs:** Laid in small clusters of individually on buds, flowers etc.
  - \* Each moth can lay 300-400 eggs
- \* **Larval Stage: Five instars**
  - \* Immature larvae, spotted and found in flower buds or stems
  - \* Older 5<sup>th</sup> Instar stage: Spots fade
- \* **Pupal Stage: (8-9 days)**
  - \* Pupate outside of fruit, on leaf surfaces at and the base of plants
- \* **Adult Stage:**
  - \* Adult moth that are active only at night



adult



damage



Pickleworm young larva.



Pickleworm mature larva.



# IPM Control Strategy: Pickleworm

- \* **Monitoring:** Scouting flowers and stems
- \* **Physical Control:** Barriers, bagging (pollination)
- \* **Cultural Control:** Field sanitation, timely knock down, crop rotation, etc.
- \* **Biological control:** Encourage biological insects
- \* **Chemical Control:** Rotation of approved crop protection products such as, Success, Pyrethroids, Organophosphates, Bt, etc.

\*\* NOTE, this pest attacks multiple crops. Please read and follow labels before utilizing any chemical listed. These products are just general recommendations.



# Integrated Pest Management

## Pest Identification: Common Pests

Proper identification and understanding the nature of the pest are the key steps in selecting the best pest management strategy.

### Chewing Pests



Chewing pest feed on the foliage, stems, fruit or roots. Pests within this group include beetles, caterpillars, earwigs, leaf miners, etc.

### Ants



Ants are honeydew consumers and protect pest from natural enemies. Honeydew secretions promote steady nodule development. There are sugarcane, fat loving ants.

### Sucking Pests



These pest pierce plant's vascular tissue and withdraw plant sap. They cause plants to discolor, wilt and distort. Pests within this group include aphids, whiteflies, mealy bugs, scales and leaf hoppers.

### Mites



Mites have rasping and sucking mouthparts. Damage results in a brown to russet discoloration of leaves, stems, fruit and flowers.

### Nematodes



Roundworms that attack the root system of plants and impair water and nutrient uptake. Symptoms: stunting, poor plant growth, narrow and weak stems, foliar chlorosis, root rotting and galling, plant toppling and poor root development.

### Plant Hoppers



Plant hoppers damage leaves, stems, fruits, and flowers. They also serve as vectors for plant diseases, especially phytoplasmas.

### Fruit Flies



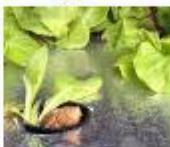
There are 2 fruit flies in Hawaii: Oriental fruit fly, Melon fly, Mediterranean fruit fly, Malaysian fruit fly. Adult females sting fruits and vegetables resulting in blemishes. Larvae tunnel within fruit.

### Thrips



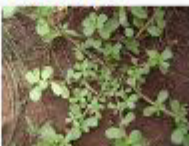
Thrips have rasping and sucking mouthparts. Damage results in discoloration and scoring of leaves, stems, fruit and flowers.

### Slugs and Snails



Slugs and snails are a problem for low growing vegetables. They are active in the evenings and are commonly associated with seedlings; magically disappearing overnight.

### Weeds



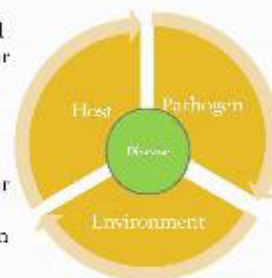
Weeds (annuals, biennials, perennials, etc.) often outcompete plants for food, sunlight, etc. They are fast growing, prolific seed producers, etc. Some weeds may be alternative hosts for crop pests (insects and diseases).

# Integrated Pest Management

## Pest Identification: Common Diseases

Plant diseases are the result of a physiological or morphological change in a plant that results in abnormal growth, appearance or development due to a pathogen. Pathogens are parasitic organisms that cause a disease. Pathogens include: fungi, bacteria, viruses, nematodes, phytoplasma.

The diagram to the right illustrates the three factors required for disease development: a host plant, casual pathogen and a favorable environmental conditions. Managing these factors can also help prevent and suppress disease populations.



### Fungal Pathogens



Common plant disease composed of threadlike structures called hyphae. Reproduce and disperse by spores. Common fungal pathogens include: powdery mildew, downy mildew, Alternaria, Cercospora, Phytophthora, etc.

### Nematode Pathogens



Roundworms that attack the root system of plants and impair water and nutrient uptake. Symptoms: stunting, poor plant growth, narrow and weak stems, foliar chlorosis, root rotting and galling, plant toppling and poor root development.

### Viral Pathogens



Viruses have a nucleic acid surrounded by a protein coat. They can only survive on living plant tissue. Once infected there is no cure. They are mainly transmitted by insect vectors. Common plant viruses include: Banana Bunchy Top Virus, Tomato Spotted Wilt Virus, etc.

### Bacterial Pathogens



Bacterial pathogens reproduce quickly and form masses called colonies. They are spread primarily via rain, or splashing water. They often enter plant tissue through natural openings or injury sites. Examples include: Xanthomonas, Pseudomonas, Acremonium, etc.

### Phytoplasma



Phytoplasma is a bacteria which parasitizes on the phloem of plant tissue via an insect vector. Symptoms range from yellowing of plant tissue, cupping of leaves and even death of infected plants. Leafhoppers are often associated with vectoring of phytoplasmas like the Watercress Aster Yellow (WAY).

### Example of a Plant Vector

Plant vectors are organisms that can transmit a pathogen such as a bacterium, virus, or phytoplasma into a plant.

EXAMPLES:

Banana aphid → Banana Bunchy Top Virus (BBTV)  
Western flower thrips → Tomato Spotted Wilt Virus (TSWV)  
Aster Yellow Leaf Hopper → Watercress Aster Yellow Phytoplasma  
Onion thrips → Iris Yellow Spot Virus (IYSV)



Banana Aphid

BBTV



# Monitoring: Common Tools

- \* Sticky traps
- \* Pheromone traps
- \* Light traps
- \* Sweep nets
- \* Field observations





# Field Scouting



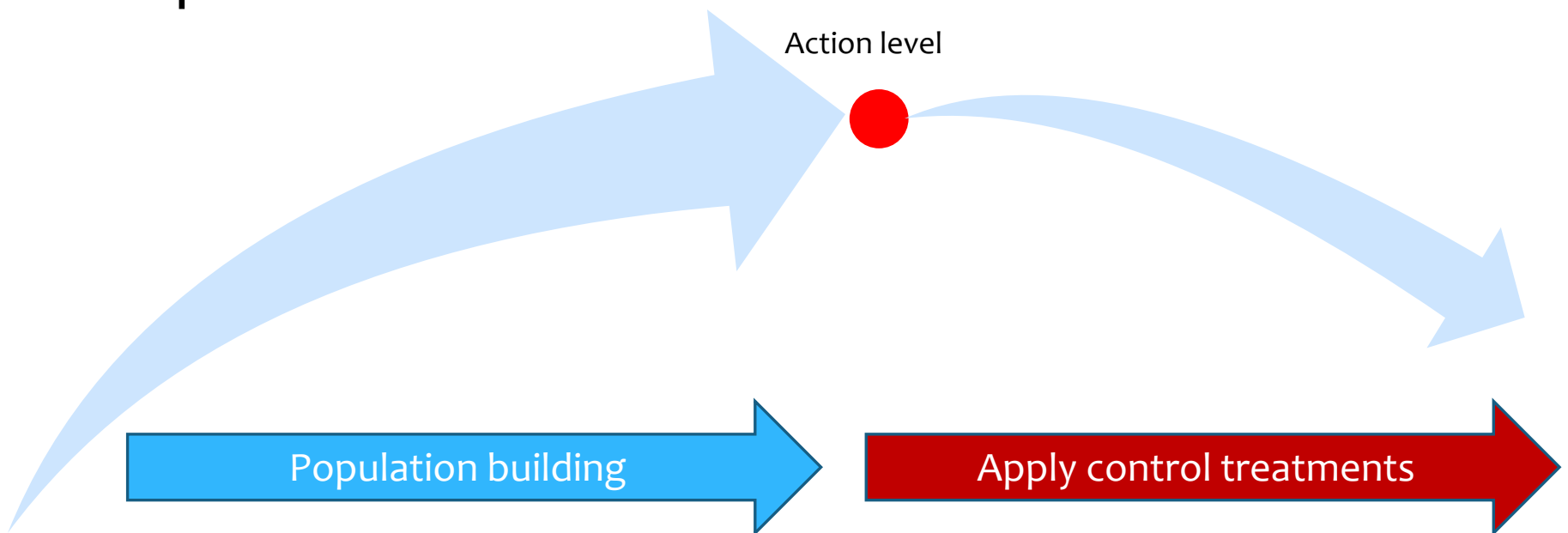
- Pest population
- Level of infestation
- Plant location
- Natural enemies
- Time of year
- Contributing conditions
- Environmental conditions





# Pest Control in IPM Systems

- Treatments based on monitoring data
- Control measures are used after action threshold is surpassed

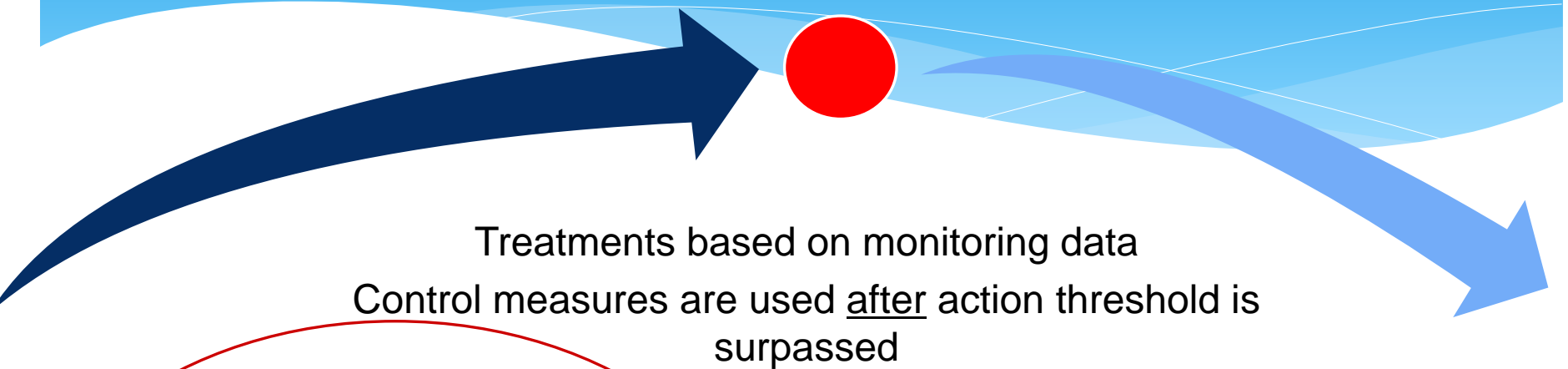




# Action Thresholds

Established levels that a pest population must reach before implementing pest control treatments.

Action level



Pest levels are increasing, but within economic threshold

Monitor Pest populations  
Implement Prevention Methods

## PREVENTATIVE TACTICS:

Habitat Modification

Physical Measures

Cultural Measures

Biotechnology

Enhance Natural Enemies



Control strategies are utilized and pest levels decrease over time

Apply control treatments

## CONTROL STRATEGIES

Releases Bio-control agents

Implement Non-Chemical Control

Chemical Control (as last resort)

# Prevention Strategies

Prevention is an important strategy in avoiding and keeping a pest populations below economic threshold levels.





Healthy Start





Fast Start







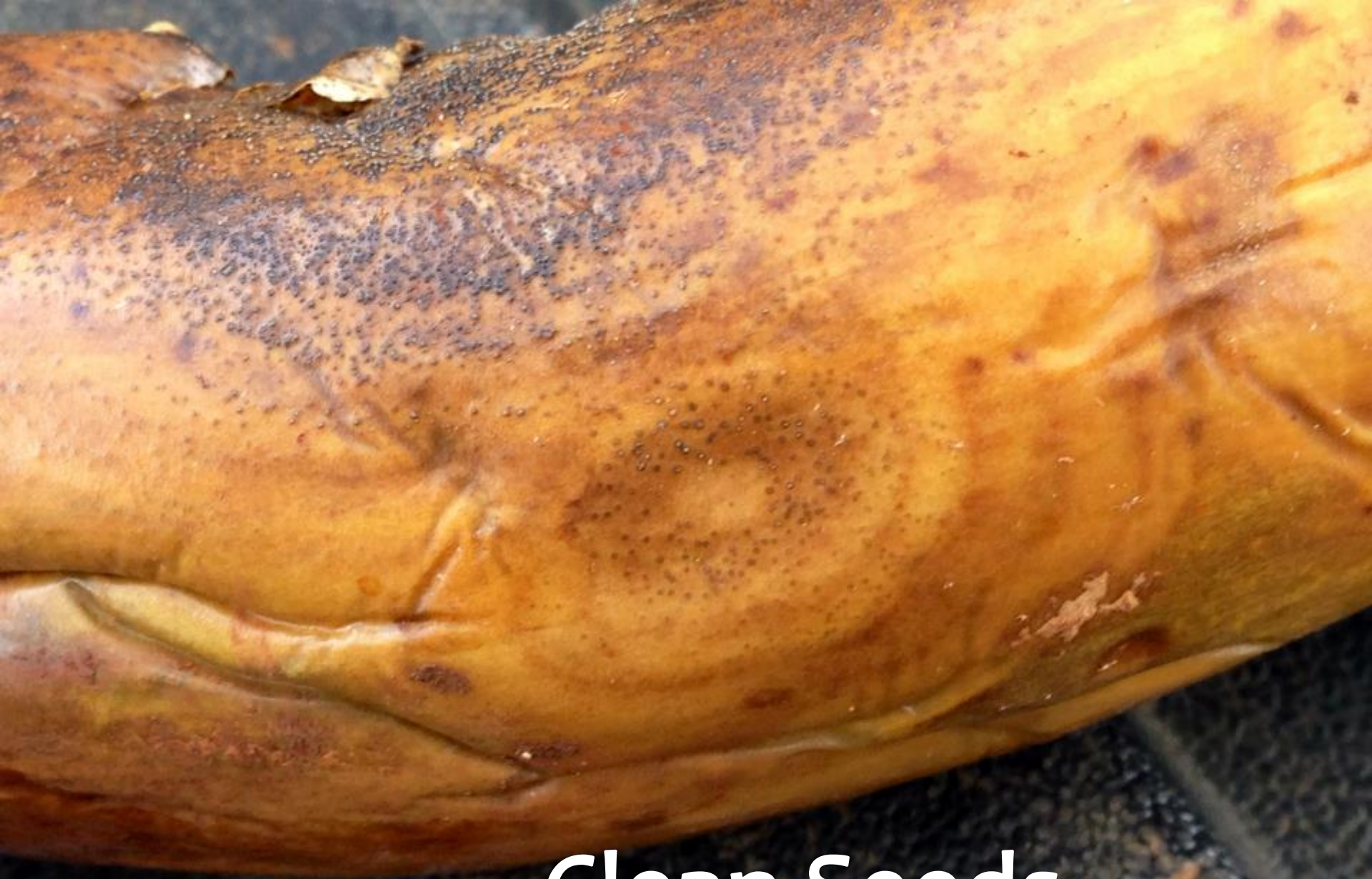
Clean Water & Media



A top-down view of several green onions submerged in water inside a purple plastic bowl. The onions have long green stalks and white bulbs with some brown roots. The water is clear, and the bowl's rim is visible. The text "Clean Start: Sanitation" is overlaid in white at the bottom.

Clean Start: Sanitation





Clean Seeds



High organic mat

# Healthy Soils

**Firm soil aggregates**  
**Higher water holding capacity**  
**Better drainage**  
**Co<sub>2</sub> retention**  
**Less run off**





# Ex: Soil Amendments





# Cultural Control / Habitat Modification



- \* Manipulation of cultural practices to disadvantage the pest
  - \* Eliminate breeding sites
  - \* Eliminate conditions favorable to pest build up
    - \* Removal of food or habitat sources
    - \* Reflective devices
    - \* Field sanitation
    - \* Buffer zone
    - \* Time of year
    - \* Etc.





Ex: Breeding Sites





Ex: Modify Environment





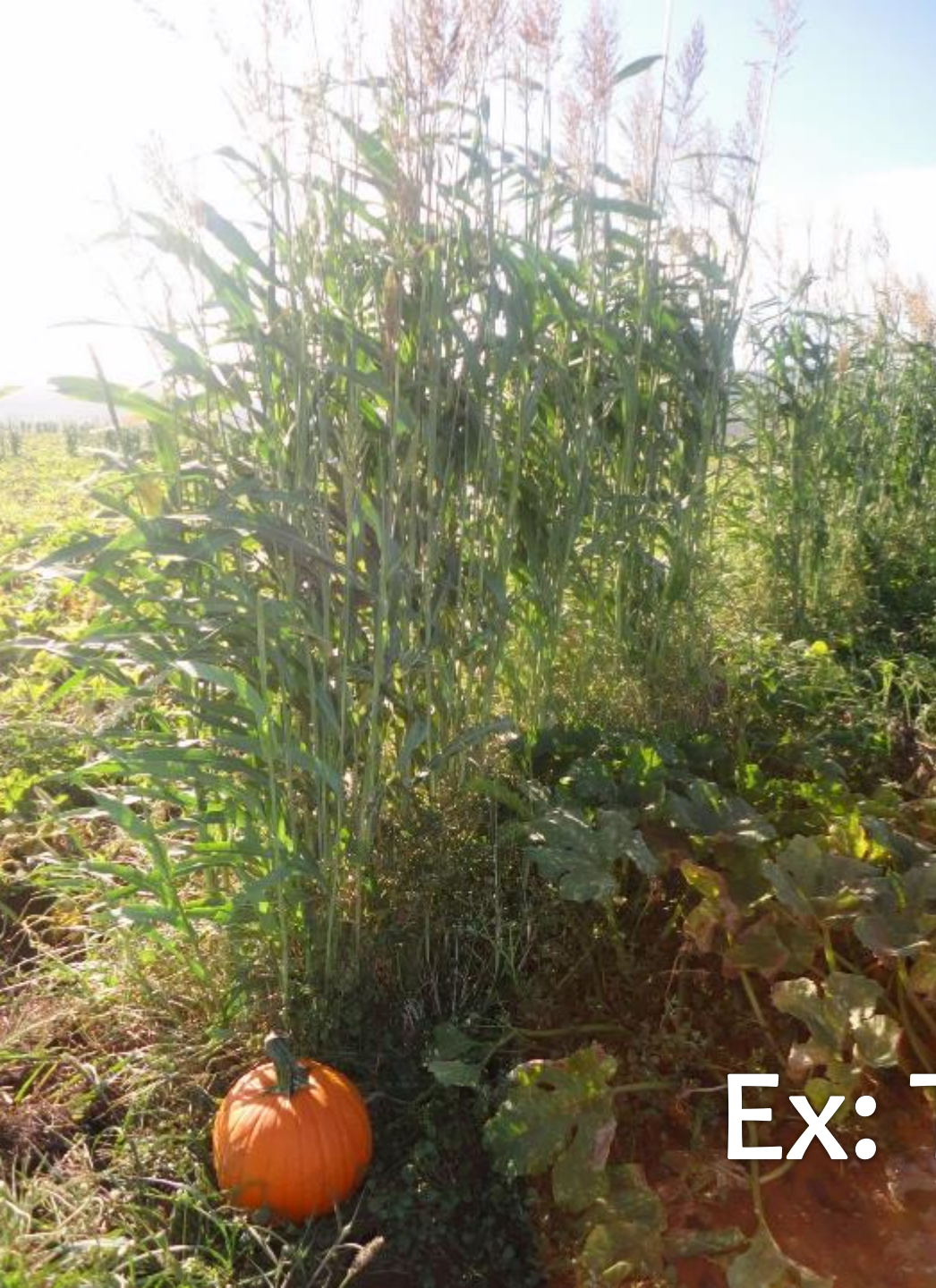
Ex: Reflective Mulches



# Ex: Companion planting







Ex: Trap Crops



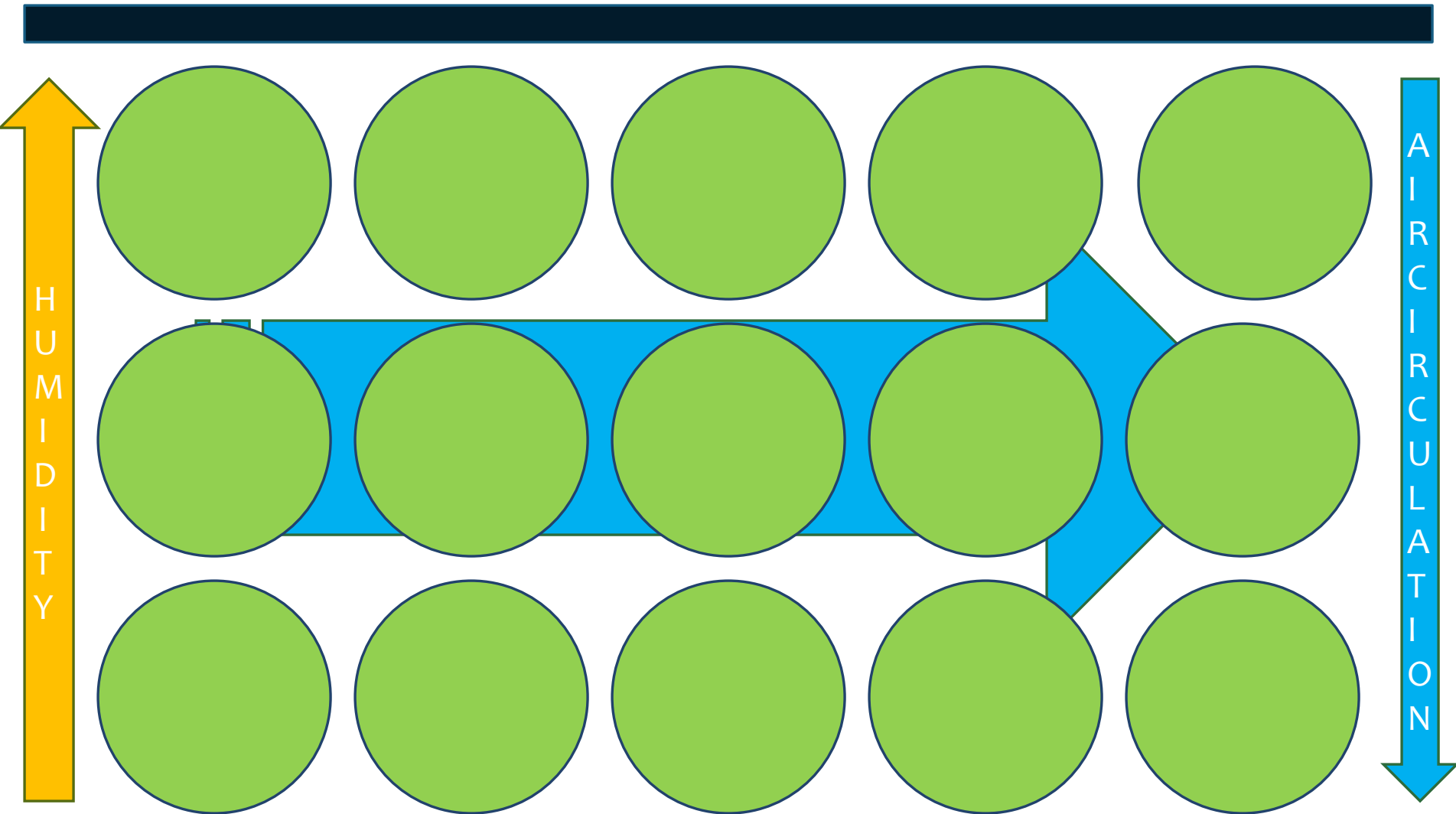


Ex: Spacing



# Evaluate Cultural Practices

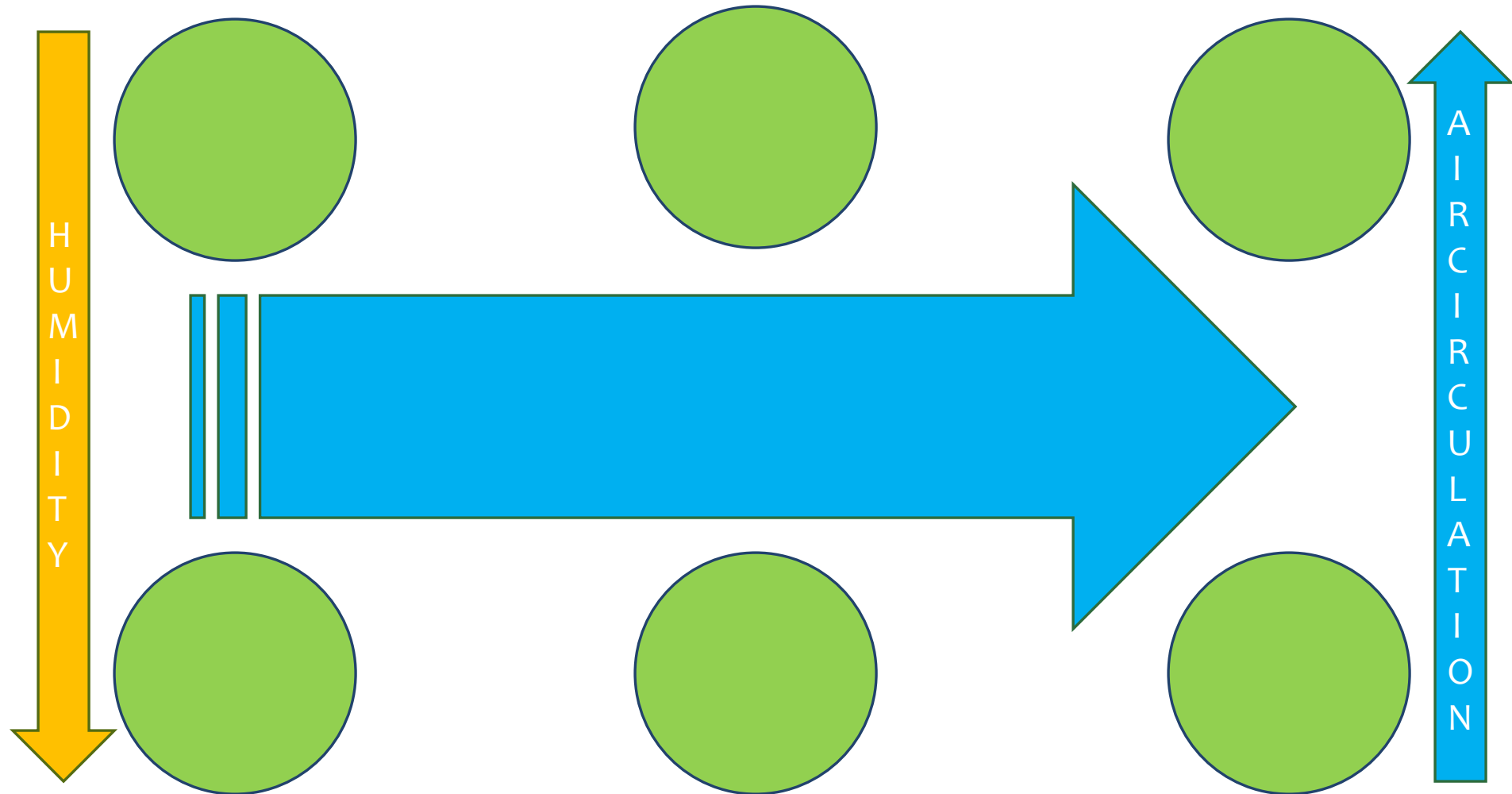
## High Intensity Plant Spacing





# Changing Cultural Practices

## Low Intensity Plant Spacing





# Physical / Cultural Controls



- \* Manipulation or installation of physical barriers to disadvantage the pest
  - \* Tillage
  - \* Crop rotation
  - \* Screens/ barriers
  - \* Spacing
  - \* Weed mat, mulch, etc.





# Hoop House Systems

Bending pipes, door, frame, etc







**EX: Physical Barriers**

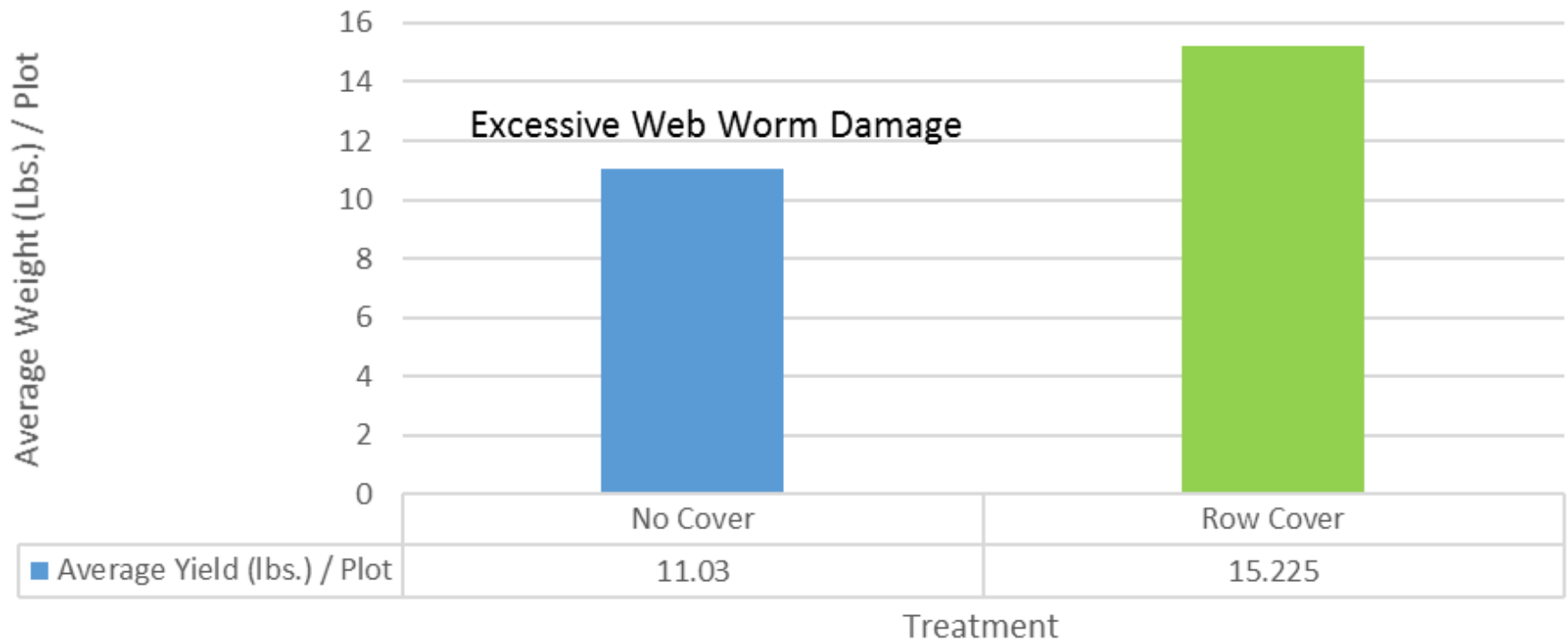






## Preliminary Field Data: Effect of Row Cover on **Radish** Yields

### Average Yield (lbs.) / Plot



Planted 4/12/16 Waimanalo Research Station. Harvested: 6/8/16 (re-worked field trial due to lack of bird pests)

Thinned rows of direct seeded daikon grown under (and without) row crop for germination period

Preliminary data selected from data rows within 3 plots of 8' x 25'

More work is needed to understand the potential and drawbacks of row covers













Ex: Excessive Moisture







Ex: Birds: Transplanting vs direct seeding









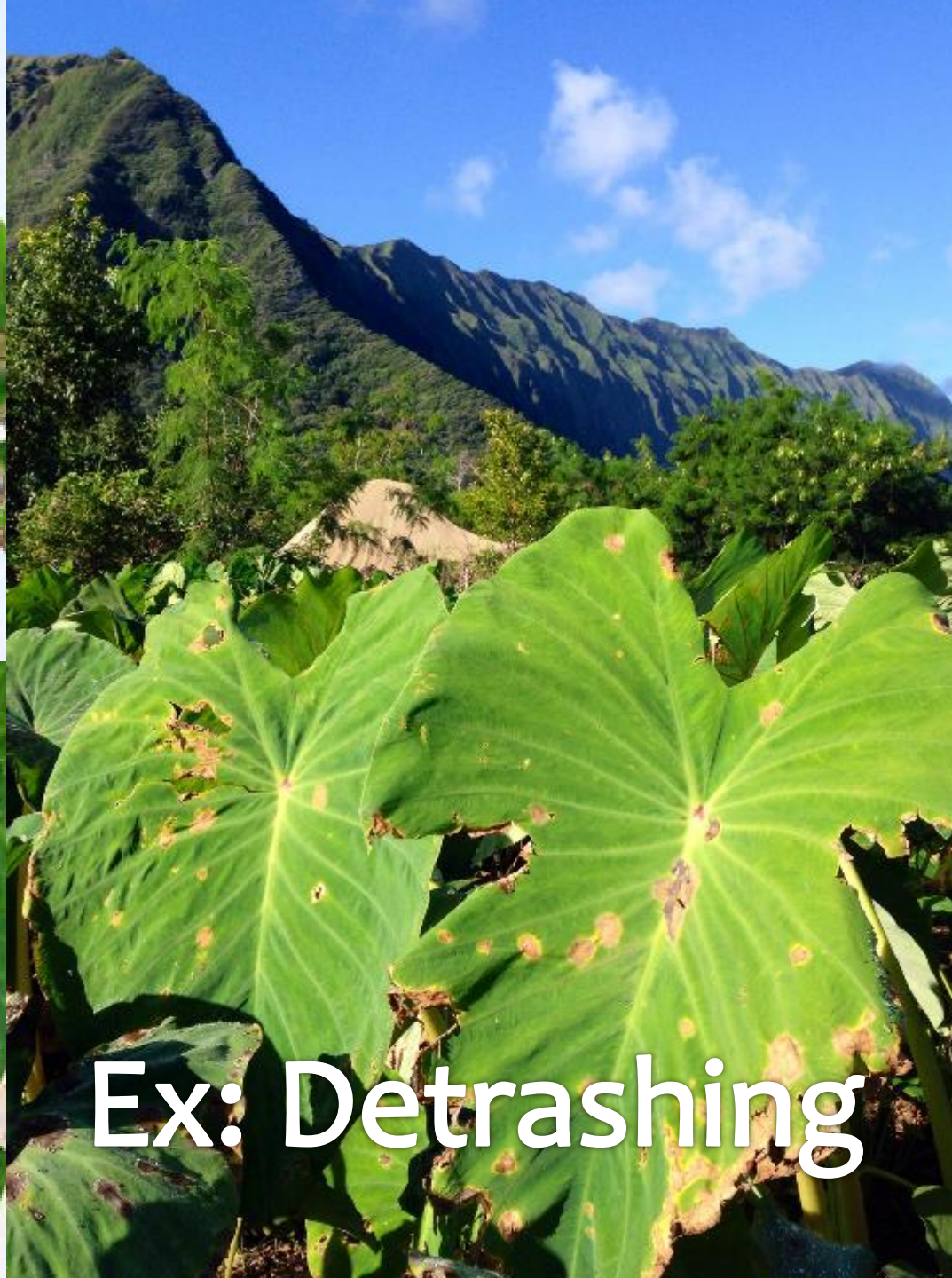
Ex: Weed Management



Ex: weed management properties (also  
reflective, moisture, etc.)











Ex: Timely Crop Tillage





Ex: Mounding



# Biological Controls

- \* The use natural predators, parasites, pathogens, etc. to control pests
- \* Encourage beneficial insects





Rather than cultivate biological agents,  
we ATTRACT them







Ex. Catch and Release



The image shows a complex experimental setup outdoors. In the foreground, a wooden frame with a transparent panel holds a plant. A white plastic bag is draped over part of the frame. In the background, a wooden structure with a red interior is visible, along with a white pipe and a concrete pillar. The ground is covered in gravel.

Ex. Catch and Release





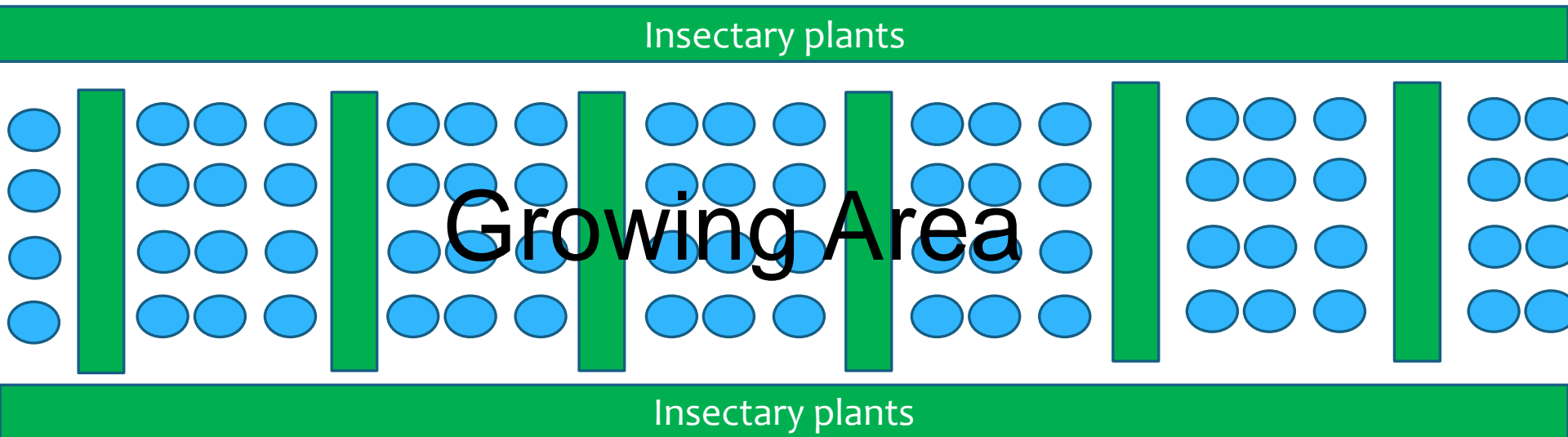
Ex: Incorporating Companion Planting



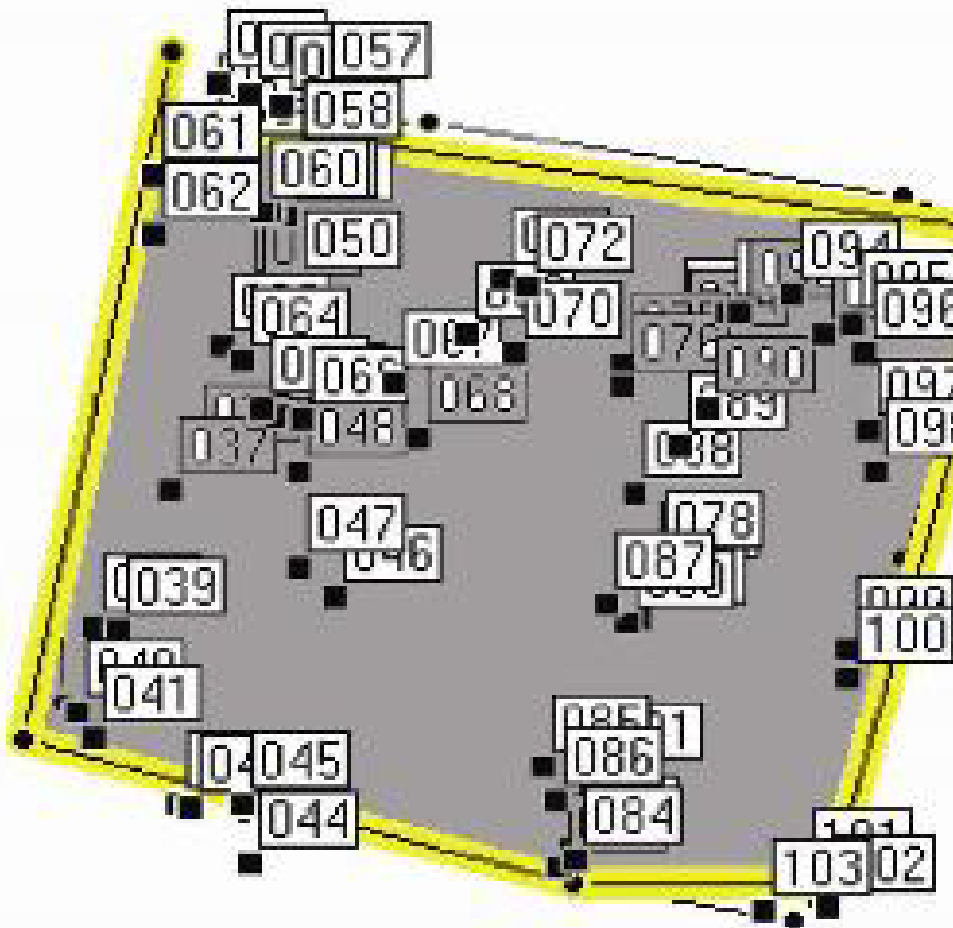


# Encourage Beneficial Insects: Palu (Bait) + Hukilau System

Modification of banker plant & push / pull systems







Ex. Eliminate  
Protectors









Ants that produce formic acid are attracted to flower nectaries and to sap-feeding insects that secrete honeydew. They climb the plants to feed and, when startled, eject formic acid from their abdomens, causing blackened spots and trails.



Startled and disturbed ants scatter over the bananas, spraying formic acid and leaving burnt, sunken trails.



Entire bunches may be damaged by



Severe formic acid injury to a hand Hawai'i caused by *Anoplolepis grac*



Affected bunches are left in the field and are not harvested.



De-flowering the fingers on a banana bunch by plucking them off and severing the male flowers (the hanging "bell") will remove the sweet flower nectaries that attract sugar-loving ants in the subfamily Formicinae.



Fruits in bunches should be de-flowered to make them less attractive to foraging ants.



The flowers shown here may attract sweet-loving ants that may produce formic acid secretions when disturbed. This "bell" should be severed from the bunch.



# Biotechnology



- \* Application of scientific techniques to modify and improve plants, insects and pathogens
  - \* Selective breeding
  - \* Pest resistance
  - \* Resistant root stock
  - \* Etc.





Ex: Variety selection



# Ex: Variety selection



Tygress



Xaman



Pik Ripe 461



Toqui



VT-62966



VT-62940



Tovi Roca



Tovi Star



Kewalo



Sunchaser



Sun Sugar



Adonis

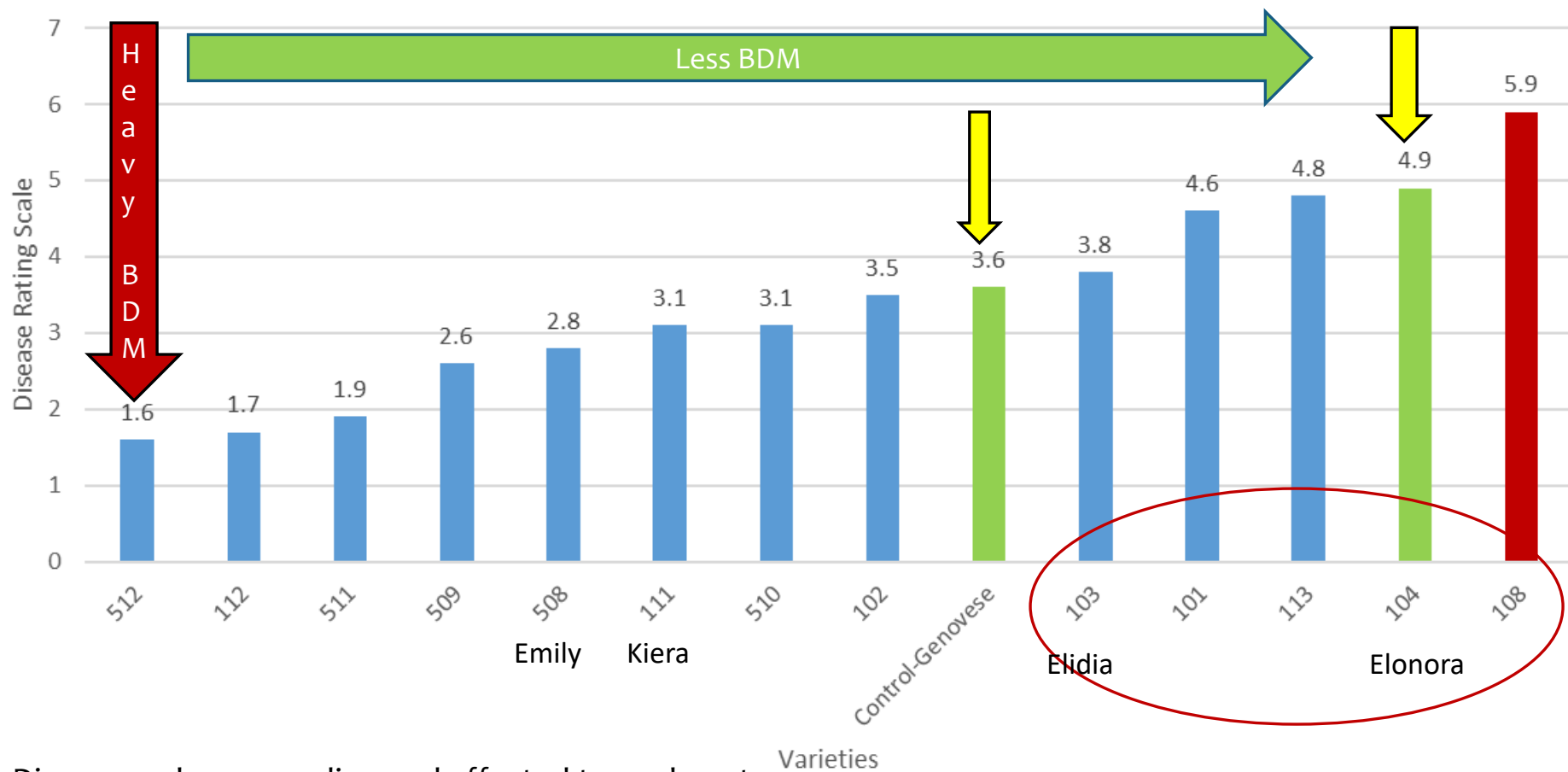




Ex: Crop Selection



## Basil Downy Mildew Varietal Screenings



Disease scale: 1=very diseased affected to 9=absent

108 (segregated) and 111 highest yielding



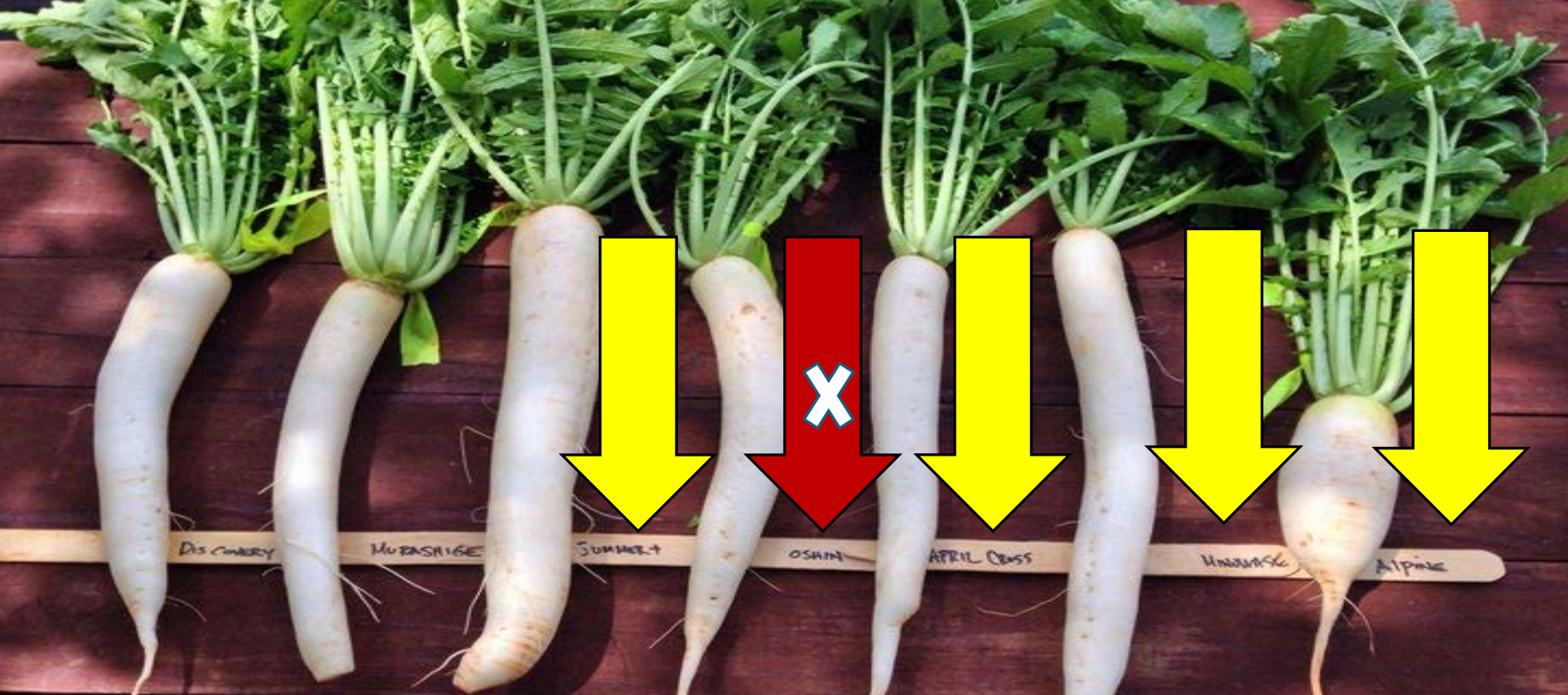
# Turnip Mosaic Virus (2014)

14 varieties screened



Aphid transmitted









Ex: Grafting







Ex: Veg Grafting



# Ex: Post Harvest Quarantine

**CAUTION:** Radioactive Material Contained At Bottom Of Pool  
**DO NOT ENTER POOL**  
**GRAVE DANGER:** Very High Radiation Level Near Bottom Of Pool



# Other Non- Chemical Control

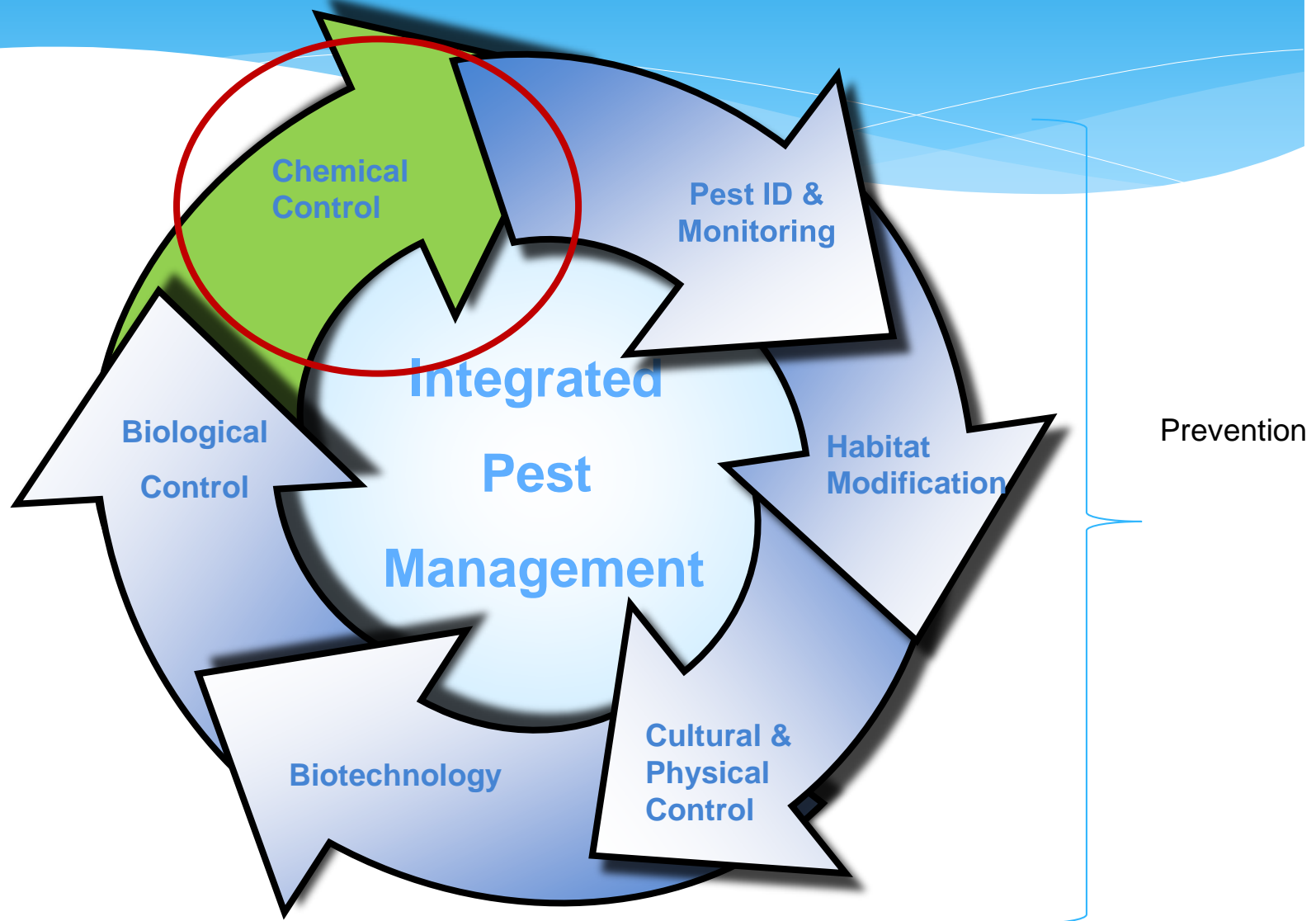


- \* Hot water system
- \* Ozone
- \* Etc.





# Chemical Controls are often used last in IPM Systems and 'as needed'





# Crop Protection Chemical

## Definition of a Pesticide

Chemical used to prevent, destroy, or  
repel pests





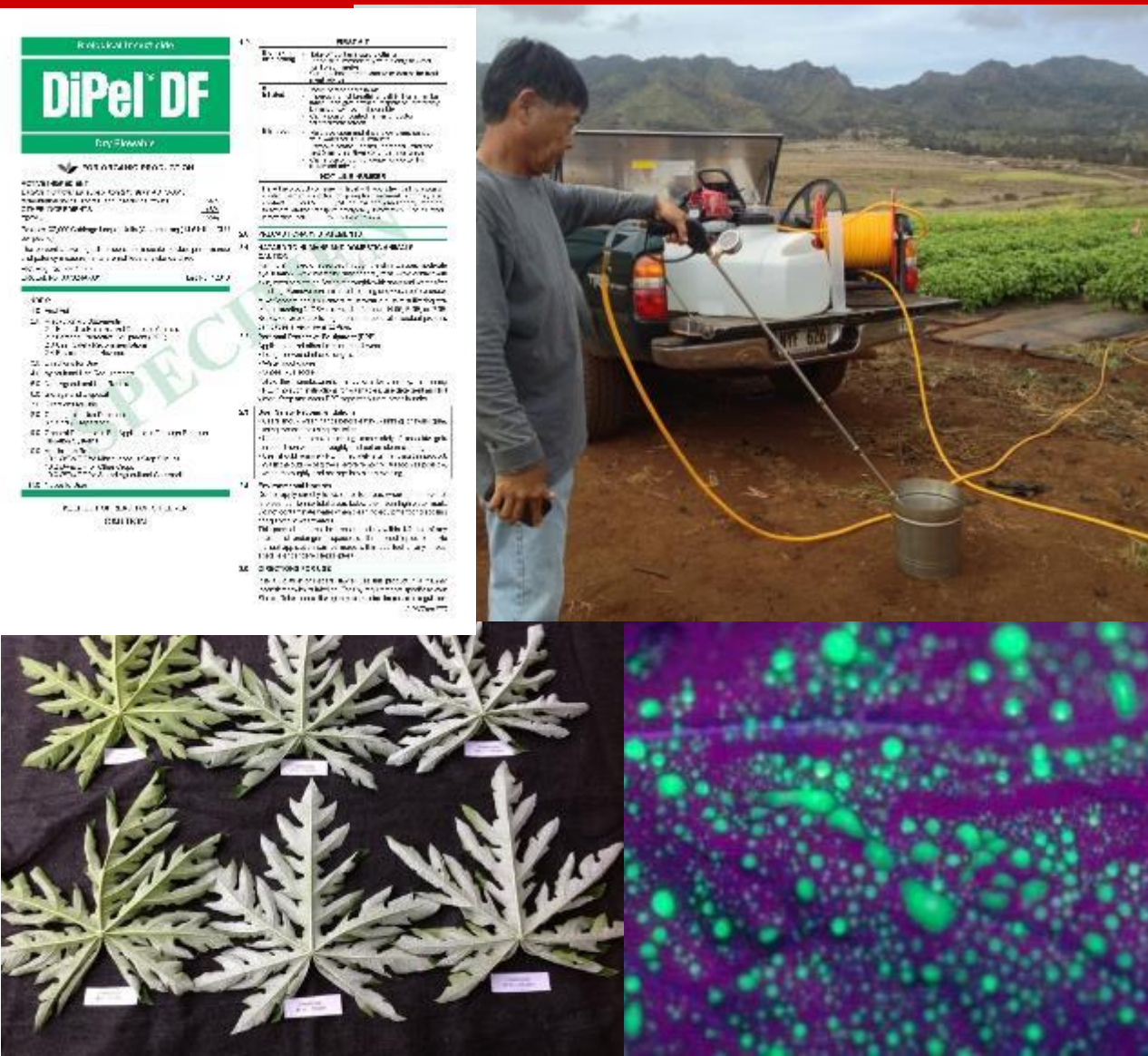
# Chemical Control



- Typically considered after other control methods
- Responsible use of crop protection chemicals (pesticides)
- Treatments based on monitoring data
- Applied after action threshold is surpassed



# Chemical Control-Reminders



- ✓ Chemical selection
- ✓ Accuracy
- ✓ Calibration
- ✓ Rotation
- ✓ Resistance
- ✓ Coverage
- ✓ Efficacy



Over-application of chemical products can lead to human health, legal, environmental, and pest-resistance issues.

CONTINUED





# Match Pest & Mode of Action

## **Bacillus thuringiensis (Bt)**

Derived from a bacterium which is selectively toxic to many moth and larvae. When ingested, Bt produces an endotoxin in the insects gut which is toxic to the insect. Examples: Dipel (o), Crymax, XenTari (o)

## **Copper products**

Controls blights, mildew, anthracnose, but commonly associated with bacteria control. Example: Basic Copper 53 (o), Nucop 50DF (o), Champ WG (o)

## **Diatomaceous earth:**

Naturally occurring substance comprised of the fossilized remains of diatoms. Insects such as roaches, ants, silverfish, fleas, etc. come in contact with this powder and die from desiccation.

## **Horticultural Oils:**

Cover, wet, and suffocate, over wintering eggs, nymphs and adults. Effective on scale insects. Examples: Volck oil, JMS Stylet-oil (o), Biocover

## **Insecticidal Soaps:**

Potassium Salts of Fatty Acids typically disrupt membranes of soft body pests leading to rapid death by evaporation.

Example: Mpede (o)

## **Neem Oil/ Azadirachtin: (IGR) \*\* many labels say it is toxic to fish**

Disrupts insects' hormonal balance so they die before they molt, suppresses some insects' desire to feed, and it also repels. It has fungicidal properties as well. Examples: Trilogy (o), Neemix (o), Debug Turbo (o), Molt-X (o)

## **Natural / Essential Oils:**

Pepper, citrus, clove, mint, oils. Caution as oils can burn. Herbicide properties. Examples: Ecotec (o)

## **Potassium Bicarbonate**

Used as a contact fungicide mainly for powdery mildew in organic farming systems. Examples: Armicarb (o), Kaligreen (o), Milstop (o)

## **Pyrethrin:**

Derived from the blossoms of the pyrethrum flower, a chrysanthemum (contact). Breaks down in the environment quickly. Example: Pyganic (o)

## **Spinosad**

Derived from a bacteria in the soil. Kills by contact and ingestion. (Nerve and stomach poison). Examples: Entrust (o), Radiant, GF-120 NF (o)

## **Sulfur**

Inhibits the attack of healthy plants by fungus disease by creating an environment that is not conducive to disease growth. Also effective on selected mites. Examples: Sulfur DF (o), Kumulus DF (o)

NOTE: (o) Refers to products approved for organic production by the Organic Material Review Institute (OMRI).



# BUCKET TEST 5 DAYS LATER



Ex. Intent to control pest  
Nutrient vs. chemical





**Vegetarian**

with fruity raspberry jam

**Allergies**

Contains egg, gluten and milk  
May contain traces of nuts

**Ingredients**

buttercream filling (15%)  
jam (9%), sweetener





# Accuracy & Calibration



## Sprayer Calibration Using the 1/128th Method for Handheld Spray Gun Systems

Jensen Uyeda,<sup>1</sup> Jari Sugano,<sup>2</sup> Steve Fukuda,<sup>3</sup> Mike Kawate,<sup>2</sup> Robin Shimabuku,<sup>2</sup> and Koon-Hui Wang<sup>2</sup>  
<sup>1</sup>Tropical Plant and Soil Sciences, <sup>2</sup>Plant and Environmental Protection Sciences, <sup>3</sup>O'ahu County Extension

Calibrating spray equipment is an important step in applying crop-protection chemicals to a targeted area. Proper calibration will help ensure accurate spray coverage (usually measured in gallons per acre, or GPA). The 1/128th method of sprayer calibration is a simplified way to calibrate most hand spray systems. It is based on the ratio of 1 gallon, or 128 fluid ounces, to 1/128th of an acre, or 340 square feet (sq ft).

The 1/128th calibration method is a fast, easy way to compute the gallon-per-acre rate (GPA). Under-application of crop-protection chemicals can result in pest-control and pest-resistance issues. Over-application of crop-protection chemicals can lead to human, legal, and environmental issues and crop injury, i.e., phytotoxicity. It is important to know the calibrated spray volume (GPA) and the amount of pesticide to be mixed with that calibrated spray volume to accurately apply crop-protection chemicals. Always read the pesticide label and follow its instructions.

### Simplified 1/128th Calibration Conversions

128 fluid ounces = 1 gallon

1 fluid ounce = 1/128th of a gallon

340 sq ft = 1/128th of an acre

Based on the 1/128th calibration method, each ounce of water collected during calibration corresponds to 1 gallon of spray mix per acre.

1 fluid ounce collected → 1 gallon per acre (GPA)



This 1/128th calibration method requires almost no calculations. The number of fluid ounces of spray mix you apply to a 340 sq ft area corresponds to the estimated number of gallons of spray mix per acre. The accuracy of delivery is only as good as the consistency of application in the test area.

### Key Spray Variables to Consider for Spray Gun Application

- Properly maintained spray equipment
- Spray pump pressure
- Spray nozzle pressure; e.g., length and size of hose
- Spray aperture setting
- Spray nozzle orifice size
- Target pest
- Pest incidence
- Crop height
- Crop density
- Wind speed, direction
- Field terrain; e.g., slope, weeds, etc.
- Sprayer's walking speed; e.g., energy level, arm motion, etc.





Ex. Accurate Applications



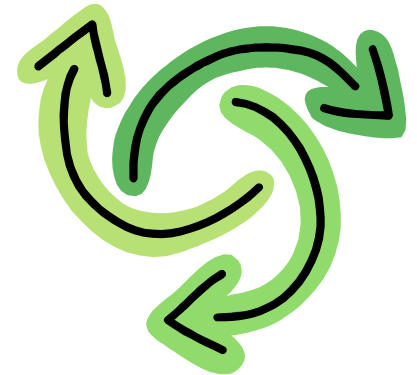


**Ex. Chemical Treatments  
Organic or Conventional Products**

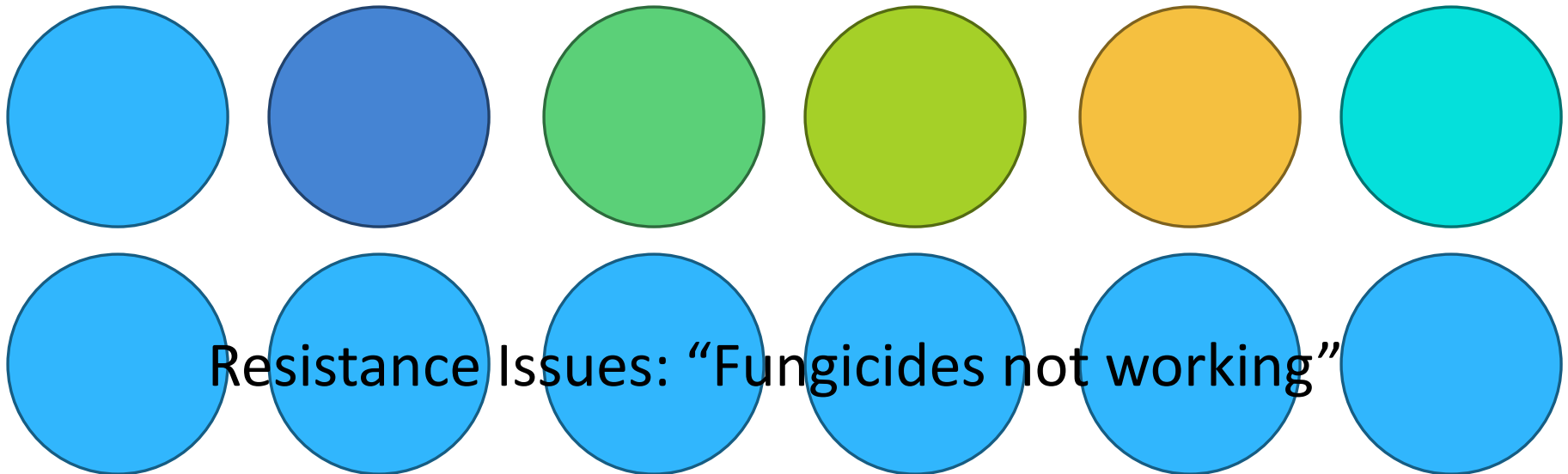




# Rotate to Minimize Resistance:



- \* Always rotate between chemical classes
- \* Never use the same chemical for an extended period of time



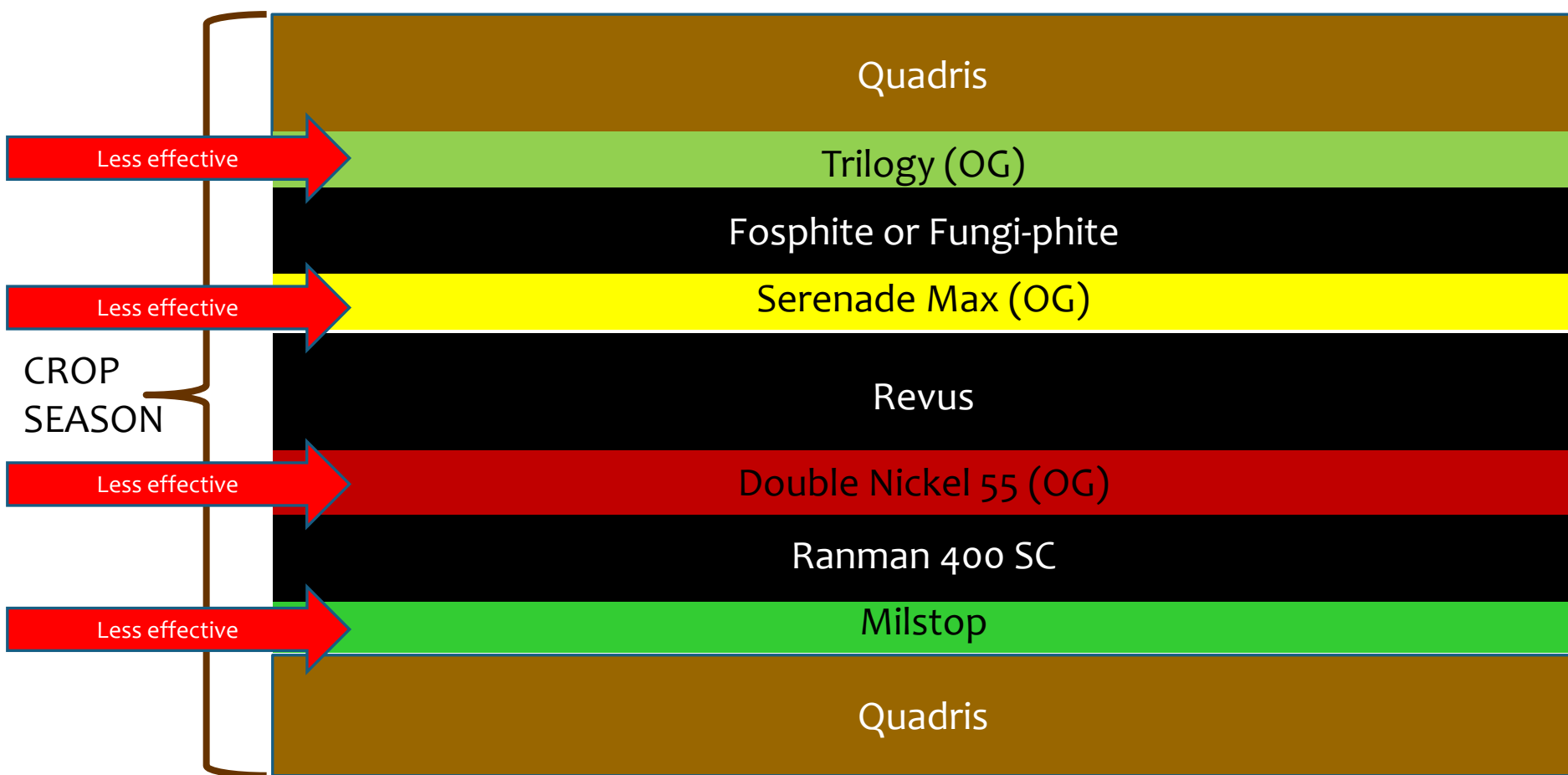
Resistance Issues: "Fungicides not working"





# Stay within Maximum Application Limits

## Limited Product Sandwich Effect / Season





A petri dish containing a piece of plant tissue, possibly a leaf, which is heavily infected with a dark, fuzzy fungal growth. The growth is concentrated in the center and spreads outwards, covering a significant portion of the leaf's surface. The petri dish is placed on a wooden surface.

**Resistance Issues**



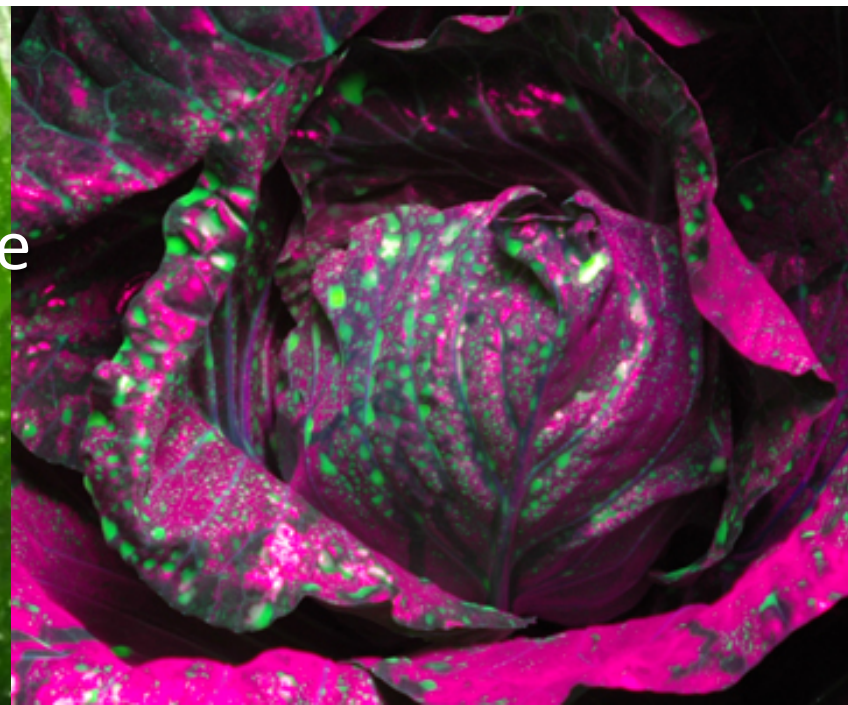


# Use of Spreader or Spreader-Sticker

- \* Increase good spray coverage and heighten product efficacy
- \* Maximize coverage area
- \* Be careful of phyto-toxicity issues



Stick and spread on the leaf surface







Run Off



# Target Your Sprays

Systemic



Non Systemic:  
Underside



Non Systemic:  
Underside

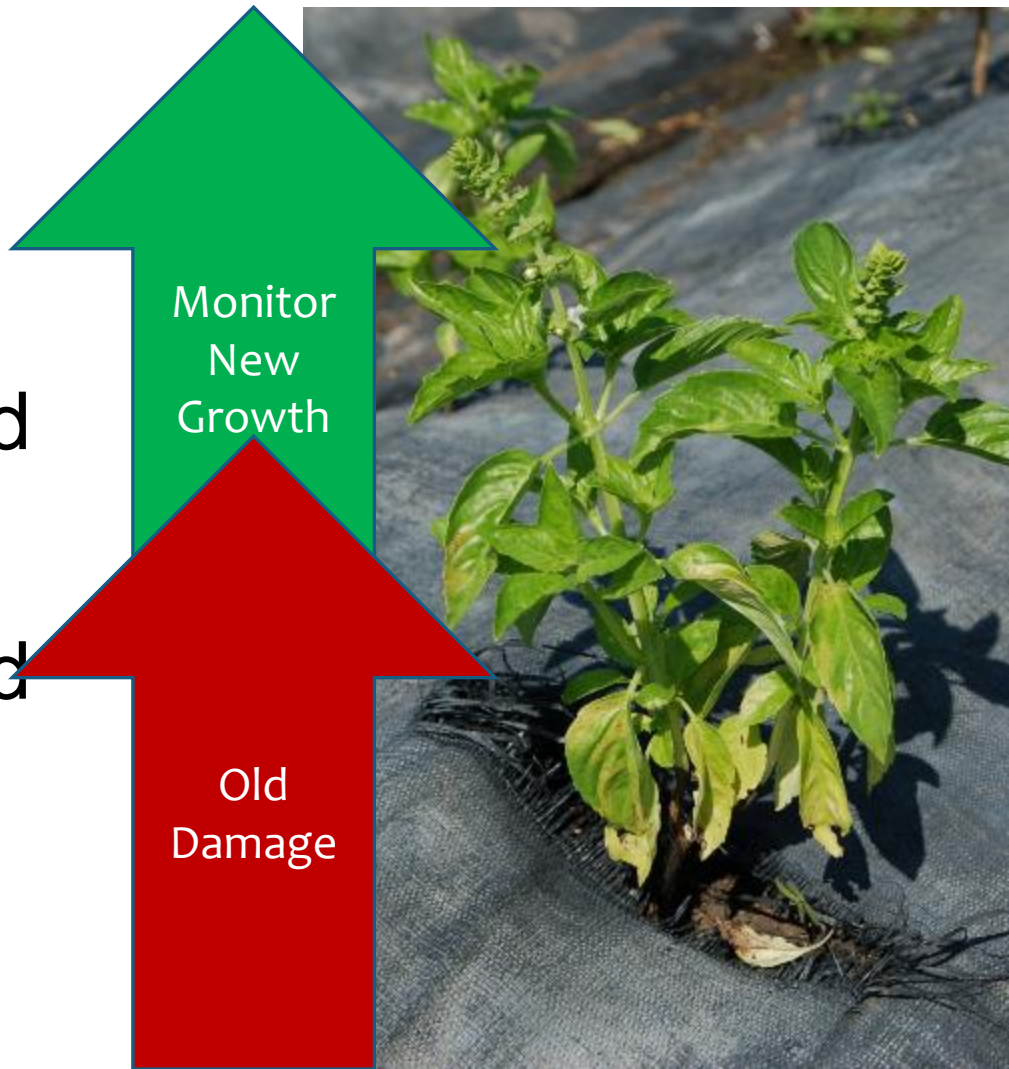






# Monitor for Damage = Damage

- \* **CAN NOT** undo old damage
- \* Protect new leaves
- \* Evaluate effectiveness based on **NEW** leaves
- \* Do **NOT** assess effectiveness based on older parts of the plant







Monitor  
& Protect  
New  
Growth

Last  
Harvest



# Same Approach for Organic IPM





# For More information

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