Integrated Pest Management for Soil & Soil-less Systems

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IPM uses **all possible pest control methods** in a well organized and harmonious way in order to achieve **long-term** pest control. It is important to understand the crop, pests, control strategies, mode of actions, and pest control limitations. The primary goal of IPM is to retain or improve production without negatively impacting the environment, human and aquaculture safety.

### BENEFITS
- Effective
- Flexible
- Informed decision makers
- Potential cost savings
- Environmentally responsible
- Enhances worker and workplace safety
- High decision making
  - Established economic threshold
  - Selection of the least hazardous control
  - Chemicals applied on an ‘as needed’ basis

### Monitoring
Monitoring allows growers to:
- assess pest population levels;
- determine pest activity;
- track changes over time;
- create a field history.

Important to monitor: pest population, level of infestation, plant location, natural enemies, time of the year, contributing conditions, environmental conditions, etc.

### Action Thresholds
Action thresholds are an established levels that a pest population must reach before pest control action is needed.

### PREVENTATIVE TACTICS:
- Habitat Modification
- Physical Measures
- Cultural Measures
- Biotechnology
- Enhance Natural Enemies

### CONTROL STRATEGIES
- Release Bio-control agents
- Implement Non-Chemical Control
- Chemical Control (as last resort)