

Integrated Pest Management

Pest Identification: Common Pests



J. Sugano, S. Fukuda, J. Uyeda, K.-H. Wang, J. Tavares, T. Radovich, M. Kawate, R. Shimabuku, C. Tamaru, A. Hara, and B. Fox
University of Hawaii at Manoa, College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources

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 pests from natural enemies. Honey dew secretions promote sooty mold development. There are: sugar vs. fat loving ants.

Sucking Pests



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 and leaf hoppers.

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.

Mites



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

Thrips



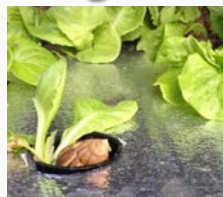
Thrips have rasping and sucking mouthparts. Damage results in discoloration and scarring of leaves, stems, fruit and flowers.

Nematodes



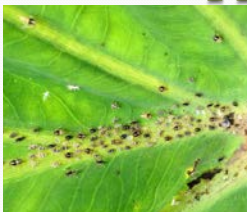
Roundworms that attack the root system of plants and impair water and nutrient uptake. Symptoms: stunting, poor plant growth, narrow and weak stems, foliar chlorosis, root rotting and galling, plant toppling and poor root development.

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.

Plant Hoppers



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

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).