

# **Regional IPM Centers**

## Making Pest Management More Effective and Efficient

merica's Regional Integrated Pest Management Centers help protect families, farms, forests, homes and businesses from insects, plant diseases, weeds and wildlife pests. The Centers do this by promoting integrated pest management, a safer, smarter and more sustainable way to manage pests. IPM works.

### What is IPM?

Integrated pest management, or IPM, is a science-based process of pest management that looks at all available options for controlling pests effectively and economically while minimizing risks to people and the environment.

A farmer trained in IPM might choose to plant a crop variety that has natural resistance to a common disease rather than to repeatedly spray a non-resistant variety with a fungicide. Dozens of interlinked decisions like this are made by growers throughout the season to economically prevent or control insects, weeds and diseases on their farms.

Integrated pest management is used in conventional and organic agriculture and in natural areas like parks, forests and rangeland. IPM is used in private homes and public housing and schools and office buildings. Promoting IPM has been a federal priority since 1972, and some states and communities require IPM be used to safely prevent and control pests in public spaces.

## The Regional IPM Centers

The Regional Integrated Pest Management Centers connect federal, state and local IPM programs, helping each succeed by coordinating, informing and amplifying their individual efforts.

Located in the Northeast, South, West and North Central regions of the country, the Centers identify regional priorities, promote multi-state and multi-agency collaboration, and connect people with the resources they need to manage pests safely. The Centers champion the unique needs of their regions and stakeholders, bringing local concerns to the federal level. They communicate successes and best practices, identify emerging issues and ongoing needs, and make sure information is shared.



16
North Central working groups with
645
members
representing
37 states

form a resource network to address **critical pest issues** 



In the West, cotton growers **reduced insecticide use** by 21 million

while hop growers used disease models to **reduce fungicide applications** by

40%



The Northeastern Center reached

1.3 million

people

and its Partnership Grants Program leveraged

## \$18 million

in additional
research grants
to the region—
a 3:1 return
on investment



A Southern working group used a \$30,000

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to help **save** the region's nursery industry approximately

\$5.6 million

in **pest**management costs

The Regional Integrated Pest Management Centers demonstrate how science can benefit the economy and environment simultaneously. Funded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Institute of Food and Agriculture, the Centers are an excellent example of how a modest federal investment can have a significant impact at the state and local level. Learn more at the Regional IPM Center nearest you.

- The Centers fund pest-management research to develop more effective and safer ways to prevent and control pests in agriculture, natural areas and communities.
- The Centers fund outreach and education to teach farmers, land managers, housing authorities and other pest managers how to manage pests safely and effectively.
- The Centers tackle critical pest challenges facing the country like invasive species, pesticide resistance, pollinator protection and climate change.
- The Centers communicate across their interconnected networks to keep everyone informed, minimize duplication and maximize efficiency and coordination.











IPMCENTERS.ORG

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