

CONTENTS & MODULES

Introduction

ENDURE sees **Integrated Pest Management (IPM)** as a **continuously improving process** in which **innovative solutions** are **integrated** and **locally adapted** as they emerge and contribute to reducing reliance on pesticides in agricultural systems. IPM is a key component of **Integrated Farming (IF)** which, according to IOBC, is a farming system that produces high quality food and other products by using natural resources and regulating mechanisms to replace polluting inputs and to secure sustainable farming. Emphasis is placed on a **holistic systems approach** involving the entire farm as the basic unit, on the central role of agro-ecosystems, on balanced nutrient cycles, and on the welfare of all species in animal husbandry. The preservation and improvement of soil fertility and of a diversified environment are essential components. Biological, technical and chemical methods (used only as a last resource when no other economic alternative methods are available) are balanced carefully taking into account the protection of the environment, profitability and social requirements. During Integrated farming external costs and undesirable impacts on environment, profitability and social surrounding should be minimized.

IPM largely relies on **indirect measures**, thus on **prevention**, such as:

- optimal use of natural resources, such as natural enemies and landscape elements;
- farming practices without negative impact on the agro-ecosystem, such as cover crops;
- protection and augmentations of antagonists.

In the case of **direct**, thus **control measures**, IPM is stuck to

- decision making based on the results of monitoring and forecasting systems
- use of control measures (physical, cultural, biological and/or chemical) acting exclusively upon target organisms;
- application of measures from most selective to less selective ones

In promotion and adoption of IF and IPM advisors play key role, since they are in intense connection with farmers, they support farmers with information on different issues on environment and profitability. To be able to fulfil this task, advisors have to be trained continuously keeping in focus the new, innovative results of IPM. Continuous training of farmers is also a key aspect of IPM and IF.

The practice of IPM for a single crop may have some difficulties, as pest management must be considered in time and space. The entire agro-ecosystem must be considered when planning IPM for one crop. As the application of IPM depends not only on the biological characteristics of the agro-ecosystem, but also on regional economical and social aspects, the IPM program must be adapted to each region.

SOURCES

ENDURE DEFINITION OF IPM

http://www.endure-network.eu/about_crop_protection/endure_s_definition_of_ipm

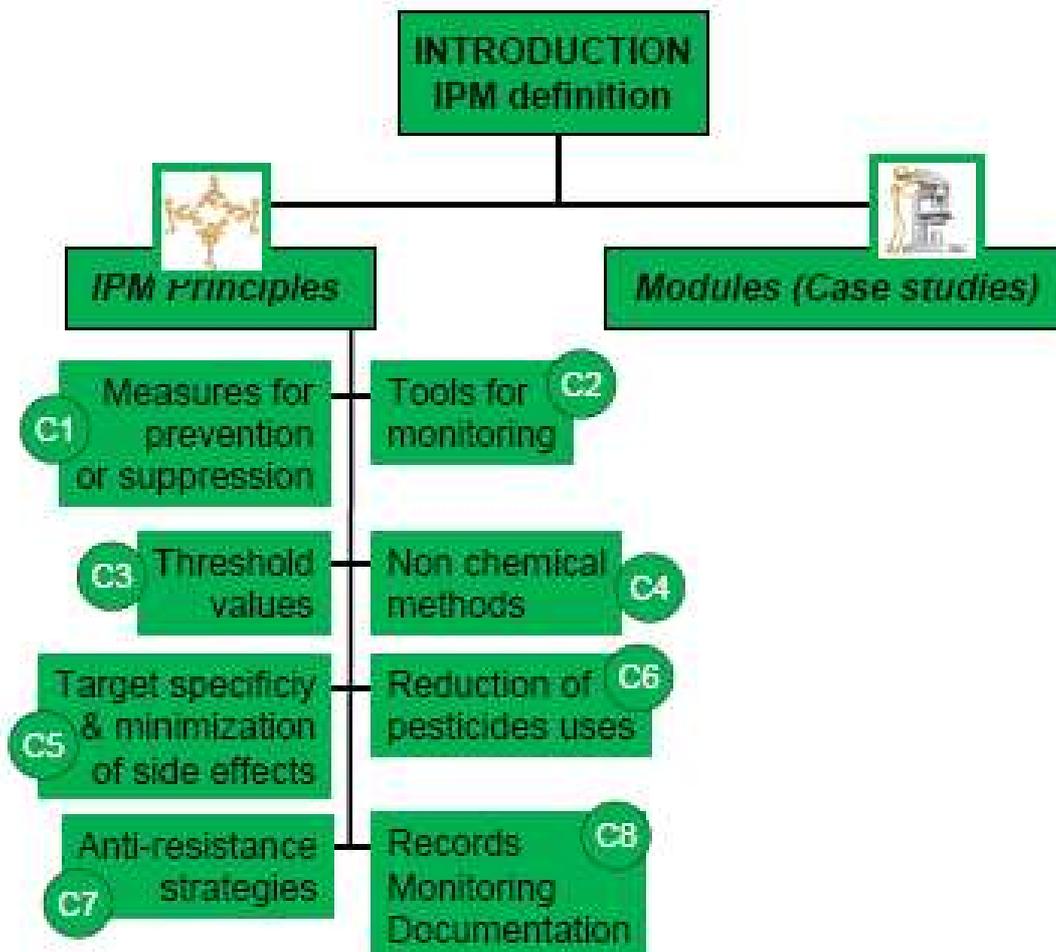
IOBC (International Organization for the Biological and Integrated Control of Noxious Animals and Plants)

http://www.iobc-wprs.org/ip_ipm/index.html

E.F. Boller, J. Avilla, E. Jörg, C. Malavolta, F. Wijnands & P. 2004. Esbjerg, Integrated Production: Principles and Technical Guidelines, 3rd edition. 50 pp. IOBC WPRS Bull. Vol. 27 (2).



Contents section





Contents section

