

TOOLS

Introduction:

Building a training session in Integrated Pest Management (IPM) not only requires thorough knowledge and understanding of the principles and concepts of IPM, but also the ability of the trainer to adapt the training session to the participants.

The first step to a successful IPM training session is the identification of the type of participants. Farmers may, for example, require a more practical training session compared to advisers. The more focused the group is, the easier it is to make the training interesting and participative for that particular group.

There are a number of **interactive** tools available for trainers and trainees. These include the **ENDURE Information Centre**, which is a large database with state-of-the-art IPM information open to everyone. **EuroWheat** and **EuroBlight** are two crop-specific databases with information about fungicide use in wheat and late blight in potatoes respectively. Both databases cover several European countries. Use these interactive tools to not only gain knowledge about IPM, but also to show participants where to find out more about IPM.

IPM should not only be implemented in individual crops, fields or years, but should rather consider the whole **system**. The guides in the ENDURE IPM Training Guide focus on specific crop rotations based on **6 major cropping systems** studied in Endure and Pure (www.pure-ipm.eu). Use the examples to give practical information to farmers, for example, about how to design 'IPM-like' crop rotations.

The knowledge about how pests, diseases and weeds work and interact, in other words the **theoretical** background, is a cornerstone of IPM. Whether it is the ability of the farmer to **identify natural enemies**, use **monitoring tools**, use **Decision Support Systems** or maybe even make an **Agro-Ecosystem Analysis**, it is important that the trainee learns how these tools work in practice and how to relate them to the chosen crop protection method. The ENDURE IPM Training Guide also provides theoretical information about how and when to involve the use of **biological controls**, **landscape management**, **resistant varieties** and the use of **semiochemicals** in an IPM system.

An efficient way of learning is to use visualisation. A leaflet about how to use logarithmic spraying for demonstration purposes is available for inspiration.

The tools available in the ENDURE IPM Training Guide do not offer the complete package of training tools, but provide the basic foundation for building interesting and robust IPM training sessions.



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