

O.33 - Insights of INRA's integrated pest management network

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Since 2004, the INRA IPM network has played a part in the organisation and the development of interdisciplinary research programs, on the topic of integrated pest management. The IPM network encompasses research programs that contribute to the development of innovative cropping systems that reduce the environmental impacts of agriculture with regard to pesticides. The activities of the network are based on four major themes: (i) Modeling and decision support systems for integrated pest management; (ii) Implementation and coordination of a network of field experimental sites; (iii) Promotion of sociological and economic approaches of IPM; (iv) Mobilisation of ecological concepts and approaches in IPM. Scientists from various scientific fields and backgrounds join forces to research these themes, creating an innovative environment in which different types of expertise and approaches are shared. The network of field experimental sites is made up of INRA experimental farms that implement long-term field experiments in order to evaluate the feasibility of IPM innovative cropping systems. This experimental network is coordinated in order to optimise the sharing of common objectives, tools, methods and protocols for experiments on cropping systems. It also aims at generating, managing and analysing data collected in the network. For example, the assessment of the environmental performances of diverse cropping systems using the same methods will allow the comparison of crop management strategies for diverse plant productions (major crops, vegetables, green house crop, orchards, and vineyards). The IPM network is involved in the ENDURE integrating activities.