

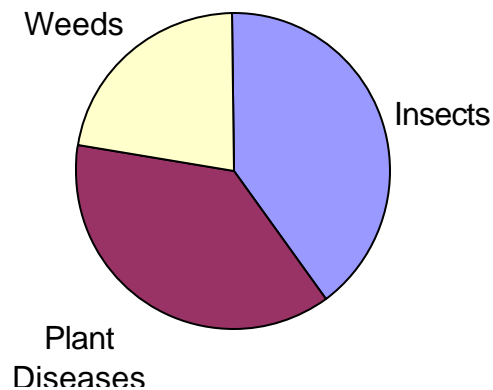
## Greenhouse Growers Survey Results

### Maine Department of Agriculture 2007

Maine greenhouse growers were surveyed during 2007 by the Maine Department of Agriculture, Food, and Rural Resources to find out what Integrated Pest Management (IPM) information and services are needed. The survey was conducted in two ways: 1) paper questionnaire administered at the annual meeting of the Mid Maine Greenhouse Growers Association in March 2007 (11 responses) and 2) an internet-based questionnaire (89 responses) accessed by Maine greenhouse growers in response to an invitation sent by e-mail to 273 greenhouse businesses listed in the Maine Department of Agriculture's Plant Industry Division licensing database (=33% response rate).

The following summarizes the results of this survey (Total number of people surveyed = 100)

#### Which Pests are Most Important?



Most people rated insects and plant diseases as being very important to their business. Weeds are less, but still somewhat important.

#### Which IPM Strategies are Currently Used? (% of growers using the practice)

##### Widely Used Practices

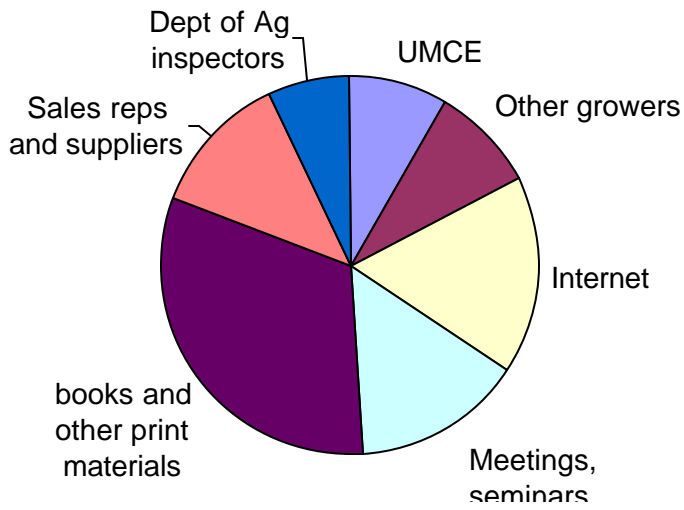
Scout weekly (84%)  
 Identify pests (84%)  
 Inspect plants on arrival (83%)  
 Base treatments on scouting results (70%)

##### Infrequently Used Practices

Use least-risk pest control products (59%)  
 Use sticky monitoring cards (55%)  
 Disinfect cutting tools (46%)  
 Use beneficial insects (29%)  
 Keep written records (18%)

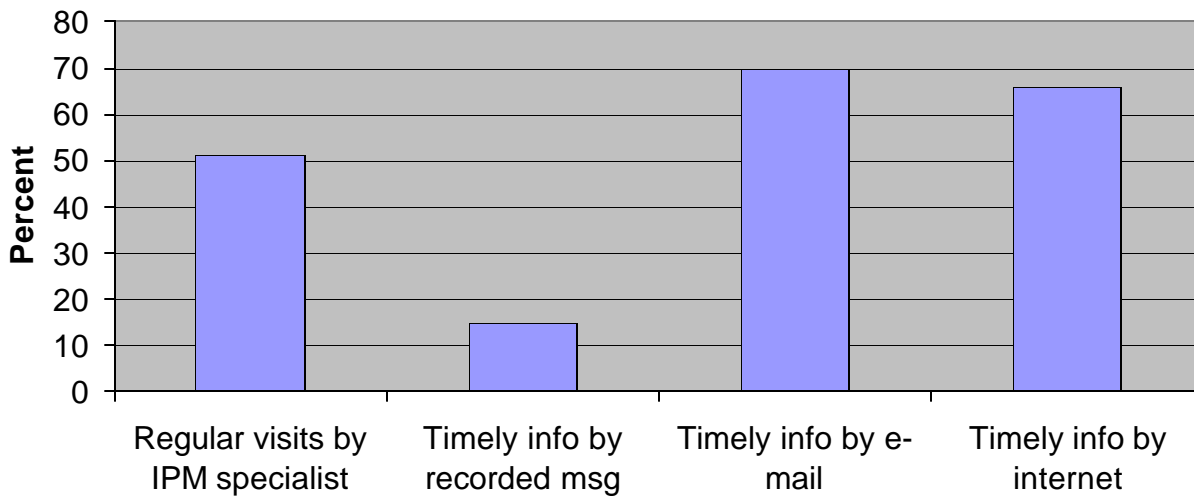
Some good IPM practices are used frequently, while others such as record-keeping and disinfecting cutting tools are not used as much.

## Where do you get IPM Information?



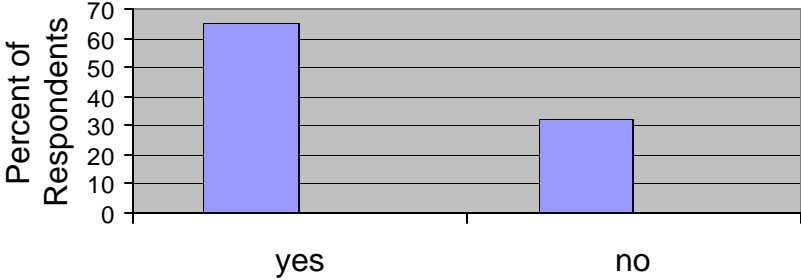
Growers get most IPM information from print sources (books, etc), followed by the internet and meetings (conferences, etc)

## What Would be Most Helpful?



During the growing season, more growers prefer to get timely delivery of IPM information by e-mail or the internet. Half of the respondents would also like regular visits by an IPM specialist.

### Interested in Joining a Team of Growers for In-Season IPM Demonstration and Information Sharing?



65% of respondents indicated interest in joining a team of growers to learn more about IPM during the growing season. Of these, 26% said they would travel 11-20 miles to participate, 40% would travel 21-30 miles, and 17% would travel 40-50 miles for weekly meetings.