



Pest Resources Online

PRO  **New England**

PROnewengland.org



About PRO New England

Pest Resources Online for New England is a cooperative effort by the six state land grant universities in New England to promote better pest management decisions.



Goals

- * **Enhance public understanding** of pest management practices in New England.
 - * **Improve public access to pest information.** Provide comprehensive, focused public access to a wide variety of content relevant to pest management in New England.
 - * **Increase stakeholder participation** in prioritizing regional pest management needs and presenting a coordinated New England perspective to federal regulatory agencies.
 - * **Represent New England in national regulatory decisions.** Document pest management practices, challenges, and opportunities in New England. Respond to EPA and USDA queries.
-



Activities

* **Web site**

The PRONewEngland.org website provides a New England focus for pest management **news**, **events**, and **contacts**. It makes pertinent information easily accessible by maintaining a **library** of selected links on pest management topics important to New England, and a searchable database of New England pest **fact sheets**. **Pest tracking models** are updated daily during the growing season for crops and ornamental plants.

* **Stakeholder input**

Concerns and priorities are collected through meetings with an **Advisory Council** and **stakeholder surveys**, and sent to university and government pest management programs. The web site also provides anonymous feedback forms for individuals to send suggestions to those programs.

* **Reports**

Pest management surveys are conducted in a statistically rigorous manner (using the Dillman method) to discover current pest management practices in New England. Surveys have been completed for Apple, Bean, Carrot, Highbush blueberry, Peach, Peas, Pear, Strawberry, Sweet corn, and Tomato. Cole crop (broccoli, cabbage, cauliflower), Pepper, Raspberry, and School IPM surveys are scheduled for 2005 and 2006.

Pest management profiles record pest challenges and available management options. New England profiles have been completed for Apple, Bean, Carrot, Highbush blueberry, Peas, Peach, Pear, Tomato, Winter squash. Strawberry and Sweet corn profiles are in progress.

Pest management strategic plans evaluate impediments and opportunities for better pest management in New England. The strategic plans also play a key role in representing our regional perspective in federal regulatory decisions. Strategic plans have been completed for Apple, Bean, Carrot, Peach, Pear, Peas, Tomato, and Winter squash. A Highbush blueberry strategic plan is in progress.