MANAGE INSECTS ON YOUR FARM: A Guide to Ecological Strategies

PREVENTIVE MANAGEMENT
PRE-SEASON THROUGH PLANTING TIME
(building internal strengths into the system)

1. CROP SELECTION AND MANAGEMENT; HABITAT CONSERVATION AND ENHANCEMENT OF FIELDS AND SURROUNDINGS
   • create above and below ground conditions for healthy plants with enhanced defenses
   • stress pests
   • enhance beneficials

2. BUILD HEALTHY SOIL (below ground habitat conservation and enhancement)

POST-PLANTING PLANNED MANAGEMENT

3. IN-SEASON PEST PREVENTION OR MANAGEMENT

4. IN-SEASON MANAGEMENT TO REDUCE CROP STRESS AND/OR OPTIMIZE YIELD AND QUALITY

REACTIVE MANAGEMENT
(if yield or quality goals are not being achieved)

5. REACTIVE PEST MANAGEMENT

6. REACTIVE SOIL/NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT

OVERALL GOAL

OPTIMAL CROP YIELD AND QUALITY—WITH HIGH POSITIVE AND LOW NEGATIVE ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS

Figure 2. Preventive and reactive strategies that enhance ecological pest management. Adapted from Univ. of Vt., Dept. of Plant and Soil Sciences