IPM and Nutrient Best Management Practices for Container Nurseries.

Project Leaders:

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Type: Training practitioners to use IPM techniques.

Location: Designed for Long Island, NY but applicable nationally.

Abstract:

Agricultural Environmental Management (AEM) worksheets on nutrient and pest management were developed and underwent an initial growers review. Comments and input from these growers will be examined and incorporated where appropriate before a final draft is circulated again to a grower panel.

Backround and Justification:

Protection of watersheds from potentially damaging nutrient and pesticide usage is of concern throughout the nation and the state of New York. Long Island is particularly sensitive to this issue.

Objective:

The goal of this project was to develop new Agricultural Environmental Management (AEM) worksheets on nutrient and pest management specific to container nurseries as a supplement to those previously developed for field-grown nurseries under the Long Island Agricultural Stewardship Program.

Procedures:

- 1. Draft worksheets developed by the project leaders using existing AEM worksheets as a template. Status: Completed
- 2. Drafts reviewed by growers at Long Island Ag Forum. Status: Completed
- 3. Grower comments/input evaluated and changes made to draft. Status: In Progress
- 4. Final draft reviewed by grower panel.
- 5. Final changes incorporated and worksheets submitted.

Results and Discussion:

The final worksheets will provide growers with an invaluable self-evaluation tool and delineate specific areas where they might improve their nutrient and pest

management to lower risks to the environment, themselves, their employees, customers and neighbors.

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