

1998 Report on IPM Implementation and Demonstration Program for Poinsettias and Bedding Plants in Orange County

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Abstract

The Greenhouse IPM Program in Orange and Ulster Counties has facilitated a useful flow of information between growers and Cornell staff. The relationships that have developed have allowed us to identify cooperators with which to demonstrate biological controls and innovative monitoring systems.

In 1998, 15 growers (including 5 new enrollees) in both Orange and Ulster counties participated in a formal IPM scouting program for poinsettias and bedding plants. Two biological controls were demonstrated in commercial greenhouses. The predatory mite *Neoseiulus cucumeris* was successfully used to control thrips for a second consecutive season in the retail portion of a greenhouse range. *Trichoderma harzianum* was applied to control *Botrytis* leaf blight on New Guinea Impatiens.

Detection and control of INSV remained a major focus of the scouting program. To this date, the virus has been detected in two thirds of the greenhouses in the program; several of these have experienced significant crop losses to this disease. Growers received education on pest control strategies, with special emphasis on improving cultural practices and using chemical pesticides wisely. Participating and non-participating growers were kept updated on pertinent greenhouse topics through the bi-weekly publication, *Crop Management News (CMN)*. Other educational opportunities were provided to growers and the general public through publications, presentations, and workshops.

For a printed copy of the entire report, please contact the NYS IPM office at:

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