



Integrated Pest Management - the way forward to Sustainable Agricultural Production

Why this conference?

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President of IBMA

Sustainability

- It is the 50th anniversary of Rachel Carson's book *Silent Spring*
- She was the first to tell us that continued use of Organochlorine insecticides for insect control was **Not Sustainable**
- They were accumulating in the fatty tissues of birds and threatening our biodiversity

Sustainability

- Our response was to look at new families of insecticides that overcame some of these problems
- But we were still on the same tread mill – in the long term this was not a **Sustainable solution**
- 1950s – the concept of Integrated Pest Management had been born but not widely adopted
- More recently there has been a consensus that for a more **Sustainable** plant protection solution we have to take a more **Holistic** approach

IPM = a more holistic approach

- ***FAO definition:***

Integrated Pest Management (IPM) means the careful consideration of all available pest control techniques and subsequent integration of appropriate measures that discourage the development of pest populations and keep pesticides and other interventions to levels that are economically justified and reduce or minimize risks to human health and the environment. IPM emphasizes the growth of a healthy crop with the least possible disruption to agro-ecosystems and encourages natural pest control mechanisms.

IBMA

(The International Biocontrol Manufacturers' Association)

- We at IBMA support this definition of IPM and believe that our industry has an important part to play in its implementation.
- We have over 200 company members that are involved in Biocontrol technologies,
 - macrobial
 - microbial
 - semiochemical
 - plant extracts
- Our members offer products that can form part of integrated pest and disease programmes in many agricultural crops and non-crop environments.

The Role of Biocontrol products in IPM

- They address three important needs in today's sustainable use criteria:
 - they are low risk substances/organisms to operators, consumers and the environment
 - they leave no residues in fruit and vegetables and
 - they help in the management of resistance to conventional pesticides through their unconventional modes of action.

Why therefore this conference?

- It is our belief that there is now a **consensus** that the only way forward for a **sustainable agricultural production** as it relates to pest and disease management is through **IPM**.
- We have joined forces on this occasion with the IOBC and PAM Europe to try and bring together as many stakeholders as we can to exchange views, understand our respective points of view and see what is already practically possible in the world of IPM.



Why therefore this conference?

- and most importantly – how we go forward from here to take the message out to everyone involved from **farm to fork**
- On behalf of IBMA I hope that we have a very successful conference today and that we will carry home a message of determination, hope and renewal that Rachel Carson would have been proud of.

