

# Integrated pest management (IPM)

IPM is a holistic approach to sustainable agriculture that focuses on managing insects, weeds and diseases through a combination of cultural, physical, biological and chemical methods that are cost effective, environmentally sound and socially acceptable.<sup>1</sup> This includes the responsible use of crop protection and plant biotech products.

## WHY IS IPM IMPORTANT?

**GLOBAL POPULATION**  
is on the rise



and therefore so is  
**FOOD DEMAND**



this means farmers must  
**INCREASE YIELDS**  
ON EXISTING LANDS



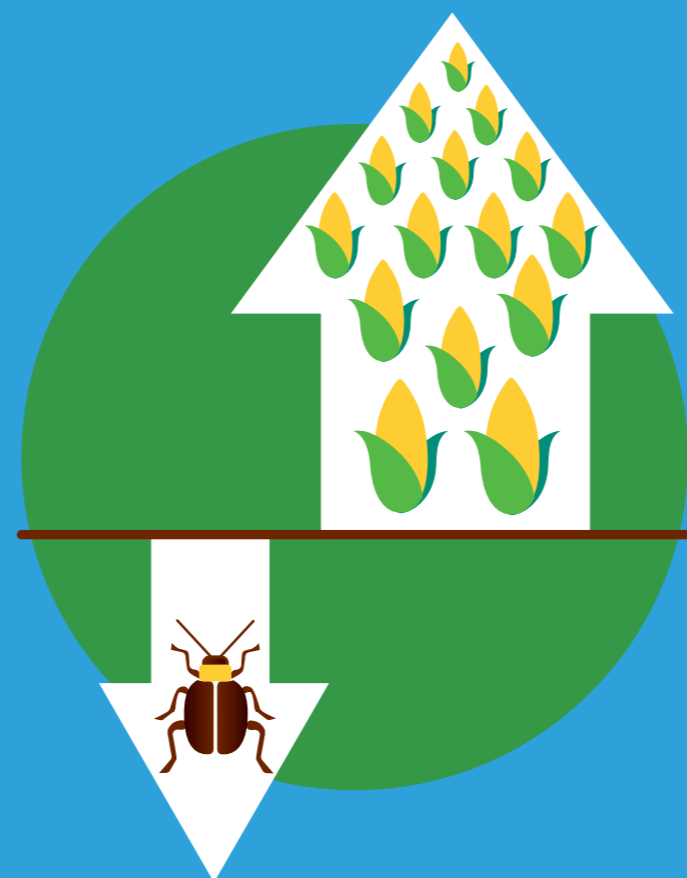
while  
**PROTECTING**  
**BIODIVERSITY**  
AND LOOKING AFTER  
THE ENVIRONMENT



IPM provides farmers with tools and strategies to

**MINIMISE LOSSES**  
CAUSED BY INSECTS, WEEDS AND DISEASES

TO  
**SUSTAINABLY**  
**MAXIMISE**  
**PRODUCTION**



## KEY COMPONENTS OF IPM

**FARMERS** are the primary decision makers in implementing IPM strategies

**PREVENT**  
the build-up  
of pests

understand  
conditions

select  
varieties

manage crops

**MONITOR**  
crops for both  
pests and  
natural control  
mechanisms

inspect  
fields

identify issues

determine  
action

**INTERVENE**  
when control  
methods are  
needed

choose  
method

plan  
approach

intervene  
responsibly

**CONTROL  
METHODS**

CULTURAL

PHYSICAL

BIOLOGICAL

CHEMICAL

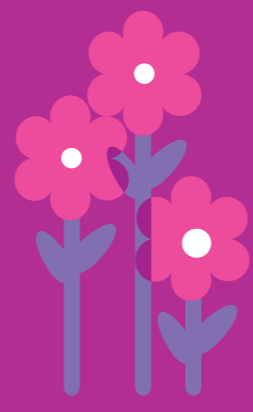
<sup>1</sup>ECPA and its member companies support the IPM definition put forth by the International Code of Conduct on Pesticide Management (FAO, 2012). See also Article 3 of Directive 128/2009/EC on Sustainable Use and its annex 3.



European  
Crop Protection

[www.ecpa.eu](http://www.ecpa.eu)

## Role of the crop protection industry



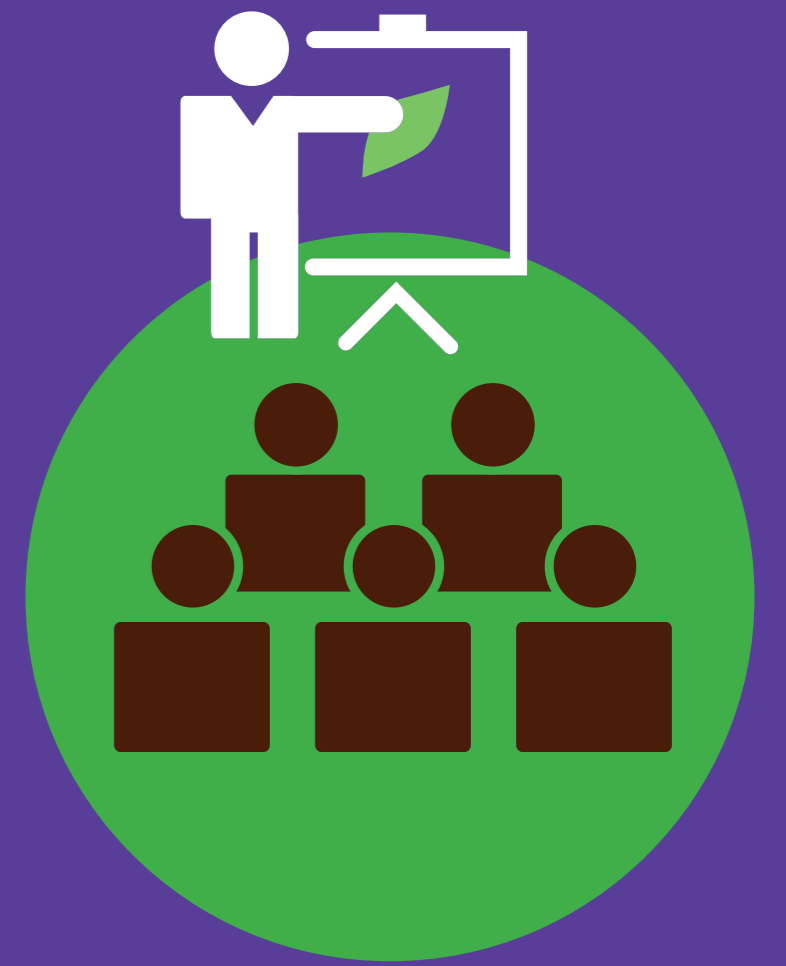
### RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT

- Developing innovative chemistry and other control agents to manage insects, weeds and diseases
- Improving crop varieties with pest and disease resistant traits



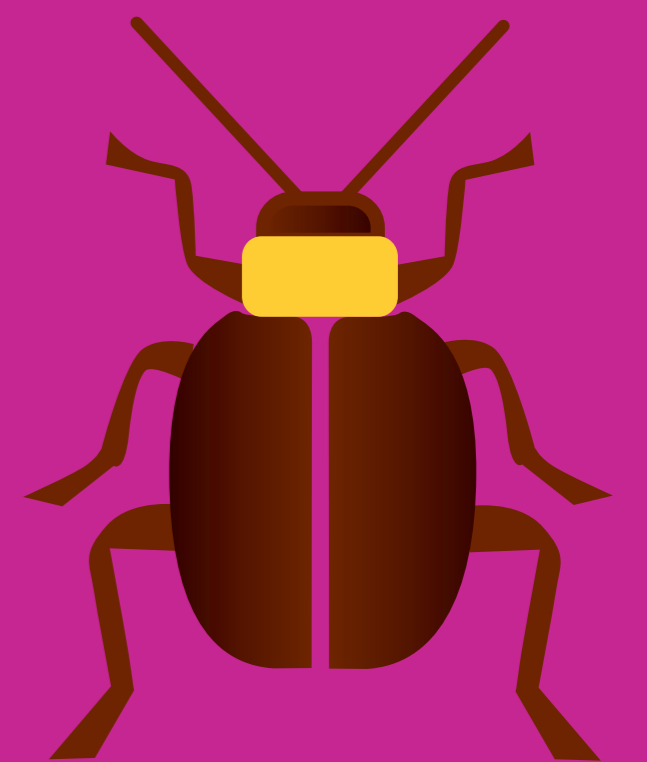
### TRAINING

As part of an on-going commitment to stewardship, the crop protection industry has several initiatives in place providing for training on best management practices, including IPM strategies.



### RESISTANCE MANAGEMENT

Over time, pests can develop resistance to different control methods. The plant science industry works to provide strategies and information that can help farmers manage insect, weed and disease resistance.



### IPM TRAINING INCLUDES:

#### IDENTIFYING

beneficial insects



#### WHEN AND HOW

to manage pests



#### RESPONSIBLE USE

of crop protection products



#### PROPER DISPOSAL

of empty containers or unused products

