### **Gardening Through** the Lens of **Integrated** Pest Management

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#### Introduction



Hi! I'm Kait. I am a professional horticulturalist who works in Public Garden Management.

#### **OVERVIEW**

- 1. What is IPM?
- 2. How to implement an IPM approach?

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- 3. Commons Turf Pests
- 4. Common Garden Pests

### 01 What is **Integrated Pest** Management?

The United States Environmental Protection Agency describes Integrated Pest Management (IPM) as "an environmentally friendly, common sense approach to controlling pests..."

#### The approach...

"...uses current, comprehensive information on the life cycles of pests and their interaction with the environment. This information, in combination with available pest control methods, is used to manage pest damage by the most economical means, and with the least possible hazard to people, property, and the environment."

Your approach to IPM can be customized to your...

Resources Values Goals

#### Your approach to IPM should comply to...

Local Laws "Best Practices" **Current Research** 

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02 How do you implement an IPM approach? Implementing an IPM approach is a cycle rooted in how you work.

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#### Set Action Thresholds

What can be tolerated before action must occur?

Plant Loss Plant Damage Pest Presence

**Other Impacts** 

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Monitor & Identify Pests **Requires active and** passive scouting for **Feeding Damage** Discoloration Defoliation **Droppings/Waste Products Physical Pest** 

#### Prevention

How can you prevent damage from exceeding your threshold? Growing Conditions Plant Selection Site Design

#### Control

When thresholds are exceeded, how do you control pest populations? Cultural **Mechanical Biological Chemical** 

#### **Cultural Control Techniques**



#### Mechanical Control Techniques



#### **Biological Control Techniques**

Attracting Predatory Insects

#### Introducing Bio-Controls

#### **Chemical Control Techniques**

Organic Pesticides Synthetic Pesticides

#### The label is the law!

### **IPMis NOT** a linear process. It truly must be integrated into how you work to be successful.

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03 Common Turf Pests

# Turf weeds often tell us about the growing conditions at the site.

Often this is referred to as an indicator species. This is helpful to determine if cultural practices could help break the cycle.

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#### **Indicator Species: TURF WEEDS**

**COMPACTION** 









PLANTAIN

#### DANDELION

PROSTRATE KNOTWEED **GROUND IVY** 

#### COMPACTION



Hand pulling
 Mowing off flowerheads
 Smothering

Biological Controls • No major options

Chemical Controls • Targeted herbicide application



#### **Indicator Species: TURF WEEDS**







# BIRDSFOOTBLACKWHITETREFOILMEDICCLOVER

LOW NITROGEN

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#### LOW NITROGEN

Cultural Controls • Fertilization

Mechanical Controls

Hand pulling
Smothering

Biological Controls • No major options

#### Chemical Controls • Targeted

Targeted herbicide
 application



#### WHITE GRUBS

There are multiple species of beetle that start their life as "white grubs".

> Different species thrive in different conditions.





#### WHITE GRUBS











Northern-southern masked chafer







Aphodius spp.



Asiatic garden beetle



Japanese beetle



Oriental beetle.

.....

#### **WHITE GRUBS**

Cultural Controls

Irrigation

Plant Selection

Mechanical Controls • No major options

Biological Controls • Back

 Bacillus thuringiensis galleriae (Btg)

#### Chemical Controls • Acelepryn or other insecticides

#### WHITE GRUBS Chemical Controls

Acelepryn is a trade name for a newer insecticide that that is marketed as having reduced non-target impacts to bees.

While this is an improvement upon what was available prior, it is not a "perfect product".



#### **COMPACTION**



#### **GRUBS**



## WHAT'S THE PROBLEM?

03 Common Garden Pests





#### **MONITORING & IDENTIFICATION**



Before you can react, you need to know what you are reacting to...

#### What are you seeing?

- Damaged foliage
- Missing flowers or flower buds
- Discoloration
- Droppings
- Actual insects or animals

#### MONITORING & IDENTIFICATION

Before you can react, you need to know what you are reacting to...

What are you seeing? What plant is impacted? What time of the year is it?



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CONS?





# CULTURAL CONTROLS



#### **PROS**?

CONS?

# MECHANICAL CONTROLS



We are seeing an emerging biological control for Japanese beetles establishing itself in the Twin Cities.

This biological control is a parasitic insect that targets adult Japanese beetles to complete its lifecycle.

# BIOLOGICAL CONTROLS





I want it. I need it. Where do I get one?

You need to need to create a sustainable habitat for them.





# BIOLOGICAL CONTROLS

#### **JAPANESE BEETLES**

Cultural Controls • Plant Selection

Mechanical Controls • Hand picking adults

Biological Controls • Winsome fly

#### Chemical Controls • Targe

Targeted insecticide applications





# You controlled the pest population. What's next?

If you **did not** mitigate the root cause, should you reassess your "action threshold"?

Is the root cause out of your control?

What is the likelihood of the pest exceeding your threshold again?

Do you have the resources to implement ongoing control efforts?

If you **did** mitigate the root cause, what routines need to be established to maintain?

Scouting routines?

Fertilization routines?

Pruning routines?

### **Great gardeners** are great detectives. Pests always leave us clues.

### **Thanks!** Do you have any questions?

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