

Lessons Learned from 5 years of Routine High Tunnel Scouting for Insect Pests & Natural Enemies

Pest management in high tunnels is challenging, but achievable!

Start clean to stay clean

- Avoid planting infested plants or planting next to already infested plants, fallow between seasons, weed

Timing is EVERYTHING – Find & tackle the problem EARLY!

- Monitor pests & natural enemies (& train employees what to look for)
- Answer critical questions like: How many plants are infested? What level of pests are on each plant? Can biocontrol handle the problem?
- Follow release recommendations &/or pesticide labels
- Keep records (What did I do when & how did it work?)

Network

- Work with an Extension Agent or Biocontrol Supplier to develop action thresholds & a management plan within your budget
- Talk with other growers

Be adaptable & patient. It takes time & effort to develop a strategy that works for YOU

Provide habitat plants (like alyssum) to provide food & shelter to attract & sustain naturally occurring &/or released natural enemies.

Syrphid fly adult



Habitat planting in tomato

We work for YOU! Please tell us what we can do to help you manage pests via SurveyMonkey
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/8SD96PQ>

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Expand Your Tunnel Vision: High Tunnel Production Conference

Manchester, NH ~ December 3-4, 2018



<https://www.uvm.edu/~entlab/>



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