

GROWER PERSPECTIVES ON INSECT CONTROL

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1. Monitoring "new" pest complexes
 - a. Proper identification of Silverleaf Whitefly is critical in understanding its behavior.
 - b. Learn how to anticipate development and distribution of the pest.
 - c. Use others' experience with the pest to your advantage.
2. Building support for innovation in pest management
 - a. Target a broad base of organizations with vested interests in finding solutions. Include leadership from university co-operative extension, chemical manufacturers, producers, ginners, marketers, industry groups and relevant government agencies.
 - b. Educate them on the severity of the problem, build a consensus and keep them informed on the progress of the effort.
3. Defining a plan and conducting research on a large scale
 - a. Design a plan that has a good potential for success. Make sure participation is voluntary and that the scale of the project is manageable with the resources allotted.
 - b. Communication at every level of participation is essential in ensuring success.
4. Evaluating research and applying the results
 - a. Pest control on an area-wide basis requires tremendous co-operation, but the benefits that accrue can yield outstanding results in increasing profitability.
 - b. Distribution of ongoing research is a key factor in heightening awareness. New methods of pest management will be quickly adopted if the benefits are recognizable and consistently achieved.