

INTEGRATED PLANT DISEASE MANAGEMENT (IDM)

Integrated plant disease management can be defined as a decision-based process involving coordinated use of multiple tactics for optimizing the control of pathogen in an economically and ecofriendly. The implications of IDM are:

- ✓ Simultaneous management of multiple pathogens
- ✓ Regular monitoring of pathogen effects, and their natural enemies and antagonists as well
- ✓ Use of economic or treatment thresholds when applying chemicals
- ✓ Integrated use of multiple, suppressive tactics.

Advantages

Integrated approach integrates preventive and curative measures to keep pathogen from causing significant problems, with minimum risk or hazard to human and desirable components of their environment. Some of the benefits of an integrated approach are as follows:

1. Promotes sound structures and healthy plants
2. Promotes the sustainable bio based disease management alternatives
3. Reduces the environmental risk
4. Reduces air and ground water contamination
5. Protects the non-target species
6. Reduces or eliminates issues related to pesticide residue
7. Reduces or eliminates re-entry interval restrictions
8. Decreases workers, tenants and public exposure to chemicals
9. Alleviates concern of the public about pest & pesticide related practices
10. Maintains or increases the cost-effectiveness of disease management programs.