

Resources on Pest Management for Organic Growers

Kimberly Stoner, Entomology Department
The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station
P.O. Box 1106, New Haven, CT 06504

<u>Kimberly.Stoner@po.state.ct.us</u>
203-974-8480

General Information Resources on Organic Farming

Northeast Organic Farming Association. Offers conferences, farm tours, and publications. www.nofa.org. Connecticut state chapter is: www.ctnofa.org or 1-203-888-5146. There are also state chapters in NY, NJ, MA, RI, VT, and NH. There is a parallel organization in Maine – the Maine Organic Farming and Gardening Association (MOFGA).

Rodale Institute. Leaders in providing information on organic farming and gardening for over 60 years. The New Farm is the online publication directed to growers: http://www.rodaleinstitute.org/new_farm or 610-683-1400.

ATTRA. National Sustainable Agriculture Information Service. Compiler and distributor of many documents on organic agriculture, from the most general (overview of organic production) to very specific information on particular crops and pests. http://attra.ncat.org/organic.html or 1-800-346-9140

Northeast Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Program (NE SARE). While the SARE program is not exclusively organic, it has funded much of the research and education on organic farming in our region. http://www.uvm.edu/~nesare/ or 1-802-656-0471.

Sustainable Agriculture Network. Publishing arm of the National Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Program. Many useful handbooks and bulletins, including "Transitioning to Organic Production," available online at: http://www.sare.org/publications/organic.htm and "A Whole Farm Approach to Managing Pests," at http://www.sare.org/publications/farmpest.htm.

U.S. Department of Agriculture. National Organic Program. This program sets the National Organic Standards and accredits certifying organizations that take applications, inspect, and certify organic farms. This website also has statistics on organic farming across the country.

http://www.usda.gov/wps/portal/!ut/p/_s.7_0_A/7_0_1OB?navid=ORGANIC_CERTIFICATIO&parentnav=AGRICULTURE&navtype=RT

Northeast Organic Network. http://www.neon.cornell.edu/. Has a wealth of information on organic agriculture in the Northeast, including a complete set of presentations and handouts from an Advanced Organic Training Course for agricultural professionals here: http://www.neon.cornell.edu/training/trainingsessions.html.

Organic Trade Association. How to Go Organic. http://www.howtogoorganic.com

Organic at Cornell. Learning modules and reports from research projects on organic agriculture at Cornell. http://www.organic.cornell.edu/

Ontario Ministry of Agriculture Food and Rural Affairs. Fact sheets on Organic Agriculture. http://www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/crops/organic/organic.html

Vermont Vegetable and Berry Program. Vern Grubinger. Fact sheets, many on organic production. http://www.uvm.edu/vtvegandberry/factsheets/welcome.html

Organic Farming Research Foundation. Publishes results of research in organic agriculture funded through their granting program. http://ofrf.org

Organic Ag. Info. Database of scientific and extension information on organic agriculture. http://www.organicaginfo.org/

The New Organic Grower: A Master's Manual of Tools and Techniques for the Home and Market Gardener. Eliot Coleman. 1988. Chelsea Green Press. Written before the National Organic Program.

Useful Pest Identification Guides

Northeast Vegetable & Strawberry Pest Identification Guide. 2008. Ed. A. R. Bonnano. Incorporated into the 2008-2009 Vegetable Management Guide (New England Region). (This guide now includes management with organic materials as well as conventional chemicals.) \$15 from: http://www.nevegetable.org/.

Diseases and Pests of Vegetable Crops in Canada. 1994. Ed. Ronald J. Howard., J.A. Garland, and W. Lloyd Seaman. Canadian Phytopathological Society and Entomological Society of Canada. Available for \$65 Canadian from this website: http://esc-sec.org/disease.htm.

Weeds of the Northeast. 1997. Richard H. Uva, J.C. Neal, and J.M Di Tomaso. Cornell University Press. \$29.95 at http://www.cornellpress.cornell.edu/cup_detail.taf?ti_id=3025.

American Phytopathological Society Press. Has a variety of handbooks for particular vegetable crops. Most comprehensive, but also expensive:

Vegetable Disease: A Color Handbook. 2007. Steven T. Koike, P. Gladders, and A.O. Paulus. \$160 from http://www.shopapspress.org/.

Vegetable MD Online. Diagnostic keys for diseases of cucurbits and tomatoes. http://vegetablemdonline.ppath.cornell.edu/DiagnosticKeys/KeyPage.html

Pest Alerts, Forecasting and Other Current Information on Pests During the Season

University of Connecticut Weekly Vegetable Pest Message. http://www.hort.uconn.edu/ipm/veg/htms/pestmsg.htm

University of Massachusetts Vegetable Notes. Published weekly during the growing season. http://www.umassvegetable.org/newsletters/current_news.html

Pestwatch. Tracking trap catches of pests of sweet corn (and eventually other crops) based at Penn State, but drawing on regional data. http://www.pestwatch.psu.edu/

Maine Organic Farming and Gardening Association. Pest Reports. Written by Technical Adviser Eric Sideman.

http://www.mofga.org/Publications/PestReports/tabid/732/Default.aspx

IPM Field Guides, Scouting Guides and Recommendations (often include conventional chemical controls, in addition to information useful to organic growers)

New England Vegetable Management Guide. Updated annually. Available for \$15 from http://www.nevegetable.org/

Listing of IPM field guides and recommendations for all the states in the Northeast: http://neipmc.org/ipm_fieldguide.cfm

Organic Soil Management, Cover Crops, and Crop Rotation

Sustainable Soil Management. ATTRA. http://www.attra.org/attra-pub/soilmgmt.html

Cover Crops for Vegetable Growers – Decision tool. http://www.nysaes.cornell.edu/hort/faculty/bjorkman/covercrops/decisiontool.php

Crop Rotation Manuals and Spreadsheets. http://www.neon.cornell.edu/croprotation/index.html *Building Soils for Better Crops.* Fred Magdoff and H. Van Es. 2nd edition. 2000. Available as a book for \$19.95 or can be downloaded as a pdf file from: http://www.sare.org/publications/soils.htm

Managing Cover Crops Profitably. SAN Publications, 3rd edition. 2007. Available as a book for \$19 or can be downloaded as a pdf file from: http://www.sare.org/publications/handbooks.htm

Soil Resilience and Health: Crop Rotation and Cover Cropping on the Organic Farm. Seth Kroek. 2004. Northeast Organic Farming Association. Available for \$7.95 plus shipping from:

http://www.nofa.org/store/product.php?StoreID=2&ProdID=CTPUBCROPROT

General Information Resources on Organic Pest Management

Organic Materials Review Institute (OMRI). Reviews products to determine whether they meet the National Organic Standards for use by organic growers. Maintains lists of restricted and allowed products on website. http://www.omri.org/

ATTRA. Searchable database on biorational materials for ecological pest management. Enter the type and name of the pest, and the database tells you what is registered and whether it is OMRI listed. Not everything that is registered or OMRI listed is effective. http://attra.ncat.org/attra-pub/biorationals/biorationals_main_srch.php. Also, there is a list of many ATTRA fact sheets on pest management here: http://www.attra.org/pest.html

Resource Guide to Organic Insect and Disease Maanagement. Brian Caldwell, E.B. Rosen, E. Sideman, A.M. Shelton, C.D. Smart. 2005. This book has chapters on management of insects and disease on 5 major vegetable crops, chapters on characteristics and efficacy of 12 materials used by organic growers, and appendices on cultural methods of pest management. NYS Agricultural Experiment Station. The whole book can be downloaded by chapters at this website: http://www.nysaes.cornell.edu/pp/resourceguide.

Vegetable Crop Health: Helping Nature Control Diseases and Pests Organically. Brian Caldwell. 2006.

http://www.nofa.org/store/product.php?StoreID=2&ProdID=CTPUBVEGCR

Organic Weed Management

Ten Steps to Organic Weed Management. Vern Grubinger, University of Vermont. http://www.uvm.edu/vtvegandberry/factsheets/orgweedconrtol.html

Organic Weed Management Website. Chuck Mohler, Cornell University. http://www.css.cornell.edu/weedeco/WeedDatabase/index2.html

Cultivation Equipment for Weed Control: Pros, Cons, and Sources. Vern Grubinger, University of Vermont. http://www.uvm.edu/vtvegandberry/factsheets/cultivators.html

Steel in the Field: A Farmer's Guide to Weed Management Tools. 1997. Ed. Greg Bowman. Sustainable Agriculture Network.

Organic Management of Insects and Other Arthropods

Alternatives to Insecticides for Managing Vegetable Insects. Proceedings of a Farmer-Scientist Conference. Ed. Kimberly Stoner. 1999. Each chapter can be downloaded from this website: http://www.ct.gov/caes/cwp/view.asp?a=2797&q=345156 or the book can be purchased from NRAES: www.nraes.org.

Manage Insects on Your Farm: A Guide to Ecological Strategies. SARE. 2005. http://www.sare.org/publications/insect.htm

Farmscaping to Enhance Biological Control. ATTRA. Available to download. www.attra.org

A Total Systems Approach to Sustainable Pest Management. Lewis, W. J., J.C. van Lenteren, S. C. Phatak, and J. M Tumlinson. Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences. Vol. 94, pp. 12243–12248, November 1997. Available for download from sacs.cpes.peachnet.edu

Biological Control: A Guide to Natural Enemies in North America. Cornell University. http://www.nysaes.cornell.edu/ent/biocontrol/

Organic Management of Plant Pathogens

Managing Vegetable Diseases Organically. Margaret McGrath, Cornell University. http://www.neon.cornell.edu/training/ppts/McGrathgeneral.doc

Tables of Disease Resistant Varieties of Vegetable Crops. 30 Crops currently listed. http://vegetablemdonline.ppath.cornell.edu/Tables/TableList.htm

Organic Management of Other Pests (Mammals, Birds, Snails & Slugs)

Internet Center for Wildlife Damage Management. http://icwdm.org/