Sustainable Pesticide Management

Ensuring sustainable use of natural resources
Many upcoming economies are in the process of intensifying their agriculture to meet both national demands for food and to increase agricultural exports. New crops replace traditional crops either as potential export commodities or as substitutes for imports. Current practices rely heavily on the input of broad spectrum hazardous agro-chemicals for pest, disease and weed control. Misuse of these chemicals may lead to adverse effects on the environment, farmers and consumers and poor sustainability of agricultural production.

**Integrated Pest Management**

Integrated Pest Management (IPM) is a system approach that combines different crop protection measures with careful monitoring. With an emphasis on control and not on eradication of the pest, large agricultural losses due to pests can be avoided. Biological control, e.g. the use of beneficial insects or biological insecticides, and responsible use of synthetic pesticides are part of IPM. Hence IPM is an important strategy for sustainable agriculture.

**Our 3S approach**

Wageningen Environmental Research works together with national governments, institutes and organisations to enable sustainable agricultural growth. We do this in Africa and Asia by:

- **Stimulating** Integrated Pest Management practices
- **Strengthening** the registration system such that it supports Integrated Pest Management practices, specifically by enhancing the availability of less hazardous pesticides and reduction of (highly) hazardous pesticide uses
- **Supporting** the regulation of pesticide use by farmers taking into account the whole pesticide life cycle

**Challenges**

- Increase agricultural production and agricultural exports in a sustainable way
- Sustainable management of pesticides

**Approach**

- Country specific 3S approach
- Pesticide management as part of Integrated Pest Management
- Accounting for the whole pesticide life-cycle

**Results**

- Improved and implemented registration procedures
- Environment, farmers and consumers protected
- Sustainable agricultural growth

**Research Program**

Sustainable Land Use

**Contact**

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"Farming with bio-intensive IPM programs will become mainstream for both large and small-scale farmers, in any crop, in any country"  
Real IPM, Biocontrol Manufacturer, Kenya