

Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Plan - Checklist

November 2025

This checklist is designed to help Qualified Professionals (QPs) prepare Farm Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Plans for agricultural operations in British Columbia. It outlines the key elements of effective and sustainable pest management planning to support the adoption of Beneficial Management Practices (BMPs) and ensure alignment with relevant provincial, federal, and industry standards.

As every farm operation is unique, some portions of this checklist may not apply, and additional information not included here may be required.

This checklist serves as guidance only.

Please complete this checklist (check all boxes as applicable) and submit it along with the Farm IPM Plan under the Beneficial Management Practices (BMP) Program (Code 2501).

General Information

Prepared by (Name):**Organization (if applicable):****Professional Designation (e.g., P.Ag):****Professional Designation ID Number:****Date of Submission:****Farm Name and Contact Information:****Professional seal or stamp:****Date of EFP completion:**

General Information

1. Farm Profile

Items to provide:

- a. Farm name and location
- b. Total acres and general topography
- c. Crops
- d. Conventional or organic
- e. Typical climate, micro climates, natural vegetation, and biodiversity
- f. Any other items affecting your IPM plan

2. IPM Objectives **write what your farm is trying to accomplish with using an IPM strategy*

There can be more than one objective and examples include:

- a. Reduce reliance on chemical pesticides
- b. Improve pest control efficiency through timely interventions
- c. Protect beneficial organisms and pollinators
- d. Comply with applicable environmental and food safety regulations
- e. Enhance long-term soil and crop health

3. Pest Identification **see Appendix A for example*

Items to provide:

- a. Key pests and information on them affecting your operation including details on pest-life cycle in relation to crop phenology

4. Monitoring **see Appendix B for example*

Items to provide:

- a. Monitoring Protocols such as scouting frequency and tools used (e.g., pheromone traps, sticky cards, sweep nets)
- b. Record Keeping (e.g., digital logs, field notebooks, software)
 - i. Pest monitoring data
 - ii. Control actions (date, location, products used)
 - E.g. Spray log or beneficial insect release records

General Information

5. **Action Thresholds** **for all key pests: description of operations established action thresholds and justification of the threshold level (e.g., using regional extension data and industry standards)*

- a. Example: If 10% or more of the tomato plants are infested with 50 or more aphids per plant (Average count), pest control actions should be initiated. Studies (e.g., by university extension services or agricultural research bodies) often recommend thresholds between 10-20% infestation for aphids in tomatoes.

6. **Control Strategies** **description of operations use of Cultural & Preventative Practices, Biological Controls, Mechanical and Physical Controls and Chemical Controls*

- a. Examples include:
 - i. Beneficial insect predators released, or tilling of ground between planted rows to control weeds.
 - ii. Pheromone mating disruptors, row covers, headlands, seed or nursery stock selection, volunteer removal, flame cultivation, etc.

7. **Evaluation**

- a. How often is your IPM plan re-evaluated and revised?
- b. Who is responsible for these re-evaluations and revisions?

8. **Education, Training and Worker Safety Considerations** **describe any supplemental training of farm employees*

Examples include:

- a. Pest identification and scouting techniques
- b. Safe pesticide handling and application
- c. Biological control awareness
- d. Software/data entry (if digital tools are used)
- e. Pesticide Applicator Training

General Information

9. Environmental Considerations **list environmental considerations and explain the concerns and mitigation the operation uses.*

Examples of items that may concern your operation:

- a. Water contamination from pesticide runoff or leaching
- b. Harm to non-target species (e.g., pollinators, beneficial insects, birds)
- c. Development of pesticide-resistant pest populations
- d. Degradation of soil health and loss of soil biodiversity
- e. Air pollution and pesticide drift to neighboring areas
- f. Loss of on-farm and surrounding biodiversity
- g. Contribution to or impact from climate change

Appendix A

Description

The **diamondback moth** (*Plutella xylostella*) is a small, grayish-brown moth known for their light tan, diamond-shaped markings on its folded wings. Adults are slender and measure about 8 – 9 mm in length with a wingspan of approximately 15 mm. Females lay tiny, oval, yellowish eggs – usually singly or in small clusters – on the undersides of host plant leaves. These eggs hatch in a few days, depending on temperature.

The larvae are pale green, active, and taper slightly at both ends. When disturbed, they wriggle violently and may drop from the plant on a silk thread. After feeding, larvae pupate in delicate, loosely woven, white, or yellowish silk cocoons, typically attached to leaves or stems. The pupal stage lasts about a week under warm conditions before adults emerge.

Damage

Diamondback moth larvae feed exclusively on cruciferous plants such as cabbage, broccoli, cauliflower, and kale. They chew irregular holes in leaves, often leaving a “windowpane” effect by eating leaf tissue but leaving the upper epidermis intact. Severe infestations can result in skeletonized leaves and stunted plant growth. Damage reduces both yield and marketability, particularly in leafy crops.

Key Identification Features:

- **Eggs:** Tiny, yellowish, oval shaped; laid singly or in small groups on leaf undersides
- **Larvae:** Slender, pale green caterpillars with a forked tail and wriggling behavior when disturbed
- **Pupae:** Found in loose, silken cocoons on foliage
- **Adults:** Small, gray-brown moths with tan markings forming a diamond pattern along the back
- **Feeding Signs:** Windowpane damage, irregular holes, and leaf skeletonization on Brassicaceae crops



Figure 1. Diamondback moth larvae. Photo from iNaturalist.com



Figure 2. Diamondback moth. Photo from iNaturalist.com

Appendix B

Cherry Fruit worm egg monitoring data sheet:

Date Collected	Farm	Variety	Location	# of Fruit Sampled	Yellow Eggs	Hatched Eggs	Black Eggs	Larva	Fruit Damaged
May 20	XX	Draper	Row 5, edge	25	1	0	0	0	1
May 31	XX	XX	Row 10, edge	20	3	1	0	1	3
June 5	XX	XX	Row 8, xx	30	0	0	6	2	7
Etc.									