



Northeastern IPM Center Partnership Grant Impacts



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Promoting IPM Practices for Improved Perennial Forage Management in the Northeast (2021–2023)

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THE NEED



1. **Changing Land Ownership:** Demographic shifts have resulted in non-farming landowners owning hayfields and pastures, leading to potential conflicts due to different perspectives on land management.
2. **Knowledge Gap:** Both non-farming landowners and farmers lack understanding of effective Integrated Pest Management (IPM) practices for perennial forage, particularly weed management.
3. **Land Stewardship Concerns:** Non-farming landowners are concerned about responsible land management.
4. **Collaboration:** There’s a need to improve collaboration and IPM understanding among stakeholders.

This project addresses these needs by providing education, promoting IPM, and fostering stakeholder understanding.



Thistles and dandelions emerge as weeds in hay and forage fields. Photo: Carl Majewski



A near monoculture of Redroot pigweed* (background) emerging after a spring tillage event in a pasture. Pigweed seeds had lain dormant in the weed seed bank for at least 10 years without posing any issues for the pasture, likely deposited into the soil during the last rotation of annual crops through the plot. Photo: Nicholas Warren



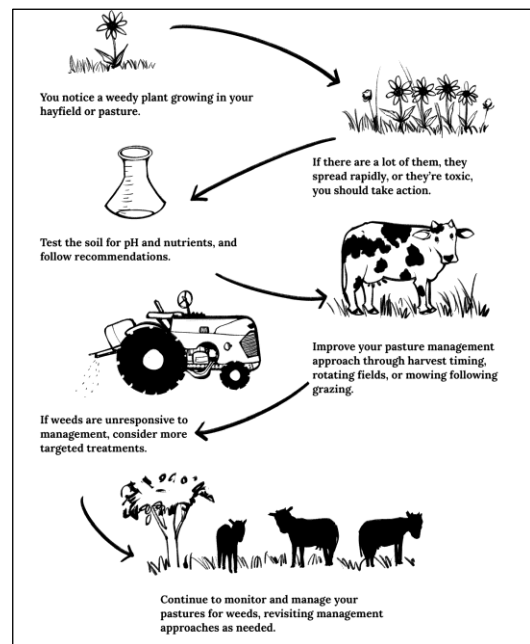
IMPACTS

The “Promoting IPM Practices for Improved Perennial Forage Management on Owned and Rented Land in the Northeast” project has achieved significant impacts on the Northeast’s agriculture:

- **Knowledge Transfer:** The project successfully bridged knowledge gaps, reaching approximately 600 online views and distributing up to 200 printed copies of educational materials on weed and pest management.
- **Enhanced Land Productivity:** By promoting IPM practices, the project contributed to an estimated 88% of webinar participants reporting a better understanding of weed IPM concepts, with 83% intending to implement sustainable practices such as cultural or mechanical weed control.
- **Reduced Pesticide Dependency:** The adoption of non-chemical weed control methods has led to the reduced use of herbicides, contributing to lowered environmental impact and health risks.
- **Community Strengthening:** The project’s outreach activities have engaged around 27 participants through radio interviews and 31 attendees at a grower meeting, fostering collaboration and knowledge exchange among agricultural stakeholders.
- In summary, the “Promoting IPM Practices for Improved Perennial Forage Management” project has made tangible impacts by disseminating knowledge, enhancing land productivity, reducing pesticide dependency, and strengthening the agricultural community in the Northeast.



Integrated Weed Management for Pastures and Hayfields – A Guide for Landowners. March 2023. University of New Hampshire Extension.



An illustration of an Integrated Approach to Managing Weeds. Illustration: Sydney Smith

WEBSITES

<https://extension.unh.edu/resource/integrated-weed-management-pastures-hayfields-guide-landowners>

* *Amaranthus retroflexus*

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