SCOUTING A REAL LIFE EXPERIENCE
Integrated Pest Management (IPM) and Scouting
Definition

• The use of a broad range of interrelated cultural, chemical, biological and other methods of pest control in combination with routine scouting to produce quality agricultural crops.
Cultural

- Irrigation
- Fertilization
- Light
- Temperature
- Air circulation
Chemical

- Pesticides
- Soaps
- Oils
- Other
Biological

• Predators – Eat them
• Parasites – Use them
• Fungi – PFR
• Bacteria – B.T.
Mechanical

• Squishing
• Squashing
• Burning – Hot water scald of weeds
• Blasting – High pressure removal w/water
• Discarding

• If few plants infected – maybe cheaper to throw away
Scouting

• The routine monitoring of a crop to aid in early detection of an insect, disease or other problem.
Benefits of Scouting

• More efficient pest management program
• Apply only when needed
• Appropriate chemical for the pests present and its life cycle
More Benefits

• Can detect lack of control due to:
  1 – Poor coverage
  2 – Possible resistance developed
  3 – Mortality time frames differ with each pesticide
Even More Benefits

1 – Allow the use of Biologicals
2 – Detect phytotoxicty
3 – Timely sample submission
4 – True sense of security
5 – Allows you to be a good steward of the environment while promoting a positive image of agriculture to the general public.
Myths of IPM’s

1 – You’ll spray less
2 – It’s not effective
3 – Uses biological controls only
Realities

1 – You’ll need to determine a damage threshold
2 – Must be committed to scouting and accurate record keeping
3 – It is a combination of chemical/biological control tactics