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IPM FLORIDA- AT YOUR SERVICE!

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The University of Florida IPM program, IPM Florida, currently addresses four areas of emphasis: ornamental plant nursery production, vegetable production (emphasizing tomato), cotton production, and School IPM. The IPM Florida office is housed in the Department of Entomology and Nematology with a full-time IPM Coordinator, four part-time Doctor of Plant Medicine students, and a half-time Ph.D. level assistant to be added during 2003. A "Survey of Florida County Extension IPM/Biological Control Needs" was used to determine the kinds of extension support expected from IPM Florida. An IPM/BC Web site (<http://biocontrol.ifas.ufl.edu>) and associated listserv were also established. Extension faculty have communicated the following topics as their highest priorities for IPM Florida: pest management guides, networking and consultation, current pesticide information, current IPM information, collaboration on projects, measure adoption of IPM, IPM scouting and thresholds, and in-service training. A mini-grant program is being developed to address these priorities.