

Idaho applicators earn pesticide credits through IPM webinar series

AT A GLANCE

The Cultivating Success™ Idaho Small Farm and Ranch Webinar series offers free statewide online Integrated Pest Management education and pesticide applicator credits.

The Situation

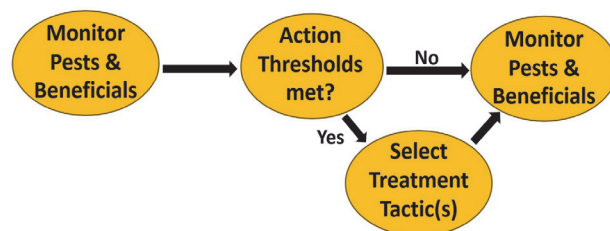
Across Idaho, technical assistance providers, farmers and ranchers often struggle to find the time and financial resources to travel for in-person educational workshops. This can be especially problematic when they are working to maintain educational requirements such as Idaho State Department of Agriculture (ISDA) pesticide applicator credits.

Our Response

The Cultivating Success™ program has been hosting a free Idaho Small Farm and Ranch webinar series annually for over five years. Each year University of Idaho Extension's Cultivating Success team selects a theme for the series based on the statewide need. The team draw on the expertise of University of Idaho faculty, partner organizations and producers to speak on topics they have expertise in, or in the case of producers, have firsthand experience within their farm and ranch operations.

For the 2025 Cultivating Success webinar series, the focus was on Integrated Pest Management (IPM). Four of the five webinars were eligible for participants to receive an ISDA pesticide applicator credit.

Integrated Pest Management (IPM)



Flow chart for the IPM process.

Program Outcomes

The 2025 webinar series was a five-part series that took place for one hour on Tuesdays and Thursdays from March 11-25.

Presenters included Desireé Wickwar, IPM Extension program manager at Kimberly Research and Extension Center, and Samuel DeGrey, agricultural Extension educator in Boundary County. The webinar series was organized by Cultivating Success™ Idaho team, led by Colette DePhelps, with support from team members Jemila Chellappa and Kate Wood.

A total of 46 individuals participated in the webinars, and 56 pesticide credits were awarded to eligible participants.

Breakdown of webinars and credit recipients: The webinar series was designed to guide participants through the IPM framework, detailing each step. The series culminated in an exercise in which participants created their own IPM plan for a crop of interest based on what they learned during the series.

- IPM Part 1: The principles of IPM — Out of 19 participants 14 received a pesticide credit.
- IPM Part 2: Pest monitoring and identification — Out of 21 participants 17 received a pesticide credit.
- IPM Part 3: Cultural and physical pest control — This webinar did not qualify for credits but had six participants.
- IPM Part 4: Biological pest control — Out of 19 participants 12 received a pesticide credit.
- IPM Part 5: The role of chemical control and formulating an IPM plan — Out of 14 participants 13 received a pesticide credit.

To evaluate impact, pre- and post-webinar polls were used to measure participants' knowledge and confidence related to the topics taught. Many attendees already had some familiarity with the concepts, but most still reported learning more from participating.

All webinars were recorded and made available on the Cultivating Success™ website and YouTube channel. As of July 2025, the IPM recorded webinars had received a total of 237 views.

Post-webinar survey results: Participant increase in knowledge of Integrated Pest Management and confidence to implement an IPM plan.

Topic	No Increase	Some Increase	Great Increase
Principles of IPM	0	12	4
Identifying Pest Populations	2	12	4
Monitoring Pest Populations	1	9	8
Cultural Pest Control	0	3	1
Physical Pest Control	0	2	2
Biological Pest Control	0	8	8
Role of Chemical Control in IPM	0	7	4
Confidence to implement IPM plan	0	5	6

The 2025 Cultivating Success™ IPM webinar series was supported by the USDA Agriculture and Food Research Initiative grant #2023-67023-40534 / project accession #1018649.



FOR MORE INFORMATION

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21-25-cdephelps-ipm-webinar • 10/25