

## I. INTRODUCTION

The techniques of integrated pest management (IPM) offer a practical way for growers to maintain profitable crop production while effectively managing pests. Using IPM, growers can improve plant protection of annuals, perennials, herbs, vegetable transplants, foliage plants, and flowering potted plants, while minimizing reliance on chemical pesticides.

*Integrated Pest Management for Bedding Plants: A Scouting and Pest Management Guide* explains how to monitor for the presence of pests during all phases of production. This guide covers the crops that are commonly produced in the greenhouse between January and July. Although this publication is intended primarily as a training guide for scouts, it will also be useful for private consultants, growers, greenhouse managers, pesticide applicators, and students. Everyone associated with pest management in a greenhouse can benefit from understanding the basics of scouting and how it contributes to economically sound pest management practices.

### How to Use this Publication

This guide provides a foundation in greenhouse scouting that can be used to develop a program for any given greenhouse. Use this publication with *Cornell Guidelines for the Integrated Management of Greenhouse Florist Crops: Management of Pests and Crop Growth*, which offers specific, up-to-date information on pest control strategies and pesticides (Media Services Resource Center, Cornell University, 607-255-2080).