



## WOSOBA FARMS HOPS

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*Sustainably grown quality Iowa hops  
for quality craft beer.*



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## PROJECT

Developing Effective Alternative Pest and Disease Management Strategies for Sustainable Hop Production

## GOALS

Reduce the use of chemicals in controlling insects that damage hops, as well as hop diseases Downy Mildew and Powdery Mildew

## RESULTS

- Chickens are effective in eliminating grass and weeds as well as some insects
- Lady bugs and green lacewings help to control hop pests such as hop flea beetles, aphids, and leaf hoppers
- Beneficial nematodes did not impact Japanese beetle populations as hoped
- Did not see any impact on downy mildew

## MOVING FORWARD

- Continue using chickens and beneficial insects as pest control
- Plant additional attractant plants at the ends of each row under the cables
- Use fungicides to prevent Downy Mildew and Powdery Mildew (plan to use all organic spray)
- Acquire and implement a specialized hops harvester



## RESOURCES

### PLANTS

Gurney's Seed & Nursery  
[www.gurneys.com](http://www.gurneys.com)

Lowe's Home Improvement  
[www.lowes.com](http://www.lowes.com)

New Pioneer Food Coop  
[www.newpi.coop](http://www.newpi.coop)

Thyme Garden Herb Co.  
[www.thymegarden.com](http://www.thymegarden.com)

### INSECTS

Buglogical Control Systems  
[www.buglogical.com](http://www.buglogical.com)

Arbico Organics  
[www.arbico-organics.com](http://www.arbico-organics.com)

### CHICKENS

Murray McMurray Hatchery  
[www.mcmurrayhatchery.com](http://www.mcmurrayhatchery.com)

Schlecht Hatchery  
[www.schlecht-hatchery.com](http://www.schlecht-hatchery.com)

### EQUIPMENT

Hops Harvester  
[www.hopsharvester.com](http://www.hopsharvester.com)