

9. Say whether the results from your project generated new ideas about what is needed to solve the problem you were working on. What do you think is the next step?

We both have concluded that the best options for TPB control in organic strawberry production are cultural. Very thorough weed control, and very careful mowing of the field edges help limit TPB food sources before blossoming, and help suppress their numbers. Crop rotation, including moving the crop as far as possible on the farm, is essential. Also to consider is going in and out of strawberries over a period of years rather than cropping them every year. TPB remains the biggest stumbling block to being able to crop strawberries continuously as do our chemical using neighbors.

10. Explain why you plan to continue to use the practice you investigated, or conversely why you are not going to. If you plan to revise your approach in light of what you learned, describe those revisions.

None of the methods we tested during the 2000 growing season were adequate to repeat. I have move on to the use of b.b. in the form of Naturalis L an OMRI approved fungal spray. I will also continue with soil building and weed control practices as a deterrent to TPB.

11. Explain what you did in your outreach program.

I spoke at a Twilight meeting on Strawberries sponsored by the Vermont Vegetable and Berry Growers Assn. and hosted by Jake Guest of Killdeer Farm in Norwich in the Summer of 2000. I GAVE AN UPDATE OF THIS RESEARCH AND RECEIVED SOME IDEAS AND FEEDBACK FROM OTHER ORGANIC AND CHEMICAL USING GROWERS. I PUBLISHED ARTICLES IN THE NOFA-VT NEWSLETTER AND IN THE NATURAL FARMER THAT INCLUDED REPORTS OF THIS RESEARCH. I AM FREQUENTLY CONTACTED BY OTHER ORGANIC STRAWBERRY GROWERS STILL AS A RESULT OF THIS WORK, AND CONTINUE TO PROVIDE CONSULTATION TO THEM.