

# Introduction to Scouting

Dr. Stephanie Burnett, University of Maine

# Overview

- Goals of Scouting
- Tools used in Scouting



# What is Scouting?

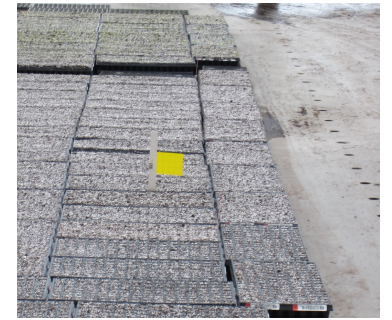
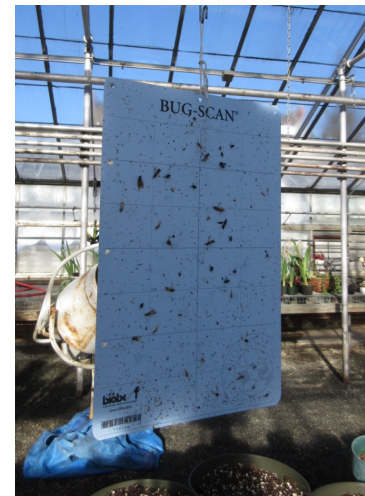
- Regular inspection to look for plant problems
  - Biotic: Insects, mites, or diseases
  - Abiotic: Plant nutrient disorders, physiological disorders
- Scout at least once a week
- Record problems present
  - Number and location of insects and mites
  - Number and location of plants with disease problems

# Goals of Scouting

- Scouting:
  - Allows for early detection (fewer/safer pesticides)
  - Track population numbers (increasing versus decreasing)
  - Provides information for making decisions
- Scouting is an important component of IPM or Integrated Pest Management

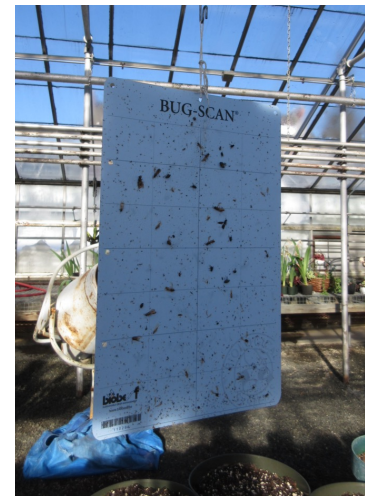
# Scouting Tools – Sticky Cards

- Sticky cards
  - Scout for flying insects:
    - Fungus gnats
    - Shore flies
    - Western flower thrips
    - Whiteflies
    - Winged aphids



# Scouting Tools – Sticky Cards

- Sticky cards
  - Yellow, 3" x 5"
  - Locate near plants – attach to bamboo stake with clothespin
  - 1-2 every 1000 ft<sup>2</sup>



# Scouting Tools - Magnification

- Hand Lens – 10X or 20X



# Scouting Tools - Magnification

- Optivisor
- Hand-held microscope
  - Smart phone magnifier
  - Magnifier attachment for smart phone
  - Hand-held digital microscope (i.e. DinoLite)





# Scouting Tools - Other

- Something to record data
- Flags or flagging tape
- Gloves
- Apron



Thank you!

