

Summary of Strawberry Insect Pest Management Procedures

I. Cultural controls when establishing a new planting.

- A. Site selection:
 - 1. Do not plant after sod or grasses to avoid problems with white grubs.
 - 2. Avoid planting near woods or fence rows to avoid problems with clipper weevils.
 - 3. Do not plant near old plantings if root weevils or crown borers were present.
- B. Cultivar selection: Avoid cultivars highly susceptible to tarnished plant bug injury.
- C. Source of nursery stock: Get plants that are free of cyclamen mite.
- D. Plant density and row spacing: Wide plant spacing will contribute to slug management.

II. Cultural controls while maintaining a planting.

- A. Weed control: Contributes to tarnished plant bug and spittlebug management.
- B. Harvest: Prompt removal of all ripe and cull berries helps sap beetle management.
- C. Mulch: Remove mulch after harvest and delay mulching in fall to discourage slugs.
- D. Renovation: Helps with slug and mite management.
- E. Sanitation: Remove debris that may shelter pests, in and around fields.

III. Mechanical control options.

- A. Bait buckets during harvest for sap beetles.
- B. Traps for slugs.
- C. Row covers to exclude tarnished plant bug.

IV. Scouting for pests.

- A. Pre-bloom (once per week)
 - 1. Strawberry clipper: Examine plants for clipped buds.
 - 2. Two-spotted spider mite and predatory mites: Examine leaflets.
 - 3. Tarnished plant bug, adults: Sweep-net sampling.
- B. During bloom (once per week)
 - 1. Flower thrips: Shake flowers in plastic bag.
 - 2. Tarnished plant bug, nymphs: Shake flowers over dish.
 - 3. Spittlebug: Examine plant stems.
- C. Post-harvest (once every two weeks)
 - 1. Two-spotted spider mite and predatory mites: Examine leaflets.
 - 2. Strawberry rootworm beetles: Examine leaflets.
 - 3. Miscellaneous pests: Leafrollers, leafhoppers, whiteflies, aphids, root weevils.

