



Welcome to Ground Work

Dear J.P.,

A new service that AgriEnergy Resources is providing to our dealers this year is the production of IPM (Integrated Pest Management) tech sheets for use against specific diseases. These sheets go beyond conventional IPM in that they include sections on Bio Sanitation with Residue, increased plant resistance through improved mineral nutrition, as well as including standard information on the subject.

Having these more comprehensive tech sheets can allow each of us to better solve a particular problem that a grower might have. For example, the aerial application of fish, calcium (Ca), and SP-1* to watermelons in West Texas allowed that grower to pick his melons five times! He flew on this blend after each picking, and never once had need of a fungicide, as he typically had, to control Powdery Mildew. Notice that no potassium (K) was included in his fertilizer, as it commonly would be for Powdery Mildew in the Midwest. Simply because West Texas soils are long on K. Point being that our IPM tech sheets do not include actual nutrient recipes. That information will result from a collaboration of you, the grower, and AgriEnergy Resources to determine what blend of nutrients will be most supportive to the plant in a given place against a given disease. Thus, *accurate disease identification is essential.*

A few of these sheets, such as White Mold in Beans, have been produced and are available. Additional sheets will be produced on request. If there is a specific disease on a particular crop that is a problem in your area, and if having an IPM tech sheet to deal with it significantly helps your business, let us know and we will get to work on it.

**Always check pre-harvest intervals when using microbial products on edible crops.*