

## Growing Great Tomatoes, Part 2 - Links and References

### **Growing Tomatoes in the Home Garden (Rutgers Cooperative Extension)**

<https://njaes.rutgers.edu/fs678>

### **Growing Tomatoes (Univ. of Maryland Extension):** excellent links and videos

<https://extension.umd.edu/hgic/tomatoes>

### **Organic Gardening (NC Extension Gardener Handbook):** building healthy soil, holistic pest management

[https://content.ces.ncsu.edu/extension-gardener-handbook/17-organic-gardening#section\\_heading\\_8218](https://content.ces.ncsu.edu/extension-gardener-handbook/17-organic-gardening#section_heading_8218)

### **Vegetable Gardening: a Beginner's Guide (NCSU AG-12)**

<https://content.ces.ncsu.edu/home-vegetable-gardening-a-quick-reference-guide>

### **Container Grown Tomatoes (Penn State Extension):** <https://extension.psu.edu/container-grown-tomatoes>

### **Excluding and Repelling Problem Wildlife from the Garden (Univ. of Massachusetts, Amherst)**

<https://ag.umass.edu/home-lawn-garden/fact-sheets/wildlife-excluding-repelling-problem-wildlife-from-garden>

### **Epsom Salts: Miracle, Myth, or Marketing? (Dr. Linda Chalker-Scott, WSU Extension)**

<https://s3.wp.wsu.edu/uploads/sites/403/2015/03/epsom-salts.pdf>

### **Soil Temperature Maps and interactive tools:** searchable by location

<https://www.greencastonline.com/tools/soil-temperature>

### **First and Last Frost Dates in NC – interactive map and chart**

<https://gardening.ces.ncsu.edu/2020/09/first-and-last-frost-dates/?src=rss>

### **Watering the Vegetable Garden (Clemson):** includes info on soaker hoses and drip irrigation

<https://hgic.clemson.edu/factsheet/watering-the-vegetable-garden>

### **Nematode Assay Forms & Information (NCDA & CS):** including Note 1, biocontrol with marigold

<http://www.ncagr.gov/agronomi/uyrnem.htm>

### **Soil Testing - Resources and Links (from NCDA&CS and NC State Extension)**

<https://guilford.ces.ncsu.edu/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/Soil-Testing-Links-2021.pdf?fwd=no>

### **Municipal Compost Information - Guilford county**

<https://guilford.ces.ncsu.edu/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/Municipal-Compost.pdf?fwd=no>

## **Growing Great Tomatoes - videos and other resources**

### **Pruning: Removing Tomato Suckers (video, University of Maryland)**

<https://youtu.be/qBw9YjM2j8E>

### **How to Install Home Garden Drip Irrigation (video, University of Kentucky)**

[https://uknowledge.uky.edu/bae\\_present/1/](https://uknowledge.uky.edu/bae_present/1/)

### **Low Cost Deer Fence Alternative (video, University of Maryland)**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TmIGg786gOk>

### **Tomato Problems, Diseases and Pests (video, NC State EMG program, Buncombe county)**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cLI11P2Q0mk>

### **Seed Saving Tricks and Tips (blog post, The Garden Professors): w/special notes about saving tomato seed**

<https://gardenprofessors.com/saving-for-the-future-seed-saving-tricks-and-tips/>

### **Raised Bed Gardens (NC Extension Gardener handbook)**

<https://content.ces.ncsu.edu/extension-gardener-handbook/16-vegetable-gardening#gardentypes>

### **Container Edibles - handout (NC State EMG program, Guilford county)**

<https://guilford.ces.ncsu.edu/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/Container-Edibles-Handout-Spring-2021.pdf>

### **Growing Great Tomatoes, part 1 - handout (NC State EMG program, Guilford county)**

<https://guilford.ces.ncsu.edu/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/2021-Tomatoes-Part-1-Handout.pdf>

## **Support Systems - staking and caging tips and techniques**

### **Tomato Staking Techniques (UC Master Gardeners, Santa Clara CA): how-tos and info on 11 methods**

<http://mgsantaclara.ucanr.edu/garden-help/vegetables/tomatoes/tomato-staking-techniques/>

### **How to Make Tomato Cages: Big, Sturdy, and Cheap (PlanterTomato): step by step instructions**

<https://www.plantertomato.com/2010/05/how-to-make-tomato-cages-big-sturdy-cheap.html>

### **How to Make the Ultimate Tomato Cage (video, joegardenerTV)**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aYqXhrykI-k>

## **Growing Great Tomatoes - problem solving sites and resources**

**Tomato Problem Solver (Texas A & M):** visual guide to identification of common problems  
<http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/vegetable/problem-solvers/tomato-problem-solver>

**Tomato Diseases and Disorders (Clemson)**  
<http://www.clemson.edu/extension/hgic/pests/pdf/hgic2217.pdf>

**Tomato Insect Pests (Clemson):** excellent photos and a table suggesting control options  
<http://www.clemson.edu/extension/hgic/pests/pdf/hgic2218.pdf>

**Vegetable MD Online (Cornell):** tomato disease key by affected plant part  
<http://vegetablemdonline.ppath.cornell.edu/DiagnosticKeys/TomKey.html>

**PDIC - Plant Disease and Insect Clinic (NCSU, Department of Entomology and Plant Pathology)**  
<https://pdic.ces.ncsu.edu>

## **Top 10 Tips for Great Tomatoes - best practices for home gardeners**

- 1- Select a sunny spot (at least 8 hours) with access to water
- 2- Do a soil test and adjust your pH according to the lab's recommendations
- 3- Incorporate organic matter such as compost into the root zone (top 6-12" of soil)
- 4- Grow or purchase quality transplants, and wait for warm soil and air temps before planting
- 5- Give plants enough growing space based on their mature size, and good support to keep foliage clean
- 6- Mulch to reduce fungal disease and weed pressure, and also to regulate soil moisture and temperature
- 7- Regular watering (1-2" a week) is essential for growing strong and productive tomato plants
- 8- Fertilize carefully: long season plants may need supplemental nitrogen, but beware of over applying
- 9- Rotate plants in the nightshade family to reduce fungal disease issues, and observe good garden sanitation
- 10- Follow IPM principles: grow strong healthy plants to prevent problems; monitor your plants and get a proper diagnosis of any issues; if action is required, look for the least impactful solutions first

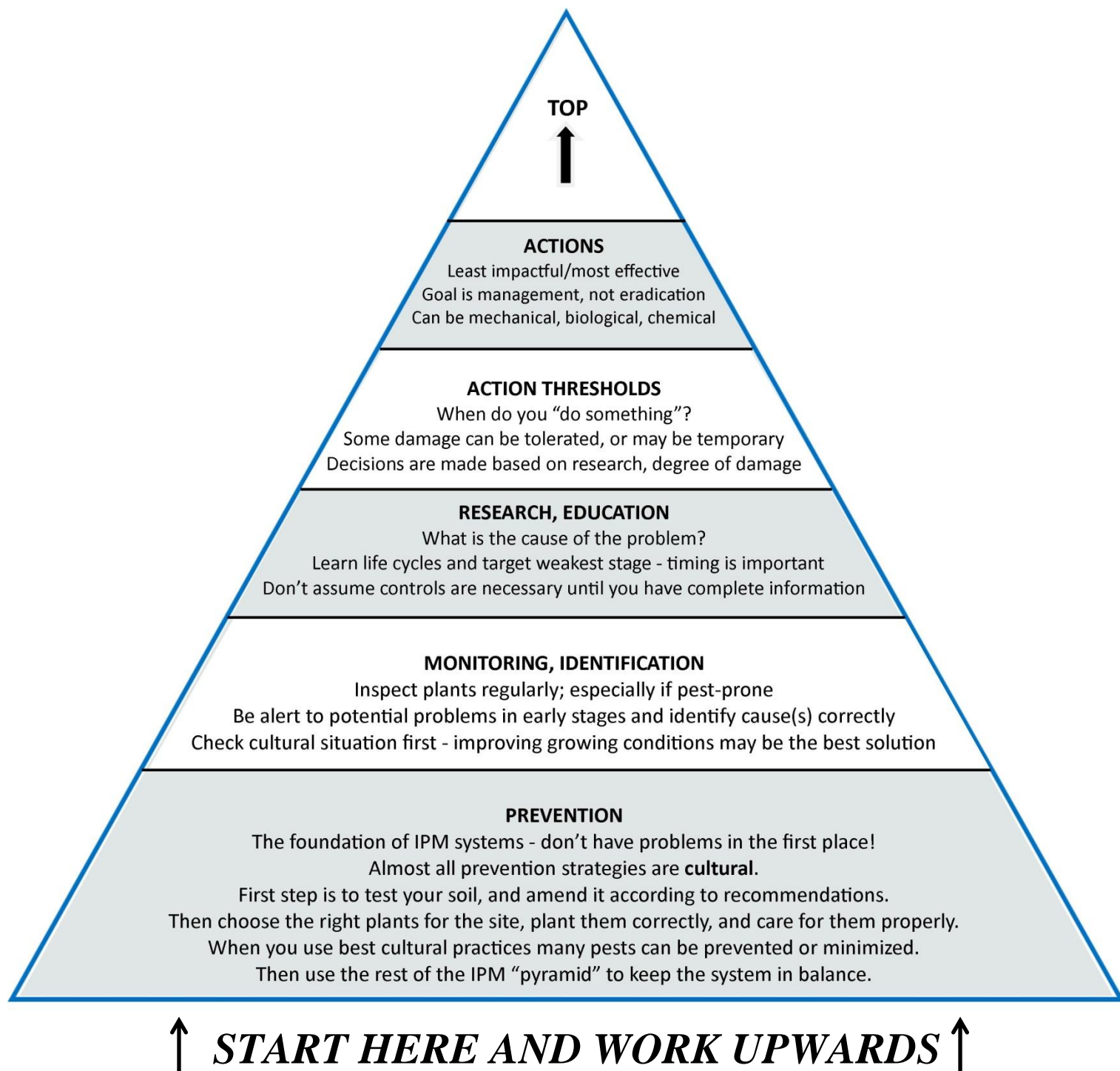
**NC STATE** EXTENSION

Master Gardener | Guilford County

**LIST COMPILED AND DISTRIBUTED BY NC STATE EXTENSION MASTER GARDENER<sup>SM</sup> VOLUNTEERS, GUILFORD COUNTY**  
In Guilford county, contact us with questions: email [guilfordmg@gmail.com](mailto:guilfordmg@gmail.com), or leave a message at 336 641-2404

# THE IPM “PYRAMID”

**\*a guide to mindful decision-making for home gardeners\***



Created and Distributed by Guilford County Extension Master Gardener<sup>SM</sup> Volunteers

**NC STATE** EXTENSION

Master Gardener | Guilford County

**NC** COOPERATIVE  
EXTENSION

 N.C. A&T  
STATE UNIVERSITY

 NC STATE  
UNIVERSITY