**High Tunnel Follow Up Questionnaire Results:**

Eight farmers responded to our questionnaire. We contacted ten.

First, we asked the participants to rank the following research topics in order of importance (1 = most important, 6 = least important).

* Attracting pollinators and beneficial insects (PB)
* Crop rotations, crop selection, and cover crops (CR)
* Economic issues (EI)
* Pest and disease management (PD)
* Soil fertility management (SF)
* Ventilation and temperature management (VT)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Research Topic** | **Ranked 1 (frequency)** | **Ranked 2 (frequency)** | **Ranked 3 (frequency)** | **Ranked 4 (frequency)** | **Ranked 5 (frequency)** | **Ranked 6 (frequency)** |
| **PB** | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| **CR** | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 0 |
| **EI** | 1 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| **PD** | 3 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| **SF** | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| **VT** | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 4 |

When we convert this to a points system (see key below) we get the following results (see table below).

* Ranked 1 = 6 points
* Ranked 2 = 5 points
* Ranked 3 = 4 points
* Ranked 4 = 3 points
* Ranked 5 = 2 points
* Ranked 6 = 1 point

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Research Topic** | **Points** |
| PB | 27 |
| **CR** | **33** |
| EI | 23 |
| **PD** | **36** |
| **SF** | **32** |
| VT | 17 |

Overall, farmers are most concerned with pest and disease management (36 points), crop rotations, crop selection, and cover crops (33 points), and soil fertility management (32 points).

Next, we asked the participants to select the three most important crops from the following list to conduct research on in high tunnels and rank them by order of importance (1 = most important, 3 = least important).

* cucumbers
* eggplant
* herbs and spices
* leafy greens (kale, mustard, collards, etc.)
* melons
* peppers
* root crops
* salad greens (lettuce, microgreens, arugula, etc.)
* squash
* strawberries
* tomatoes

Several crops were not selected at all. These were:

* eggplant
* melons
* root crops
* strawberries

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Crops** | **Ranked 1 (frequency)** | **Ranked 2 (frequency)** | **Ranked 3 (frequency)** |
| cucumbers | 0 | 1 | 3 |
| herbs and spices | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| leafy greens (kale, mustard, collards, etc.) | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| peppers | 2 | 3 | 0 |
| salad greens (lettuce, microgreens, arugula,etc.) | 2 | 2 | 1 |
| squash | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| tomatoes | 3 | 1 | 0 |

When we convert this to a points system (see key below) we get the following results (see table below).

* Ranked 1 = 3 points
* Ranked 2 = 2 points
* Ranked 3 = 1 point

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Crops** | **Points** |
| cucumbers | 5 |
| herbs and spices | 1 |
| leafy greens (kale, mustard, collards, etc.) | 7 |
| **peppers** | **12** |
| **salad greens (lettuce, microgreens, arugula, etc.)** | **11** |
| squash | 1 |
| **tomatoes** | **11** |

Overall, farmers are most interested in researching peppers (12 points), salad greens (11 points), and tomatoes (11 points).