

NH ENVIROTHON 2014 Current Issue Learning Objectives

Sustainable Agriculture/Locally Grown

After completing this year's ENVIROTHON, students will be able to:

- 1) Describe certain farming practices that build soil organic matter such as composting, crop rotations, cover crops, conservation tillage, and management intensive grazing systems.
- 2) Explain irrigation best management practices that reduce water use such as conservation tillage, cover crops, plant selection, precision agriculture, water re-use, and sub-surface drip irrigation.
- 3) Describe the role pollinators play in farming and ways to attract them.
- 4) Identify components of integrated pest management and biological pest control techniques used to prevent insect pest, disease, and weed problems.
- 5) Define organic agriculture as an example of a sustainable agriculture system. Give specifics on why it is sustainable and how it might not be.
- 6) Describe the growth in organic production in the United States since the late 1990's within the historical context of agricultural development in New Hampshire.
- 7) Recognize the connection between sustainable agriculture and ecosystem management.
- 8) Demonstrate ways farmers can reduce their reliance on fossil fuels by increasing farm efficiency and using alternative fuels.
- 9) Describe the economic, social, and environmental benefits of sustainable agriculture to local communities.
- 10) Examine the ways farmers market their food locally and regionally. Understand the meaning of CSAs, food hubs, farmers markets and farm to school.