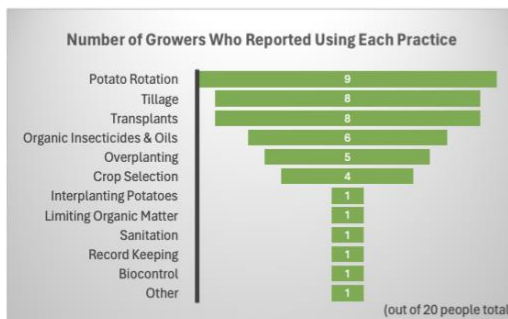


Key Points from Symphylans IPM Focus Groups

Fall 2023
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UC
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Key Areas for Future Research

- We need more science-based information to help guide practical & affordable strategies that are compatible with organic & no-till systems.
- We need a better understanding of symphylans biology, behavior, & effects of factors such as site, soil type, timing, climate, etc.
- What is the mechanism behind the potato rotation? Growers have several hypotheses.
- How can we improve the use of biocontrol options and natural predators?

Collaborative Knowledge-Sharing

- I met with and interviewed growers who have prior experience managing symphylans in commercial vegetable crop systems. All growers use organic management practices & some use no-till.
- I shared what we currently know about science-based Integrated Pest Management (IPM) for symphylans using UC IPM and other Extension resources.
- In small groups, growers shared anecdotes, discussed what works, what doesn't, practical considerations, & key questions for future research and education. Growers who could not attend focus group meetings kindly emailed me detailed input.

As more growers adopt healthy soil practices, we will likely see symphylans pressures increase.

→ Commercial growers who'd like to provide further input, please email Ellie at eandrews@ucanr.edu.

Thank you to everyone who participated for sharing your knowledge & expertise!