



NEWS RELEASE



NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

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CHEMICAL APPLICATIONS TO HARVESTED WHEAT

LINCOLN, Neb., March 14, 2002 - A variety of pest management practices were used at Nebraska's off-farm wheat storage facilities to prevent problems with stored grain, according to USDA's Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. These pest management practices were used to determine if, when, and which chemicals should be applied. Those practices included specific cleaning activities, use of specific devices to inspect grain, and frequent inspections.

Results of our recent survey indicated that 26 percent of Nebraska's wheat was treated with insecticides. Those insecticide applications were made at off-farm grain storage facilities. Wheat handled by Nebraska elevators during the 2000 crop year totaled 98 million bushels.

Insecticides used in Nebraska included aluminum phosphide, which was applied to 23 percent of the handled wheat at the rate of 0.28 pounds per 1,000 bushels. Methyl bromide was applied to 4 percent of the wheat at the rate of 1.18 pounds per 1,000 bushels.

Nationally, aluminum phosphide was applied to 18 percent of the handled wheat at the rate of 0.21 pounds per 1,000 bushels and methyl bromide was applied to only 0.4 percent at the rate of 1.82 pounds per 1,000 bushels.

Access the National publication for this release at:

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