

Integrated Pest Management Practices, 2000 By Charles E. Less

A review of overall survey results showed widespread increases in the use of Pest Management Practices on Field Crops, Hay, and Vegetables nationwide, compared to 1999. Reasons for the changes vary by crop type, but in general, farmers in the 2000 crop year responded to unusual national and regional economic and climatological events. Extremely low commodity prices combined with escalating energy and input costs placed many producers in a cost-price squeeze.

The data are published in one table by crop, with the percent of farms using the specific pest management practice for the Northeast region. The Northeast region includes Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

Pest Management Practices, Northeast ¹, 2000

Practice	Percent of Farms Utilizing Practice							
	Corn	Soybeans	Wheat	Vegetables	Alfalfa Hay	Other Hay	Barley	Fruits & Nuts
	<i>Percent of Farms</i>							
Prevention Practices:								
Tillage/etc. to manage pests	30	39	46	56	25	36	24	19
Remove or plow down crop residue	27	10	34	47	20	11	13	*
Clean implements after field work	37	45	28	23	31	23	31	38
Water management practices	3	6	2	18	3	3	*	*
Avoidance Practices:								
Biotech varieties with insect resistance only	17							
Adjust planting/harvesting dates	12	11	18	5	5	3	*	*
Rotate crops to control pests	54	70	63	73	32	18	50	*
Biotech varieties with pathogen/nematode resistance only	4	4						
Alternate planting locations	29	27	18	41	11	3	6	*
Grow trap crop	2	0	*	*	*			
Monitoring Practices:								
Scouting for pests	33	43	32	48	21	9	26	67
Records kept to track pests	10	21	10	5	8	3	18	13
Field mapping of weed problems	27	7	9	5	13	4	15	*
Soil analysis	11	4	3	3	5	6	8	*
Weather monitoring	21	23	35	35	29	15	11	46
Suppression Practices:								
Biotech varieties with herbicide resistance only	13	78		*				
Scouting used to make decisions	8	11	8	4	4	2	16	70
Biological pesticides	13	4	4	22	*	2	*	18
Beneficial organisms	2	*	*	15	*			*
Maintain ground cover or physical barriers	12	7	12	64	13	10	2	*
Adjust planting methods	5	4	2	44	3	5	*	
Alternate pesticides	30	22	13	60	18	6	11	65

¹ Includes Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

* Insufficient reports to publish data.

