



NEWS RELEASE
United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
NORTHWEST REGIONAL FIELD OFFICE
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USDA TO SURVEY FRUIT GROWERS ABOUT CHEMICAL USE

Olympia, Washington –The U.S. Department of Agriculture’s National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) will survey fruit growers in 12 states, including Oregon and Washington, for its biennial Fruit Chemical Use Survey.

The survey will collect information on bearing acreage, pest management practices, pesticide application, acres treated and rates applied to more than 22 fruit crops.

“Pesticide data makes this survey a vital tool for the entire fruit production sector in the United States,” said Christopher Mertz, director of the NASS Northwest Regional Office.

“I hope every grower understands the importance of these data and will take the time to respond if they receive this survey.”

The Fruit Chemical Use Survey will provide much needed information about the current crop production practices used in the United States. The results of this survey will paint a detailed picture of pesticide use, as well as other pest management practices used by the fruit growers across the nation.

“Growers benefit from providing this information because it is used to re-register products for their use, to illustrate the industry’s environmental practices and to assure the quality of U.S. food to consumers here and around the world,” said Mertz.

Within the next few weeks NASS representatives will contact selected Oregon and Washington growers to arrange in-person interviews for conducting the survey. The results of this survey will be available in aggregate form only, ensuring that no individual operation or producer can be identified, as required by federal law.

Survey results will be published in NASS’s online database, *Quick Stats*, in July 2018. This database and all NASS reports are available on the chemical use survey program web site: https://www.nass.usda.gov/Surveys/Guide_to_NASS_Surveys/Chemical_Use/index.php. For more information on NASS surveys and reports, call the NASS Northwest Regional Field Office at 1-800-435-5883.

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