

# Agricultural Chemical Usage, 2009

## Fruit – Apples, Peaches

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*The following chemical use data is the most recent data available.*

This release is a brief summary of data for on-farm use of commercial fertilizers, agricultural chemicals, and pest management practices from producers of apples and peaches for the 2009 crop year taken from the estimates published by the National Agricultural Statistics Service in Washington, D.C. These estimates for Pennsylvania and other states are available on the Internet at [www.nass.usda.gov/Surveys/Guide\\_to\\_NASS\\_Surveys/Chemical\\_Use/](http://www.nass.usda.gov/Surveys/Guide_to_NASS_Surveys/Chemical_Use/).

Information in this report is collected from the Fruit Chemical Usage Survey (FCUS). The primary objective of the survey is to provide data to develop an agricultural chemical use database that is timely, detailed, and reliable. Data collection occurred between October and December of 2009. The agricultural chemical use estimates in this report focus on the acreage treated and application rates for herbicides, insecticides, fungicides, and other pesticides. The survey also collected information about production practices.

Herbicides were applied to 37 percent of the total bearing acres of apples in Pennsylvania. A total of 16,200 pounds were applied to that acreage. The active ingredient most commonly used on apples was Paraquat with a total application of 5,000 pounds. It was applied to 24 percent of the bearing acreage, with an average of 1.6 applications made at a rate of 0.569 pounds per acre. Thirty percent of the total bearing acres of peaches were treated by herbicides. A total of 2,600 pounds was applied. The active ingredient most commonly used on peaches was Paraquat, also, with a total application of 1,000 pounds. It was applied to 22 percent of the bearing acreage, with an average of 1.5 applications made at a rate of 0.49 pounds per acre.

Insecticides were applied to 81 percent of Pennsylvania's bearing apple acreage. A total of 220,800 pounds was applied. Petroleum Oil was the active ingredient used in the largest volume with a total of 87,000 pounds was applied, while azinphos-methyl was the insecticide most commonly used, applied to 49 percent of the bearing acreage. Seventy-one percent of total bearing acres of peaches were treated by insecticides. A total of 17,500 pounds was applied. The active ingredient most commonly used on peaches was Phosmet, with a total application of 7,000 pounds. It was applied to 43 percent of the bearing acreage, with an average of 3.9 applications made at a rate of 0.997 pounds per acre.

Fungicides were applied to 84 percent of the state's bearing apple acreage. A total application of 248,400 pounds was made. Captan was the most commonly used active ingredient with 111,000 pounds of the chemical applied to 73 percent of all bearing acres. An average of 7.7 applications was made at a rate of 0.932 pounds per acre. Eighty-three percent of the total bearing acres of peaches were treated by fungicides. A total of 68,300 pounds was applied. Sulfur was the active ingredient used in the largest volume with a total of 35,000 pounds applied, while captan was the fungicide most commonly used, applied to 59 percent of the total bearing acreage.

Other chemicals were applied to 61 percent of bearing apple acreage in the state. A total of 2,500 pounds was applied. Ethephon and spirodiclofen were the active ingredients used in the largest volume (1,000 pounds each), while NAA, sodium was the most commonly used, applied to 29 percent of the bearing acreage.

