



Plant and Animal Systems

Smith-Lever Base Funding 406 Integrated Grants

United States
Department of
Agriculture

Cooperative State
Research, Education,
and Extension Service

USDA Crop Profiles Provide Critical Data on Pest Management

The Food Quality Protection Act (FQPA) instructs USDA and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to obtain pesticide use data on major and minor crops. Of particular importance at this time are use data for the organophosphates, carbamates, and possible carcinogens. These classes of pesticides have been identified as top priority at EPA for the tolerance reassessment process. These same pesticides are also vital in the production of many crops.

Because some of these uses may be cancelled, it is important to identify the current situation, future needs, and what research efforts are needed to meet these needs. To better determine where future research efforts should lead, it is necessary first to identify areas of critical need (i.e., those crops that have few if any alternative control measures available).

USDA Crop Profiles provide up-to-date research-based information on crop production methods and pest management strategies, based on regional or state-specific production systems. These Profiles provide the complete production story for a commodity and a look at current research activities directed at finding replacement strategies for the pesticides of concern.

Today these Profiles and the newly developing pest management strategic plans comprise

SHIELDED SPRAYER INCREASES
PEST CONTROL OPTIONS.



USDA-ARS

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GROWERS SCOUT FIELDS TO DETERMINE IF PEST CONTROL IS NEEDED.

the largest body of useful crop production information available at any source. While originally conceived to meet the needs of the EPA to address the issues of potential pesticide losses through the reassessment process, the Profiles provide useful research-based information on crop production and pest management nationwide.



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The Profiles are currently the first-line tool used by the EPA in reassessment activities. In addition, U.S. global trading partners use USDA Crop Profiles and pest management strategic plans for information on pesticide- and pest-related issues that could affect importation of agricultural commodities into the United States.

The Web-based Crop Profiles may be found online at <http://www.pmcenters.org>. They are part of an effort by the USDA Pest Management Centers to provide information critical to pest management needs in the United States.

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