

Dear Nursery and Floriculture Producer:

You have been selected for an extremely important role: as a participant in the January 2007 Nursery and Floriculture Chemical Use Survey conducted by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS). A NASS representative will contact you to make an appointment to visit your operation with a questionnaire to record your 2006 nursery and floriculture chemical usage and pest management practices.

This survey is the only comprehensive measure of chemical usage in the nursery and floriculture industry, and provides useful and important information on many levels. For you as an individual, the completion of this survey provides a systematic way to review what your operation applied in 2006. Results will be published in the USDA Nursery and Floriculture Chemical Use 2006 Summary in December 2007.

The information you provide is also vital to our industry, especially during a time when there is an ever-shrinking pool of government and university resources available for the development of products and technology for tomorrow. The survey results provide a reliable source of public information for all members of our industry as well as for industry representatives working with policymakers at the state and national levels. By providing an accurate measure of the nursery and floriculture industry's chemical usage and pest management practices, the survey will ensure that risk assessors and label registrants base their decisions on actual chemical use data instead of worst-case scenarios.

Please don't pass up the opportunity to participate in this important survey. Your participation is crucial. Rest assured that your survey responses will be kept completely confidential, as required by federal law. NASS safeguards the privacy of all survey respondents and publishes only state- and national-level data from this survey, ensuring that no individual operation or grower can be identified.

On behalf of your fellow growers throughout the United States, we thank you in advance for your service to agriculture through participation in this important survey.

Sincerely,



Dave Dowling, President  
Association of Specialty  
Cut Flower Growers

Otto Bulk, President  
International Cut Flower  
Growers Association

Robert Lutholtz, President  
Society of American Florists

Janet Anderson, President  
Perennial Plant Association

Carlos Fighetti, President  
American Orchid Society

Beth Walterscheidt, President  
National Christmas Tree Association

Robert Dolibois, President  
American Nursery & Landscaping Association