



NASS Programs

2022 Vegetable Chemical Use Survey

About the Survey

The Vegetable Chemical Use Survey provides detailed data about fertilizer and pesticide usage and pest management practices from producers of select vegetable crops in selected states.

NASS contacts growers early in the survey period and then again once the harvest is complete or the last chemical application has been made. Because of variation in geographic and crop harvesting periods, the survey will be conducted from October 2022 through January 2023.

NASS will release the data in 2023 via NASS's Quick Stats database: <https://quickstats.nass.usda.gov/>

Response Confidentiality

All information NASS collects in this survey will be kept strictly confidential, as required by federal law. The results of this survey will be available in aggregate form only, ensuring that no individual operation or producer can be identified.

What Topics Does this Survey Address?

NASS interviewers will ask about production practices related to the target vegetable crops in the participating states. Questions include:

- Number of vegetable acres operated
- Fertilizers and pesticides used (including name of the chemical product, method, amount, rate, and frequency of application)
- Pest management practices

Responses will help illustrate the industry's fertilizer and pesticide practices and assure the quality of U.S. food to consumers here and around the world. Interviewers will ask several detailed questions about the types of pesticides used on crops and in pest management practices. To make the interview go quickly, producers are encouraged to have their spray records available.

Who Uses the Information?

All sectors of the agriculture industry – producers, buyers, suppliers, policymakers and others – rely on vegetable chemical use data to make sound business decisions. For example:

- Agencies such as the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service use the data to document the quality and safety of U.S. food products, providing assurances to both domestic and international customers.
- Growers use the data to compare their own practices with aggregated data from growers in their state and the nation.