

CROP PROTECTION

America's apple growers are among the most progressive crop producers in the world, utilizing Integrated Pest Management (IPM) and other crop protection programs that minimize use of pesticides approved by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The continued availability of effective and affordable agricultural chemicals is critical to the success of these programs, and to the ability of U.S. growers to economically produce the high quality apples and apple products that American consumers demand. While the apple industry supports fair and science-based implementation of the Food Quality Protection Act (FQPA), continued funding for the following program areas is needed to mitigate its negative impact on apple growers and processors:

- National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) pesticide-usage surveys;
- Pesticide Data Program, administered by the Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS);
- Office of Pest Management Policy administered by the Agricultural Research Service (ARS);
- Minor-use registration of crop protection tools (IR-4) administered by the National Institute for Food and Agriculture (NIFA);

Position: USApple urges full funding for the above U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) administered programs to mitigate the negative impact of FQPA implementation on apple growers.