



Iowa Ag News – Chemical Use

Oats: Fall 2023

Iowa Field Office · 210 Walnut Street Ste 833 · Des Moines IA 50309 · (515) 776-3400 · (800) 772-0825
fax (855) 271-9802 · www.nass.usda.gov/ia

Cooperating with the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship

May 13, 2024 - For Immediate Release

Media Contact: Greg Thessen

The National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) Agricultural Chemical Use Program is the U.S. Department of Agriculture's official source of statistics about on-farm and post-harvest fertilizer and pesticide use and pest management practices.

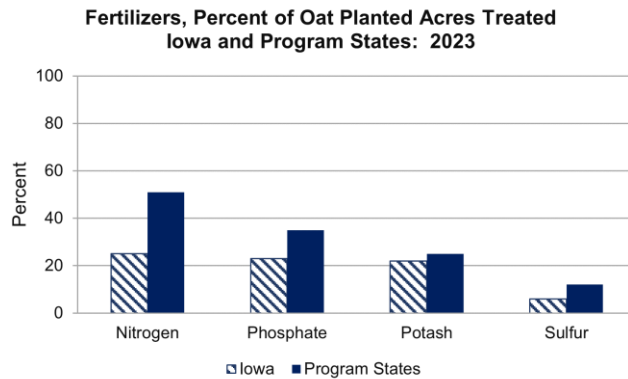
In the fall of 2023, NASS collected data for the 2023 crop year, the one-year period beginning after the 2022 harvest and ending with the 2023 harvest, about chemical use and pest management practices used on oat production. The data was collected as part of the Agricultural Resource Management Survey (ARMS) and the results are presented here.

Fertilizer Use: Of the three primary macronutrients, nitrogen was the most widely used on oat acres planted in Iowa. Farmers applied nitrogen to 25 percent of planted acres at an average rate of 37 pounds per acre per year. Macronutrients phosphate and potash were applied at an average rate of 73 and 101 pounds per acre per year, respectively. The secondary macronutrient, sulfur, was applied to 6 percent of acres planted to oats.

Fertilizer Use on Oats – Iowa and Program States: 2023

Active ingredient	Iowa			Program states ¹		
	Planted acres treated (percent)	Yearly rate (lbs per acre)	Total applied (1,000 lbs)	Planted acres treated (percent)	Yearly rate (lbs per acre)	Total applied (1,000 lbs)
Nitrogen	25	37	1,800	51	51	49,800
Phosphate	23	73	3,100	35	37	24,700
Potash	22	101	4,200	25	49	23,800
Sulfur	6	30	300	12	13	2,900

¹ The 17 program states surveyed about oats in the 2023 ARMS were California, Georgia, Idaho, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, New York, North Dakota, Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Texas, and Wisconsin.



Crop rotation was the top pest management practice on Oats acreage in Iowa.

Pest Management Practices on Oats – Iowa and Program States: 2023

	Iowa		Program states	
	% of area planted	% of operations	% of area planted	% of operations
Avoidance				
Crop or plant variety chosen for specific pest resistance	9	10	16	17
Planting locations planned to avoid cross infestation of pests	4	4	9	10
Planting or harvesting dates adjusted	3	3	11	11
Rotated crops during past 3 years	80	70	67	71
Row spacing, plant density, or row directions adjusted	1	1	7	7
Monitoring				
Diagnostic laboratory services used for pest detection via soil or plant tissue analysis	2	2	1	1
Field mapping data used to assist decisions	1	1	5	4
Scouted -				
established process used	3	4	5	4
for pests due to a pest advisory warning	2	3	2	1
for pests due to a pest development model	0	0	4	3
for pests or beneficial organisms-not scouted	34	56	25	32
for pests or beneficial organism by conducting general observations while performing routine tasks	27	28	35	39
for pests or beneficial organism by deliberately going to the crop acres or growing areas	39	15	40	29
Weather data used to assist decisions	2	2	27	22
Written or electronic records kept to track pest activity	1	3	15	12
Prevention				
Beneficial insect or vertebrate habitat maintained	2	2	8	7
Crop residues removed or burned down	4	4	6	8
Equipment and implements cleaned after field work to reduce spread of pests	22	24	41	36
Field edges, ditches, or fence lines chopped, sprayed, mowed, plowed, or burned	43	22	29	27
Field left fallow previous year to manage insects	3	1	2	2
Flamer used to kill weeds	1	(Z)	(Z)	(Z)
No-till or minimum-till used	60	49	48	42
Plowed down crop residue using conventional tillage	13	12	24	27
Seed treated for insect or disease control after purchase	1	1	3	4
Water management practices used	(Z)	1	2	1
Suppression				
Beneficial organisms applied or released	0	0	(Z)	(Z)
Biological pesticides applied	0	0	(Z)	(Z)
Buffer strips or border rows maintained to isolate				
organic from non-organic crops	36	9	8	6
Floral lures, attractants, repellants, pheromone traps, or biological pest controls used	0	0	1	(Z)
Ground covers, mulches, or other physical barriers maintained	49	24	37	31
Pesticides with different mechanisms of action to keep pest				
from becoming resistant to pesticides	1	1	8	7
Scouting data compared to published information to assist decisions	2	1	7	5
Trap crop grown to manage insects	0	0	1	1

(Z) Less than half of the unit shown.

¹ The 17 program states surveyed about oats in the 2023 ARMS were California, Georgia, Idaho, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, New York, North Dakota, Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Texas, and Wisconsin.

More information and data for the USDA NASS Chemical Use Program can be found at:
https://www.nass.usda.gov/Surveys/Guide_to_NASS_Surveys/Chemical_Use/.