

## **NEWS RELEASE**



United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
SOUTHERN REGIONAL FIELD OFFICE
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## USDA TO MEASURE FLORIDA AND GEORGIA VEGETABLE CHEMICAL USAGE

ATHENS, GA – Interviewers from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) will interview nearly 300 vegetable growers in Florida and Georgia to gather information for the 2024 Vegetable Chemical Use Survey this fall.

The survey will collect information on planted acreage, pest management practices, acres treated, and application rates, pesticide application, acres treated, and rates applied to vegetable crops. In addition to Florida and Georgia, vegetable growers in 15 other states will also hear from NASS as the agency collects comprehensive U.S. vegetable production practices information.

"Growers benefit from providing their information because the resultant data will illustrate the industry's environmental practices and assure the quality of U.S. food to consumers here and around the world," said Anthony Prillaman, Director of the NASS Southern Region Field Office. "I encourage every grower to take the time to respond, if they receive this survey."

The data will paint a detailed picture of pesticide use and other pest management practices used by the vegetable growers across the nation. To conduct the survey, NASS representatives will call growers to arrange phone or in-person interviews. Growers are encouraged to have their spray records available for reference. If these services were contracted, growers should be prepared to give consent to access these records.

NASS safeguards the privacy of all respondents. The information growers provide will be used for statistical purposes only. In accordance with federal law, responses will be kept confidential and will not be disclosed in identifiable form.

The data will be published online in NASS's Quick Stats database in July of next year. This database and all NASS reports are available at <a href="nass.usda.gov">nass.usda.gov</a>. For more information on NASS surveys and reports, call the NASS Southern Region Field Office at (800) 253-4419.

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NASS is the federal statistical agency responsible for producing official data about U.S. agriculture and is committed to providing timely, accurate, and useful statistics in service to U.S. agriculture.

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