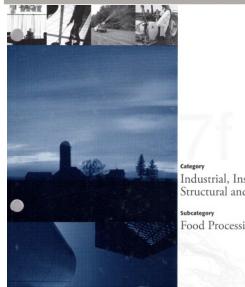


Pesticide Management Education Program

Protecting the People and Environment of New York

Rice Hall
Cornell University
Ithaca, NY 14853
607.255.1866
PMEP_Webmaster@cornell.edu



Pesticide Safety Education

Category
Industrial, Institutional,
Structural and Health
Subcategory
Food Processing



2019
Cornell Integrated Crop and Pest Management Guidelines for Commercial Vegetable Production



PMEP, a Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE) program, has been a nationally recognized leader in pesticide safety education for over 40 years. Whether enjoying New York-grown or processed food and beverages, dining out, benefitting from public health mosquito control programs and properly maintained right-of-ways, or hiring professionals to tackle pest problems from weeds to termites and bed bugs, virtually every New Yorker benefits from PMEP's efforts to train agricultural producers and commercial businesses in the proper use and handling of pesticides.

In fulfillment of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA), PMEP provides certification training to pesticide applicators. On the commercial side alone, this amounts to a jobs training program with an economic impact of more than \$30 million each year just with respect to the salaries attained by applicators for whom certification is a job requirement. Other economic benefits of PMEP's training efforts, such as agricultural producers making safe and effective pest management decisions and food processors protecting their products from contamination by insects and rodents, are invaluable even if difficult to quantify.

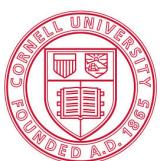
PMEP fulfills its mission by developing pesticide applicator certification training manuals, providing live and online applicator training, producing the Cornell Crop and Pest Management Guidelines series, and responding to public inquiries regarding pesticides and pest management. In doing so, PMEP is a leader in providing education in areas such as groundwater protection, integrated pest management, pollinator protection, and protecting people from pesticide exposure.

PMEP can support invasive species management by:

- Conducting presentations for pesticide applicators about safety and pesticide use.
- Speaking to the general public on pesticide-related topics.
- Helping to identify pesticides for invasive species management.
- Providing education on special pesticide registration options for invasive species.
- Answering questions about pesticides and their use.
- Helping to develop online recertification courses that address invasive species.

PMEP protects New Yorkers and their environment from pesticide misuse by:

- Developing certification training manuals and exams (with the DEC) using a process that other states emulate.
- Responding to public inquiries, often talking people out of using pesticides in ways that could harm themselves or others.
- Verifying that CCE pesticide recommendations comply with label directions and NYS laws.
- Reaching out to NY's 25,000+ certified pesticide applicators in NYS via training events and the Internet.



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