

Dear Grower,

As you may know, the use of integrated pest management (IPM) is increasing. The goal of IPM is to help farmers manage pests in such a way as to preserve or enhance profitability while minimizing environmental damages. However, while it is clear that IPM has both economic and environmental benefits, it is not clear exactly what these benefits are. As such, farmers, educators, policymakers and researchers desire evidence of the benefits of IPM to producers and to society at large.

The benefits of IPM are only realized when producers choose to employ IPM techniques and technologies. As such, information on the production practices used by growers is needed to assess the benefits of IPM. This questionnaire is designed to obtain this information. The results of this study will be used by researchers at Virginia Tech University and Cornell University to evaluate pest management practices and pesticide needs in New York sweet corn production. If you would like a summary of results, please contact me at the address above.

The following sections will ask about several aspects of your sweet corn operation. **Responses to this survey will always remain completely anonymous** and your name will never be associated with your answers. I understand that you are busy and that your time is valuable, particularly during this time of year. As such, I have made every possible effort to create a survey that is easy to fill out and that is as short a possible.

If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to call, email or write.

Your assistance is greatly appreciated.

Please fill out this survey even if you do not use IPM.

Sincerely,

Jason M. Beddow