
2003 IR-4/EPA/USDA Cultural Practices Bus Tour(s)

Some advance planning has begun for the 2003 Annual EPA/IR-4/USDA cultural practices bus tour, or possibly tours. We are exploring the possibility of taking a full-day tour in mid-to-late September west from D.C. "Beyond the Appalachian Trail" into the tree and small fruit and vegetable areas of Winchester, VA, Martinsburg and Kearneysville, WV, and Keedysville, MD. Potential tour stops could include VA Tech's Alson H. Smith, Jr. Agricultural Research and Extension Center in Winchester, a specialty vegetable packaging plant in Martinsburg, post-harvest fresh fruit treatment at a local fruit grower operation, the Western Maryland Research and Education Center in Keedysville,

the WVU Kearneysville Tree Fruit Research and Education Center and the USDA/ARS Appalachian Fruit Research Station (AFRS) in Kearneysville, and a local fruit/vegetable farm and roadside market.

Also in 2003, we are considering the organization of another tour to a major greenhouse/ornamental operation near D.C., either in Maryland or Virginia. Stay tuned as plans begin to gel for 2003 IR-4 sponsored tours!

We appreciate your suggestions for either tour. Presently, we are making contacts.

Article by Van Starner and Editor

Crop Profiles and Pest Management Strategic Plans

Extremely valuable information on a large number of agromonic crops is available at <http://www.pmcenters.org>. This is the web site for the regional USDA Pest Management Centers. Crop Profiles are descriptions of crop production and pest management recommendations compiled by state and commodity. They are indexed by state and by crop and are searchable. Newly posted crop profiles include corn, flaxseed and beans (dry) from the state of Montana.

The Pest Management Strategic Plans address pest management needs and priorities for individual commodities. Twelve plans involving eleven states are now complete. A recent addition is the California Prune PMSP.

Article by Sandy Perry

Fenamiphos (Nemacur®) Cancelled

In a letter dated March 15, 2002, Bayer requested of EPA voluntary cancellation of all uses of fenamiphos, effective May 2005, due to the escalating costs of defending the product relative to its limited use. According to a recent press release from Bayer's Agriculture Division, all domestic uses on sandy soils will cease as of May 31, 2005, and all other production and sales will be phased out by 2008. Production of Nemacur will be terminated by Bayer on May 31, 2007, and sales and distribution of the product will end on May 31 the following year. After May 31, 2008, the use of existing stocks may continue until the product is gone from farmers' shelves. Nemacur is used on small fruit including grapes, cherries and strawberries, as well as on apples, citrus, pineapple, garlic, tobacco and golf courses. In many cases there is not an alternative for Nemacur, so the phase out approach is being used instead of an immediate cancellation.

Article by Van Starner