## **Ontario Pesticide Survey**

## www.ontariopesticidesurvey.ca

**Beginning December 5**, all Ontario field crop, vegetable, fruit and specialty crop farmers are asked to fill out a confidential, anonymous survey of pesticide use for the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food and the Ministry of Rural Affairs. This year, the survey is being conducted by Farm & Food Care Ontario.

Surveys have been conducted every five years since 1973 and are used to track trends in pesticide use. Government, commodity boards and researchers use the information to help improve minor use pesticide registration lists, work toward safer use of pesticides and to understand trends in use and the types of pesticides used.

The survey will track all field and horticulture crops and the pesticides used, acres applied and also acres where no pesticides are used. All farmers and custom spray applicators are encouraged to help fill out the survey of products they used during the 2013 growing season.

The survey is anonymous. Only a respondent's county information will be collected to help determine pesticide usage in different parts of the province.

New this year, data collection has moved to an online program with drop down menus for ease of use and accuracy of data.

The survey will be available online at ontariopesticidesurvey.ca beginning December 5. Farm & Food Care will also accept mail-in, fax or email returns of the survey. Data collection will continue until February 15, 2014.

"Ontario growers have shown leadership over the past 40 years by sharing their pesticide use records. These records have been put to great use to help justify such things as emergency uses, adding products to the GROU list for importation, and for pesticide pricing impacts. I urge growers to once again share their data, in total confidentiality, to continue this valuable resource"

- Craig Hunter- Expert Advisor, Pesticide, Minor Use, Food Safety & On-Farm Issues, Ontario Fruit and Vegetable Growers' Association

For more information contact:

Bruce Kelly, Environmental Coordinator, Farm & Food Care bruce@farmfoodcare.org 519-837-1326, extension 292



