

Delaware

The Value of Fungicides

\$ Thousand

Production Value Gained	+ 7,878
Cost of Fungicides	- 814

Net Benefits from Fungicides + \$ 7.1 million

- For every \$1.00 Delaware growers spend on fungicides and their application, they reap \$9.68 in benefits.
- Delaware growers apply 44,000 pounds of fungicides on 23,000 acres annually.

Every spring and summer, plant diseases reproduce in countless numbers, infecting crops, withdrawing nutrients from their cells, and causing plant tissues to rot and die. Fungicides are pesticides that kill plant disease causing fungi and bacteria. Fungicides have been used in U.S. crop production for 100 years and remain as vital to sustainable domestic agriculture as when they were first adopted.

Crop	Acres	% Treated w/ Fungicides	Impact of Fungicide Use	
			% Yield Attributed to Fungicides	Value Increase (\$ 000)
Cantaloupes	179	85	35	268
Potatoes	3897	95	50	4,275
Sweet Corn	10470	2	3	4
Watermelons	2024	65	35	2,488
Wheat	53497	33	20	844

Source: Gianessi and Reigner, The Value of Fungicides in U.S. Crop Production, Crop Protection Research Institute, CropLife Foundation, September, 2005.

Available at http://www.croplifefoundation.org/cpri_benefits.htm

The findings of this study were endorsed by 38 commodity groups.

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