Introduction

- In 1989 and 1990 a survey of pesticide use and IPM practices was conducted in Washington for apple and pear production, respectively.
- In 2000 the Washington Tree Fruit Research Commission and Washington State University funded a survey of IPM practices of apple, pear and for the first time cherry.
- The objectives of this survey effort were to:
  - Determine changes in IPM practices that have occurred over the last decade,
  - Establish a new base-line for evaluating future changes in IPM practices in WA,
  - Surveys were mailed to growers in March that had been selected at random from mailing lists.
- This poster represents a preliminary look at the results of the survey.

Apple Results - Grower Characterization

- 1000 surveys were sent out and 17% returned compared with 37% in 1999.
- There were more "part-time" growers in 2000 (30%) compared with 1999 (24%). These are growers that obtain most of their income from off-farm activities.
- There were more growers producing fruit with "organic" practices in 2000 than in 1999 (5.8%).
- Red Delicious made up only 41.2% of the survey respondents in 2000 compared to 68.3% in 1999.
- Most growers also produced other fruit including pear (53%) and cherry (34%).
- The number of trees per acre in 2000 (169) was only slightly higher than that reported in 1990 (145).
- 866 surveys sent out and 22% returned.
- There were more "part-time" growers in 2000 (28%) compared with 1990 (16%). These are growers that obtain most of their income from off-farm activities.
- There were more growers producing fruit with "organic" practices in 2000 (14%) than in 1990 (4.5%). Organic means certified organic plus transitional organic.
- Anjou and Red Anjou comprised (32%) of pear followed by Red Delicious (10%) and Red Bartlett (9%).
- The average size of block from which reports were received was 23.3 acres.
- The average number of trees per acre in the reporting block was 301 compared to 294 in the 1989 survey.
- Most orchards were irrigated with center-line sprinklers (75%) with most of the rest (25%) being open-tree sprinklers.
- All reporting blocks had a grass or mixed grass-weed cover crop.
- 98.5% of the growers used ground air blast sprayers to apply pesticides.
- The average number of trees per acre in the reporting block was 301 compared to 194 in the 1989 survey.
- Most growers reported using orchard monitoring as a key IPM practice.
- There was a general increase in the use of IPM practices in 2000 compared to 1999.
- More growers identified that they were actively using biological control as part of their overall IPM practices.

Apple Results - IPM Practices

- There was a general increase in the use of IPM practices in 2000 compared to 1999.
- More growers reported using orchard monitoring as a key IPM practice.
- More growers report using pheromone traps.
- More growers report using treatment thresholds which probably reflects the greater availability of these tools in the fruit industry.
- More growers identified that they were actively using biological control as part of their overall IPM practices.

Pear Results - Grower Characterization

- More detailed information on pesticide use in all crops will be provided in a complete report by the end of December. Data from this survey will be a valuable tool in helping shape pesticide policy at the national level. This information will also be valuable as a benchmark against which to measure changes in IPM practices over time.