

PREFACE

This small fruit pest management handbook is presented in an ongoing attempt to better serve Midwestern fruit growers. Financial constraints make the production of such publications by each of the states in the North Central region increasingly difficult. As a result of pooling the resources and expertise of the various states, this regional publication presents detailed information that is adaptable over a wide range of climates, soils, and small fruit production schemes.

This handbook contains information on pests, production methods, and pest management practices that should not change on an annual basis. It is intended to remain useful for several years between revisions. Your state's fruit spray guide, which is a publication that lists pesticides for specific crops and specific problems, is published separately and is updated each year.

To make the best possible decisions about small fruit pest management, this handbook should be used in conjunction with an up-to-date state spray guide and with the newsletters issued by several of the state's Extension services. Contact your state's Extension fruit specialist for information on newsletters.

This publication does not replace the many publications on fruit cultivars and management practices that are available from your Extension service.

The authors solicit your suggestions regarding the usefulness of this publication and the ways that it might be improved. Its purpose is to assist you in producing top-quality fruit while protecting yourself, the consumer, and the environment.