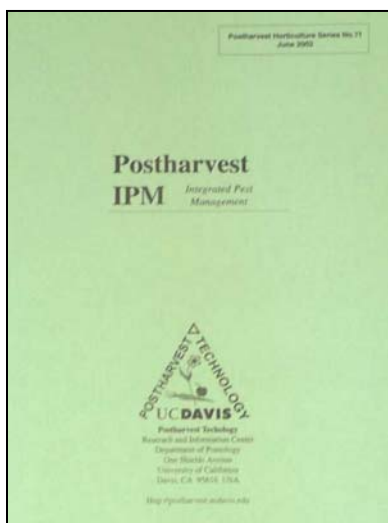


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#11 “Postharvest Integrated Pest Management, 2002”

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Description: With the recent loss of registration of many pre- and postharvest fungicides under the Food Quality Protection Act (FQPA), as well as the consumer pressure to reduce the amount of chemicals used on food, the challenge to maintain our current system of food distribution increases. The fresh produce industry must begin to place increased emphasis on other methods of pest management.

As with integrated pest management (IPM) in agricultural production, postharvest IPM is a systems approach towards pest management where good management practices are combined with one or more contributory treatments to result in an acceptable level of diseases and/or insect control. A successful IPM system requires a higher degree of involvement with the postharvest handling process including close observation and attention to details. Decisions on pest management strategies are made as a result of those observations.

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