

How We Grow Apples in Wisconsin

IPM and the Wisconsin Apple Growers Association

Wisconsin Apple Growers Association (WAGA) believes that Wisconsin apples are the finest apples in the world due to climatic conditions and the commitment of WAGA growers. WAGA growers have a deep appreciation for their land and the natural resources of Wisconsin. For generations Wisconsin growers have dedicated themselves to producing high quality apples while maintaining a commitment to the land. This commitment to protecting Wisconsin's Natural resources is demonstrated by WAGA's participation in a growing practice called Integrated Pest Management.



Integrated Pest Management or IPM is a growing technique where growers use a combination of chemicals and natural techniques to grow wholesome and healthy apples.

What is IPM?

IPM was developed in the Integrated Pest Management allows Wisconsin Growers to not only protect crops against pests but also reduce chemical applications. WAGA growers use natural techniques such as: Pheromone traps, Flagging Tape and beneficial insect releases to control common apple pests. Pheromone traps are small tent like trap which use a mating scent to attract bugs and capture them often times with a sticky tape or a one way cavity. While walking in an orchard you may notice shiny flagging tape tied to tree branches, or hear an audio recording call of a peregrine falcon these are both IPM techniques employed by Wisconsin Apple Growers to deter birds from ruining apple crops. In addition to trapping insects growers often will release beneficial insects or "good bugs" into their orchards to naturally take care of pest bugs.

In order to make the decision on what biological growing techniques need to be used to grow apples in Wisconsin, Wisconsin growers have to pay special attention to the needs of their land and the natural interactions of their orchard. Each day growers carefully calculate the perfect recipe of biological control to provide you with wholesome Wisconsin apples and with the use of IPM plan protect the future of Wisconsin and sparingly using chemicals for a healthy fresh Wisconsin grown apple to truly make something special from Wisconsin.

For more information on IPM please visit our web site www.waga.org
Remember visit your local orchard today and Support
Wisconsin Growers!

