

July 23, 2004 Ref: 2004-9-1

Philip Poli
Office of Pest Management Policy
Agricultural Research Service
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Ave. SW, Room 3865
Washington, DC 20250

The following is in response to your July 19 request for information about the size of an average strawberry field. I have checked with people involved in strawberry production in Oregon and Washington. The general consensus here is that a typical strawberry field will be between 10 and 20 acres. As we discussed on the phone, a grower may have several fields in production but this is the average acreage of an individual field. One person I spoke to opined that with more people growing 1 to 2 acres of strawberries for fresh markets, the actual average field size may be as low as 5 to 7 acres. Strawberries are also grown in Idaho, but production is strictly for the fresh market; fields range from \(^1/4\) to 1 acre.

You indicated that EPA was using a figure of 350 acres for their calculations. Based on my conversations, 20 acres would be a much more accurate, and still conservative, figure.

Thank you very much for this opportunity to provide input to the reregistration and labeling process.

Sincerely,

Jane M. Thomas

Pacific Northwest Coalition Comment Coordinator Washington State Pest Management Resource Service Washington State University Tri-Cities 2710 University Drive Richland, WA 99354

ane M. Thomas

phone: 509-372-7493 fax: 509-372-7491 e-mail: jmthomas@tricity.wsu.edu