



# ARIZONA

## TOP 5 CROPS: ARIZONA

1. COTTON
2. LETTUCE
3. HAY
4. CANTALOUPE
5. SPINACH

### Crop Protection Leaders

Arizona is home to six leading crop protection companies: Gowan Company, Exponent, Inc., Monsanto Company, Tenkoz, Inc, Tessenderlo-Kerley, Inc., and the Winfield Solutions, LLC. These companies provide thousands of jobs, boosting our economy and securing our state food supply.

- In the Grand Canyon State, an investment of \$1.00 in crop protection products yields up to 83 times in direct economic returns, which the farming community can then reinvest to make Arizona's agricultural economy even stronger.
- The net benefits Arizona's agricultural economy gains from securing crops with various crop protection technologies ranges from \$132 to \$357.2 million a year, depending upon the product.

### CropLife America: Helping to Feed a Hungry World

*America's crop protection industry is helping to feed a hungry world, decrease food costs, drive our economy, and protect our environment.*

Crop protection technologies help control the thousands of weed species, harmful insects, and numerous plant diseases that afflict crops and threaten both the abundance and the safety of our food supply.

- The crop protection industry is one of the most highly-regulated in the U.S. today, ensuring the safety of users and consumers, and reducing environmental impacts. As the nation and the world confront the threat of climate change, the industry stands at the forefront of sustainable agriculture, helping farmers do more with less through innovation, while protecting the soil and natural habitats of the land they farm.
- Crop protection products help American farmers improve agricultural productivity, generating robust crop yields that drive local economies and create jobs from the farm, to the distribution system, to the grocery stores and restaurants who sell these plentiful foods. The strong crop yields made possible by crop protection also help keep food costs down so American families can afford meals for their table.

In Arizona, the crop protection industry brings these same commitments, values, and technologies to the state's **\$9.2 billion food and agricultural economy**, safeguarding the state's food supply and protecting its environment.

### Agriculture in Arizona: Driving the State Economy

*Agriculture is a significant part of Arizona's economy, employs 363,508 people, and ranks 29th in the nation for total agricultural cash receipts.*

**15,637  
FARMS**

15,637 farms cover 26.1 million acres across our state, powering a diverse agricultural economy.

**\$3.3  
BILLION**

Arizona agricultural products have an annual market value of \$3.3 billion, including 59% from crop production – valuing \$1.94 billion.

**RANKS  
2ND**

Arizona ranks second in the U.S. for lettuce production. Nationally, Arizona also ranks second in the production of lemons, third in tangerine production, and fourth in the production of oranges and grapefruit.

Without crop protection, the vital economic impact of Arizona's agricultural industry would be virtually devastated.

# CROP PROTECTION IN THE GRAND CANYON STATE

## Ensuring Arizona's Robust and Healthy Food Supply

*The food supply nourishing Arizona families—and exported around the globe—is fundamentally reliant upon crop protection technologies.*

Every spring and summer, plant diseases reproduce in countless numbers, infecting – and ultimately killing – Arizona crops. Each year, **2.5 million weeds** prepare to emerge on every acre of Arizona's cropland, competing with crops for water, nutrients, space, and sunlight. And across Arizona, crop feeding insects reproduce in countless numbers, feeding on crops, reducing yields, making crops unmarketable, and in some cases killing the plant entirely.

These infestations threaten Arizona's food supply, economy, environment, and health of our citizens. Crop protection products stem those threats, preventing crop loss and protecting the agricultural base.

## Safeguarding Arizona's Environment and its Citizens

*Few industries play a greater role in driving sustainable agriculture than crop protection.*

Crop protection technologies enable Arizona farmers to manage weeds without plowing or tilling the soil, reducing erosion and avoiding runoff into rivers and streams, while also reducing fuel consumption. Nationwide, this practice saves **337 million gallons of tractor fuel annually**, and prevents **356 billion pounds of disturbed soil** from eroding into rivers and streams.

*In Arizona, crop protection technologies enable no-till production on 4,100 acres, preventing 4 million pounds of soil erosion annually.*

Planting more acres of arable farmland decreases animal habitats, impacting biodiversity. Crop protection technologies enable Arizona farmers to do more with less, reducing the need to convert additional acreage for crops.

Many invasive weeds and nuisance plants grow back when mowed or pulled. Far from being a simple annoyance, weeds kill native plants, suffocate lakes, and plug reservoir intakes, destroying the natural habitats of fish, birds, and mammals. Crop protection products are indispensable weapons, enabling Arizona growers to successfully preserve several endangered species populations that had nearly vanished.

*Crop protection also guards the health of the food supply that sustains Arizona families and the world.*

The ever-increasing reach of the global economy has allowed infectious agents like salmonella and E. coli to enter our food supply. The U.S. commitment to crop protection technologies serves as a first line of defense, attacking these threats and generating a safe, healthy, and robust food supply for Arizona and the nation.

What would the Grand Canyon State's food supply look like **WITHOUT** crop protection?

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## NO COTTON

With cotton as Arizona's leading crop, availability of the so-called fabric of our lives would be reduced by more than one-third affecting not only the agricultural industry, but damaging the U.S. textile, apparel, and home furnishing industries, among others.

## NO LETTUCE

Arizona's leading production of lettuce, the staple of American diets, would be reduced by up to 50% without crop protection products, a loss of up to \$339 million to the state's economy.