

# Sugar

**PRODUCER**  
208-542-2213 [www.sugarproducer.com](http://www.sugarproducer.com)

## Sugar Producer Reader Survey May, 2010

17% Direct Mail Response

### 1. Did you plant Round-up Ready seed in 2009?

Yes	94.78%
No	5.22%

### 2. What is your interest level in each of the following topics:

5 = Extremely Interested; 3 = Neutral; 0 = Not At All Interested

Pests/Disease (grower problems)	4.37
New Seed Varieties	4.33
Equipment	4.23
Chemical Updates	4.21
New Developments in Sugar Methods	4.21
ASGA by Luther Markwart	4.19
Company/Sugar Factory Updates	4.12
Seasonal Production Methods	4.08
Grower Features	4.01
Seed Treatments	4.01
Industry News	3.96
University Research Reports	3.92
Industry Politics	3.85
Company Agriculturalists	3.75
Sugar Industry Map	3.70
Irrigation	3.63
Manufacturer Profiles	3.49
Meeting Results	3.40
Sweet Talk by Editor Nancy Sanchez	3.36
Industry Handbook	3.34
Industry Calendar	3.30
Meeting Agendas/Schedules	3.30

### 3. Please indicate the size of your total farming operation in acres in 2009, owned and/or leased:

Less than 500	15.07%
500-1000	21.92%
1001-5000	52.05%
More than 5000	10.96%

### 4. Please indicate the approximate number of acres planted in 2009 of Sugarbeets.

1-99	14.00%
100-300	34.00%
301-500	15.33%
501-1000	24.67%
1001-5000	10.00%
More than 5000	0.00%
Did not plant	2.00%

### 5. How long have you grown Sugarbeets?

Less than 2 years	0.00%
2-5 years	5.48%
6-15 years	17.81%
16-20 years	10.96%
21 years or more	65.75%

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## 6. Did your family before you grow Sugarbeets?

Yes	82.55%
No	17.45%

## 7. What is the age of the primary farm manager/operator:

17-23	0.00%
24-33	10.07%
34-43	12.75%
44-53	34.90%
54-63	28.19%
64 & Over	14.09%

## 8. Please indicate the estimated gross income of your total farming operation in 2009

Under \$50,000	2.99%
\$50,000-\$99,000	10.45%
\$100,000-\$249,999	10.45%
\$250,000-\$499,999	13.43%
\$500,000-\$999,999	20.15%
\$1,000,000-\$1,999,999	26.87%
\$2,000,000-\$5,000,000	8.21%
Over \$5,000,000	7.46%

## 9. Which items will you purchase in the next two years?

Pickup Truck	44.54%
Used Tractor	40.34%
ATV vehicle	38.66%
Precision Ag - Tractor	36.97%
Center pivot system	32.77%
Belted chain	31.93%
Defoliator/Shredder	31.93%
Tandem-axle truck	30.25%
Semi-trailer	29.41%
New Tractor	27.73%
Chemical/fertilizer sprayer	25.21%
Self-unloading truck bed	24.37%
Irrigation pump	18.49%
Precision Ag - Harvester	17.65%
Chemical injection/metering pump	13.45%
Wheel line System	11.76%
Automatic truck tarper	11.76%
Combination truck bed	9.24%
Moisture sensors	8.40%
Other	8.40%
Positive displacement applicators	7.56%
Skid steer loader	6.72%
1-ton truck	5.88%
2-ton truck	5.88%
Precision Ag - Irrigation	5.88%
Drip irrigation system	5.04%
Handline sprinkler system	4.20%
Hydraulic sprayer	4.20%

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## 10. What type of irrigation system do you own?

Center pivot	68.27%
Surface (gravity flow)	59.62%
Wheel line	35.58%
Portable hand lines	22.12%
Drip	7.69%

## 11. Do you use chemigation/fertigation with your irrigation system?

Yes	49.59%
No	50.41%

## 12. Will you install new or upgrade your irrigation system within the next two years?

Yes	45.97%
No	54.03%

## 13. How many acres do you sprinkle-irrigate?

Less than 500	40.57%
501-1000	19.81%
1001-5000	33.96%
More than 5000	5.66%

## 14. Did you use a Fungicide on your 2009 Sugarbeet crop?

Yes	78.29%
No	21.71%

## 15. Check what Fungicide was used for:

Cercospora leaf spot	62.73%
Powdery mildew	40.00%
Rhizoctonia	37.27%
Rhizomania	10.00%
Various soil fungi	6.36%
Other	1.82%

## 16. In what form did you apply fertilizer on your 2009 crop?

Dry	75.00%
Liquid	65.00%
Fertigation	15.71%

## 17. Did you use a spray adjuvant (spreader-sticker) in 2009?

Yes	85.40%
No	14.60%

## 18. Regarding your use of micronutrients or trace elements such as zinc, boron, manganese, iron, etc.

I apply them singly or in combinations specifically prescribed by a soil analysis:	68.12%
I do not apply them:	18.84%
I apply them singly or in combination without specific soil analysis	13.04%

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19. Please check all of the following which influence your purchase of Ag chemicals:

Ag consultant	79.86%
Grower chemical meetings	69.78%
Chemical fieldmen	62.59%
Magazines	41.01%
Neighboring farmer	36.69%
Schools/Trade shows	23.02%
Other	3.60%

20. As a Sugarbeet grower, rank the severity of each of the following pest problems. 5- Most severe; 1 - no problem

Cutworms	3.30
Root Maggots	3.26
Nematodes	3.16
Wireworm	2.80
Aphids	2.61
Leaf Miners	2.52
Army worms	2.45
Flea beetles	2.15
Web worm	1.93
Crown Borer	1.92
White grubs	1.85

21. What Ag websites do you frequent? 3 = Use Often; 1 = Never Use

Member Association Websites	1.70
ASGA	1.68
Sugar Producer	1.66
American Sugar Association	1.63
Federal Govt. USDA	1.57
American Sugar Alliance	1.50
U.S. Beet Sugar Association	1.48
Local Government	1.43
AG Weekly	1.37
Sugar Journal	1.32
Beet Sugar Development	1.25
Foundation	1.25
Sugar Industry Biotech Council	1.25
Potato Grower	1.17