

APPS FOR PEST MANAGEMENT

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Smart phones and tablets are becoming much more common place today on the farm. There are practical applications for these phones aside from taking selfies and posting them on Facebook or Instagram. Numerous applications (apps) are available to assist farmers with their pesticide management. Apps are available for mixing and loading, sprayer calibration, pesticide recordkeeping and selecting the appropriate sprayer tips. There are also apps for pest identification, agricultural news and weather. Other useful apps include a flashlight, calculator, notes, voice memos, camera, timer and reminders.

One simple way I use my phone is when I am filling my 300 gallon produce sprayer I set my timer on my phone for 30 minutes. I know it takes about 40 minutes to fill it, so in case I get distracted and forget the alarm will sound and remind me. More than one once I was reminded by my phone I need to go back and check the sprayer before it over flowed.

More apps are being developed all the time and more are out there than I have listed. This is list of some free apps that I have found to be the most user friendly and potentially helpful for farmers.

Tank Mix Calculator for iPhone + Android

Build pesticide tank mixes for your fields. Build a spray recipe from our database of 11,000+ pesticides by simply entering area, tank size, total spray volume per acre and choose pesticides. Tank Mix Calculator generates a Bill of Goods, calculates each individual load and number of loads required to cover acreage.

http://www.farmlogic.com/farmlogic_products/tank-mix-calculator/

TankMix App for iPhone only

The DuPont TankMix Calculator Application lets you quickly and easily calculate how much product and water you need for effective applications based on your acreage or spray tank size. Choose from a wide selection of units of measure and work in either numerals or fractions.

Calibrate My Sprayer for iPhone + Android

Improperly calibrated pesticide spraying equipment may cause either too little or too much pesticide to be applied. This free mobile app was created to aid in the proper calibration of spraying equipment. Simply select the type of sprayer you want to calibrate (Broadcast or Banded), insert values in each input box, select what you want the app to calculate (Volume/Area or Catch/Nozzle), and tap 'Calculate'. Each input's units can be customized by

tapping the units. Sprayers can be saved with user-defined names. <http://www.clemson.edu/extension/mobile-apps/>

Mix Tank for iPhone + Android

Very similar app for Growmark Products called **FS Adjuvants**

Mix Tank is designed to assist agricultural applicators with the proper tank mixing sequence of crop protection products. Mix Tank also captures product use rates and application information with Mix Sheets and conveniently maintains accurate Spray Logs for easy record keeping.

<http://www.mixtankapp.com/>

TeeJet Technologies (Spray Select)

The TeeJet Technologies SpraySelect App allows you to quickly and easily choose the proper tip or nozzle for your application. Just enter speed, spacing and your target rate, Select your drop size category and you have a list of tips that will work for your application. The right nozzle is just a few seconds away. <http://www.teejet.com/english/home/products/spray-products/sprayselect-tip-selection-app.aspx>

Other Useful Apps

Ag Weed ID for iPhone + Android

Ag Weed ID is an in-hand tool to help producers identify weeds during scouting in 6 major row crops (corn, cotton, rice, sorghum, soybeans, and wheat), from the experts at Penton Farm Progress Group. Our database includes information and images for about 75 of the most common weeds, and enables you to narrow your search by crop, season, and location so that you can compare weeds that might be relevant to you right now.

ID Weeds for iPhone + Android

ID Weeds is produced by the University of Missouri's College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources' Division of Plant Science.

AgWeb for iPhone + Android

Get the latest agribusiness news and advice. Read ag management news, farm business blogs and articles from one trusted source | AGWEB.com

DTN/The Progressive Farmer for iPhone + Android

This app meets your information needs with access to award-winning agriculture news, commodity market data, and industry-specific weather intelligence.

Lancaster Farming for iPhone + Android

Weather Underground for iPhone + Android

This weather app I like most for the radar. I also like the ability to look up personal online weather stations and see rainfall amounts in real time.

SoilWeb for iPhone and Android

This application uses the GPS built into the smartphone to acquire your current location, and then submits an HTTP request to a server via the SoilWeb API. A graphical summary of the soils mapped at your current location is presented on screen, with links to details through an online soil survey, or via the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service official series description archive.

GAP Certified

The GAP Certified app provides on-the-go data entry to help farmers meet the requirements for GAP certification. Designed for users of GAP Certified, this app allows you to enter data on your phone or tablet that will then sync with your account. From recording wildlife sightings to tracking storage temperatures, you can enter the details you'll need for the reports that are required during your annual GAP audit. The app is free but requires a subscription of \$29/month or \$319/year. However it may be beneficial for someone required to be GAP Certified. <http://www.gapcertified.com/>

Andrew Frankenfield is an Extension Educator in Montgomery County on the Field Crops and Forages Team with Penn State Extension. In addition to working with field crop farmers he also works with vegetable producers in the area as a result of his vegetable knowledge since he also is a vegetable producer himself. He has his B.S. degree in Agribusiness and his M.B.A in Food and Agribusiness both from Delaware Valley College. He lives in Souderton on the family farm with his wife Tanya and three children Delaney, Tanner and Sage.