Multiple Considerations in Turfgrass and Landscape Pest Management

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Lawns in the United States occupy an area estimated at between 25 million and 30 million acres (10.1 million and 12.2 million hectares), 50,000 sq. miles, or roughly the size of the five New England states. Approximately 50% of these properties receive pesticide applications by homeowners who the last time such data were gathered were estimated to be spending over $688 million on pesticides and fertilizers (Lawn Care Industry, 1985). Pesticides are also applied to approximately 10-20% of residential properties by the professional lawn care industry. Golf courses, athletic fields and parks planted to turfgrass are becoming an increasingly important part of American recreational activities.