



**Acibenzolar Use in the Desert Southwest**  
**Prepared by Al Fournier, Peter Ellsworth & Wayne Dixon**  
**Comments submitted by the Arizona Pest Management Center**  
**University of Arizona**

**Source of Information Request:** USDA Office of Pest Management Policy, Received Jan 23, 2014.

**Response Date:** Feb 21, 2014

**Information Request:**

Office of Pest Management Policy requested information on agricultural uses of acibenzolar, which is undergoing Registration Review.

**Process:**

The Arizona Pest Management Center (APMC) requested input from Extension specialists, plant pathologists, crop consultants, pest control advisors and Arid Southwest IPM Network contacts in AZ, CA, NM and NV. We also queried the APMC Pesticide Use Database, which contains uses reported to the Arizona Department of Agriculture since 1991. We did not get a timely response from all contacts, but have summarized important stakeholder comments below.

**Comments**

Acibenzolar is an effective product against downy mildew. It is primarily used in spinach in Arizona with significant acres treated each year (e.g., about 6,000 acres per year the past 2 years). According to Dr. Michael Matheron, University of Arizona Extension plant pathologist, this A.I. is very effective and is a good fit for resistant management programs, in part because it functions by turning on the natural defense mechanisms in the plant.

According to a crop consultant for the chili industry in New Mexico, acibenzolar is being used on a small percentage of chili acres in the state. This A.I. has a "small but loyal following" of growers that find it is very effective. It is soil applied through drip irrigation, with multiple applications from early season until bloom. Because the mechanism is to increase the plant's immune response, it is helpful in reducing occurrence of multiple diseases.