OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL, AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

Ohio Pesticide Safety Education Program

PEP-Talk, July, 2015

Volume 19, Issue 2
Mary Ann Rose, Program Director
Cindy Folck, Program Manager
Chrissy Kaminski, Program Coordinator

In this Issue:

EPA Proposes to Cancel More Indoor Uses of Propoxur

By Mary Ann Rose

On July 1, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued a proposal to cancel all indoor uses of aerosol, spray, and liquid formulations of propoxur, indoor crack and crevice use, and all uses in food-handling establishments. Propoxur is a carbamate insecticide that is effective on a variety of structural pests. After these cancellations, there would be no remaining food uses and associated tolerances for propoxur. In 2007, the EPA cancelled uses in homes, day care facilities and schools. In 2014, use for pet collars was cancelled. The EPA has taken these steps to reduce human exposure, particularly exposure to children.

This decision is not without controversy. In recent years, the state of Ohio petitioned the EPA for a Section 18 Emergency Exemption to allow the chemical to be used for bedbug control. This petition was denied.

EPA is requesting a 30 day comment period that will begin upon publication in the Federal Register at: *regulations.gov* and searching for EPA-HQ-OPP-2015-0296. EPA is posting a pre-publication copy at: *epa.gov/safepestcontrol/proposed-cancellation-certain-uses-propoxur*

Pollinator Updates
By Mary Ann Rose

Honey Bee Survival. In March, the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) released some encouraging statistics indicating that 2014 production of honey increased by 19% with the total number of hives increasing by 4%. The aftermath of the 2014-2015 winter was much less encouraging. Reed Johnson, Ohio State University (OSU) bee specialist in the Department of Entomology, reported colony losses of 50% at the Ohio Agricultural Research Center in Wooster, OH. According to Barb Bloetscher, Ohio Department of Agriculture (ODA) State Apiarist, winter losses were distributed disproportionally across the state, with heavy loss in the northern part of Ohio, particularly near Lake Erie. Losses for some beekeepers were as high as 70-80%, but were more typically 30-40% in the rest of Ohio. The Bee Informed Partnership, in collaboration with the USDA and the Apiary Inspectors of America, has tracked bee colony losses since 2006, and has released preliminary data for 2014-15 from over 6000 US beekeepers. On a national level, the 2015 winter mortality (23.1%) was actually lower than the 9-year average; however, summer 2014 losses (27.4%) increased over the previous year. Total annual losses (summer + winter losses 2014-2015) were 42.1%, the second highest annual loss recorded. Specifically for Ohio, the partnership reported the total annual colony loss of 49.8%.
Website: *beeinformed.org/2015/05/colony-loss-2014-2015-preliminary-results/*

Federal Government Actions. In 2014, the Obama Administration issued a memo calling on federal agencies to develop an integrated strategy to protect bee health and establishing a task force co-chaired by the USDA and Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to develop a federal pollinator strategy. As part of this initiative, the EPA was charged to work with states to develop pollinator protection plans that will facilitate communication between beekeepers and growers; the ODA is the lead agency for this effort in Ohio. The EPA was also specifically directed to reassess risks of pesticides to pollinators, with emphasis on the neonicotinoid class. As new pesticides are reviewed for registration or existing ones come up for review, a new risk assessment for pollinators (pollinator framework) will be employed, that will determine what kind of data registrants must provide when submitting pesticides for review. The EPA will use the new risk assessment framework to review the neonicotinoid class of insecticides beginning with imidacloprid this year, with the goal of completing reviews of the entire class in 2017. It is unlikely that the EPA will approve new uses of neonicontinoids until these reviews are complete. The EPA currently is proposing additional restrictions on the use of neonicotinoids and other pesticides on farms during times when commercial pollinator services have been contracted.

In May, 2015, the Pollinator Task Force released its strategy for federal agencies to address research, education, and best practices for pollinator protection. The task force also set goals to restore pollinator habitat by seven million acres in five years, reduce honey bee overwintering losses to 15% in 10 years, and increase monarch butterfly populations to 225 million by 2020.

Sublethal Effects of Neonicotinoid Insecticides. Neonicotinoid insecticides are both systemic and persistent in the plant. A large percentage of corn and soybean crops planted in the US receive a neonicotinoid seed treatment, and concerns have arisen over bees' chronic exposure to sublethal doses of neonicotinoids in the pollen and nectar of the seed-treated crops. Laboratory studies have suggested that sublethal doses can cause adverse effects and disorientation of bees. A study published in March, 2015 (Dively, et.al.) was reportedly the first to examine chronic sublethal effects on overwintering of whole bee colonies. The authors exposed colonies to low levels that would be consistent with exposure to pollen and nectar from seed-treated crops, and also exposed colonies to worse-case exposure levels which might correspond to an acute field exposure. The higher range of doses used in the study were harmful and reduced overwintering success, but the authors concluded that chronic exposure to lower doses that might

be encountered from foraging seed-treated crops would have negligible effects on bee health and overwintering.
Dively, et al., 2015: *paperpile.com/shared/oy2xQp*.

Revised Worker Protection Standard – Looking Ahead
By Mary Ann Rose

In February, 2014 the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced proposed changes to the Worker Protection Standard (WPS) to decrease the risks of pesticide exposure to agricultural workers. Some of the key changes include enhanced content and increased frequency of worker training, new record-keeping requirements for pesticide applications, no-entry buffer zones around pesticide-treated fields, expanded mandatory posting of no-entry signs for the most hazardous pesticides, standards for respirator use that are consistent with current Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) standards, a requirement to make information farm-worker advocates in addition to workers, and a first-time ever minimum age requirement of 16 for pesticide handlers—with exceptions for immediate family members.

The current projection is that the proposed rule will be signed in October, 2015, and that at signature, the EPA will immediately post the revised rule online. Official publication in the federal register follows a month after signature, and the effective date of the rule will be two months after publication. The EPA has tentatively proposed a staggered compliance schedule, with compliance with most provisions required one year after the effective date. Compliance with certain provisions, such as the expanded training requirement, may not be required until 18-24 months after the effective date. The schedule in part reflects that key documents, such as the "How to Comply" manual for employers, and EPA-approved worker training materials will not be immediately available. The "How to Comply" manual, which is a key reference for owners and managers, is projected to be available next spring; the worker training materials may not be available until the following year.

Growers should look for the announcement of the final rule later this fall, but be aware that congressional action or other factors may change these projections. Once the rule is final, information on the new WPS rule and future training opportunities will be posted on our website *pested.osu.edu***.**
More on the proposed changes to WPS: *epa.gov/oppfead1/safety/workers/proposed/*

Ohio Sensitive Crop Registry
By Cindy Folck

The Ohio Sensitive Crop Registry is available as a tool for apiarists, growers, and pesticide applicators. This registry is a voluntary informational tool designed for producers and apiarists to communicate and protect sensitive crops and apiaries. The registry information is not available to the general public; only registered users have access.

Only producers will be able to register crops and only pesticide applicators will be able to view this data. Apiarists and agriculture producers with at least half an acre of an individual crop, or equivalent in greenhouses or high tunnels, will be approved to enter data into the system.

All data and information in the registry will be verified by the Ohio Department of Agriculture (ODA). The registry is located at: *agri.ohio.gov/scr* and a valid email address is needed to access the information. Registered apiarists and producers will have the ability to draw their sensitive crop locations and these maps will be shared with pesticide applicators. It will be optional for producers to make their contact information available to the pesticide applicators.

The intent of the Ohio Sensitive Crop Registry is to create an accurate and secure method for applicators determine the nearness of apiaries and sensitive crops to application sites, and to communicate with the producers and apiarist. The registry will not be a reporting system for those who have suffered damage from pesticide drift or other misuse. To report possible damage from spray drift, producers and apiarist should contact ODA at 614-728-6987.

Ohio Pesticide Disposal
By Chrissy Kaminski

Leftover pesticides should be disposed of properly to protect both human health and the environment. Pesticides are considered a hazardous waste and should never be poured down the drain or into a sewer, or thrown into the trash. Ideally, any remaining pesticides should be used on an alternative label-approved site. For disposal of remaining product, there are a variety of options often available within a community. Begin by reading the "storage and disposal" statement on the label for specific instructions. Then, locate a facility or event near you that accepts hazardous waste. Listed below are suggestions on how to locate a disposal facility near you.

Ohio Department of Agriculture Farm Pesticide Disposal Collection. Ohio Department of Agriculture (ODA) schedules several collection dates and locations each year for farmers to dispose of unwanted pesticides. This service is free of charge for farm chemicals only. The ODA currently has two disposal events scheduled, and will be adding a third. The complete set of dates will be posted at *pested.osu.edu* once they are announced. For more information, contact the ODA at 614-728-6987.

ODA Pesticide Disposal Collection Events Dates and Locations
August 13, 2015 – Mahoning County Fairgrounds – 9:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
August 18, 2015 – Ross County Fairgrounds – 9:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
One more location to be announced.

Solid Waste Management Districts. Ohio Solid Waste Management Districts have information on disposing of household pesticides. Some waste management districts have year round collections, while others may schedule events throughout the year. Each district may have individual restrictions and fees. Visit *oswdo.org* to find a Solid Waste Management District near you.

Community Household Hazardous Waste Events. Community household hazardous waste collection events are designed to allow residents to properly dispose of hazardous wastes, including pesticides. Each event may have its own restrictions or fees, so be sure to carefully read flyers and call the sponsor with any questions.

Additional Resources

Protecting Your Cats and Dogs from Pesticide Poisoning. University of Nebraska-Lincoln recently released a publication detailing ways to protect pets from pesticide poisoning. This publication is written for consumers and outlines ways to prevent accidental exposure and emergency response if a pet is exposed to pesticides. The publication can be found at *ianrpubs.unl.edu/epublic/live/g2260/build/g2260.pdf.*

Bedbug Resources

Central Ohio Bed Bug Task Force. The Central Ohio Bed Bug Task Force is a collaborative effort created in response to the rising number of bed bug infestations in Central Ohio. Its purpose is to provide education resources to central Ohio residents. Dr. Susan Jones of Ohio State University Extension is a

member of the steering committee for this task force. Their website includes a breadth of information including bed bug identification, guidelines on how to choose a management company, and travel tips. Visit *centralohiobedbugs.org* for information.

University of Minnesota. The University of Minnesota has a call-in information line for bed questions; calls from out of state are accepted. Alternatively, inquiries can be made by email, and a great deal of useful information may be found on the website

Bedbug information line: 612-624-2200 or toll free at 888-644-2200
Bedbug email inquiries: bedbugs@umn.edu
Website: *bedbugs.umn.edu*

Upcoming Events

More information about the following events is at: http://pested.osu.edu

Pesticide Safety Training – Commercial New Applicators & Trained Servicepersons
August 26, 2015 (Wednesday)
September 30, 2015 (Wednesday)
Core and Trained Serviceperson trainings are held in the morning, and Categories 8, 5, 2c, and 6c in the afternoon. Visit *pested.osu.edu* for more details.
Taught at the Ohio Department of Agriculture, Reynoldsburg, Ohio

Urban Landscape Pest Management Workshop
September 15, 2015 (Tuesday) – 5 hours of commercial recertification credits available. These credits will be applied to applicator licenses before the September 30, 2015 deadline. Categories offered: Core, 3a, 4a, 5, 6a, 6c, 8. Visit *pested.osu.edu* for more details
Taught at the Nationwide & Ohio Farm Bureau 4-H Center in Columbus, Ohio

Wood Destroying Insect Inspection Training
November 2, 2015 (Monday) - Mandatory training required for applicators becoming licensed in commercial category 12. Recertification credit is available.
Taught at the Ohio Department of Agriculture, Reynoldsburg, Ohio

Ohio Commercial Pesticide Applicator Recertification Conferences
January 28, 2016 (Thursday) – Sandusky, Kalahari Convention Center
February 3, 2016 (Wednesday) – Akron, John S. Knight Center
February 17, 2016 (Wednesday) – Dayton Convention Center
March 1, 2016 (Tuesday) – Columbus Convention Center
