Ohio Pesticide Safety Education Program

PEP-Talk, March, 2016

Volume 20, Issue 1
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Ohio Department of Agriculture Pesticide Rule Changes
By Mary Ann Rose

If requested after an application, Ohio pesticide applicators are now required to provide to customers and tenants a legibly written statement of the pesticide(s) applied, amount(s) applied, and date of application. For example, if a pesticide application was made at an apartment complex, a tenant could request this information after the application takes place. The new rule does not amend or change in any way existing pesticide regulations on notification and/or posting of pesticide applications in schools or for lawn care.

Effective March 23, 2016, pesticide applicators will be required to re-test if they do not renew their license within 180 days of its expiration date.

Ohio Department of Agriculture Gypsy Moth Program
By Mary Ann Rose

The Ohio Department of Agriculture (ODA) has sent letters regarding its Gypsy Moth Program to affected areas in the state. Aerial treatments will be made with one or a combination of the following: the biological insecticide (Bacillus thuringiensis, subspecies kurstaki) applied to early caterpillar stages in May, and a synthetic gypsy moth pherome product applied as a mating disruption agent in June. Information about Gypsy Moth and the ODA control program, copies of the pesticide label, MSDS, and a map of treatment
areas are available at www.agri.ohio.gov. The public may call at the beginning of May and June 614-387-0907 after 5:00 pm to hear updated prerecorded messages about treatment locations for the next day.

The Revised Worker Protection Standard

By Mary Ann Rose

Significant changes to the Worker Protection Standard became effective January 2, 2016 (see PEPTALK October and August 2015 Issues for details). The employer compliance manual is expected to be available in July, and compliance with most of the new rules will be required by January 2, 2017. New worker training manuals will not be available until mid-2017, so compliance with new training content will not be required until January 2018.

Farm owners are not required to follow all of the Worker Protection Standards for immediate family members that would be required for employees. However, owners do have to follow all pesticide label requirements and provide these protections for family members, as well as themselves:

- Keep all but pesticide handlers out of the application exclusion zone (AEZ) during pesticide application. The AEZ varies with the application type and may extend beyond the treated area, in some cases extending beyond the boundary of the agricultural establishment. The AEZ is defined under the 2015 revision.
- Keep all but pesticide handlers out of the pesticide-treatment area until the Restricted Entry Interval (REI) has elapsed.
- Provide pesticide handlers with the personal protective equipment required by the pesticide label.
- If using products that require a respirator, provide medical evaluation, fit test, and training, and keep respirator compliance records. Respirator requirements were introduced with the 2015 WPS revision.

Preliminary Findings from EPA’s Pollinator Risk Assessment of neonicotinoid insecticides

By Mary Ann Rose

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced preliminary findings in the risk assessment of imidacloprid, the first of four neonicotinoids to be assessed, and the most widely used insecticide in this class. The new risk assessment protocols used in this assessment gauged the insecticide’s impact on bee health at both individual and colony levels. The assessment set a threshold of 25 ppb for imidacloprid residues, above which harmful effects on colonies are considered likely. Citrus and cotton crops had imidacloprid levels in pollen and nectar that exceeded the residue threshold, but it was determined that other key crops, such as corn and leafy vegetables, either do not produce nectar, or have residues below that threshold. Preliminary assessments for three other widely used neonicotinoids (clothianidin, thiamethoxam, and dinotefuran) are due for release in late 2016. Approval of new outdoor uses of the four insecticides are on hold until these risk assessments are complete and public comments have been weighed.

Sources: http://www.epa.gov/pollinator-protection/schedule-review-neonicotinoid-pesticides
https://yosemite.epa.gov/opa/admpress.nsf/0/63E7FB0E47B1AA3685257F320050A7E3

Another Twist in the Dow Enlist Story

By Mary Ann Rose

A federal court denied a recent EPA decision to revoke the registration for Enlist Duo because the agency did not follow the legal process for revoking registrations. Dow will now be able to sell Enlist Duo, a new, low-drift formulation of glyphosate + 2,4-D. Dow developed the herbicide to be used in tandem with new glyphosate- and 2,4-D-resistant GMO crops, which still face obstacles in export markets. The new product is expected to expand the farmer’s arsenal against glyphosate- resistant weeds. The EPA announced that it is still considering further action with respect to the product’s registration.
EPA Proposes to Revoke all Food Residue Tolerance for Chlorpyrifos
By Mary Ann Rose

Chlorpyrifos, an organophosphate insecticide, known under brand names including Lorsban, Hatchet, Stallion, and Bolton will lose all food crop uses if the proposal is finalized. The EPA’s proposal to revoke is not based solely on risks from exposure in food, but rather is based on estimates of aggregate exposure from food and drinking water. Non-agricultural uses of chlorpyrifos, including golf courses, greenhouse, and non-structural wood treatments are not affected by this rule. Most residential uses were eliminated in 2000.

U.S. Court strikes down EPA’s approval of Sulfoxaflor
By Mary Ann Rose

In September, the U.S. Court of Appeals in San Francisco ruled in favor of commercial beekeepers who challenged the EPA’s 2013 registration of sulfoxaflor, a Dow AgroSciences insecticide. The court ruled that the EPA failed to require adequate testing before giving its unconditional approval of the active ingredient, and must obtain additional pollinator data on sulfoxaflor before it can register the material. In November, the EPA followed up with a cancellation order. The insecticide acts on the same receptors as neonicotinoid insecticides which have come under scrutiny in recent years for effects on pollinators. Brand names for the active ingredient sulfoxaflor included Closer and Transform.

EPA Issues Notice of Intent to Cancel Flubendiamide Products
By Chrissy Kaminski

On March 1, 2016, the U.S. EPA issued a notice of intent to cancel all flubendiamide products produced by Bayer CropScience and Ninchino America. These products exist under the trade names Belt SC, Vetica, and Tourismo.

These products were initially approved by the EPA on a conditional basis due to concerns of toxicity and environmental accumulation potential. Studies have since shown that flubendiamide breaks down into a highly toxic material and is persistent in the environment. The product is toxic to benthic invertebrates, which are an important link in aquatic food chains. Due to this finding, a voluntary cancellation was requested by the EPA on January 29, 2016. The request was denied by both companies, claiming that the EPA studies overstate environmental risk. Subsequently, EPA initiated the cancellation of the currently-registered products.

New Fact Sheet on Nozzles
By Erdal Ozkan

Selecting the best nozzle for a spray application requires careful consideration of many factors, including sprayer operation parameters (spray application rate, spray pressure, travel speed), type of chemical sprayed (herbicides, insecticides, fungicides), mode of action (contact, systemic), application type (broadcast, band, directed, air-assisted), target crop (field crops, vegetables, vineyard, nursery), and spray
drift risk. For more information on nozzle selection, see OSU Extension publication, “Selecting the Best Nozzle for the Job,” by Erdal Ozkan, Professor and Extension Specialist of the Department of Food, Agricultural and Biological Engineering. The publication is available at: http://ohioline.osu.edu/factsheet/aex-528. For the pdf version see: http://agnr.osu.edu/sites/agnr/files/imce/pdfs/publications/AEX_528_Nozzles.pdf

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

Pesticide Safety Training – Commercial New Applicators & Trained Servicepersons
April 20, 2016 (Wednesday)
May 25, 2016 (Wednesday)
August 24, 2016 (Wednesday)
September 28, 2016 (Wednesday)
Core and Trained Serviceperson trainings are held in the morning, and Categories 8, 5, 2c, and 6c in the afternoon.

Wood Destroying Insect Inspection
October 5, 2016 (Wednesday)

Visit pested.osu.edu for more details.
Courses taught at the Ohio Department of Agriculture, Reynoldsburg, Ohio

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