



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL,
AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

Ohio Pesticide Safety Education Program

PEP-Talk, February, 2014

Volume 18, Issue 1

Cindy Folck, Program Manager, Editor

Mary Ann Rose, Program Director

Renee Shetlar, Program Assistant

In this Issue:

Sensitive Crop Registry Update

Proposed Changes to Worker Protection Standard

EPA Considers Assessment Guidelines for Off-Site Drift

Pesticide Labels and Changes to Federal Hazard Communication Standard

Journal Article Retracted from *Food and Chemical Toxicology*

Ohio Gypsy Moth Resources Available

Upcoming Events

Sensitive Crop Registry Update

The Ohio Department of Agriculture (ODA) is introducing the Ohio Sensitive Crop Registry. This registry is a voluntary informational tool designed for producers and apiarists to communicate and protect sensitive crops and apiaries. The registry information will not be available to the general public; only registered users will have access. Producers and applicators will be able to register and access the site after February 18.

Only producers will be able to register crops and only pesticide applicators will be able to view this data. Homeowners with private gardens, landscaping along roadways, and community areas are not eligible to use the system. 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 ODA. The registry can be accessed online at this web address: <http://www.agri.ohio.gov/scr> Use of the online tool requires a valid e-mail address. 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 or toll-free at 800-282-1955.

Proposed Changes to Worker Protection Standard

This spring, U.S. EPA will be announcing amendments to the Worker Protection Standard, which was established in 1992. When announced, these changes will have a 90-day public comment period before final rules are published.

The proposal includes protections to ensure agriculture workers are protected similar to industries regulated by Occupational Safety & Health Administration (OSHA) which is the main federal agency charged with the enforcement of safety and health legislation in workplaces. There will also be greater compliance required with product-specific protections on pesticide labeling. Specific changes proposed include:

- Increased frequency of pesticide safety training with expanded content and recordkeeping
- OSHA-comparable hazard communications with recordkeeping requirement
- Recordkeeping requirement for REI notification
- Increased information requirement for workers entering during an REI
- Minimum-age established for high-risk activities
- OSHA-comparable protections for respirator wearers
- Specific performance standard requirements for closed systems

As part of the WPS revisions, EPA has established cooperative agreements with non-profit organizations to support farmworker training, with the Association of Farmworker Opportunity Programs (AFOP), and farmworker health with the Migrant Clinicians Network.

(Source: EPA Office of Pesticide Programs Update)

EPA Considers Assessment Guidelines for Off-Site Drift

A public comment period has opened for two documents that will be used by EPA for assessing off-site drift of pesticide products that are in the review process. As products go through the review process, they are evaluated for ecological and human health risk assessments. These documents that are open for comment are the draft guidelines that will be used by EPA when assessing off-site spray drift.

The first document that is available for comment describes the modeling that will be used for estimating the amount of spray drift that will move off-site during an application. The modeling will also assess the ecological and drinking water risk that would exist if the estimated spray drift occurs. The document is entitled, "Guidance on Modeling Offsite Deposition of Pesticides via Spray Drift for Ecological and Drinking Water Assessments for the Environmental Fate and Effects Division" and is available as a pdf at:

<http://www.regulations.gov/#!documentDetail;D=EPA-HQ-OPP-2013-0676-0002>

The second document focuses on modeling and estimation of indirect exposure from potential spray drift. The indirect exposure would be a situation such as a child playing on a residential lawn that has pesticide residues that drifted from an application to a nearby crop field. The draft guidance describes when quantitative risk assessment for spray drift may be needed. The document is entitled, "Residential Exposure Assessment Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)" and is available as a pdf at:

<http://www.regulations.gov#!documentDetail;D=EPA-HQ-OPP-2013-0676-0003>

Additionally, comments can be made regarding the use of AgDRIFT and AGDISP by EPA as the spray drift models to estimate the contribution of spray drift to ecological and human health risk assessments by estimating the drift fractions from the spray of liquid materials. Information about these and other items under consideration in this draft guidance is posted at:

<http://www.regulations.gov#!docketDetail;D=EPA-HQ-OPP-2013-0676>

Comments need to be received by March 31, 2014. To comment on the draft guidelines or find more information, go to this item in the federal register at:

<http://www.regulations.gov#!documentDetail;D=EPA-HQ-OPP-2013-0676-0001>

(Source: Office of Pesticide Program, U.S. EPA, <http://www.epa.gov/pesticides>)

Pesticide Labels and Changes to Federal Hazard Communication Standard

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has recently changed hazard communication standards to align with the Globally Harmonized System (GHS) of classifying and labeling chemicals.

These changes have led to some confusion regarding pesticide labels, the document bearing the EPA registration number and affixed to the pesticide product. Some of the language on shipping containers and Safety Data Sheets (SDS) may be different from the language on the pesticide label. The most noticeable difference is the signal words to indicate hazards are different than ones used on pesticide labels.

Essentially, the language and signal words on pesticide labels will not be changing because there are no planned amendments to the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) which dictates language on pesticide labels. The U.S. Department of Transportation has accepted these GHS standards, so shipping containers as well as SDS -- formerly Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) -- will reflect the new standards.

Journal Article Retracted from *Food and Chemical Toxicology*

An article published in the November, 2012, edition of *Food and Chemical Toxicology* has been retracted by the journal. The article entitled, "Long term toxicity of Roundup herbicide and a Roundup-tolerant genetically modified maize," by Gilles Eric Séralini et al., was removed after evaluation of the researchers' raw data of the researchers revealed that no definitive conclusions could be reached in regards to overall mortality or tumor incidence. While the journal found no evidence of fraud or intention misrepresentation, there was legitimate cause

for concern that normal variability could not be excluded for the results because of the small sample size and the strain of rats used in the study.

(Source: PR Newswire, 11-28-2013, <http://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/elsevier-announces-article-retraction-from-journal-food-and-chemical-toxicology-233754901.html>)

Ohio Gypsy Moth Resources Available

Gypsy moth treatments for 2014 have been announced by the Ohio Department of Agriculture and information open houses are currently being held. Schedules for upcoming information open houses, details about products to be used, and treatment maps are available for the public online at: <http://www.agri.ohio.gov/divs/plant/gypsy/gypsy-index.aspx> Specific questions about treatments may be directed to Dave Adkins, gypsy moth program coordinator, at 614-387-0907.

Upcoming Events

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

Ohio Pesticide Commercial Applicator Recertification Conferences

Feb. 19, 2014 – Akron, John S. Knight Center

Mar. 6, 2014 – Columbus Convention Center

Pesticide Safety Training – Commercial New Applicators & Trained Servicepersons

February 26, 2014

March 26, 2014

April 30, 2014

May 21, 2014

August 27, 2014

September 24, 2014

Core and Trained Serviceperson trainings are held in the morning, and Categories 8, 5, 2c, and 6c in the afternoon.

Taught at the Ohio Department of Agriculture, Reynoldsburg, Ohio

Wood-Destroying Insect Inspection Training

April 8, 2014 - Mandatory training required for applicators becoming licensed in commercial category 12. Recertification credit is available. See pested.osu.edu for more information.

Taught at the Ohio Department of Agriculture, Reynoldsburg, Ohio