

PEP-Talk, April, 2008

Pesticide Education Program
Ohio State University Extension
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STEVE BAERTSCHE RETIRES

Steve Baertsche, a strong supporter of the Pesticide Education Program is retiring from Ohio State University Extension this month. In 1993, Baertsche became the Assistant Director for Agriculture and Natural Resources in Ohio State University Extension and worked closely with the program during his tenure. He began with Ohio State University in 1980 in the animal sciences.

We appreciate Steve's support and advice during years of growth, budget constraints and development of the Pesticide Education Program. Thanks Steve!

24C LABEL FOR EMERALD ASH BORER

A Section 24C was recently granted for Tree-age insecticide for control of emerald ash borer in ash trees. The product is for tree injection only. The registration number for the 24C is OH-080002.

If applicators are planning to use Tree-age for this purpose, they must have a copy of the Section 24C label at the time of application. A copy is available to download from the Pesticide Education Program website at: <http://pested.osu.edu/24C.htm>

CALIFORNIA FARMERS FACE FUMIGATION LIMITS

This month farmers in five regions of California will receive their permits to apply fumigants for crops from May to October. The affected areas include Ventura County, San Joaquin Valley, Sacramento Metro, Southeast Desert and South Coast.

California instituted the permits after losing a lawsuit from environmental groups that challenged the state's air quality plan approved in 1994 that called for a 20 percent reduction in emissions from volatile organic compounds (VOCs) in areas that violated federal smog standards.

The purpose of the permits is to limit use of soil fumigants, including methyl bromide, during the ozone-heavy months of May to October. In addition to limiting the use of fumigants, growers will also need to use low-emission techniques to apply the fumigants.

The initiation of the low-emission techniques are considered sufficient for the San Joaquin and Southeast Desert areas to meet the 20 percent reduction goal. However in Ventura County, where over 12,000 acres of strawberries are grown, the reductions could affect grower's decisions to raise strawberries.

The Ventura County Agricultural Association (VCAA) has filed suit against the California Department of Pesticide Regulation that the regulation will cost local farming operations millions of dollars. The group points out strawberries and other specialty crops are the only viable option on the high-priced land. They contend this regulation would force agricultural land to be converted to residential and commercial development, which would increase smog and create carbon emissions.

VOCs have been targeted because they routinely evaporate out of fumigants into the air and react with sunlight and nitrogen oxides to form ground level ozone, otherwise called smog. More information about the regulations is available at the California Department of Pesticide Regulation website: http://www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/emon/vocs/vocproj/reg_fumigant.htm

(Sources: "About New Rules to Control Field Fumigant Emissions," fact sheet by the California Department of Pesticide Regulation, January 2008; Ventura County Star, March 1, 2008; Columbia Tribune, March 13, 2008; Pesticide & Toxic Chemical News, Vol. 36, Nos. 16 & 18)

MOSQUITO CONTROL WORKSHOPS

Do you know any pesticide applicators who will be doing mosquito spraying this year? Encourage them to attend the Vector Control Workshops, coordinated by Ohio State University Extension and the Ohio Department of Health. These workshops will be held around the state in June and the dates and locations are listed below.

Applicators will be able to bring in their mosquito ULV spraying equipment for droplet testing. The sprayers must be in working condition and calibrated prior to the workshop. Droplets can be taken only using pesticide as the spray, so have some pesticide in the tank.

At selected locations, an educational program and license exam testing will be available. The program includes a morning of new applicator training for the mosquito category on a pesticide applicator license. Applicators will be able to take their licensing exam the same morning. The afternoon educational session will feature an update on mosquito and vector control. Pesticide recertification credits for the mosquito and vector category 10d (1 hour) and core (1/2 hour) will be available in the afternoon session.

The dates and locations of the workshops are:

June 17 – Whitehall Community Park, 402 Hamilton Rd., Whitehall (Columbus area)

Educational session, ODA license exam and ULV droplet testing ALL available.

June 18 - Whitehall Community Park, 402 Hamilton Rd., Whitehall (Columbus area)

ULV droplet testing only - NO education session or ODA license exam testing will be available

June 19 – Lake County Health Department, 550 Black Brook Rd., Painesville, Educational session, ODA license exam and ULV droplet testing ALL available.

June 20 – Toledo Area Sanitary District, 5015 Stickney Ave., Toledo, ULV droplet testing only - NO education session or ODA license exam testing will be available

Registration is \$10/person for the educational session. ULV droplet testing is free. The workshops are made possible through a grant from the Ohio Department of Health. Registration forms and more information are available on the Pesticide Education Program website at <http://pested.osu.edu> or by calling (614) 292-4070.

PESTICIDE ISSUES ON EPA WEBSITE

EPA has launched a website for current pesticide issues that are under consideration at the Agency. These include issues that are in the development process or of interest to EPA. The first two issues addressed are colony collapse disorder and pesticide volatilization. The website is <http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/about/intheworks/>

PESTICIDE CROP WATCH

HERBICIDES

Napropamide – EPA has announced that registrants have voluntarily terminated use of this herbicide on apples, apricots, artichoke, cherry, peach, pear, pistachio, plum, prunes, walnut crops and others fruit and vegetable crops. Comments are accepted until April 18, 2008. More information is available at: <http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/reregistration/napropamide/>

Sulfometuron methyl – EPA has released the risk assessment for this non-selective herbicide used primarily in forestry and industrial vegetation. There are no food uses for sulfometuron methyl. Risks of concern are indirect effects on freshwater fish and invertebrates, estuarine/marine fish and invertebrates and acute and chronic exposure to aquatic and terrestrial plants. Comments are accepted until April 28, 2008. More information is available at: http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/reregistration/sulfometuron_methyl/

INSECTICIDES

Permethrin – EPA has amended the reregistration eligibility decision to include directions for outdoor residential misting systems designed for mosquito control in backyards. EPA also wants to require efficacy data for product groups that target public health pests: permethrin impregnated clothing products, outdoor residential misting systems and permethrin products used on domestic animals. More information is available at: <http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/reregistration/permethrin/>

UPCOMING EVENTS

More information about these events at <http://pested.osu.edu>

TRAINED SERVICEPERSON AND NEW APPLICATOR SCHOOLS

Recertification credit also available in core, 8, 6c and 5.

April 16, 2008

May 14, 2008

August 27, 2008

September 24, 2008

Taught at Ohio Department of Agriculture, Reynoldsburg

April 9, 2008

Auglaize County

Contact OSU Extension, Auglaize County for more information at (419) 738-2219

EXTENSION EDUCATOR INSERVICE

December 3-4, 2008

Ohio 4-H Center, OSU Campus, Columbus

OSU Extension embraces human diversity and is committed to ensuring that all educational programs conducted by Ohio State University Extension are available to clientele on a nondiscriminatory basis without regard to race, color, age, gender identity or expression, disability, religion, sexual orientation, national origin, or veteran status. Keith L. Smith, Associate Vice President for Agricultural Administration and Director, OSU Extension TDD No. 800-589-8292 (Ohio only) or 614-292-1868