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NPDES EXTENSION GRANTED BY COURT
Applicators involved in the agricultural, mosquito and other industries are closely watching the process of the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permitting requirement. A court has ordered that the permits are required for pesticide applications to water, even when aquatic applications are allowed on the FIFRA-registered label.

In the most recent step, the court has granted EPA an extension to allow more time to implement the NPDES permit requirement. The implementation deadline was extended from April 9, 2011 to October 31, 2011.

Meanwhile, a bipartisan bill, HR 872 (Reducing Regulator Burdens Act of 2011), was passed in the House of Representatives on March 31. The legislation would eliminate the requirements of a NPDES permit for the use of a FIFRA-registered pesticide product by amending FIFRA and the Clean Water Act to clarify congressional intent. The legislation now moves to the Senate.
(Source: Pesticide & Toxic Chemical News, March 29, 2011, Western Farm Press, April 5, 2011)

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD OPENED REGARDING SPANISH-LANGUAGE LABELS
EPA has opened a public comment period to require pesticide manufacturers to produce bilingual labeling for some, or possibly all, pesticide products. The original petition was
submitted to EPA by external groups to require bilingual labeling for all agriculture products.

EPA is considering moving beyond just agricultural labels and requires bilingual labeling in English and Spanish for possibly:
- All pesticide products,
- Only certain types of pesticides,
- Certain pesticide use sites,
- Certain pesticide active ingredients,
- Pesticides in certain toxicity categories, or
- Certain parts of pesticide labels

The public comment period will be open until June 28, 2011. After the comment period, the agency will use the comments received in developing a decision on this petition. The Federal Register notice and petition are available in docket number EPA-HQ-OPP-2011-0014 at regulations.gov. More information is available at: http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/regulating/labels/bilingual-pesticide-labels.html.
(Source: EPA Office of Pesticide Programs)

PESTICIDE LABELS AVAILABLE AT NPIRS
The National Pesticide Information Retrieval System (NPIRS) is available to Ohio applicators looking for pesticide information. This system has been available for several years as a database that can be searched by active ingredient, site of application, pest to be controlled, product name, company name and EPA registration number.

Purdue University coordinates the site and is looking to expand to include labels, called ALSTAR (Accepted Labels State Tracking and Repository). The current database contains the product information, but not a label. To access the database, go the Pesticide Safety Education Program website at: http://pested.osu.edu/general.html and click on “National Pesticide Information Retrieval System.”

WARNING ISSUED BY EPA REGARDING FAST ANT BAIT
EPA has sent warning to more than 2,800 customers across the U.S. who purchased an ant-control product from the online website fastpestcontrol.com. The product, Fast Ant Bait, contains mirex, which was cancelled here in the U.S. in 1978. The website also sells another illegal product called Antimos mosquito repellent.

The ant bait was produced and mailed from China and offered through various other websites who have since removed the product from their offerings. These companies have provided EPA with sales information so the customers could be contacted directly about the dangers posed by the pesticide and proper disposal methods.

For more information, visit the EPA website at: http://yosemite.epa.gov/opa/admpress.nsf/eeffe922a687433c85257359003f5340/0119cd08eaa00968525785a00523da2!OpenDocument, or call Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry Information Center at 1-888-422-8737 or the National Pesticide Information Center at 1-800-858-7378.
DATES SET FOR 2012 COMMERCIAL RECERTIFICATION CONFERENCES
The dates have been set for the Ohio Pesticide Commercial Applicator 2012 Recertification Conferences. The conferences will be:
January 31, 2012 – Kalahari Conference Center, Sandusky
February 8, 2012 – John S. Knight Center, Akron
February 15, 2012 – Dayton Convention Center
March 8, 2012 – Columbus Convention Center
More information is available on the Pesticide Safety Education Program website at http://pested.osu.edu

CHRISTMAS TREE IPM MANUAL DEVELOPED
An IPM manual focusing on Christmas trees has been developed by the Pennsylvania IPM Program. More information about the 208-page manual is available at:
http://extension.psu.edu/ipm/program/christmas-tree

PESTICIDE CROP WATCH
FUNGICIDES
A 24(c) local needs label has been posted for Indar 2F for the control of blossom blight and fruit brown rot in cherries peaches and nectarines. This 24 (c) label is only for distribution and use in the State of Ohio. If a grower is using Indar 2F for the above uses, they must have possession of this label at the time of application.

The label is posted at the Pesticide Safety Education Program website at:
http://pested.osu.edu/24C.htm and is listed as SLN OH 11001.

FUMIGANTS
Iodomethane – EPA is opening a comment period about the petition requesting that all registrations of iodomethane (also called methyl iodide) be suspended and cancelled. The soil fumigant is used on fruits, vegetables, ornamental plants and turf and is often used as a replacement for methyl bromide which is being phased out. The petition was filed by external groups and EPA has opened a comment period for the petition. Comments must be received by April 30, 2011. More information is available at:
http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/reregistration/iodomethane/.

UPCOMING EVENTS
More information about these events at: http://pested.osu.edu.

2011 PESTICIDE SAFETY TRAINING (NEW APPLICATORS)
All classes taught at the Ohio Department of Agriculture, Reynoldsburg
Categories covered: Core (commercial & private), Commercial 8, 5, 6c, 2c
April 20, 2011
May 18, 2011
August 24, 2011
September 28, 2011
WOOD-DESTROYING INSECT INSPECTION TRAINING
All classes taught at the Ohio Department of Agriculture, Reynoldsburg
Mandatory training for Commercial Category 12
September 14, 2011

OSU EXTENSION EDUCATOR INSERVICE
December 7 & 8, 2011, Ohio 4-H Center, Columbus OSU Campus

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