

PEP-Talk, April, 2009

Pesticide Education Program
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NPDES PERMIT REQUIREMENTS FOR PESTICIDE WATER APPLICATIONS

In January an appeals court ruled that aquatic pesticide applications would require a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit under the Clean Water Act (CWA). The decision vacated the EPA November 2006 final rule that permitted pesticides approved for aquatic applications through FIFRA to be used without a NPDES.

In April the Department of Justice (DOJ) chose not to seek a rehearing on the opinion issued by the court. Instead, DOJ filed a motion for a stay of two years to provide EPA time to develop, propose and issue a final NPDES general permit for pesticide applicators.

The court ruling requires a permit for all biological pesticide applications and chemical pesticide applications that leave a residue in water when such applications are made in or over, including near, waters of the U.S. EPA estimates this will affect about 365,000 pesticide applicators and about 5.6 million pesticide applications

annually. For more information about the permitting process, visit EPA's NPDES page

at: http://cfpub.epa.gov/npdes/home.cfm?program_id=41

BEE COLONY COLLAPSE DISORDER

The April, 2009, issue of "Scientific American" has an extensive article on the bee colony collapse disorder. The article explores possible causes, pointing to a complex disease that includes a combination of factors that make the bees vulnerable to viruses. Some of the solutions may include increased hive hygiene and antiviral drugs for the hives. The article is available

at: <http://www.sciam.com/article.cfm?id=saving-the-honeybee>

EPA PLANS TO USE AG HEALTH STUDY RESULTS

EPA is looking to use information from the Ag Health Study (AHS) in the regulatory process when performing regularly scheduled registration reviews. The data includes health, hazard and exposure information along with other results from the study.

The Ag Health Study began in 1993 as collaboration among federal agencies. Designed as a large, long-term, prospective epidemiological study, the AHS collects and analyzes data on the health and work practices of licensed pesticide applicators in Iowa and North Carolina. Individuals enrolled in the study were healthy before enrollment. This study includes 52,000 private applicators, 32,000 spouses of private applicators and 5000 commercial applicators

The study focuses particularly on the farmers' exposure to 50 chemicals, including many of the most widely used pesticides. The study also collects information on other possible agricultural exposures and many lifestyle factors.

Information about the Ag Health Study is available

at: <http://aghealth.nci.nih.gov/> Information about EPA's role and plans in the study is available

at: <http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/health/ag-health.html>

ORGANIC UPDATES

The U.S. and Canadian governments are working on an agreement

to allow for certified organic goods to move smooth between the two countries. The agreement would allow organic growers to have their products recognized as organic between the two countries.

In an unrelated story, the European Union is currently performing safety reviews of substances that have been on the market before 1993. Almost one half of the active substances used in pesticides by organic farmers have not passed this safety review. The review is looking at the effect of each substance on human and animal health and the environment.

(Source: Pesticide & Toxic Chemical News, Vol. 37, No. 21)

NATIONAL BED BUG SUMMIT

Bed bugs are becoming a topic of concern across the nation. EPA is conducting a National Bed Bug Summit to look at the expanding impact of bed bugs on the housing, hospitality and other sectors. The meeting participants will look at factors contributing to the growing problem and the response of the public health community and government agencies. To be held April 14 and 15, the summit will also identify ideas and options for bed bug prevention, control and management. More information is available at: http://www.epa.gov/oppfead1/cb/csb_page/updates/2009/bedbug-mtg.html

CANADIAN CONCERN OVER HOMEMADE PESTICIDES

Canada Health has started a campaign to alert consumers to the risk of preparing, storing and using homemade pesticides. Fact sheets in addition to a website have been created to help raise awareness.

The main message is that homemade pesticides do not undergo any scientific evaluation and do not have label directions. Pesticides created from home products could still pose health or environmental concerns. For more information and a copy of the fact sheet, go to Canada Health's website at: <http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/hl-vs/iyh-vsv/life-vie/homemade-artisanaux-eng.php>

Incidentally, the province of Ontario has restricted homeowners from using cosmetic pesticides in their home and garden landscape. The March, 2009, issue of PEP-Talk has information about Ontario's

newest ban on herbicides like glyphosate and 2,4-D, fungicides like captan and insecticides like rotenone for home and garden use. More information about the newest ban is available at: <http://pested.osu.edu/pep-talk/pepv13i3.html> The cosmetic ban information is in the October, 2007, issue of PEP-Talk which is available at <http://pested.osu.edu/pep-talk/pepv11i7.htm>

ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MAY 8

The Pesticide Safety Education Program will have an advisory committee meeting on May 8. The meeting will be held at the Ohio Department of Agriculture in Reynoldsburg. The committee consists of representatives from the Ohio Department of Agriculture, Pesticide and Fertilizer Regulation Section; OSU Extension Specialists, Associates and Educators; State Agencies and Industry.

The agenda will include an update on changes in OSU Extension, school IPM, private category consolidation and PSEP program. If you would like to provide input for the sessions, please contact the OSU Extension Educator representatives on the committee: John Barker, Steve Bartels, Steve Prochaska, Mark Mechling, Eric Barrett, Amy Stone, Jim Lopshire and Curtis Young.

PESTICIDE CROP WATCH

INSECTICIDES

Carbofuran – Certain uses of carbofuran have been cancelled at the request of the registrant, according to EPA. The cancelled uses include alfalfa, ornamentals, popcorn, small grains (wheat, oats and barley), soybeans, sweet corn and tobacco. The remaining registered uses for the carbamate insecticide are field corn, sunflowers, potatoes, pumpkins, pine seedlings and spinach grown for seed. The cancellation date was March 18, 2009. Existing stocks of carbofuran products may be sold or used according to label directions until they are depleted or the effective date for the revocation of the associated tolerances. More information is available

at: <http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/reregistration/carbofuran/>

BIOPESTICIDES

Garlic Oil– EPA is beginning the review process for this biopesticide to assure that it can still be used without unreasonable adverse

effects on human health or the environment. Garlic oil is used as a repellent for the control of insects, mites, birds, deer, rabbit and squirrels. It is registered for use on terrestrial food and feed such as vegetables, fruits, nuts and grains as well as ornamental plants and shrubs. More information is available at: http://www.epa.gov/oppsrrd1/registration_review/garlic_oil/index.html Comments can be made to EPA until May 26, 2009.

Capsaicin - EPA is beginning the review process for this biopesticide to assure that it can still be used without unreasonable adverse effects on human health or the environment. Capsaicin is derived from chili peppers and is used as a vertebrate repellent, insect repellent (including termites) and fungicide. More information is available at: http://www.epa.gov/oppsrrd1/registration_review/capsaicin/index.html Comments can be made to EPA until May 26, 2009.

MISC.

Chemtura Corporation filed for bankruptcy on March 18. The specialty chemical firm said efforts to increase the firm's cash position by eliminating its dividend, cutting jobs and putting businesses up for sale were not enough to avoid filing for bankruptcy. More information available at: <http://greenbook.net/viewStory.asp?StoryID=816> (Source: Greenbook.net, March 24, 2009)

UPCOMING EVENTS

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

TRAINED SERVICEPERSON AND NEW APPLICATOR COMMERCIAL SCHOOLS

April 28, 2009

May 20, 2009

August 26, 2009

September 30, 2009

Taught at Ohio Department of Agriculture, Reynoldsburg

WOOD-DESTROYING INSECT INSPECTION TRAINING

Recertification credit also available in Core, 10b and 12.

September 16, 2009

Taught at Ohio Department of Agriculture, Reynoldsburg

OSU EXTENSION EDUCATOR INSERVICE

December 9 and 10, 2009

OSU Campus, Columbus

COMMERCIAL APPLICATOR RECERTIFICATION CONFERENCES

Field Crop Conference

December 16, 2009 – OSU – Lima Campus

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