

## **PEP-TALK**

**OSU Extension Pesticide Education Program**  
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### **NEWS FOR OHIO AGENTS**

#### **ODA Container Recycling**

Last week, the Ohio Department of Agriculture did a county mailing of the 1998 schedule for the container recycling program. Look for the schedule and the summary of 1997 activities in your mail. You can also find the recycling schedule on the PAT Web Page at the address listed above.

Recently, at the State Coordinating Committee on Groundwater meeting, Larry Berger from ODA pesticides section announced that the container recycling program for 1997 is complete. Almost 60,000 pounds of plastic containers were recycled. He also stated that ODA's new Global Positioning Systems equipment has arrived. ODA plans to start sampling wells for the State Management Plan monitoring network next Spring.

Larry also stated that the total pesticide screens completed on about 34 ground water samples from ODNR's ambient well network all came up nondetect.

#### **Safety: Apply it First Campaign**

Recently the Pesticide Training Offices received a campaign packet entitled "Safety: Apply it First" developed by a coalition of eight agrichemical manufacturers (Am. Cyanamid, Bayer, Rhone-Poulenc, Cheminova, FMC, Novartis, Valent, and Makhteshim) and mailed to Extension for future distribution to growers and applicators. In November 1997 this group started national promotion of the program to deliver the message of safety and proper stewardship of organophosphates and carbamates to applicators. Through the free safety awareness kits, pesticide hopper stickers, cab window stickers, brochures, and slide sets, the campaign urges dealers, applicators, and growers to exercise safe use and handling of chemicals. A toll-free hotline was also established (800/233-1909).

#### **Structural Pest Control Changes in Ohio**

ODA recently approved a compliance letter that will go out to all pest control operators. Rules are being established that set new criteria for performance by the termite control industry. The letter states:

"Major changes are occurring in the structural pest control industry." "Non-control of termites is the most significant problem identified by many state pesticide regulators across the country. Part of this problem has been non-specific language on termiticide labels which has allowed applicators to use less product than is necessary to obtain termite control or to 'establish an effective chemical barrier'. In response to state regulators' requests, EPA has recently issued Pesticide Regulation Notice 96-7 which directed termiticide manufacturers to improve label directions so they are more specific and enforceable."

"In pesticide Regulation Notice 96-7, the EPA instructed manufacturers to strengthen the language in several areas

of the termiticide labels. Some of the most significant elements of the notice are:

1. For post-construction treatments, the directions for the foundation perimeter portion of the treatment are more specific as to the requirements for application gallonage. In most situations, soil trenching is required. This part of the label must be followed thoroughly because it will be a major focus for ODA's enforcement.
2. The EPA defines pre-construction treatment and requires new use directions that do not permit pesticide applicators to use less termiticide than is specified by the label.
3. There are new provisions for protecting people, which cover pesticide applicators, workers at pretreatment sites, and occupants of structures being treated.
4. There are new water protection statements. Changes here affect, in particular, how structures that contain cisterns or wells within them or adjacent to them can be treated."

"Enforcement of the new label language will be a major focus of ODA beginning in 1998." ODA's letter to pest control operators providing notice to pesticide applicators who apply termiticides for hire that ODA will take enforcement action when the applicator applies less termiticide than is prescribed by the termiticide label.

"Some applicators believe that Section 2 (ee) of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) justifies, under certain circumstances, applications using less than the application rate specified on the product label." ODA is advising PCO's that for termite applications Ohio law does not recognize section 2(ee).

"New termiticide labels are appearing in the marketplace now. (ODA is) encouraging every termiticide user to become familiar with the EPA PR Notice and to carefully read the new termiticide labels as they appear on the products (they) use." Excerpted from letter signed Robert F. Wulforth, ODA (Bob Wulforth, ODA, fax December 16, 1997)

#### **EPA MAKES SAFETY FINDING FOR PYRETHROID INSECTICIDES**

EPA reviewed 273 tolerances for a group of ten synthetic pyrethroid insecticides in the largest pesticide tolerance assessment since the inception of the Food Quality Protection Act (FQPA) of 1996. The action established final tolerances for 47 time-limited tolerances which were due to expire on Nov. 15, 1997. The tolerances were time-limited because of the potential risk to aquatic invertebrates and fish. The class of ten insecticides include bifenthrin, cyfluthrin, cypermethrin, zeta-cypermethrin, deltamethrin, esfenvalerate, fenpropathrin, lambda-cyhalothrin, tralomethrin, and tefluthrin. (See Chemical & Label Update listings below)

New FQPA-mandated regulations required EPA to perform complete assessments of all tolerances before renewing the chemicals' conditional registrations, and to include assessments of the aggregate risks from dietary exposure, exposure in drinking water, and exposure through residential use, for which some of these insecticides are registered. All tolerance levels of the ten pyrethroids, both time-limited and permanent, were assessed. All met the new FQPA safety standards; their tolerance levels remain unchanged, and all time-limits were removed. Pyrethroids constitute the major alternatives to the acutely-toxic organophosphates and carbamates. This group of ten pyrethroids were granted 3-year conditional registrations because EPA has not yet completed its assessment of potential risks to aquatic invertebrates and fish. Aquatic mitigation measures continue to restrict pyrethroid uses that could involve exposure to aquatic organisms. EPA expects to develop and refine these measures once the aquatic risk assessment is completed. The primary producers and registrants of the ten pyrethroids formed a task force to facilitate and expedite gathering the data requested by EPA. (Al Heier, EPA Press Advisory, November 21, 1997)

#### **CHEMICAL & LABEL UPDATE**

The following information provides registration status of particular pesticides and should not be considered as pesticide recommendations by OSU Extension.

## **FIELD CROPS**

**Bifenthrin** -- FMC Corporation -- EPA established tolerances for residues of the insecticide bifenthrin in or on the raw agricultural commodities corn grain (field, seed, and pop); corn, forage and fodder; hops, dried; fat of cattle, goat, hogs, horses, and sheep; meat of cattle, goat, hogs, horses, and sheep; meat by-products (mbyp) of cattle, goat, hogs, horses, and sheep, eggs; milk, fat; poultry, fat, meat, and mbyp. It also removes time limitations for tolerances for residues of bifenthrin on the same commodities that expire on November 15, 1997. (Federal Register, November 26, 1997)

**Fipronil** -- Rhone Poulenc Ag, Inc-- EPA established tolerances for combined residues of fipronil in or on field corn grain, stover, and forage; milk fat, (reflecting residues in whole milk); eggs; poultry fat, meat, and meat byproducts; hog fat, meat, meat byproducts, and liver; and liver, fat, meat, and meat byproducts of cattle, goat, horse, and sheep. (Federal Register, November 26, 1997)

**Regent (fipronil)** -- Rhone Poulenc-- Received EPA approval to use on corn to control rootworm and European corn borer. (Ag. Chem. News, December 15, 1997)

**Tefluthrin**--Zeneca Ag. Products-- EPA has established tolerances for combined residues of the insecticide tefluthrin and its metabolite in or on field corn, popcorn, sweet corn, and fresh corn forage and fodder. It also removes time limitations for tolerances for residues of tefluthrin on the same commodities that expire on November 15, 1997. ( Federal Register, November 26, 1997)

## **FRUITS and VEGETABLE**

**Cryolite** -- EPA established a time-limited tolerance for residues of the insecticidal fluorine compounds cryolite and/or synthetic cryolite (sodium aluminum fluoride) in or on the raw agricultural commodity potatoes and in the processed animal feed commodity, potato waste. A petition requesting these tolerances was submitted by The Cryolite Task Force. (Federal Register, December 5, 1997)

**Cyromazine**--EPA established time-limited tolerances for combined residues of cyromazine and its metabolite melamine in or on lima beans and blackeye peas. This action is in response to EPA's granting of an emergency exemption under section 18 for control of leafminer in California. (Federal Register, December 10, 1997)

**Fenpropathrin**-- Valent U.S.A.-- EPA established tolerances for residues of fenpropathrin in or on strawberry, tomato, meat and meat by-products of cattle, goats, hogs, horses and sheep, fat of cattle, goats, hogs, horses and sheep, milk fat, and poultry meat, and eggs. It also removes time limitations for tolerances for residues of fenpropathrin on the same commodities that expire on November 15, 1997. (Federal Register, November 26, 1997)

**Imidacloprid**-- EPA extended a time-limited tolerance for residues of the insecticide imidacloprid and its metabolites in or on beet and turnip roots and beet and turnip tops for an additional 1-year period, to November 29, 1998. This action is in response to EPA's granting of an emergency exemption under section 18 for this year's growing season due to the lack of acceptable control of aphids with currently registered products and the loss of the insecticide Phosdrin. (Federal Register, December 12, 1997)

**Maxim (fludioxonil)** --Novartis -- EPA established residue tolerance on potatoes. (Federal Register, October 29, 1997)

**Myclobutanil**-- EPA extended a time-limited tolerance for residues of the fungicide myclobutanil and its metabolites in or on cucurbits for an additional 1-year period, to November 30, 1998. This action is in response to EPA's granting of an emergency exemption under section 18 because the Agency authorized this use in the states of Arizona and Hawaii to control powdery mildew on cucurbit vegetables (Arizona) and watermelons (Hawaii). (Federal Register, December 12, 1997)

**Reflex (fomesafen)**-- Zeneca--EPA established time limited residue tolerances on dry beans. (Federal Register, November 19, 1997)

**Zeta-Cypermethrin and Cypermethrin**-- FMC Corp. --EPA established tolerances for residues of the insecticide zeta-cypermethrin in or on cabbage, cottonseed, lettuce, onions, pecans, and the fat, meat, and meat byproducts of cattle, goats, hogs, horses, and sheep. It also removes time limitations for tolerances for residues of zeta-cypermethrin on the same commodities that expire on November 15, 1997. ( Federal Register, November 26, 1997)

#### **TURF & ORNAMENTALS**

**Eagle** (fenbuconazole)--Rohm & Haas -- New label expansion includes the addition of over 90 ornamental species to the label. On turf, the rates have been increased to control certain diseases and the application interval has been increased to 28 days. (Ag. Chem. News, December 15, 1997)

#### **MISCELLANEOUS OR MULTICROP**

**Chlorothalonil** -- EPA established a time-limited tolerance for residues of chlorothalonil in or on ginseng. This action is in response to EPA's granting of an emergency exemption under section 18 the use of chlorothalonil on ginseng for control of leaf and stem blight in Wisconsin. (Federal Register, December 12, 1997)

**Cyfluthrin** -- Bayer Ag Corporation -- EPA established tolerances for residues of cyfluthrin in or on the raw agricultural commodities: alfalfa; alfalfa hay; aspirated grain fractions; carrots; cattle fat, meat and meat by-products (mbyp); eggs; goats fat, meat and goats mbyp; hogs fat, meat and mbyp; horses fat, meat mbyp; milkfat; peppers; poultry fat, meat mbyp; radishes; sheep fat, meat and mbyp; sorghum fodder, forage, grain; sugarcane molasses; sunflower forage and seed; tomato and tomato concentrated products; and tomato, pomace (wet and dry). (Federal Register, November 26, 1997)

**Touchdown 5** (sulfosate) -- Zeneca--This new formulation has been registered by EPA. It contains 5 lb/gallon a.i. and requires no tank mixed adjuvants. It is used as a burndown herbicide. (Ag. Chem. News, December 15, 1997)

**Tralomethrin**-- AgrEvo USA-- EPA established tolerances for residues of tralomethrin in or on broccoli; lettuce head, lettuce, leaf; soybeans; and sunflower seed. It also removes time limitations for tolerances for residues of tralomethrin on the same commodities that expire on November 15, 1997. (Federal Register, November 26, 1997)

#### **Notice of Receipt of Requests to Voluntarily Cancel Certain Pesticide Registrations**

EPA is issuing a notice of receipt of requests by registrants to voluntarily cancel pesticide registrations. Unless a request is withdrawn by June 1, 1998, orders will be issued canceling all of these registrations.

D.Z.N. Diazinon 1% & ½ % M.E. Insecticide

D.Z.N. 2.0 M.E.C. & MG-2

Geigy Diazinon 14G (14.3% Granular) Insecticide

Devco All-Weather Penetrating Clear Wood Preservative F

Mocap Nematacide-Insecticide 10% Granular

Du Pont Vydate L Insecticide/Nematicide

SMCP 1% Dursban Granular

Weed-Free G

Tanglefoot Bird Repellent

Paraquat Concentrate 3

Aquar 536 Water Treatment Microbiocide

Ind-Sol 288 Liquid Weed Killer

Weed Blast 4-H Weed Killer

Mitac EC

Carzol SP

Treflan TR-10 Granules

Treflan E. C.

(Federal Register, December 3, 1997)

### **LABELS NOW REQUIRED FOR GENETICALLY MODIFIED SOYBEANS IN BRITAIN**

British consumers will be able to choose whether they eat genetically modified foods next year. "All products containing soybeans from the United States will be labeled as genetically modified." (P & T Chem News, December 3, 1997) Even though only 15% of U.S. soybeans are Roundup Ready, those soybeans are not separated from the rest of the crop. "The labeling will begin as early as January 1998." Because the British Retail Consortium decided that the words "may contain genetically modified products" would be too confusing, all labels will state that the product "does contain genetically modified soy." (P & T Chem News, December 3, 1997)

### **AGREEMENT REACHED TO PHASE OUT USE OF RID-A-BIRD PESTICIDE**

The registrant of Rid-A-Bird Perch 1100 Solution pesticide has reached an agreement with EPA to voluntarily cancel all use of this product by March 1, 1999 and to recall any leftover stocks from distributors and users by Dec. 1, 1999. Rid-A-Bird (a.i. fenthion) is a restricted use pesticide used to control starlings, English sparrows, and pigeons which land or roost in and around buildings. Without control, such nuisance birds congregating in large numbers can threaten public health and safety through bird-related industrial accidents and the spread of disease. EPA's concerns are based on evidence that this product poses risks to protected predatory birds that feed on the birds poisoned by the pesticide. EPA also requested the company to make label changes to further mitigate the potential risk of the pesticide to non-target and endangered species during the phase-out. The registrant will make the label changes by May 1, 1998. The changes include a prohibition against use in starling roosting areas, other areas where over 200 starlings roost and a prohibition on use after Oct. 1, 1999. Later this month, Rid-A-Bird Inc. is expected to submit an application for a permit to experiment with a product containing 3-chloro-4-methyl benzenamine (better known as CPT) to determine whether it can be used in controlling nuisance birds without causing harm to protected predatory birds. (Al Heier, EPA Press Advisory, November 14, 1997)

### **BIOCONTROLS LIVE LONGER WITH NEW PROCESS**

Dozens of fungi and bacteria have been tested and found effective for controlling weeds that infest crops and rangeland. Unfortunately, most do not make it out of the laboratory because the microbes can't be kept alive or effective for the long-term. Stabileze (pronounced stable-ease), a new process invented by ARS scientists, could change that.

"Our method uses sugar to stabilize the cell membranes of the organisms," says Paul C. Quimby, Jr. a plant pathologist at the ARS laboratory in Sidney, Montana. "This approach keeps a large percentage of the organisms alive for 6 weeks to 6 months at room temperature and for at least 2 years under refrigeration." The sugar solution and microbes are mixed in a food processor with silica, corn oil and another ARS invention, a water-absorbent starch known as Super Slurper. The mixture forms dispersible granules that can be applied to foliage with conventional spraying equipment. These ingredients are cheaper and easier to work with than the sodium alginate and calcium salts that are commonly used to make similar granules. (Pesticide Coordinator Report, November 1997)

**NEWS NOTES** (The following news briefs were taken from U.S. EPA OPPT Newsbreak, listserv)

**"Pesticide Traces No Problem on Fruit [Findings]."** Washington Post, 14 November 97.

A panel of cancer experts found that "[t]he trace amounts of pesticides on fruits and vegetables pose practically no risk of cancer to people." The panel reviewed at least 50 published studies on pesticides that were published between 1981 and 1996. Their findings will be published November 15 in the journal "Cancer."

**"Forests Investigated in Bay Pollution."** Washington Post, 24 November 97.

Keith Eshleman, a hydrologist with the University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science, has received a

\$698,000 federal grant to study nitrogen runoff from forest land. Eshleman discovered that nitrogen runoff from forest land increases to as much as 50 times normal after heavy defoliation by gypsy moth caterpillars. The heavy nitrogen discharge from the defoliated forests may be linked to caterpillar droppings. Nitrogen that enters the Chesapeake Bay fuels algae growth, choking other aquatic life.

**"A Maine Forest Firm Prospers by Earning Eco-Friendly Label."** Wall Street Journal, 26 November 97. This piece profiles the Seven Islands Land Co., a forest products firm in Maine that has developed new business by obtaining "green certification," an endorsement from environmental groups that the company's operations are environmentally friendly. The company now manages its woodlands by using bug-eating birds to deal with pests, instead of other methods. As a result, the company receives a "Certified Well Managed Forest" label to affix to promotional materials and products. The company now has access to markets it didn't have before, including European outlets, where the green campaign is strong. The program is sponsored by the Forest Stewardship Council, a group based in Oaxaca, Mexico, which in turn receives funding from the EU, Ford, and MacArthur foundations.

### **EPA REORGANIZES (AGAIN)**

The Office of Prevention, Pesticides and Toxic Substances will soon include the new Office of Science Coordination and Policy as well as an Office of Consumer Safety and Right-to-know. This means that OPPTS will be composed of four basic offices and an OPPTS Immediate Office.

The basic function of each office is as follows: Immediate Office takes care of communication coordination, management and operations. Consumer Safety and Right-to-know oversees worker protection, FQPA pamphlets, and consumer product registration and reregistration. Science Coordination and Policy works with science policies within EPA, domestically, and internationally as well as coordination of pesticides and toxics issues. The Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics takes care of pollution prevention, new chemicals, existing chemicals and TSCA reporting. The Office of Pesticide Programs oversees active ingredient registration and reregistration, special review of pesticides, product registration, FQPA implementation and FIFRA. The new director for OPP is Marcia Mulkey from EPA Region 3.

John Impson states that Certification & Training (PAT) will fall under the Office of Consumer Safety and Right-to-Know. Lynn Goldman, Assistant Administrator for OPP, hopes to have this reorganization in place within six months. (John Impson, USDA, e-mail, December 9, 1997)

### **BIOLOGICAL CONTROL WORKSHOP**

Alternative Paradigms for Commercializing Biological Control Workshop  
May 31 - June 2, 1990  
Hyatt Regency Hotel  
New Brunswick, New Jersey, USA

This workshop, organized by Rutgers University Experiment Station Committee on Policy-Biological Control Working Group (ESCOP-WGBC), will focus attention on creating a new mind set for developing and using biological control, and fostering closer cooperation among industry, researchers, and extension personnel interested in biocontrol. For further information contact: Alternative Paradigms Workshop, Department of Entomology, Rutgers University, New Brunswick NJ 08903-0231 USA.

(Dr. George Hamilton, Rutgers, e-mail, December 12, 1997)

**PSST**

**EPA Web Page and Extraction of EPA Fact Sheets**

Address for EPA Pesticides is:- "[www.epa.gov/pesticides/](http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/)"

EPA PR Notices: "[www.epa.gov/opppmsd1/PR\\_Notices](http://www.epa.gov/opppmsd1/PR_Notices)"

Federal Registers: "[www.epa.gov/fedrgstr](http://www.epa.gov/fedrgstr)"

Section 18 Tolerance Exemptions: "[www.epa.gov/opprd001/section18](http://www.epa.gov/opprd001/section18)."

Some EPA pesticides fact sheets are directly accessible through the "Concerned Citizens" button on the pesticides web page; likewise, press releases and Q&As are accessible through the "In The News" button on the pesticides web page. However, not all fact sheets are currently linked to the page. The old ones are absent at present, but more will be linked soon. The 1.0 version of Netscape will not enable you to print the fact sheets, but a 3.0 version of Netscape works fine in printing. The Web also contains some larger documents like the Citizen's Guide, but be ready with blank disks in hand. (Donald Baumgartner, USEPA, e-mail, December 5, 1997)

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