

PEP-Talk, December, 2003

Pesticide Education Program
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PAT Agent Inservice

The Pesticide Applicator Training Agent Inservice will be January 7 & 8, 2004 in the Agriculture Auditorium in the Agriculture Administration Building on Ohio State University main campus. This inservice is for Extension agents, specialists, associates or program assistants involved with pesticide applicator training. The program includes pesticide updates, new training ideas and regulatory updates. Registration fee of \$22/day will include lunch, break refreshments, packet of handout materials and new fact sheets as well as a cd-rom of Powerpoint presentations. Attendees can attend for the reduced rate of \$10/day and receive everything except lunch. Parking passes are available for \$3/day. Special this year is an Agent Planning and ANR Issues Meeting on Wednesday evening. The meeting is coordinated by Steve Baertsche, Assistant Director, Agriculture and Natural Resources. The Wednesday evening meeting will include a free meal. For a schedule of the inservice and registration information, please go to the Pesticide Education Program website at <http://pested.osu.edu>. At the site, follow the link to the agent information page. The direct link for the on-line registration is <http://pested.osu.edu/pat2004>.

North Carolina Rejects Lowering Drift Allowance

The North Carolina pesticide board rejected a proposal to amend the drift allowance for aerial pesticide applications. Currently the rule prohibits drift within 100 feet of homes and 300 feet of schools, hospitals churches and nursing homes. An aerial applicator who was planning to spray pecan trees petitioned the board regarding the

rule. The applicator also told the board he had to turn down business for mosquito spraying because of the zero-tolerance standard for pesticide drift. The board originally proposed to allow drift to occur at levels below six parts per billion as long as all labeling and other pesticide rules were followed. However, after three public meetings and a 30-day comment period which netted more than 2,000 comments the board decided to reject their own proposal and keep the current drift restrictions based on public response. (*Source: Pesticide & Toxic Chemical News, Vol. 32, Nos. 2 & 4*)

Fewer People Reading Pesticide Labels

Only 26% of the respondents in the Roper Green Gauge Report read the labels on pesticides, which continues a downward trend from the 2001 report also conducted by Roper. The Green Gauge Report 2002 was conducted by the Roper ASW who conducts the study to identify the average American's perspective on environmental issues. Overall, the report shows a shift toward concerns about terrorism and relations with foreign countries as high priority for Americans. The 38-page report is available at: <http://www.windustry.com/conference/proceedings/Plenary/greenguage2002.pdf>

Pesticide Detection in Saliva

Saliva may become an indicator of pesticide exposure. The Department of Energy and Battelle Memorial Institute are developing a rapid saliva test for pesticide exposure. Currently tested on rats, the mass spectrometry equipment is used to identify the metabolites of a pesticide. The initial study used an organosphosphate pesticide, which inhibits acetylcholinesterase. The next step researchers believe is using the equipment to detect chemical nerve agents in the event of a military or terrorist attack. (*Source: Pesticide & Toxic Chemical News, Vol. 32, No. 4*)

Beyond the Drift...

Armed guards may be hired to protect a statue erected by a chemical firm in the Ukraine. The firm commissioned the statue of a potato beetle to remind local growers to buy pesticides to protect their potato crops. The statue has reportedly been vandalized by farmers who are offended by a statue of a major crop pest. (*Source: Pesticide & Toxic Chemical News, Vol. 32, No. 4*)

Pesticide Crop Watch

Insecticides

Flagship (thiamethoxam) - Syngenta has the product available for the ornamental market to control whiteflies, aphids and mealy bugs.

Impasse Termite Blocker (lambda-cyhalothrin) - Syngenta has added to their label the control of termites around plumbing, electrical and other utility penetrations.

Intrepid (methoxyfenozide) - Dow AgroSciences has added to their label the control of lepidoptera insects in grapes.

Talstar One (bifenthrin) - FMC has labeled the product to replace Talstar Termiticide and Talstar Insecticide. The product is labeled for use on termites, general household pest control, turf, ornamentals and in food handling establishments.

Fungicides

Switch (cyprodinil/fludioxonil) - Syngenta had added to their label the usage on berries, pistachios and watercress.

Tanos (famoxadone/cymoxanil) - DuPont has received registration for use on potatoes and tomatoes to control early and late blight.

Topsin M (thiophanate-methyl) - Cerexagri has added to their label the control of white mold on potatoes and powdery mildew on sugarbeets.

(Source for Pesticide Crop Watch: Agricultural Chemical News, Vol. 290)

Upcoming Events

PAT Agent Inservice

January 7 & 8, 2004
Agriculture Administration Building Auditorium
Ohio State University Campus, Columbus

General Commercial Pesticide Applicator Recertification Conferences

(turf, ornamental, pest control, industrial vegetation)
December 17, 2003 - Dayton Convention Center
January 14, 2004 - Perrysburg Holiday Inn, French Quarters
February 17, 2004 - Columbus Convention Center

Field Crops Commercial Pesticide Applicator Recertification Conferences

January 28, 2004 - Lima Holiday Inn
February 4, 2004 - Fawcett Center, Ohio State University, Columbus

Commercial New Applicator Training

March 9, 2004

Ohio Department of Agriculture, Reynoldsburg

Wood-Destroying Insect Inspection Training

February 26, 2004, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Ohio Department of Agriculture, Reynoldsburg

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