EUROPEAN UNION LOOKS AT BANNING SOME PESTICIDES

A committee of the European Parliament has voted on an amendment to ban pesticides that are endocrine disrupting, genotoxic, carcinogenic or toxic to reproduction. The vote was heavily criticized by farm groups who projected that fruits and vegetable prices would increase by 30 to 50 percent.

An amendment would allow approval for a product up to four years if there is a serious danger to plant health and a safer alternative is not available. The goal is to encourage the use of less toxic substances or non-chemical substances.

The pesticide industry raised the concern that the amendments do not take into account the needs of agriculture to efficiently sustain the food supply in Europe. The European Crop Protection Association said the measure would ban products that have already been shown to meet high safety standards. The amendments will go before the European Council in December or January. (Source: Pesticide & Toxic Chemical News, Vol. 37, No. 2)

More information is available at the European Crop Protection Association website at http://www.ecpa.be or on the European Parliament website at:
ORGANIC PASTURE RULE PROPOSAL
The USDA National Organic Program has released a proposed rule to clarify the pasture portion of the livestock standards. The proposed rule would require that animals qualifying as organic graze on natural pasture for at least 121 days of the year. The animals must also receive 30 percent of the dry matter intake (DMI) from pasture.

The rule also gives definition of temporary confinement and clarifies periods of temporary confinement. A pasture practice standard to address pasture management is also in the rule. The comment period is until December 23, 2008. More information is available at: http://www.ams.usda.gov/AMSv1.0/getfile?dDocName=STELPRDC5073426&acct=noprulemaking
(Source: USDA National Organic Program)

STUDY LINKS ALLERGIES TO COCKROACHES AND MICE
A recent study has shown that developing antibodies to cockroach and mouse proteins is linked to a greater risk for wheeze, hay fever and eczema in preschool urban children as young as three years of age.

Researchers at the Columbia University conducted the study that looked at respiratory and allergic symptoms in such a young age group. The Study was published in the November 2008 issue of the Journal of Allergy and Clinical Immunology. The journal article is available at: http://journals.ohiolink.edu/ejc/article.cgi?issn=00916749&issue=v122i0005&article=914_aaaiaaaiaibc Please contact Cindy Folck at folck.2@osu.edu if you have trouble accessing the article.

FIELD CROPS CONFERENCE DECEMBER 17
The Field Crops Conference for Ohio Commercial Pesticide Applicators will be December 17, 2008 at the Ohio State University Campus in Lima. Registration information is available at http://pested.osu.edu The conference is for commercial applicators
who need recertification in agronomic pest (category 2a) and agriculture weed (category 2c)

**PESTICIDE CROP WATCH**

**WOOD PRESERVATIVES**

EPA has released the Reregistration Eligibility Decision (RED) for the “heavy-duty wood preservatives which include creosote, pentachlorophenol and chromated arsenicals (CCA).” EPA is supporting reregistration for these products with the risk mitigations described in the REDs. There will be no comment period because preservatives were reviewed through a full 6-phase process which included two 60-day comment periods. More information is available at:

http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/factsheets/chemicals/creosote_main.htm

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

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

**EXTENSION EDUCATOR INSERVICE**

December 3-4, 2008
Ohio 4-H Center, OSU Campus, Columbus

**COMMERCIAL APPLICATOR RECERTIFICATION CONFERENCES**

General Conferences
January 21, 2009 – Dayton Convention Center
February 10, 2009 – Sandusky, Kalahari Conference Center
February 25, 2009 – Columbus Convention Center
March 11, 2009 – Akron, John S. Knight Center

Field Crop Conferences
December 17, 2008 – Lima, Reed Hall, Ohio State University, Lima Campus
February 25, 2009 – Columbus Convention Center

**TRAINED SERVICEPERSON AND NEW APPLICATOR COMMERCIAL SCHOOLS**

February 4, 2009
March 25, 2009
April 28, 2009
May 20, 2009
August 26, 2009
September 30, 2009
Taught at Ohio Department of Agriculture, Reynoldsburg

WOOD-DESTROYING INSECT INSPECTION
Recertification credit also available in Core, 10b and 12.
April 1, 2009
September 16, 2009
Taught at Ohio Department of Agriculture, Reynoldsburg

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