

PEP-Talk, December, 2008

Pesticide Education Program
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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:

http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/expert/infopress_page/064-41253-308-11-45-911-20081103IPR41252-03-11-2008-2008-false/default_en.htm

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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