PEP-Talk, February, 2004

Pesticide Education Program Ohio State University Extension Joanne Kick-Raack, State Coordinator Cindy Folck, Communications Vol. 8, Issue 1

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24C Label Changes

Three 24c labels were changed this winter. Growers using these products must have a copy of the current label to be in compliance. 24c labels are permitted by EPA for products to be used to meet a special local need. Copies of the new labels are available on the Pesticide Education Program website at http://pested.osu.edu, go to the General Information page and follow the link to "24c Labels." The updated 24c label information is:

Gramoxone MAX Herbicide is manufactured by Syngenta and has a 24c special local need label to be used to control or suppress emerged weeds between rows after crop establishment in cabbage, cucumber, melons, peppers, squash and tomatoes. The new 24c label for usage is OH-04003. The old 24c label is OH-900006 and manufactured by Zeneca and these labels must be discarded!

Tilt fungicide is manufactured by Syngenta and has a 24c special local need label to be used for control of leaf and glume blotch diseases (Septoria tritici and Stagonospora nodorum) and leaf rust (Puccinia recondita) and suppression of Fusarium head blight (Fusarium spp.) in wheat. The new 24c label for usage is OH-040002. The old 24c label is OH-980002 and is manufactured by Novartis and these labels must be discarded!

Dual Magnum is manufactured by Syngenta and has a 24c special local need label to be used for control of weeds in dry bulb onions, transplanted cabbage, and transplanted bell peppers. The new 24c label for usage is OH-04001. The old 24c label is OH-990001 and is manufactured by Novartis and these labels must be discarded!

Free Ohio Program for Schools/Public Agencies

Anyone who applies pesticides in public areas such as schools, daycare centers, apartments or hospitals is required to be a licensed pesticide applicator, or a trained serviceman if someone at the facility is already licensed. Even if the person is applying an over-the-counter pesticide such as wasp spray or mouse bait, they must have a license.

To help schools and other public agencies train their personnel, Ohio State University Extension is offering three new applicator training sessions. The sessions will help prepare attendees for the pesticide exam and anyone completing the course will receive a "Trained Serviceman" certificate. The sessions will be:

April 20, 2004, Columbus Agriculture Administration Building Auditorium, Ohio State University

April 23, 2004, Dayton Cox Arboretum

April 27, 2004, Cleveland Cuyahoga County, OSU Extension Office

Registration for the sessions will be available at http://pested.osu.edu in mid-February. The sessions are being organized by the Pesticide Education Program with help from Pete Lane, Montgomery Co., OSU Extension; Tim Malinich, Cuyahoga Co., OSU Extension and Charles Behnke, Lorain Co., OSU Extension.

Dow AgroSciences Reaches Agreement

Dow AgroSciences and the New York state attorney general reached a \$2 million agreement. The attorney general said Dow AgroSciences made illegal safety claims in advertising their pesticides. As part of the agreement, Dow AgroScience is allowed to inform residents of New York that certain products are registered by the U.S. EPA as reduced risk pesticides.

Creosote Preliminary Risk Assessment

EPA is accepting public comments on the preliminary risk assessment for creosate, a product used mainly on utility poles and railroad ties. Creosote is a possible human carcinogen and the assessment includes an evaluation of the potential risks to handlers and post-application workers from exposure. The Federal Register Notice is available. (Source: EPA Office of Pesticide Program Update, December 5, 2003)

Saliva Test for Pesticide Detection

A rapid saliva test for pesticide exposure is being developed by the Department of Energy and Battelle Memorial Institute. They are designing the test to be a portable sensor system that can used to quickly diagnose pesticide exposure in humans. The test has been performed on rats exposed to an organophosphate pesticide. The research team plans to develop the sensor for biological and chemical warfare agents. (Source: Pesticide & Toxic Chemical News, Vol. 32., No. 4)

Endangered Species Receiving Attention

For the first time, formal policies for consulting between agencies on the effect of pesticides on endangered species will be established. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service announced the proposed regulation that would largely allow EPA to decide through the risk assessment process when pesticides threaten endangered species. Not having an agreement like this has led courts to restrict the use of agricultural pesticides in Washington and California.

In other endangered species news, several environmental activist groups are threatening to sue EPA because they contend an industry task force is exerting inappropriate influence over the agency's efforts to overhaul the federal review process under the Endangered Species Act. The environmental groups say the industry group formed by EPA to provide data on pesticide use and exposure should be reconstituted under the Federal Advisory Committee Act.(Sources: EPA Region V News, January 30, 2004, EPA Office of Pesticide Programs Update, December 9, 2003)

Agriculture Health Study Paper Available

A paper from the national agriculture health study that focuses on the children involved in the study. "Cancer Risk and Parental Pesticide Application in Children of Agricultural Health Study Participants" (K. Flower et al) is available at the Environmental Health Perspective Website. This was the study that was discussed by Dr. Joe Gliem at the PAT Agent Inservice sponsored by OSU Extension on January 8.

StarLink Allergy?

One of the consumers who sued the StarLink developer because of an allergic reaction has failed a double-blind test to assess sensitivity. The consumer, a Florida optometrist, was tested at the Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center. The 58-year-old man was given StarLink corn, conventional corn and a placebo on different days during the test. The physician overseeing the testing reported no sign of allergic reaction. (Source: Pesticide & Toxic Chemical News, Vol. 32, No. 4)

Greenpeace Petition Regarding GE Crops

Greenpeace has petitioned the Canadian government saying that allowing farmers to grow genetically engineered (GE) crops damages agriculture soils. While the government contends there is no scientific support for the allegations, the activist group says GE crops threaten earthworms and microbes in the soil. (Source: Pesticide & Toxic Chemical News, Vol. 32, No. 6)

Pesticide Crop Watch

Insecticides

Advance Termite Baiting System (*diflubenzuron*) - Whitmire Micro Gen has a new termite baiting system for colony elimination. It allows wood to soil contact that invites termites into the baiting station.

Cruiser (*thiamethoxam*) - Syngenta has added to their label the usage as a seed treatment to control various insects on succulent shelled and edible podded beans and sunflowers.

Gentrol (*hydroprene*) - Wellmark Int'l has added to their label the control of bedbugs. Guthion (azinphos-methyl) - Bayer Crop Science has added to their label the usage against raspberry crown borer.

Sevin (*carbaryl*) Bayer Crop Science is deleting from their label the turf/lawn broadcast usage for the liquid formulation. This will be effective 5-3-04.

Herbicides

Barricade (*prodiamine*) - Syngenta has deleted from their label the usage on plants grown for cut foliage production effective 5-3-04.

Gramozone Max (*paraquat*) - Syngenta has added to their label the usage on persimmons, endive, dry peas, artichokes and as a harvest aid for use on field corn, popcorn and seed corn. Sandea (halosulfuron) - Gowan has added to their label the usage on beans.

Fungicides

Elite 45 WP (*tebuconazole*) - Bayer Crop Science has added to their label the usage on grapes and peaches. Topsin-M (thiophanate-methyl) Cerexagri has added to their label the control of white mold on potatoes and powdery mildew on sugarbeets.

Misc.

Antifoulant Paint - EPA has received voluntary cancellations for tributyltin (TBT) products used to formulate antifouling paints. Atofina Chemicals and Crompton Corporation will not sell stocks of TBT antifoulants after November 30, 2003. The announcement can be viewed on the web.

(Sources for Pesticide Crop Watch: Agricultural Chemical News, Vol. 291; EPA Office of Pesticide Program Update, December 5, 2003)

Upcoming Events

General Commercial Pesticide Applicator Recertification Conferences (turf, ornamental, pest control, industrial vegetation) February 17, 2004 - Columbus Convention Center

Field Crops Commercial Pesticide Applicator Recertification Conferences 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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and June 30, 1914, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Keith L. Smith, Director, Ohio State University Extension.