

PEP-Talk, February, 2005

Pesticide Education Program
Ohio State University Extension
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Wood Destroying Insect Inspection Training - Feb. 22

February 22 will be the next training session for inspectors wanting to become licensed for wood-destroying insect inspections. Ohio regulation requires a license for anyone performing insect inspections as part of a real estate transaction. The license requires the inspectors to attend a mandatory five-hour training session and take a test.

Anyone interested in attending the training can go to the Pesticide Education Program website at <http://pested.osu.edu> to register. If there are any questions, they can call the program at (614) 292-4070. The class will be held from 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.. The registration, which includes lunch, is \$90 if pre-registered and \$100 at the door. Ohio State University Extension Educators who would like to learn more about inspecting structures for insect damage can attend the training at the discounted rate of \$25. Call (614) 292-4070 for more information.

Applying Pesticides to the Waters of the U.S.

EPA released an interpretive statement on applying pesticides to the waters of the U.S. This statement is an effort to clear confusion on the role between FIFRA (Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, Rodenticide Act) and the Clean Water Act.

The confusion is on the heels of two recent court cases that resulted in rulings saying applicators were required to obtain a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) to apply pesticides to waters, even though the pesticides were labeled for aquatic use and used according to the label. One of the cases involved the Talent Irrigation District, which applied an aquatic herbicide to control weeds, and the other case involved Amherst, a town that sprayed wetlands to control mosquitoes.

EPA is maintaining the position that pesticides that are labeled for under FIFRA do not require a NPDES permit for application to water, if used according to the label. The official interpretive statement is: "The application of a pesticide to or over, including near, waters of the United States consistent with all relevant requirements under FIFRA does not constitute the discharge of a pollutant that requires a NPDES permit under the Clean Water Act in the following two circumstances:

(1) The application of pesticides directly to waters of the United States in order to control pests. Examples of such applications include applications to control mosquito larvae, aquatic weeds or other pests that are present in the waters of the United States.

(2) The application of pesticides to control pests that are present over waters of the United States, including near such waters, that results in a portion of the pesticides being deposited to waters of the United States; for example, when insecticides are aerially applied to a forest canopy where waters of the United States may be present below the canopy or when pesticides are applied over, including near, water for control of adult mosquitoes or other pests.

It is the Agency's position that these types of applications do not require NPDES permits under the Clean Water Act if the pesticides are applied consistent with all relevant requirements under FIFRA (i.e., those relevant to protecting water quality). Applications of

pesticides in violation of the relevant requirements under FIFRA would be subject to enforcement under any and all appropriate statutes including, but not limited to FIFRA and the Clean Water Act."

A public comment period is now open for the interpretive statement until April 4, 2005. More information is available at:http://www.epa.gov/oppfod01/cb/csb_page/updates/npdespermi.htm(Source: EPA Office of Pesticide Programs)

California Ban on Hand Weeding

The California Division of Occupational Safety and Health banned hand weeding in farm fields last year. The emergency order was renewed this year for 120 days with a final decision expected in March on the ban.

An exemption has been given to organic growers who contend that switching from hand weeding to hoeing would force them to space their plants farther apart. According to the growers, the increased space between plants would create increased weed problems and lower yields per acre. (Source: Sacramento Bee, Jan. 26, 2005)

Health Updates

Are Children More Sensitive than Adults?

A European study says childhood illnesses can not be linked to low-level, long-term environmental exposures. The study also determined that "broadly based statements indicating that children are generally more sensitive to chemical insults are not supported by existing scientific data." The only exposure that has documented effects at general environmental levels is lead and indoor air pollutants such as cigarette smoke and ambient air pollutants were linked to childhood asthma. The study was a review of major scientific publications and was sponsored by the European Centre for Ecotoxicology and Toxicology of Chemicals and was presented to a committee of the European Chemical Industry Council. (Source: Pesticide & Toxic Chemical News, Vol. 33, No. 6)

Mirror Images Left Behind

In simple terms, an enantiomer is a mirror image; or the full definition is a pair of chemical compounds whose molecular structures have a mirror image to each other. Researchers at University California, Riverside, are looking at the enantiomers of insecticides such as organophosphates and synthetic pyrethroids to see if they persist in the environment. The findings were published in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences. For the chemicals studied, at least one of the enantiomers was consistently more toxic than the mixed isomer. The researchers are advocating the regulators look at the compound to determine if only single isomer products should be manufactured instead of mixed isomers. *(Source: University of California, Riverside, via U.S. EPA)*

Pesticide Exposure and Sperm Quality

Over 250 men from a Massachusetts infertility clinic were recruited for a study to look how exposure to pesticides affected sperm quality. The study noted that exposure to a metabolite of carbaryl and anphthalene resulted in lowered sperm counts and decreased motility. Less significant associations for low sperm count and decreased motility were documented with a metabolite of chlorpyrifos and chlorpyrifos methyl. The Harvard School of Public Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention did the study. The findings were published in the January edition of Environmental Health Perspectives. *(Source: Pesticide & Toxic Chemical News, Vol. 33, No. 12)*

EPA Launches New Spanish Website

EPA has compiled Spanish language materials and information from various areas to a single website: <http://www.epa.gov/espanol> . The website contains information on environmental health, recycling, proper management of pesticides, educational resources and EPA grants and business opportunities. *(Source: EPA Office of Pesticide Programs Update)*

Pesticide Crop Watch

Insecticide

Rimon 0.83EC - (*Crompton Crop Protection*) A Section 24(c) label has been granted for this insecticide in Ohio to control codling moth in apples. The label is posted on the Pesticide Education Program website at <http://pested.osu.edu> Follow the link for "General Information" and look under the Ohio 24(c) registration. Any grower using the product for codling moth on apples needs to have a copy of the label.

Misc.

Pentachlorophenol - KMG Chemicals has requested to cancel registrations for the wood preservatives Pentacon 40 and Penwar. Vulcan Chemicals has requested to amend registrations to terminate spray uses for Vulcan Premium Four Pound (PCP-2) Concentrate and Vulcan GLAZD Penta.

(Source for Pesticide Crop Watch: Pesticide & Toxic Chemical News, Vol. 33, No. 12)

Upcoming Events

Ohio Commercial Recertification Schools

General Schools (turf, ornamental, industrial vegetation and pest control)

Columbus - February 17, 2005

Wood-Destroying Insect Inspection

February 22, 2005

Ohio Department of Agriculture, Reynoldsburg

Landscape and Household Pest Inservice

April 7, 2005

Agriculture Administration Auditorium

OSU Campus, Columbus

Commercial New Applicator Schools

February 24, 2005

Categories: Core, Turf, Ornamentals

Taught at Tom's Country Place, Avon, Ohio

Contact: OSU Extension, Lorain County, (440) 326-5851

March 10, 2005

Categories: Core, Turf

Taught at Toledo Botanical Gardens, Toledo

Contact: OSU Extension, Lucas County, (419) 578-6783

March 17, 2005

Categories: Core, Turf, Ornamentals

Taught at ODA in Reynoldsburg, Ohio

Contact: Pesticide Education Program, OSU Extension, (614) 292-4070

April 6, 2005

Categories: Core, Turf

Taught at Longview Center, Mansfield, Ohio

Contact: OSU Extension, Crawford County, (419) 562-8731

April 26, 2005

Categories: Core, Turf

Taught at ODA in Reynoldsburg, Ohio

Contact: Pesticide Education Program, OSU Extension, (614) 292-4070

April 27, 2005

Categories: Core, Industrial Vegetation

Taught at ODA in Reynoldsburg, Ohio

Contact: Pesticide Education Program, OSU Extension, (614) 292-4070

July 13, 2005

Categories: Core, Turf

Taught at ODA in Reynoldsburg, Ohio

Contact: Pesticide Education Program, OSU Extension, (614) 292-4070

October 11, 2005

Categories: Core, Turf

Taught at ODA in Reynoldsburg, Ohio

Contact: Pesticide Education Program, OSU Extension, (614) 292-4070

October 12, 2005

Categories: Core, Ornamentals, Industrial Vegetation

Taught at ODA in Reynoldsburg, Ohio

Contact: Pesticide Education Program, OSU Extension, (614) 292-4070

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