

PEP-Talk, February, 2009

Pesticide Education Program
Ohio State University Extension
Joanne Kick-Raack, State Coordinator
Cindy Folck, Communications
Vol. 13, Issue 2

IN THIS ISSUE

- EPA Introduces Plan for IPM in all U.S. Public Schools
- Pollution Permit Needed for Aquatic Pesticide Applications
- Columbus Commercial Recertification Conference February 25
- Buffer Recommended to Protect Salmon
- Trained Serviceperson and Core Training for Commercial Applicators
- Pesticide Crop Watch - Organic Arsenicals Agreement
- Upcoming Events

EPA INTRODUCES PLAN FOR IPM IN ALL U.S. PUBLIC SCHOOLS

A plan unveiled by EPA calls for a 70 percent reduction in pesticide use in public schools by 2015. The plan, called School IPM 2015: A Strategic Plan for Integrated Pest management in Schools in the United States, also has the goal of a 70 percent reduction of pest complaints in schools.

The plan's outline includes encouraging IPM in the entire nation's school by 2015. To accomplish this, the plan looks for coordination and partnership of teachers, custodian, food service staff, school administrators, pest management professionals, Agricultural Extension staff, regulators, architects and parents. More information on the EPA plan is available

at: <http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/ipm/schoolipm2015.htm>

School IPM has already been mandated for Ohio public schools through Jarod's Law which was adopted by the legislature and became effective in June, 2008. Every school district in Ohio is required to have an IPM plan for their schools.

The regulation is overseen by the Ohio Department of Health. ODH patterned much of the Ohio law after EPA's Healthy Seat Program. More information is available at: <http://www.odh.ohio.gov/odhPrograms/eh/schooleh/healthyseat.aspx> Currently, ODH, Ohio Department of Agriculture, pest control professionals and advocacy groups are working on a framework for accomplishing School IPM across the state.

POLLUTION PERMIT NEEDED FOR AQUATIC PESTICIDE APPLICATIONS

In a January an appeals court ruled that aquatic pesticide applications would require a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit under the Clean Water Act (CWA). The decision vacated the EPA November 2006 final rule that permitted pesticides approved for aquatic applications through FIFRA to be used without a NPDES.

EPA is exploring its options and whether it will appeal the decision. If the decision stands, it is likely there will be a phase-in approach to the permitting by the EPA Office of Water. The court ruling is available at: <http://www.ca6.uscourts.gov/opinions.pdf/09a0004p-06.pdf> (Source: Pesticide & Toxic Chemical News, Vol. 37, No. 10)

Commentaries about the ruling are available through various law firms. These are available at: <http://www.martenlaw.com/news/?20090123-npdes-aquatic-pesticides> and <http://taberlaw.wordpress.com/2009/01/08/sixth-circuit-overturns-epa-rule-exempting-pesticides-from-npdes-permitting/>

COLUMBUS RECERTIFICATION CONFERENCE FEBRUARY 25

A combined Field Crops and General Conference for Ohio Commercial Pesticide Applicators will be February 25, 2009 at the Columbus Convention Center. Registration information is available at <http://pested.osu.edu> The conference is for commercial applicators who need recertification. All categories will be covered. Extensive training will be offered in core, turf (category 8), ornamentals (category 6a), industrial vegetation (category 5), general pest (category 10a) and agronomic pest (category 2a) and agriculture weed (category 2c).

BUFFER RECOMMENDED TO PROTECT SALMON

A biological opinion was issued to EPA by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Fisheries Service on three insecticides – diazinon, malathion and chlorpyrifos. The NOAA recommends buffers along streams when these pesticides are used on crops in areas with salmon. The buffers would be 500 feet for ground applications and 1,000 feet for aerial applications. Vegetation strips of at least 20 feet would be required along agricultural sites adjacent to surface waters and pesticide use would be prohibited when a storm is predicted that could cause run off into nearby streams.

This is the first of several opinions that will be issued by NOAA between now and February, 2012. EPA is requesting that NOAA prepare biological opinions on 37 active chemical ingredients in pesticides and their effect on endangered species. EPA has requested these reviews as a result of lawsuits from environmental groups in recent years. For more information, go to: http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/mediacenter/docs/pesticides_bio_op.pdf

(Source: Chemical Speaking, University of Florida Extension, November/December 2008)

TRAINED SERVICEPERSON AND CORE TRAINING FOR COMMERCIAL APPLICATORS

Public agencies, school districts, companies and businesses who apply pesticides are required to have a licensed, commercial pesticide applicator. Employees who are not licensed are able to work under the supervision of the licensed applicator as a trained serviceperson. The trained serviceperson must receive training on pesticide safety before applying or handling pesticides. The training must be noted and recorded in the employee's personnel file.

The Pesticide Education Program will begin offering classes on a regular basis to train the unlicensed employees to meet the trained serviceperson requirements. These classes will be held at the Ohio Department of Agriculture in Reynoldsburg.

The classes will also be a review of the Core material for commercial pesticide applicators preparing to take their exam. Licensed

commercial pesticide applicators would be able to attend the classes to receive recertification credit for the core category.

The 2009 classes will be held on: March 25, April 28, May 20, August 26 and September 30. For more information, visit the Pesticide Education Program website at: <http://pested.osu.edu> or call (614) 292-4070.

PESTICIDE CROP WATCH

HERBICIDES

Organic Arsenicals Agreement – A voluntary agreement has been reached to remove all pesticide uses of organic arsenicals MSMA, DSMA, CAMA and cacodylic acid and its sodium salt. The only exception will be MSMA use on cotton.

The agreement between EPA and the major manufacturers of the organic arsenicals will phase out uses for residential lawns, forestry, non-bearing fruit and nut trees and citrus orchards by the end of 2009. Over the next four years, uses on golf courses, sod farms and highway rights of way will be phased out. New use mitigation measures and restrictions will be added for cotton.

This is in response to the 2006 EPA decision that organic arsenicals were ineligible for registration because of potential contamination of the drinking water if the pesticides convert over time to the toxic inorganic arsenic in the soil. Originally, EPA believed the inorganic arsenic could enter the human food supply through the meat and milk of animals fed cotton by-products treated with MSMA.

However, research has shown that no residues of inorganic arsenic are likely to remain in the meat and milk. Cotton farmers have also documented the increasing spread of Palmer amaranth, or pigweed, which is glyphosate-resistant but can be controlled with MSMA. For more information, go

to: http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/reregistration/organic_arsenicals_fs.html

(Source: U.S. EPA Office of Pesticide Programs)

UPCOMING EVENTS

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

COMMERCIAL APPLICATOR RECERTIFICATION CONFERENCES

General Conferences

February 25, 2009 – Columbus Convention Center

March 11, 2009 – Akron, John S. Knight Center

Field Crop Conferences

February 25, 2009 – Columbus Convention Center

TRAINED SERVICEPERSON AND NEW APPLICATOR COMMERCIAL SCHOOLS

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

OSU EXTENSION EDUCATOR INSERVICE

December 9 and 10, 2009

OSU Campus, Columbus

Ohio State University Extension embraces human diversity and is committed to ensuring that all research and related educational programs are available to clientele on a nondiscriminatory basis without regard to race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, disability or veteran status. This statement is in accordance with University State Civil Rights Laws and the USDA.

Keith L. Smith, Ph.D., Associate Vice President for Agricultural Administration and Director, Ohio State University Extension

TDD No. 800-589-8292 (Ohio only) or 614-0292-1868

