

PEP-Talk, February, 2012

Pesticide Safety Education Program
Ohio State University Extension
Joanne Kick-Raack, State Director
Cindy Folck, Communications & Editor
Jennifer Hill, Program Assistant
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SCOTTS MIRACLE-GRO CO. FINED \$4.5 MILLION

Scotts Miracle-Gro Co. will pay \$4.5 million in fines for two violations of FIFRA (Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act) that occurred in 2008. In one of the violations, Scotts was selling lawn and garden products labeled with falsified pesticide registration identification.

The second violation was selling wild birdseed that was treated with an insecticide that was labeled as toxic to fish, birds and other wildlife. The insecticide had been used to prevent insects from eating the birdseed during storage. Complete story is at: <http://www.dispatch.com/content/stories/business/2012/01/27/scotts-to-pay-4-5m-in-fines.html> (Source: The Columbus Dispatch, Jan. 27, 2012)

BED BUG PRODUCT EFFICACY MEETING

EPA regularly hosts meeting of the Scientific Advisory Panel to provide input on matters related to FIFRA (Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act). The group will be meeting on March 6-7, 2012, to discuss the current guidelines for methods that test of the efficacy of bed bug pesticide products.

The panel will comment and provide recommendations on the approaches to efficacy testing procedures, test method, data reporting and evaluation of tests results for bed bug pesticide product registration. More information is available at: http://www.epa.gov/oppfead1/cb/csb_page/updates/2012/testing-bedbugs.html (Source: EPA Office of Pesticide Programs)

SOURCE OF MORGELLONS NOT KNOWN

A recent study looked at morgellons, which is a condition in which patients claim to have symptoms of fatigue, erupting sores, crawling sensations on skin and sometimes mysterious red, blue or black fibers that sprout from the skin.

The study concluded that people suffering from morgellons have no unusual physical ailment, infectious disease or other source to cause the symptoms. The sores were thought by the researchers to be caused by the patients scratching themselves. Some doctors believe the condition is similar to delusional parasitosis, a psychosis in which people believe they are infected with parasites and other professionals contend that morgellons is not a psychiatric disorder. The research is available at: <http://www.plosone.org/article/info%3Adoi%2F10.1371%2Fjournal.pone.0029908> (Source: PLoS One)

FEBRUARY BEGINS NEW APPLICATOR CLASSES

The Pesticide Safety Education Program will again begin regular Pesticide Safety Training classes to help new

applicators preparing for exams and to train unlicensed employees to meet 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. There will also be sessions for applicators preparing to take the turf (category 8), industrial vegetation (category 5), agriculture weed (category 2c) and ornamental weed (category 6c) exams.

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 classes will be held on: February 29, March 28, April 18, May 9, August 29 and September 26. For more information, visit the Pesticide Safety Education Program website at: <http://pested.osu.edu> or call (614) 292-4070.

WDI TRAINING IN APRIL

April 11 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 Safety Education Program website at <http://pested.osu.edu> for information. 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. OSU Extension Educators who would like to learn more about inspecting structures for insect damage may attend the training at the discounted rate of \$25. Call (614) 292-4070 for more information.

LITIGATION BEGINNING FOR BED BUG INFESTATIONS

Court cases have begun involving bed bug infestations as highlighted in a recent New York court case. An appellate court overturned a lower court decision to dismiss a case where a buyer sought damages from a seller after purchasing a residential apartment building that had a prior bed bug infestation. More information on the court case is available at: http://scholar.google.com/scholar_case?case=1490383708374186699&q=921
(Source: EPA Office of Pesticide Programs)

SOIL FUMIGATION LABEL IMPLEMENTATION

The second phase of implementing revised soil fumigation labels is nearly done. The updated labels will reflect new risk reduction measures such as buffer zones and related measures that will protect workers and bystanders from exposure from airborne concentrations.

The first phase of labels specified implementation of Fumigant Management plans, good agricultural practice requirements and new worker protection measures. For more information visit EPA's soil fumigation website at: http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/reregistration/soil_fumigants/

PESTICIDE CROP WATCH INSECTICIDES

Dicofol – The last products containing this pesticide registered for use in the United States are being voluntarily cancelled by the registrants. This organochlorine miticide/pesticide had been primarily used on cotton, apples and citrus crops. The cancellation of the end-use registrations will be effective on October 31, 2013. More information is available at: <http://www.regulations.gov/#!documentDetail;D=EPA-HQ-OPP-2005-0220-0018>

Methomyl – EPA has received a request from registrants to voluntarily delete grape use from methomyl registrations. A comment period is open until February 10, 2012. More information is at: <http://www.regulations.gov/#!documentDetail;D=EPA-HQ-OPP-2011-0933-0001>

Oxamyl – EPA has received the request from registrants to voluntarily delete soybean use from oxamyl registrations. A

comment period is open until February 10, 2012. More information is at:
<http://www.regulations.gov/#!documentDetail;D=EPA-HQ-OPP-2011-0933-0001>

MISC.

Rozol Prairie Dog Bait – EPA has a comment period on which addresses possible impact of the bait on wildlife listed as endangered or threatened under the Endangered Species Act. A pdf document is available at:
<http://www.epa.gov/oppfead1/endanger/rozol-draft-memo.pdf>

(Source for Pesticide Crop Watch: EPA Office of Pesticide Programs)

UPCOMING EVENTS

More information about the following events is at: <http://pested.osu.edu>.

PRIVATE APPLICATOR RECERTIFICATION MEETINGS

Over 90 meetings are available for private applicators needing credit this winter. A comprehensive list is available at:
<http://pested.osu.edu/privaterecert.html>

2012 OHIO COMMERCIAL PESTICIDE APPLICATOR RECERTIFICATION CONFERENCES

February 8, 2012, Akron, John S. Knight Center

February 15, 2012, Dayton Convention Center

March 8, 2012, Columbus Convention Center

PESTICIDE SAFETY TRAINING FOR NEW APPLICATORS

February 29, 2012

March 28, 2012

April 18, 2012

May 9, 2012

August 29, 2012

September 26, 2012

Also included training for trained servicepersons.

Schedule for the training: Core in the morning and Categories 8, 5, 2c and 6c in the afternoon.

All meetings at the Ohio Department of Agriculture, Reynoldsburg

WOOD-DESTROYING INSECT INSPECTION TRAINING

April 11, 2012 – Ohio Department of Agriculture, Reynoldsburg

Mandatory training for Commercial Category 12

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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 614-292-1868