

## **PEP-Talk, January, 2005**

Pesticide Education Program  
Ohio State University Extension  
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### **Commercial New Applicator Schools**

Commercial applicators preparing to take the licensing exam have several opportunities to participate in a training session. Commercial applicators include anyone who operates or works for a pesticide application company, public agency, school district, etc.

Contacts are listed for information about registration fees. Information will also be posted at the end of January at <http://pested.osu.edu> . The dates and categories offered for commercial new applicators are:

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

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April 27, 2005

Categories: Core, Industrial Vegetation

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July 13, 2005

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### **Orchard Study for Environmental Impact**

A recent study looked at switching from diazinon, an organophosphate insecticide, to esfenvalerate, a hydrophobic pyrethroid, in an orchard to evaluate changes in environmental. The study was done in California where organophosphates have been detected in the watersheds of the Sacramento and San Joaquin rivers. The runoff containing esfenvalerate was less toxic to waterfleas, but proved more toxic to fish larvae. The study also looked at ground covers, determining that the ground covers greatly reduced runoff. The article is in the November edition of the *Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry*. (Source: *Pesticide & Toxic Chemical News*, Vol. 33, No. 6)

### **Cancer Classification Changed for Captan**

EPA has changed the classification of captan to "not likely to be a human carcinogen or to pose cancer risks of concern when used in accordance with approved product labeling." This is an amendment to the Reregistration Eligibility Decision for captan that was done in 1999. There is a public comment period until January 24 on this amendment. The fungicide captan is currently used in orchard crops, ornamentals and turf. Captan is severely irritating to the eyes and before this amendment was classified as a probable human carcinogen. Information about the amendment is available at <http://www.epa.gov/edocket> under docket number OPP-2004-0296. (Source: U.S. EPA Office of Pesticide Programs)

### **Evaluation of Augmentative Biocontrol Studies**

A recent review of more than 140 augmentative biocontrol studies reported in the last 55 years concluded that augmentation achieved target densities in only 15 percent of the case studies, failed 64 percent of the time, and was usually less effective than pesticides. The findings were published in the October edition of *Biological Control* in an article entitled, "A Critical Evaluation of Augmentative

Biological Control." (Source: *Chemically Speaking, University of Florida Extension, Nov./Dec. 2004*)

### **Birds' Feet Used to Determine Pesticide Exposure**

A recent study looked for the presence of insecticides in the decomposed feet of Canada goose goslings. Conducted by the U.S. Geological Survey, USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the study exposed the goslings to turf that had been sprayed with diazinon 50W at a rate of 2.24 kg of active ingredient/ha. The birds died and their decomposed feet were still found to have detectable levels of diazinon. Federal wildlife authorities are hoping to use this method to test for possible pesticide exposures in geese and other birds. (Source: *Pesticide & Toxic Chemical News, Vol. 33, No. 6*)

### **Brazil Attempting to Develop Rust Resistant Soybeans**

The agricultural research agency of the Brazilian government has announced that it will invest the equivalent of \$4.2 million into developing a soybean seed resistant to Asian rust. They are planning to have the seeds developed by 2007. Brazil, the world's second largest soybean producer, has lost \$2 billion to soybean rust. (Source: *Chemically Speaking, University of Florida Extension, Nov./Dec. 2004*)

### **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.

## **Landscape and Household Pest Inservice**

April 7 will be an inservice focusing on managing pests in the home, yard and garden. The one-day inservice will be designed to update county educators, program assistants and lead master gardeners on answering questions from consumers and homeowners. More details will be coming.

## **Pesticide Crop Watch**

### **Herbicides**

**MCPA** - EPA has approved reregistration of MCPA, a phenoxy herbicide used on post-emergent selective control of broadleaf weeds on a variety of crops including winter wheat, barley, oats/rye along with residential and commercial turf. Occupational exposures of MCPA were a concern to EPA, so the application rates were reduced on several crops and use on rice and grain sorghum were both cancelled as part of the reregistration process. There was also concern about residential lawn use so the MCPA task force is conducting a study to determine the possibility of dermal transfer of the herbicide from turf to the hands of toddlers that come into contact with treated turf.

### **Fungicides**

**Soybean Rust** - U.S. EPA has granted a Section 18 for the use of tebuconazole, formulated as the product Folicur 3.6 Foliar Fungicide, on soybeans to control soybean rust. With the Section 18, there is a maximum of two applications and a maximum of 4.3 million acres in Ohio that may be treated under the soybean rust emergency exemption. The letter from U.S. EPA detailing the emergency exemption is available on the Pesticide Education Program website at <http://pested.osu.edu> Follow the link for "General Information"

for the Section 18 information. The Section 18 will only take effect if soybean rust is found in Ohio.

**Ethylene bisdithiocarbamates (EBDC)** - the group of fungicides that includes mancozeb, maneb, metiram plus a common degradate, ethylene thiourea (ETU). The risk assessments suggest possible thyroid effects, which may indicate potential endocrine disruption. An overview of the fungicides:

- *Mancozeb* is a fungicide used in agriculture, professional turf management and horticulture. Agricultural uses include pome fruit crops, fruits and vegetables, corn and seed treatment for wheat. Mancozeb is also used on ornamental plants in nurseries and greenhouses, sod farms, residential lawns and golf courses.
- *Maneb* is a broad spectrum fungicide registered for foliar applications to control early and late blights on potatoes and tomatoes and many other fungal diseases of fruits, vegetables, field crops and ornamentals.
- *Metiram* is a broad spectrum contact fungicide registered for use on apples, potatoes and ornamental plants (ferns and roses) for the prevention of downy mildews, anthracnose, rusts, leaf spots and seedling damping off.

A public comment period about the risk assessments will be open until February 22, 2005. After the public comment period, a Reregistration Eligibility Decision will be made which will include the risk management decisions. For more information about the assessments, and the process for public comment, visit <http://www.epa.gov/edocket> and search for document number OPP-2004-0078.

**Thiophanate-methyl (TM) and its primary metabolite carbendazim (MBC)** have been approved for reregistration by U.S. EPA, with mitigation measures to reduce inhalation exposures. The systemic fungicide is used on tree, vine and root crops along with wheat, lawns and ornamentals. TM is considered likely to be carcinogenic to humans and has been shown to cause liver and thyroid problems in animal studies. So, as part of the mitigation, wettable powder formulations must be packaged in water-soluble

bags for aerial and chemigation applications. Additional personal protective equipment was added for dip treatments and only granular formulations will be registered for residential users. More information is available at <http://www.epa.gov/edocket> and look under docket number OPP-2004-0265.

## **Misc.**

**TBT** - The last registrant for TBT antifouling paint has requested voluntary cancellation from U.S. EPA. This follows two years of other registrants voluntarily canceling TBT antifouling paints. Existing stocks of the product will be sold through the end of 2005.

*(Sources for Pesticide Crop Watch: U.S. EPA Office of Pesticide Programs Updates)*

## **Upcoming Events**

### **Ohio Commercial Recertification Schools**

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

Dayton - January 19, 2005 (notice switch to January)

Columbus - February 17, 2005

*Field Crop Conferences (agronomic pest control)*

Columbus OSU Fawcett Center - February 2, 2005

### **Landscape and Household Pest Inservice**

April 7, 2005

Agriculture Administration Auditorium

OSU Campus, Columbus

### **Commercial New Applicator Schools**

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