



# Pest Control News



Information for the Pest Control Professional

August 2009

## Quick Updates

The 60<sup>th</sup> Annual Oklahoma Pest Control Association Conference is September 24-25. Don't wait too long to register. Contact Rosa Fisk, 405-685-2036

**The deadline for renewing OPCA membership dues is September 1, 2009.**

Category's that recertify this year are:

Category	CEU's Needed
3a Ornamental & Turf	20
3b Interiorscape	10
3c Nursery/Greenhouse	15
7a General Pest	20
6 Right-of-Way	15

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## Kevin McDowell will be missed.

For those of you that haven't heard, Kevin McDowell, B&G Chemicals in Oklahoma City passed away March 24, 2009

I don't know how well you knew Kevin but the Oklahoma pest control industry has lost a valuable supporter. I have known Kevin for a number of years and he was always there with answers to questions about what applicators are using, what does it cost and where do you get it. It was nice to go in for a visit and be offered a cup of coffee and the latest gossip. Kevin was known for this statement "Now I don't know if this true, but I heard....."

I for one will truly miss our conversations.

A college fund has been set up for Kevin's daughter Allison. If you would like to contribute, please make checks payable to Allison McDowell College Fund and send to:

Farmers & Merchants Bank  
Allison McDowell College Fund  
PO BOX 295  
Crescent, OK 73028-0295

## USE OF BORATES

We have had a number of telephone inquires regarding the use of borates for termite management on buildings being constructed. The questions are: Can it be called a pretreatment in Oklahoma and can it be done legally in Oklahoma and can?

The answer to can it be called a pretreatment is no according to ODAFF. By regulation a pretreatment is the application of a liquid termiticide to the soil. Borate applications to cellulose construction material above the soil is not a pretreatment. As to can borates be used, the answer is yes. However, the applicator cannot call the treatment a pretreatment and must note on the contract that the

treatment did not conform to minimum standards for post construction as required by rule but instead were performing the variation for a complete treatment that is specifically allowed by the termiticide label (see OAC 35:30-1-70).

## **DUMB & DUMMER**

Three Citrus Heights families are without a home after an explosion rocked their apartment complex apparently because one of the tenants was tired of the cockroaches.

The Sacramento Metro Fire Department says nearly a million dollars in damage was caused when Tone Pina set off a number of bug bombs in his apartment.

“He told me the pests were getting on his kids at nighttime and he just wanted them gone and I can understand that,” said Sacramento Metro Fire Captain Christian Pebbles.

Tone says he used 8 to 10 foggers, but Sacramento Metro Fire says they found evidence of up to 18 bug bombs in an apartment that called for one or two at the most.

The foggers somehow found an ignition source, possibly the refrigerator, causing an explosion that left the building with serious structural damage.

Sac Metro Fire says the force of the blast caused the wall to become disconnected from the roof and blew out the windows sending glass flying.

Fortunately, no one was hurt.

Despite the explosion and bug bombs, live cockroaches can still be seen in the apartment. (Sacramento Television Stations, Inc. CBS 13, June 22, 2009)

## **OOPS**

Marin County (CA) officials who have boasted about their “pesticide-free” approach toward maintaining county parks and public areas are having to eat a little crow.

A Corte Madera man reviewed the county’s own records and gave supervisors a report showing county crews have been using, by a conservative accounting, hundreds of gallons of chemicals while Marin has been taking credit for significantly limiting its use of such pesticides. County staff has called it “an unfortunate

oversight,” caused by confusion over whether the county’s no-spray rules should follow state or federal definitions of the potential carcinogenic hazards of the pesticides being used.

County supervisors have tried to spin the issue, stressing that despite breaking the county’s own policy, the amount of pesticides used has been far less than that applied by other jurisdictions or even Marin homeowners.

County officials point out that the pesticides used by the crews are readily available at local stores. County staff said it relied on products listed under state Proposition 65 rules rather than a broader listing complied by EPA. The county law identifies the EPA list as the standard the county should be using.

This was not a one-time goof. There were more than 90 incidents over three years. (Marin Independent Journal, June 14, 2009)

## **IPM DEFINITION**

In an article by Beyond Pesticides/National Coalition Against the Misuse of Pesticides, they stated that “Intrinsic to an IPM program is pesticide use reduction and elimination strategies that protect children and staff from unnecessary pesticide use and exposure at schools, while at the same time eliminating pest problems.” This statement was made in regards to Virginia not requiring certain regulations as proposed by NRDC. (School Pesticide Monitor, Vol. 9 No 3 2009)

## **NICOTINE CANCELLED**

EPA has granted the request to voluntarily cancel nicotine. This is the last registration for nicotine in the U.S.

The lone remaining product is Fulex Nicotine Fumigator (EPA Reg. No 1327-41). This is a greenhouse use product.

All sale and distribution of nicotine must cease December 31, 2014.

Those with existing stock after December 31, 2014 may use the existing stock until it is depleted. (Federal Register, June 3, 2009) **Note:** Another natural product is voluntarily canceled. Also its oral LD50 is 50.

## **EXPOSURE TO CHLORPYRIFOS**

EPA reported on poisoning incident data for chlorpyrifos in their October 15, 2008 memorandum using their Incident Data System IDS.

EPA did not use incident data from the American Association of Poison Control Centers Toxic Exposure Surveillance System, the California Pesticide Illness Surveillance Program, and the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health's Sentinel Event Notification System for Occupational Risks.

Fifty-two percent of the incidents occurred with homeowner products while 27% were from pest control use and 21% from agricultural uses of chlorpyrifos.

California, Florida, Texas, Illinois, and Ohio were the leading states with poisoning incidents.

Sixty-three percent of the incidents in CA were due to PCO and agricultural products; 27% of the Florida exposures were due to PCO and agricultural products; 40% in Texas; 25% in Illinois; and 28% in Ohio.

Most incidents occurred in June, August, May, July and September respectively. This should be expected as these would be the months with most insect activity in the U.S. The average age of those exposed was 43 years with the range being from three (3) months to 88 years of age. (October 14, 2008 EPA-OPP Memorandum)

## **AERIAL APPLICATION OF RODENTICIDE**

The U.S. FWS worked with Bell Laboratories to apply a special brodifacoum bait to Rat Island in the Aleutians. This was needed because the rats, which were introduced after a 1780's shipwreck, were decimating the native bird populations. Rats had wiped out the puffins, auklets and storm petrels on the island.

Helicopter pilots applied 25 tons of brodifacoum pellets on the 10-square mile island and then applied another 25 tons a week later.

The pellets were specially formulated so they would fall to the island and not degrade in the high humidity. They were also larger than normal to prevent birds from ingesting them.

Bell Laboratory and FWS personnel will evaluate the project over the next two years. (The Bell Report, Vol. 28, No 2, April-June 2009)

## **HOMEOWNER RECOMMENDATIONS**

Businesses with sales clerks need to be sure their sales people understand what the pesticide is intended to be used for by the customer.

We have received several telephone calls from homeowners who have bought product recommended by the sales person for gardens.

After application the homeowner reads the label and discovers the pesticide does not have vegetables or the vegetables that were treated on the label. Our response has to be that the homeowner cannot eat those vegetables because the pesticide was misapplied – to a site/crop not on the label.

It does not make any difference if other products of the same active ingredient can be used on those vegetables; the product used was not labeled for that use.

Retail outlets need to take extra steps to ensure that their customers purchase the pesticides they need for the situation. (OSU PSEP)

## **POOL CHEMICAL EXPOSURE**

The Center for Disease Control released a report on exposures due to pool chemical usage.

They reported on the New York State Department of Health reporting from 1983-2006 and the National Electronic Injury Surveillance System (NEISS) from 1998-2007.

Over 23 years NY reported 36 incidents. Thirty-six percent occurred at schools or colleges, 28% at membership clubs, 17% in housing complexes or hotels, and 14% in community aquatic facilities, and 6% at institutions.

Fourteen percent involved direct exposure to either chlorine bleach or acid, 86% resulted from exposure to chlorine gas and 87% of these were caused by exposure to chlorine gas generated by mixing incompatible pool chemicals, most frequently chlorine bleach and acid.

The NEISS reported the cause of exposure was 33% inhaled chemical fumes when opening pool



Mexico, 14 counties in Arizona, 3 counties in Nevada, and more than 10 counties in California are infested with AHB.

### **Oklahoma**

During the second week of August, 2004, two samples of honey bees from Tillman County were sent to the **Plant Disease and Insect Diagnostic laboratory** for testing. One of these bee colonies was involved in a serious stinging incident when a work crew cut through the limb of a storm-damaged tree in the southwest Oklahoma community of Tipton. Seven members of the work crew were treated at a local hospital. Using a new "**Rapid Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR)-Based Assay**", both samples were preliminarily identified as Africanized honey bees. Additional samples from the same colony were sent to the USDA-ARS bee identification laboratory at the Carl Hayden Bee Research Center in Tucson, Arizona for confirmation. The USDA Carl Hayden laboratory has since confirmed both samples as AHB. Additional locations have since tested PCR positive for AHB since the first state report (see map below).

*(Richard Grantham, Plant Disease & Insect Diagnostic Lab, Oklahoma State University)*

## **OPCA & ODAFF to Form Committee to Look at Revising the Minimum Standards for Termite Work for Existing Structures**

On Thursday, July 9<sup>th</sup>, 2009 members of the Oklahoma Pest Control Association, Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food and Forestry and Oklahoma State University met in Oklahoma City to form a committee to review the existing Minimum Standards for Termite Work for Existing Structures. Two days in August were set aside to discuss the current minimum standards and make revisions/suggestions. Members present were: Kelly Johnson, Terry Rosenthal, John Long, Denver Talley, Jim Garrison, Sancho Dickinson, Mike Vandeventer, Jim Criswell and Kevin Shelton.

## **SENATE HOMELAND SECURITY SPENDING BILL CARRIED IMMIGRATION LANGUAGE BLOCKS DHS MOVE TO RESCIND "NO-MATCH" RULE.**

After three days of debate, the full Senate approved its FY2010 homeland security spending bill, but not before adding language that requires federal contractors to confirm the citizenship of all workers – not just new hires – using the federal E-Verify online system while permanently reauthorizing the program. A second accepted amendment by Sen. Charles Grassley (R, IA) would allow private employers to use the E-Verify system to check the eligibility of both current and newly hired employees. Another amendment accepted mandates the 700-mile U.S.-Mexico border fence be made with double-layer pedestrian blocking barriers. Currently, only about 34 miles of the 600 miles completed has double-layer barriers. And in the wake of the Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) announcement this week it would rescind the rulemaking on the Social Security Administration's (SSA) "no match" rule, Sen. David Vitter (R, LA) successfully included language in the spending bill forbidding DHS from spending money to rescind the rule. The "no match" rule sets out steps employers must follow if they receive letters from SSA or notices from DHS that information provided by immigrant employees does not match information in federal databases, but has never been implemented due to court challenges.

## **IMMIGRATION NOTIFIED COMPANIES AUDITS ARE COMING.**

Over 650 U.S. companies received notices this month from U.S. Immigration & Customs Enforcement (ICE) to expect audits and inspection of I-9 immigration forms from workers, part of what the Obama Administration calls a "crack down" on employer compliance with employee eligibility laws. The companies selected were chosen based on leads and information obtained

through investigations, ICE said, refusing to name companies or locations. ICE called the audits the “first step in a long-term strategy to address and deter illegal immigration,” and signals the first shift away from targeting illegal workers for arrest. Critics of the action said the Obama White House is trying to earn credibility on the immigration issue before tackling legislation to reform U.S. immigration laws. Under the ICE audit program, companies are being asked to provide employee records without subpoena, issuing what it calls “notices of inspection” instead. I-9 Forms require employers to review and record identity documentation for all employees and whether the employer finds the documents “reasonably appear to be genuine and related to the individual.”

## **Minutes of the State FIFRA Issues Research & Evaluation Group (SFIREG) June 22-23, 2009, meeting held in Arlington, VA.**

### **TOTAL RELEASE FOGGERS**

- A. Serafini discussed the New York City Health Department petition to EPA requesting all Total Release Foggers (“TRFs”) to be classified as Restricted Use Classification. EPA met with the petitioner from NYC whose position was TRFs cannot be used safely. EPA also met with the Health representative on the PPDC and with an industry group representing TRFs. Roelofs stated EPA data does not support the NYC position and a survey of SLAs indicated few reported problems. On the other hand, the National Poison Control Center reports an estimated 6,000 to 7,000 complaints each year on TRFs.
- B. Roelofs reported Washington State has suggested label modifications, some of which the industry group and EPA consider plausible. The issue is not resolved, and OPP staff will soon be meeting with the Office Director to make recommendations.

### **DRIFT LABELING**

- A. Paul Liemandt provided an update on the

activities of the EPA workgroup on drift labeling. The group has held weekly conference calls with Dave Scott, IN State Chemist Office, and Liemandt participating on the workgroup along with other stakeholders. Full attention was given to drift labeling improvement. The current status: PR Notice and Federal Register Notice documents are in final draft and under EPA management review before release to the public for comment.

- B. Contents of the documents include the following:
- C. Indoor products, greenhouses, animal treatments, gels and baits, direct applications to humans, or fumigants are not covered -the scope of the Notice is for WPS product coverage.
- D. The document uses language developed and supported by AAPCO, with the phrase, “Do not apply this product in a manner that will contact workers or other persons either directly or through drift.” In addition, “Do not apply this product in a manner that results in spray or dust drift that could cause an adverse effect to people or any other non-target organism or site.”
- E. There is an alternative paragraph for non-commercial, lawn and garden products – “Do not apply this product in a way that could contact people or that results in spray or dust drift that could cause harm to people, pets, property, aquatic life, wildlife or wildlife habitat.”
- F. A third document will be an SLA guidance document for use in interpreting pesticide drift labeling language. Real life examples will be provided in this document.
- G. The PR Notice will be released late summer or early fall and Liemandt encourage states to review and comment.

### **Recertification Letters**

Do I have enough CEU's or do I need to retest? The following letter should explain if you need to retest this year or if you are able to recertify by CEU's.

Everybody should have received a letter similar to this one from the Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry. Following each box is a short explanation of the number of CEU's you have, the maximum number accepted in one year and the total number you needed to recertify.

Your letters will be similar but not exactly the same as this one.

July 14, 2009

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STATE OF OKLAHOMA  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,  
FOOD, AND FORESTRY

CA-12345  
PISTOL PETE  
1600 N. WASHINGTON  
STILLWATER, OK 47078

PLEASE DO NOT ATTEMPT TO RECERTIFY AT THIS TIME. You will receive instructions on how to recertify later this year. This letter is primarily for your information regarding your CEU status. Department records reveal you are certified in the categories listed below that must be recertified this fall. Please review the categories listed below to

Category: R-O-W YR. CERT: 08				<input type="checkbox"/>	You have accrued the required CEU's for this category.
<b>Meeting</b>				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	You need <u>3</u> more CEU;s by December 31 of 2009 or you must retest.
Total applied	CEU 0	CEU's accepted 7	Total # of CEU's required 3	<input type="checkbox"/>	You must retest.

The **total applied CEU's (0)** is the number of CEU's you have accrued since your last certification date.

The **CEU's accepted box (7)** is the maximum number of CEU's accepted in one year.

The **total # of CEU's required box (3)** is the amount you need for recertification, this person needed 3 because the initial year of certification was in 08 and the number of CEU's was prorated.

Category: Orn & Turf Outdoor YR. CERT: 04				<input type="checkbox"/>	You have accrued the required CEU's for this category.
<b>Meeting</b>				<input type="checkbox"/>	You need <u>   </u> more CEU;s by December 31 of 2009 or you must retest.
Total applied	CEU 0	CEU's accepted 10	Total # of CEU's required 20	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	You must retest.

The **total applied CEU's (0)** is the number of CEU's you have accrued since your last certification date.

The **CEU's accepted box (10)** is the maximum number of CEU's accepted in one year.

The **total # of CEU's required box (20)** is the amount you need for recertification, this person needed 20 because the initial year of certification was in 04.

## Educational Events

### August

### September - October

Structural Pest Practical  
Stillwater, Pinkston Education Facility  
September 15<sup>th</sup> - 17<sup>th</sup>

General Pest Practical  
Stillwater, Pinkston Education Facility  
September 22<sup>nd</sup>

Oklahoma Pest Control Annual Conference  
Downtown Doubletree Hotel  
Tulsa Oklahoma  
September 24<sup>th</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup>

### In-State CEU Meetings

#### SEPTEMBER 22-23, 2009

CATEGORY: 3a – ORNAMENTAL & TURF  
CEU'S: 6  
CATEGORY: 5 – AQUATIC  
CEU'S: 5  
CATEGORY: 6 – RIGHT-OF-WAY  
CEU'S: 7  
CATEGORY: 10 – DEMONSTRATION & RESEARCH  
CEU'S: 7  
SPONSOR: OKVMA  
TOPIC: FALL CONFERENCE  
PLACE: SOUTHERN HILLS MARRIOTT  
TULSA  
CONTACT: KATHY MARKHAM  
918.256.9302  
FEE: YES

#### SEPTEMBER 24-25, 2009

CATEGORY: 7a – GENERAL PEST  
CEU'S: PENDING  
CATEGORY: 7b – STRUCTURAL  
CEU'S: PENDING  
CATEGORY: 10 – DEMONSTRATION & RESEARCH  
CEU'S: PENDING  
SPONSOR: OPCA  
TOPIC: URBAN PEST MANAGEMENT  
PLACE: DOUBLETREE HOTEL DOWNTOWN  
616 WEST 7<sup>TH</sup> STREET  
TULSA, OK  
CONTACT: ROSA FISK  
405.685.2036  
FEE: YES

## ODAFF Information

Testing Dates and Locations  
Pesticide applicator test sessions for July/August  
2009 are as follows:

August		September	
10	OKC	3	Altus
13	Tulsa	10	Tulsa
27	Tulsa	14	OKC
27	Enid	17	Tulsa
31	OKC	28	OKC

Altus: Western OK State College  
2801 N Main, Room A23

Enid: Garfield County Extension Office, 316 E.  
Oxford.

Goodwell: Okla. Panhandle Research &  
Extension Center, Rt. 1 Box 86M

Hobart: Kiowa County Fairgrounds Exhibit  
Building

Lawton: Great Plains Coliseum, Annex Rm.  
920 S. Sheridan Road.

McAlester: Kiamichi Tech Center on  
Highway 270 W of HWY 69

OKC: Oklahoma County Extension Office, 930  
N. Portland.

Tulsa: NE Campus of Tulsa Community College,  
E. Apache (Apache & Harvard)  
Engineering Tech Room 127.



Kevin Shelton  
Extension Coordinator  
OSU Pesticide Safety Education Program