

**Region 3 Grants / Pre-SFIREG Meeting
November 15th-16th 2016
Inwood, West Virginia**

Attached are the Region 3 States/District Pre-SFIREG reports (text only). The fall meeting was held in Inwood, West Virginia. The agenda is attached at the end of this report.

The Pre-SFIREG meeting convened the afternoon of November 15th 2016. Highlights from the meeting included:

- State reports (see below)
- Group discussion on medical marijuana, all states/district reported on current status of marijuana in their respective state. Group discussed the many impacts that marijuana could have on the pesticide programs. The topic of the use of 25b products on marijuana was discussed. States have a concern over the use of 25b product in the production of medical marijuana.
- Worker Protection Standard (WPS) outreach discussion. Meeting participants discussed the distribution/availability of WPS outreach and inspection materials. The group agreed that the January 2nd 2017 time frame for implementation is too soon. Not enough time to get all stakeholders up to speed on rule changes. Especially because the materials are just now becoming available. Some materials are not going to be available until late spring early summer. States have begun outreach and training, but still feel there will not be enough time before the January 2nd 2017 date. States in the region all plan to give compliance assistance on new aspects of the rule but will take enforcement actions on parts of the Worker Protection Standard that have not changed.
- DFE registration, all of the Region III states will register these products, except for Washington DC.
- MP3 progress and measures were discussed. Each state in the region gave an update in their state report. The issue of appropriate measures was discussed. The overall opinion was the measures should be incorporated within each states plan, difficult to measure one state plan over another using the same criteria.
- Group reviewed the EPA template performance measures. Strategic Goal 3 on the template would be difficult to track; most states had the ability to track this data for complaints, but not for routine inspections.
- Federal Credentials. Each state was given a spread sheet to show the status of their credentialed employees. This was sent out by Evelyn Sorto of EPA Region III. This document was very helpful for states to see a snapshot of where their inspectors stand. The inspector's workshop incorporated the Health and Safety requirements this was a huge help to states. The Region plans to incorporate this training into future workshops.

No issue papers.

DC Report

STAFFING CHANGES

We are currently recruiting to fill Russ Noratel's position for an IPM Specialist.

REGULATORY/LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITIES

If the Pesticide Education and Control Amendment Act of 2016 is passed the District would be the first jurisdiction to take the approach of putting more stringent requirements on pesticides identified as potentially having a carcinogenic effect.

The District RUP list would include the following:

- 1) MD-listed neonicotinoids,

2) The California RUP list (with the exception of agricultural pesticides),

3) Pesticides that contain a chemical that is classified as “known to be a human carcinogen” or “reasonably anticipated to be a human carcinogen” in the most recent report on carcinogen by the National Toxicology Program in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; and

4) Pesticides that contain a chemical that is classified as “carcinogenic to humans” or “likely to be carcinogenic to humans” in the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s most recent list of chemicals evaluated for carcinogenic potential.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

USA Plants update

- Data conversion is completed and there was intensive training for the Pesticide Program staff.
- The program (DCPLANTS program) went live in September to begin full service to the public.
- We are still working with DCPLANTS to work out several bugs especially for Pesticide Product Registration.
- Prior to the launching of the program, meeting of collaboration was held with DCRA BBL Division to complete the licensing transition from DCRA to DOEE.
- During FY2017, the inspection module will be added to the DCPLANTS program to allow the Pesticide Program inspection activities to operate paperless.

Integrated Pest Management

- Over 400 Child Care Occupied facilities were notified of PECA, given steps to comply and an IPM plan template, and offered assistance.
- Only 40 facilities have submitted the plans after 2 Warning letters have been sent out. We have also followed up with phone calls and planned to go out to complete an inspection of these facilities but given the vast number of facilities with one FTE working on this program we find that this option cannot be implemented.
- The program intends to send out approximately 300 NOV's. This will be a significant effort. DOEE is also planning to begin work with District owned property owners next to bring them into compliance with the submission of an IPM Plan. This is also a challenge with one FTE. We will continue to provide assistance as needed.

Pollinator Protection Plan

We are continuing to work with DOEE’s Fisheries and Wildlife program to produce a MP3. We are currently in the

- Drafted outline of Plan
- Held Stakeholder meeting on October 4, 2016
- Stakeholder meeting was very successful
- Public, beekeepers and pesticide applicators are involved in crafting the plan
- Draft Plan hopefully completed for comments by December 2016
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PESTICIDE ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM

There were 6 cases closed and 2 cases remain open.

Pennsylvania Report

Staffing

Staffing for the Pesticide Program has been stable for the past year. There is currently one vacancy for a field inspector position. This position has been posted to fill in December. However, Jeff Bastion, a 35 year veteran will be retiring at the same time leaving us still one inspector short. Additionally, I will be retiring as Division Chief at the end of the year; it is my understanding my position will be backfilled. Inspectors Chad Witmer and Daniel Duer, have received their credentials bringing the staff total to 21 credentialed individuals.

Funding

The pesticide program is self-funded through a restricted account which continues to provide stable funding for the program. EPA FY16 (7-1-16 thru 6-30-17) funds were released for use and draw down on these funds for program activities is on track.

Regulation Changes

We are currently conducting outreach training on the changes to WPS. There are no pending regulation changes at the state level.

Enforcement

The PDA Enforcement Program continues to provide a strong enforcement presence while at the same time, promoting education and compliance assistance during inspection opportunities. Civil penalty assessments have continued and are an effective enforcement tool. For FY 16 127 cases were completed with 41 civil penalties and 86 Notice of Warnings issued

Pollinators

PDA investigated 2 bee kill complaints. The laboratory screened samples for 160 compounds on the LCMS/MS and one tested positive for trace amounts of fungicides. No pesticides were detected in the other case.

PDA did not select this issue from the "pick list" on our grant proposal. A stakeholder meeting to work on the development of a MP3 program for the state was held in February. The vast majority (90-95%) of 4,000+ apiaries in PA are hobbyists with less than 10 hives. There are less than 5 with more than 500 hives. Registered individuals and businesses of our PaPlants website currently have the ability to locate/map apiary sites. We see this as a major benefit to the communication between the parties that we need to include in our plan during development. A draft P³ plan developed by the department was presented to the Apiary Advisory Board who took ownership of the plan along with the Penn State, Center for Pollinator Research, to further develop the plan content with a promise to have their suggestions and a draft out by May of 2017.

Worker Protection Standard

For FY 2016, 63 Worker Protection Standard (WPS) inspections were conducted. A total of 15 violations were identified. The most common violations identified were, lack of safety training or missing PPE required by the pesticide label for products they were using.

PDA continues to contract with the Pennsylvania Office of Rural Health (PORH) to provide WPS compliance assistance to all Pennsylvania growers. With the publication of the changes to WPS we are planning on updating the seven commodity DVDs so they can continue as approved training for workers and handlers. Staff is also attending training on the changes to the regulation.

Certification & Training

PDA continues the process to transition category exams to closed book status. As category exams or study materials are revised the process to change previously open book exams to closed book status is put in place. Category 07 Lawn and Turf joined categories; 11 Household & health related; 22 Interior Plant Scape, and the core as closed book tests. PDA feels this better aligns with EPA guidelines, will increase exam security, and better align our testing practices with surrounding states. CPARD is updated to reflect these changes as they occur.

To date for FY 16 PDA inspectors proctored 318 testing sessions at locations across the Commonwealth. During these exam sessions over 7,000 examinations were administered. Numbers of certified applicators is holding fairly steady with increases in commercial applicators is offsetting the decline in private applicators.

PDA staff attended 334 of the in-state meetings and has giving 82 presentations.

Water Quality-Groundwater Monitoring

A three-year contract with USGS began in January 2014 with focus on sampling and analysis in the vulnerable settings in PA. The objective of continued Joint Funding Agreements (JFA) with USGS is to maintain an ongoing monitoring network to detect pesticide occurrence in the most vulnerable settings in Pennsylvania. We have not received any results from the sampling conducted this year. Meetings are scheduled to work on a new multi-year contract to revisit highly leachable areas. This contract will include retesting of wells to develop data for decadal comparisons.

The fifty-seven EPA pesticides of interest (POI) have been evaluated and entered into the POINTS database. For Performance Measure 1, PDA has evaluated 98.2% of the POI list: Isoxaflutole remains as the sole POI for which PDA has no sampling data, thus there has been no evaluation. This compound is included in the new 2437 schedule to be used by USGS.

CHEMSWEEP Waste Pesticide Disposal Program

PDA continues to support the waste pesticide disposal stewardship program. 2016 activities included:

- Farm-to-farm collections in 16 counties totaled 41,628 pounds
- Thirteen (12) HHW in 10 counties events collected 25,635 lbs. of homeowner pesticides
- Total of 94,263 lbs. collected.

For 2017, 16 counties are included for farm-to-farm collections, with an expected additional 12 HHW events. Site inventories are currently being mailed to over 10,000 applicators and businesses with collections to begin in June.

Plastic Pesticide Container Recycling Program (PPCR)

PDA continues to offer the PPCR program to the agricultural and professional pesticide application industries. Single-use bottles and drums are collected and granulated from 165 locations across Pennsylvania. 125,000 pounds of pesticide containers were recycled in 2016.

Laboratory

PDA's is utilizing a LCMS/MS in the Department's laboratory. We are experiencing no delays in sample processing times. This new equipment has reduced the sample turnaround time by 1 –2 days with an average turnaround time of less than 10 days. The laboratory is participating in the AAPCO and Wisconsin check sample programs. Both the QAP and QAPP we revised and approved by EPA this year.

Submitted By:

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Maryland Report

PERSONNEL

The Pesticide Regulation Section recently hired an Agricultural Inspector, Keaton Quidas, to fill a position that had been vacant for some time on Maryland's Eastern Shore. Filling this vacant position brought us back to seven Inspectors. Unfortunately, we lost an Entomologist position when Ashley Jones recently resigned from her position at MDA to accept a teaching position at Texas A & M. Ashley was our Certification & Training Coordinator and IPM specialist. We were sorry to see her go but it was a great opportunity for her. We have filed Intent to Fill Form to find a replacement for this vacant position.

LEGISLATION

The 2016 Session of the Maryland General Assembly runs from January 13 to April 11, 2016.

The Pesticide Regulation did not submit any Bills to the Legislature. However, House Bill -211 and Senate Bill -198 were introduced. Both Bills sought to limit the use of neonicotinoid pesticide products in the State of Maryland. A number of amendments have been made to the Bills, some of which strike out a number of the requirements of the Bill. The Bills were passed and prohibit the use of neonicotinoid pesticide by homeowners.

REGULATIONS

The Pesticide Regulation Section did not submit and regulatory changes during the legislative session

PLASTIC PESTICIDE CONTAINER RECYCLING PROGRAM

MDA's Pesticide Regulation Section again offered the recycling program for empty plastic pesticide containers to farmers, growers and commercial pesticide applicators. Collection centers were maintained in seven counties

(Frederick, Harford, Kent, Prince George's, Talbot and Washington) with the assistance of county government agencies. A total of 22 collection days were held. In addition, 13 pesticide dealer/custom applicators participated in inspection and collection of containers at their own facilities. A total of 42 tons of plastic were collected were collected and transported to a plastic recycling facility for recycling. . The containers were processed for transporting to a plastic recycling facility.

POLLINATOR PROTECTION PLAN ACTIVITIES

MDA held a Managed Pollinator Protection Plan Stakeholder Summit meeting at the University of Maryland, on January 20, 2016. MDA partnered with the University of Maryland and the Keystone Policy Center. The department hosted a facilitated summit at the University of Maryland, College Park to help us develop a Managed Pollinator Protection Plan to address risks to honey bees and other pollinators in our state. The summit was well attended by a diverse group of 73 stakeholders representing 54 different entities. Keynote speakers, breakout discussions, and real time electronic polling which allowed state agencies and key stakeholders to identify opportunities and barriers to promoting pollinator health in the state. The response was overwhelmingly positive as stakeholders appreciated their inclusion in this process. The final report from the summit has established a framework for open communication and collaboration as Maryland begins to develop the Maryland MP³. A draft plan was written and MDA placed on MDA's website for comments. We received a number of comments and will be revising the plans to include some of the comments we received.

Submitted By:

Dennis Howard, Program Manager [DWH](#)

Pesticide Regulation Section

Maryland Dept. of Agriculture

Virginia Report

Budget

The proposed biennium budget (2017-2018) includes an increase of ~\$8.4 million per year to VDACS. OPS is funded through non-general revenue thus is not directly impacted by the budget increase. The increase included an across the board increase of 2% salary increase for State Employees and Teachers assuming state revenues remained stable. Unfortunately, the state experienced declining revenues.

Personnel

The Office of Pesticide Services currently has two vacant full time administrative positions and one vacant part-time administrative position. There will be two additional full time professional position vacancies during 2016 from impending retirements. Given current budgets, OPS does not intend to fill these positions in the near future.

Regulatory Update

The following laws and regulations have recently been amended or are currently being amended:

1. *Virginia Pesticide Control Act*. Effective July 1, 2016.
2. 2 VAC 5-685 (*Regulations Governing Pesticide Applicator Certification under Authority of Virginia Pesticide Control Act*). Effective September 22, 2016.
3. Final Proposed Stage - 2 VAC 5-670 (*Rules and Regulations for Enforcement of the Virginia Pesticide Law*). This is stage 3 of the 3 step process.
4. Final Proposed Stage - 2 VAC 5-680 (*Regulations Governing Licensing of Pesticide Businesses Operating Under Authority of the Virginia Pesticide Control Act*). This is stage 3 of the 3 step process.

Enforcement & Compliance

During FY 2016, Field staff conducted 3,305 routine inspections and related activities and initiated 77 investigations, including complaints, incidents, accidents, and related activities, at 1,476 individual sites throughout Virginia. Staff also conducted 201 marketplace registration inspections, checking the registration status of over 3,000 products. These activities resulted in the compliance unit issuing 42 letters of caution and 80 civil penalties totaling \$24,380. These penalties were contained within 62 unique cases.

Select Program Activities

During FY16, the agency continued to fund:

- *Decline of Honey Bees in VA: An Assessment of Colony Health and Pesticide Exposures* (April 1, 2013 – January 31, 2018; \$1,371,419)
- *Interpreting Data from Brown Marmorated Stink Bug Traps in Apple Orchards: Toward the Development of Trap Based Thresholds for Management Decisions* (April 1, 2013 – June 30, 2016; \$93,813)
- *Chasing Away The Ham Mite* (July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016; \$80,000)
- *Virginia Bed Bug and Urban Pest Guidance Partners* (July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016; \$132,068)
- *Monitoring the Seasonal Abundance and Host-Use of Brown Marmorated Stink Bug Nymphs at the Orchard/Woodland Interface* (March 17, 2014 – June 30, 2016; \$33,759)
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Both *Interpreting Data from Brown Marmorated Stink Bug Traps in Apple Orchards: Toward the Development of Trap Based Thresholds for Management Decisions* and *Monitoring the Seasonal Abundance and Host-Use of Brown Marmorated Stink Bug Nymphs at the Orchard/Woodland Interface* projects are complete. Due to budgetary concerns, funding for the remaining 3 projects is being discontinued during FY17. In addition, both the pesticide disposal and plastic pesticide container recycling programs will be on hiatus during CY17.

Other Project Funding

Ongoing MOAs include:

VA Tech - Applicator Training (July 1, 2012 – June 30, 2017; \$706,226)

VA Tech - Training Manuals (July 1, 2012 – June 30, 2017; \$413,722)

VA Tech - Private Applicator Certification (July 1, 2012 – June 30, 2017; \$784,141)

Telamon – WPS Training (October 1, 2016 – September 30, 2017; \$68,696)

Program Highlights

During FY16:

- OPS certified 6,768 private applicators, 7,585 commercial applicators, and 8,036 registered technicians to apply pesticides in the Commonwealth;
- OPS also licensed 2,947 pesticide businesses and registered 15,133 pesticide products; and
- Fifty-three percent of the 8,146 Virginia pesticide applicator certification exams were administered through the Department of Motor Vehicles using SecuriTest (formerly the Pesticide Knowledge Automated Testing System or PKATS).

Pesticide Disposal Program

In 2016, the disposal program took place in the counties of Albemarle, Augusta, Bath, Clarke, Culpeper, Fauquier, Fluvanna, Frederick, Greene, Highland, Louisa, Madison, Nelson, Orange, Page, Rappahannock, Rockbridge, Rockingham, Shenandoah, Warren and the cities of Buena Vista, Charlottesville, Harrisonburg, Lexington, Staunton, Waynesboro and Winchester. The program collected and disposed of a total of 62,061 pounds. Since its inception the program has collected approximately 1.4 million pounds of unwanted, expired, or discontinued

pesticides. The program provides an environmentally conscious option for agricultural producers, pesticide dealers, pest control firms, homeowners and golf course operators to dispose of unwanted pesticides at no cost.

Plastic Pesticide Container Recycling Program

The 2016 program is currently collecting and granulating properly-rinsed plastic pesticide containers at 32 sites, including nineteen localities, eleven licensed dealers and commercial applicators and two private agricultural producers. Since inception in 1993, the program has collected almost 1.5 million pounds of containers and is available to any pesticide applicator or dealer in Virginia.

Pollinator Protection

VDACS OPS hosted seven listening sessions at various locations throughout Virginia in an effort to obtain input from interested parties. The intent of the listening sessions was to seek input from stakeholders on the critical elements included in the Plan. In addition, a dedicated email account was established for receiving stakeholder comments regarding the elements of the Plan. Approximately 450 agricultural producers, beekeepers, private and commercial pesticide applicators, landowners, researchers, and Virginia Cooperative Extension (VCE) agents participated in these listening sessions. In addition to the verbal comments received during the listening sessions, 169 written comments were also received. Taking into consideration the comments received, VDACS drafted its pollinator protection plan which is currently undergoing a series of reviews and revisions by an Advisory Committee comprised of individuals representing the major producer and applicator groups, beekeepers, and Virginia Tech. The Plan is limited to managed pollinators and includes hives maintained by commercial and noncommercial (sideline and hobbyist) beekeepers. In addition, the Plan applies to agricultural and commercial non-agricultural pesticide applications. The plan will be finalized after the Advisory Committee has completed its review and met with agency staff. The final Virginia State Managed Pollinator Protection Plan will be developed taking into consideration the input received from stakeholders and the feasibility and cost effectiveness of each component of the Plan. It is anticipated the Plan will be finalized in spring 2017.

Items of Interest to Virginia

1. Implementation plan and timeline for the amended Worker Protection Standard; and
2. EPA's C&T Proposal – pending release.

West Virginia Report

Staff

Agriculture Health and Safety Coordinator, Environmental Programs Specialist, and Compliance Assistance Specialist positions filled. Morgantown Pesticide Regulatory Officer vacant. Continue to seek applicants for two Pesticide Residue Chemist positions.

Regulations

None proposed. Commissioner Elect Kent Leonhardt to transition in January.

Mid Atlantic Nursery Trade Show (MANTS) and WPS

January 11-13, 2017. Emphasis placed on WPS revisions. Pop up panel with Comparison Chart and handout to match. Taking suggestions for hand out materials.

Outreach efforts on WPS revisions have been ongoing statewide. Numerous presentations at conferences and site visits have been completed and well received by the regulated community.

Pollinator Protection

Worked in cooperation with Plant Industries Division to draft a Managed Pollinator Protection Plan. Draft has been released for comment. Minor revisions have been made. Plan will go back on WVDA web site ASAP.

Plastic Pesticide Container Recycling

10 sites available for collecting plastic pesticide containers for recycling. Have purchased sea container for 3 recycling locations set up at WVDA field offices and one grower location. Remaining 7 locations utilize rented sea containers. Chipping should begin in the next week or two.

Waste and Unwanted Pesticides

In June of 2015, 11,648 pounds of liquids and solids were disposed at the price of \$0.98 per pound. Inventory sheets are being collected. Drafting the next RFP. Seeking a one-year contract for mobile collection site setup services and per trip/per mile when products are deemed unfit for transport.

WV Plants

Web based product and applicator data tracking via USA Plants went live November 1, 2011. Online payment for renewal of pesticide products and applicators was added in 2014 for the 2015 Renewal Season. IT Division working on electronic forms with MiForms/USA Plants.

Inspectors Workshop

October 17-21, 2016 at The Waterfront Place Hotel in Morgantown. Inspector credential Health and Safety training completed.

Delaware Report

Staff Changes:

- Delaware Department of Agriculture Pesticide section is fully staffed as of November 15th, 2016.

Budget Outlook:

- The FY 2016 EPA/PPG Cooperative Agreement has been closed out; the final award was received October 2015. The Pesticide Holding Account funds six FTE salaries and fringe benefits. Revenue for the fund comes from various fees collected during the year.
- The FY 2017 State budget includes a 1.5% or \$750 dollar whichever is higher raise. Raise went into effect on October 28th paycheck.
- The FY 2017 EPA/PPG Cooperative Agreement has been fully funded: the final award was received July 6th 2016.

Training Initiatives:

- Pesticide staff training initiatives: the Pesticide Section inspection and enforcement staff attended the Regional State Pesticide Inspector's workshop hosted by West Virginia October. Inspectors and C&T staff attended multiple WPS workshops hosted by EPA. DDA urges EPA to continue to fund the training programs.
- Ben Coverdale oversees the Certification and Training program. Certification testing is still in high demand. Test is offered every 45 days at the Harrington fairgrounds. Spring and summer testing had a large increase in 5C (Mosquito) testing. Many businesses added this category to their licenses. (ZIKA)
- DDA continues to use the training DVD for registered service employees. Spanish version available, sales of this version have been slow. Windows 10 compatibility issue, working with vendor to fix problem.
- DDA has done many WPS outreach meetings with farmers (Roughly 40). Main items of concern are the respirator fit test and AEZ enforcement. Met with WPS training consultant and gave them updated WPS training video from PERC. Reviewed changes to the WPS regulation for a second time.

Equipment/Technology:

- DDA continues to utilize the Pesticide Sensitive Crop Registry, Delaware DriftWatch. The registry provides a means to facilitate communication among those with pesticide sensitive specialty crops or habitat areas and pesticide applicators. The majority of the crops registered have been commercial bee operations. The project created a web site that brings together the pesticide sensitive area data streams from each of the producers into a single map display. Users are able to search and zoom in to see the sensitive areas mapped over the aerial image. DDA hopes to expand the use of this website to help support the Managed Pollinator Protection Plan. DriftWatch is now offering signs and bee flags to go along with the site. DDA plans to purchase some of these resources to accompany outreach materials for the site.

- There are currently 47 sites on the DriftWatch/BeeCheck site. The breakdown of these sites is: 2 vegetables, 1 specialty, 1 other, 1 grape and 42 beehive. The increase of the number of users will be a part of our measurement of success for the MP3. There were 22 sites last October.

Pick List Initiatives:

- **Bed Bugs:** DDA website has links to various publications on bed bugs. Also DDA website has a link to VDACS bed bug information page. DDA will also use inspections with pest control operators to provide outreach on treatment techniques. DDA currently conducts use observations with pest control technicians. DDA also follows up on resident complaints involving misuse of pesticide products during bed bug treatments. DDA also responds to EPA referrals involving the misuse of pesticides in bed bug control. During routine marketplace inspections label reviews will be conducted.
- **Pollinator Protection:** DDA has been in contact with beekeeper groups and cooperative extension to promote pollinator protection. DDA provides commercial beekeepers with communication via DriftWatch. More outreach materials are needed for distribution. DDA plans to expand our outreach in the areas of pollinator protection. The DriftWatch website allows for commercial beekeepers to register the location of their hives so that applicators can manage their applications around these hives. Also labels will be reviewed during routine inspections to ensure that pollinator protection language is followed. DDA will look for the pollinator protection box in the product labels where appropriate. DDA will target during marketplace inspections and take steps to stop distribution of unregistered or misbranded pesticides that could adversely affect pollinators. The pesticide section continues to work with the plant industries section on the Pollinator Protection Plan. Several demonstration sites are in the process of being developed to promote the planting of bee forage area. These sites are also going to be used as general education sites on bee health and habits.
- **Spray Drift:** Much of this outreach is conducted during our yearly inspections. This includes business license inspections and use inspections. Also drift reduction outreach materials are given out at large events (Fair, Ag-Week, DNLA Convention). Past drift data is available for review in CATS system. Use inspections are carried out throughout the year. Labels are always reviewed during the application to ensure drift precautions (wind speed, buffer distances, proximity to water, etc.) are followed.

Statute/Regulatory Changes

- Starting process of adding termiticide standards to the rules and regulations. Governors Pesticide Advisory Committee agreed to the use of historical termiticide sample residue results as a basis for a standard.

B. Program Specific Issues

- **Enforcement:** DDA continues to work on improving compliance verification, as part of the PARTS measurements. Follow up letters, and follow up inspections are conducted when non-compliance is documented, most common violations are PPE and recordkeeping. To date DDA has issued civil penalties totaling approximately \$12,000.
- **Certification & Training:** DDA now offers certification testing every 45 days to align with the new re-test interval.
- **Water Quality:** DDA is continuing to monitor the state's shallow groundwater for pesticide residues using the state-wide network of shallow monitor wells.
- **Worker Protection:** Inspections are on-going. Telemo is providing training for workers at no cost to the growers. DDA is also contracting with Hudson Consulting to provide training to some of the larger vegetable growers. Target growers are watermelon, cantaloupe, pepper, and pumpkin growers in Western Sussex County. This summer we had a few issues with brokers providing workers and not communicating with farmers about worker training and also not providing notification on when they will be harvesting until the day of. This made it challenging for farms to be prepared in the field. DDA has started updating individuals on the changes to WPS. To date almost 40 farms have been visited to discuss the rule changes.
- **Endangered Species:** When requested, DDA provides pesticide analytical testing for wildlife cases involving endangered species.

- **Disposal/Recycling:** DDA continues to support this project with monthly pickup in each county. DDA collected 38,000 containers (Calendar year 2016). U.S Ag Recycling provided on-site chipping at five locations in DE. Approximately 30,000 containers were chipped during the contractor's time in Delaware. The program is popular with the commercial applicators and growers but continues to be a drain on DDA's manpower and funds.
- **Obsolete Pesticide Disposal:** DDA's program to assist growers with the disposal of obsolete and unwanted pesticide (Environmental Sweep Program) continues to garner support. MXI Environmental Services, Inc. contract was extended for 2016. The program is being offered to farmer first, commercial applicators second and finally to pesticide retailers. DDA had an April 2016 collection; this collections added over 10,000lbs of obsolete pesticides to the totals amount collected. Since the start of the program, DDA has collected 83,000lbs from 186 locations.

C. Emerging Issues

- Aerial Pesticide Applications continue to cause issues around populated areas. This was the leading complaint during the last growing season.

Region 3 Pre-SFIREG Fall 2016 Meeting Agenda Inwood, WV November 15 -16th, 2016

Tuesday November 15, 2016

1:00 PM Introductions

State Reports

2:45 PM Break

- Medical Marijuana Update -- Howard
- Jim Jones WPS Outreach Letter -- Group Discussion
- Design for the Environment Labeling (DfE) --DOEE
- 25(b) Enforcement Actions Required – DOEE, Harris

5:00 PM Adjourn for the day

Wednesday November 16, 2016

8:00 AM FY18-20 Grant Overview/Important Grant Dates/Inspection Time Allocation Review -- Group Discussion, EPA input needed for grant dates/deadlines
Review Performance Measures – Group Discussion
SFIREG POM/EQI Update – Rogers/Mensch
AAPCO/SFIREG/ASPCRO & EPA – Joint Session Planning Update – Dennis/Liza
Post Workshop Report - Grant

9:45 AM Break

Extra time for 8AM Topics
Pollinator Protection Plans Update –TBD
Disinfectant Usage in Schools
Issue Paper(s) for Full SFIREG—*Group Vote*
Next Regional Meeting Date – Philadelphia, PA

12:00 PM Adjourn