AAPCO Board of Directors Meeting (by telephone)
August 1, 2017

On the call: Dennis Howard, MD; Patrick Jones, NC; Leo Reed, IN; Tony Cofer, AL; Amy Bamber, AAPCO Executive Secretary; Rose Kachadoorian, OR, joined late.

The call began at 1:08pm

Cofer began the call discussing Dicamba. He discussed the call with the extension researchers and EPA from last week. Then he brought up the idea of forming an AAPCO Dicamba workgroup, and had discussed the idea with Cary Giguere. Cofer also has a call set up with Rick Keigwin to discuss what the issue is doing to the state budgets for the states that are trying to handle the Dicamba issues. Another issue is that the producers are starting to make their decisions about 2018 planting. Cofer would like us to get ahead of the issue in the absence of leadership from EPA in addressing this.

Reed agreed that this is the right path, and we are asking the right questions. It is hard to believe that EPA is surprised that we are having such extensive problems with the tolerant systems. Jones added states have been warning about this for years, and that MO has said they are $250,000 behind simply due to laboratory costs. Cofer said yes, we need to hear from EPA about a resource response for these states. Reed said that the issue is consuming all of the time for some of the staff at Purdue. Jones is busy with it as well, not just from enforcement, but from a news/outreach standpoint as well. Reed offered to take the topic for the annual meeting. Although that will be in March, in truth it will take that long for the results of this season to be decipherable from a cost and enforcement perspective. Jones added that decisions regarding restricting the use, especially for other crop protection, are upcoming. The states need a better mechanism to control this product.

Jones added that the entire registration program has been making decisions that are continually creating work for the states, using the Kaput federal registration as an example. The states are having to amend federal registrations to make them usable in the states. There seems to be a disconnect between the Registration Division’s decisions and what can be successfully implemented in the states. Cofer brought up an EUP called HogGone, sodium nitrite, that USDA Wildlife Services are pursuing as well.

Cofer moved to an update of PREP planning, which seems to be a good cross section of topics. The funding for PREP is still a bit up in the air. PIRT is also planning for next year, and their funding is also still up in the air. There will be a solicitation for new planning committee members soon.

Cofer then moved to the PPDC Pollinator Plan metrics, and the PPDC’s intention to continue to try and develop numerical measurements. The committee will meet again soon, and AAPCO is coordinating internally to communicate on the issue.

Cofer welcomed Derrick Lastinger, as did the entire committee. Everyone is happy to have him on the board and is looking forward to working together.
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Cofer also discussed our recent conversation with TPPC about how the tribes could engage more closely with AAPCO.

The board then discussed conference planning.

The call ended at 2:40 pm EST.

Respectfully Submitted,

Amy Bamber, AAPCO Executive Secretary