

# Region 1 New England

## SFIREG Meeting Report

December 3-4, 2018

### PreSFIREG Meeting

November 7, 2018

25 Capitol Street

Concord, NH

### Attendance:

**EPA:** Andrea Szylvian

Rob Koethe

Sharon Hayes

**Vermont:** Linda Boccuzzo

Patti Casey

Erica Cummings

**Maine:** Megan Patterson

John Pietroski

**New Hampshire:** David Rousseau

**Connecticut:** Diane Jorsey (via phone)

**Massachusetts:** Taryn LaScola

### EPA Review

**Regional PIRT:** Regional PIRT will be held February 25-28, 2019 in Vermont. Digital photography, Dealer inspections, mosquito and tick control slated to be on the agenda.

**EPA EOY:** Reports due by end of December.

**Region 1 C&T Meeting:** Next meeting date is set for April 16<sup>th</sup> to be held at the EPA lab in Chelmsford, MA.

### Messaging

With the news about Glyphosate, Neonicotinoids and Chlorpyrifos, states discussed how they communicate with the public when calls are received.

### C&T Regional Meeting

Another C&T meeting was held where SLA's and PSEPS discussed the new C&T Rule. There was discussion around the study materials and exam preparation as well as materials that are used by each

state. Dan Wixted from Cornell provided information on the cost of exam and study material development. There was also discussion about the possibility of training on how to write exams. This will be explored.

### **Pesticide Devices**

Discussion among the states occurred when reviewing the June SFIREG meeting. States are receiving more requests and complaints relative to device determination than before and are becoming frustrated and concern with the limited resources they are provided from EPA. In addition, the EPA determinations are not being provided in a timely manner which in turn holds up the states actions. Region 1 agreed that a white paper relative to this issue should be drafted and submitted to SFIREG for the June 2019 meeting.

### **State Updates**

#### **Marijuana/Hemp:**

- **NH:** Medical Marijuana and Hemp legal in the state and is currently looking at Adult Use Marijuana.
- **ME:** Medical Marijuana and Hemp. Inspectors are only following up on complaints and it is with health inspectors.
- **VT:** 400 Hemp growers and Marijuana is legal to use but not to sell.
- **MA:** Medical Marijuana, Adult Use Marijuana and Hemp. It recently released a Pesticide Advisory which describes how and why it came to its' decision relative to pesticide use.

#### **Pollinator Updates:**

- **NH:** Pollinator Plan is in draft form.
- **ME:** The new apiary inspector has teamed up with the MA apiary inspector to educate beekeepers on Varroa mites. They are also collaborating on another potential grant project.
- **VT:** Monitoring neonicotinoids in the environment. Has not developed a Pollinator Plan yet.
- **MA:** The neonicotinoid bill that would have limited its use and make neonics restricted use did not pass. UMASS conducted a monitoring study this year relative to pesticides in hobbyist beekeepers hives.
- **CT:** Closing in on the "end dates" that were put in place due to legislation that made all neonicotinoid products restricted use.

#### **Mosquito/Tick Applications**

- **NH:** Issues with 25b products being used by mosquito/tick control companies without a license; potentially a new rule will allow for a unique license.
- **MA:** Numerous complaints received with violations being determined. Application method appears to be the issue as it is conducive to drift.

**Inspection/Investigation/Enforcement:**

- A company was making applications throughout Region 1 with some issues in each state. This company is located outside of Region 1 and has service areas in Region 2, 3, 4, and 5. Some of the cases are still open.

**State to State Question:**

- CT needs to acquire a new data system for their program. The target date for implementation is June 2019. The states went around and explained what systems they used. ME uses its own unique program (MEPEARLS), MA uses EIPAS, and VT uses USAPlants for pesticides, applicators etc. VT FSMA program has just started using a company called WimWam.
- VT asked if any states had seen issues or were monitoring for bicyclopyrone (Acuron) as it is taking place of Lumax. None of the other states have seen issues or are monitoring.