

Hello,

It's been a busy year at DPR and I am impressed by the scope and variety of work that the department has successfully accomplished. 2014 promises to be exciting and challenging as we continue efforts to protect the environment, especially when it comes to consumer pesticides and equally important task of alternatives to fumigants.

I will leave you with a 'snapshot' of some recent DPR activities you may have missed.

Have a Happy New Year,

Brian Leahy
Director

Here are some recent DPR activities you may have missed.

DPR Training Videos: IPM Childcare Centers



DPR has created a fun, useful series of seven exciting videos that show “green” ways for controlling pests. The videos, filmed in child care centers in Yolo County, can help prevent pests from entering centers and becoming hazardous to human health. (See [video clip here](#)).

The seven videos describe a pest control strategy known as Integrated Pest Management (IPM). IPM helps to prevent and treat pest problems using non-chemical control methods, monitoring, and record keeping, among other things.

In California, young children can spend as much as 10 hours per day in child care centers, and parents and kids often bring in food and candy that can attract ants, cockroaches, and rodents. Child care staff sometimes turn to unneeded pesticides to keep areas clean. But DPR believes that by focusing more on IPM, staff can help prevent the pest from becoming guests in the centers.

The video series also shows all California's licensed child care centers how to comply with the [Healthy Schools Act of 2000](http://www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/enforce/residue/rsmonmnu.htm). It is available in English and Spanish at <http://bit.ly/IOjXVE>

Monitoring Produce for Pesticide Residue



Another way DPR protects consumers is by ensuring that fresh produce does not exceed the amount and type of pesticide that U.S. EPA allows. DPR recently announced the majority of produce tested in 2012 had no detectable pesticide residues and posed no health risk to the public.

- DPR tested 3,501 samples of different fruits and vegetables that were sold in farmers markets, wholesale and retail outlets, and distribution centers statewide.
- More than 160 different fruits and vegetables were sampled to reflect the **different dietary needs of California's diverse population.**
- 98 percent of all California-grown produce, sampled by DPR, was in compliance with the allowable limits.

"DPR's pesticide monitoring program is probably the most robust and sophisticated program in the country," said Brian R. Leahy, DPR Director. **"Our monitoring should further reassure Californians that they need not be concerned about exposure to pesticides on fresh produce sold in the Golden State."** See more info here: <http://www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/enforce/residue/rsmonmnu.htm>

VOC emissions from non-fumigant pesticide products



DPR Director Brian Leahy (white cap) and staff visiting orchards

California is leading the nation in implementing measures to reduce ozone and **Governor Jerry Brown has an unwavering commitment to improve California's** environment including its air quality. Reducing emissions of VOCs in agriculture plays a small but significant role in reaching this goal. Furthermore, as part of Cal/EPA, DPR is committed to environmental justice which means reducing environmental impacts on **California communities most burdened by pollution. For a number of years now, DPR's** regulations to reduce the emissions from fumigant pesticides have been in place. More recent efforts have focused on reducing VOC emissions from non-fumigant pesticides products, especially those that pertain to the San Joaquin Valley ozone nonattainment area.

Starting in November 2013, new regulations to reduce emissions from these products went into effect in Northern California. These regulations apply to high-VOC products containing abamectin, chlorpyrifos, gibberellins, or oxyfluorfen when used on certain crops in the San Joaquin Valley ozone nonattainment area. The restrictions will apply between May and October. DPR took these steps because these products and their application to certain crops are among the highest pesticide VOC contributors in the San Joaquin Valley. Additionally, DPR has determined that use of low-VOC products for these pesticides and crops are feasible and will ensure that the specified goal will be consistently achieved. The regulations do not apply to low-VOC products containing the four active ingredients or to products containing any other active ingredients.

DPR believes that pesticide use in the agricultural community can be mitigated to address some air quality issues that California communities face. Taking small steps today may prevent huge consequences in the future.

Second generation anticoagulant rodenticides



DPR has taken decisive action to further protect California's wildlife and the environment. After liaising with other government agencies including the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, DPR became concerned that California's wildlife are exposed to, and may be adversely affected by, certain pesticides known as second generation rodenticides. (These rodenticides cause a pest, e.g. mouse, to die several days after ingestion. However the rodenticide remains in their body tissue. When wildlife eats the poisoned pest, they end up being poisoned as well). After reviewing available data, DPR believes that exposure and toxicity to some wildlife from second generation anticoagulant rodenticides is a statewide problem in both urban and rural areas.

In 2013 DPR introduced [a regulation](#) to designate all second generation anticoagulant rodenticides as California-restricted materials. This means, in effect, that only certified and/or trained applicators will be able to use second generation anticoagulant rodenticides. This regulation should ultimately significantly reduce unintended exposures to non-target wildlife. This regulation affects pesticide products containing the active ingredients brodifacoum, bromadiolone, difenacoum, or difethialone. The regulation is expected to take effect in 2014. See the regulation [here](#)

YouTube



Finally don't forget to check out our YouTube site. There are a variety of videos including a DPR Brown bag presentation by the Almond Board of CA on <http://www.youtube.com/CaliforniaPesticides>