

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF  
PESTICIDE REGULATION

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A RECORD OF ACHIEVEMENT 2010-2011 PROGRESS REPORT

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## Perspectives from Our Executive Team

**Mary-Ann Warmerdam**  
Director

The balancing act between pest control and a healthy environment will best be achieved in California and elsewhere through integrated pest management (IPM), a combination of natural and preventive strategies and pesticides less toxic and more target-specific than older, more general chemical treatments. In 2008, Governor Schwarzenegger reinstated DPR's highly successful grants program that promotes – in a very tangible way – the adoption of least-toxic pest management in agricultural and urban settings. With the encouragement of our grants and other innovative programs, we are confident that California will remain the nation's IPM leader.

**Chris Reardon**  
Chief Deputy Director

I'm very pleased to have worked successfully with the Legislature and a broad group of stakeholders over the years to streamline our registration process, improve our product compliance, prevent pesticide drift, provide IPM to daycare centers and have a more consistent budget process.

**Mitch Gorsen**, Deputy Director  
Legislation and Policy

As the newest member of DPR's executive team, I have been most impressed by our staff's understanding that health and the environment can be protected without disrupting the economic vitality of the state's pesticide users, whether they are in agriculture, business or the home. DPR staff pair their knowledge of local agricultural conditions with a deep commitment to ensuring that pesticides are used safely without harm to people or the environment.

**Chuck Andrews**  
Associate Director  
Pesticide Programs Division

I want to recognize staff's commitment and dedication to establish the first national pesticide program for volatile organic compounds to improve air quality, reestablish the Alliance Grants program to encourage pest management alternatives, and enhance our enforcement program to protect workers and the environment. Add to that the exceptional work of our enforcement partners, the county agricultural commissioners, who ensure compliance in the field. Together, this has made California's program one of the best in the world.

**Marylou Verder-Carlos**  
Assistant Director/Science Advisor  
Pesticide Programs Division

To ensure public health and safety from pesticide exposure, DPR scientists rigorously evaluate data from all available sources. I am most proud of the work our scientific staff have done in evaluating data prior to registration, completing risk assessments and their continuous efforts to evaluate human health and environmental data to ensure that pesticides already available in the market do not cause adverse health effects.

**JoAnne Payan**, Assistant Director/  
Chief Information Officer  
Administrative Services Division

I am proud of assembling a talented team of administrative professionals that have brought many successes to DPR. Our functional-based cost accounting enables stakeholders to see DPR's costs of doing business in clear and concise terms. Our science-based civil service classifications allow us to attract and retain talented staff. And DPR's ability to plan for, invest in, and execute information technology operations and projects for the entire department has paid huge dividends in achieving our business objectives at the state and local levels.



### OUR EXECUTIVE TEAM

From left to right: JoAnne Payan, Chuck Andrews, Mary-Ann Warmerdam, Chris Reardon, Marylou Verder-Carlos, Mitch Gorsen.

# Record of Achievement

California is recognized on the international stage as a leader in protecting public health, worker safety, and the environment. Reducing emissions that contribute to poor air quality will be a highlight of Governor Schwarzenegger's legacy.

The Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR) has played a small but significant role in improving the quality of the air we breathe by restricting volatile organic compound (VOC) emissions from pesticides. VOCs, which combine with nitrogen oxides in sunlight to form ozone, contribute to smog.

We are the first state in the nation to tackle pesticide emissions. The significant drop in VOC pesticide emissions in 2008, the first year our restrictions were in place, represents one of DPR's many successes in the past six years that you will read about in the following pages.

Other accomplishments include:

- Expanded efforts to educate fieldworkers about pesticide safety and what to do if they are exposed and become ill.
- Streamlined product registration thanks to the passage of Assembly Bill 1011.
- Strived for consistent, fair enforcement of pesticide laws in California's 58 counties.
- Laid the foundation to further protect water quality, including a proposal to reduce drift, irrigation, and storm water runoff.
- Transferred of the Structural Pest Control Board to DPR from the Department of Consumer Affairs as part of the Governor's directive to consolidate and streamline state government.

None of this would have been possible if we did not have robust administrative services. This backbone is often taken for granted, but without it, achievements like ours would have been difficult indeed. For example, we are notable among state agencies for the transparency of our accounting and operational planning. We centralized information technology functions that had been managed among our branches. Among other things, this made possible the launching our Web-based California Pesticide Illness Query, or CalPIQ. This first-in-the-nation achievement enables users to analyze our extensive illness and injury data associated with pesticide exposure.

Another acknowledgment of California's leadership is the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's strengthening of conditions under which fumigants can be applied based on our restrictions, the toughest in the nation. The stronger federal rules will take effect in phases beginning in January 2011.

DPR's scientists and other staff do an exemplary job of evaluating pesticide products proposed for registration in California and monitoring products already in use. Their work is on par with their peers at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and Health Canada, agencies with which we collaborate often. Our partnership with the county agricultural commissioners, who enforce pesticide laws locally, is critical to ensuring protection of health and the environment where pesticides are used.



Mary-Ann Warmerdam  
DPR Director