AGRICULTURAL PEST CONTROL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
March 11, 2015
10:00 AM – 12:00 PM
CalEPA Building, Training Room East and West, First Floor


Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR) Staff (14): Nan Gorder- Chair of Committee, Paul Verke, Assistant Director of Outreach and Community Engagement, Tom Babb, Laurie Brajkovich, Lisa Estridge, Sidney Hilton, Ken King, Randy Segawa, Cynthia Ray, Lisa Ross, Denise Alder, Joey Marade, Kevin Solari, and Jim Shattuck

Guests (6): John Erisey- California Association of Pest Control Advisers (CAPCA), Terry Gage- California Agricultural Aircraft Association (CAAA), Dave Lawson- Lawson and Associates (LAA), Kyle Lawson- Lawson and Associates (LAA), Judy Letterman- Pesticide Applications Professional Association (PAPA), and Gary Schulz- California Association of Pest Control Advisers (CAPCA)

Members Absent (2): Kenneth J. Oneto- Producers, and Wayne Steele- Registrants

Introductions and Administrative Topics — Nan Gorder, Pest Management & Licensing Branch Chief, DPR

A. Review and approval of September 11, 2014 meeting minutes

The minutes from the September 11, 2014 APCAC meeting were approved as written with the addition of the title “Urban Education Training.”

B. Introductions

John Bushoven, Chair Department of Sciences in Fresno, is the new member representing the Board of Trustees of the California State University System. He specializes in turf management and nitrogen uptake.

Gary Schulz is the new Chief Executive Officer of the California Association of Pest Control Advisers (CAPCA). Gary worked as the President and General Manager of the Raison Federal and State Marketing Orders for 6 years and for 15 years conducted and expanded the World Ag Expo in Tulare.
II. Licensing Update — Cynthia Ray, Licensing Program Supervisor, DPR

The numbers of licensees that have been renewed as of March 11, 2015 are as follows:

- Pilots (APC) 59%
- Pilots (JPC) 92%
- Designated Agents 85%
- PCA 91%
- QAC 89%
- QAL 86%
- PCB 85%

Issues about the renewal process were discussed, including ways to improve renewal by licensees earlier in the year.

Starting January 2015, the Licensing Unit is attempting to proctor at least two exams per month—one testing location in Northern California and the second location in Southern California. The purpose is to make more exam sites available to allow for more testing opportunities and for smaller testing groups.

Cynthia Ray and Sidney Hilton have been meeting with the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges and others to establish general course codes for students to meet the minimum qualifications for the California Pest Control Adviser examinations. Cynthia and Sidney met with the Academic Senate in Chico and with several agricultural science professors in Fresno, on December 6, 2014 and February 5-6, 2015 respectively.

III. UC IPM Update—Lisa Blecker, UC IPM

A. Positions
   a. UC IPM is looking for a Delta Crops IPM Adviser with a background in Entomology. Interviews will be held soon.

   b. UC IPM is also looking for an Urban IPM Adviser focused in structural pests within Los Angeles, Orange, and San Diego counties. Interviews have already taken place.

   c. UC IPM hired a Pesticide Safety Educator, Sarah Risorto. Sarah was previously a licensed Pest Control Adviser and will help with training the Spanish speaking community.

B. Training
   a. UC IPM is holding three ‘Train-the-Trainer’ Workshops for handlers on March 12, 2015 in Davis, March 26, 2015 in Fresno, and April 2, 2015 in Los Angeles.

   b. UC IPM is acting as the liaison between the Northeast IPM Center and the Los Angeles County public housing program during development of a training course for property managers and public housing officials.
C. IPM Program
   a. UC IPM received a Crop Protection and Pest Management program grant to collect and assess the effects of herbicide and fungicide for a Pollinator Protection Project. They are also building a database which includes information about non-aphis species as well. The information gathered from this project will be published information.

   b. UC IPM is updating portions of 47 Pest Management Guidelines for more than 47 crops. Currently, UC IPM is working on an all pesticide update for at least 16 guidelines without a peer review. A programmer is building a database for the Pest Management Guidelines to make quick changes (i.e. connect all documents to update the same information at the same time).

IV. DPR Communications – Paul Verke, Assistant Director of Outreach and Community Engagement, DPR
Paul Verke demonstrated several ways DPR has expanded its outreach efforts through several media platforms such as Twitter and Facebook. Paul emphasized how important it is to be transparent with an audience. DPR has several publications such as progress reports, fact sheet directory, pesticide safety information series, and compliance assistance brochures that include active links and have been reformatted to be more Internet and mobile friendly. A maintenance gardener Web page has also been added to DPR’s Web site.

V. Pollinator Protection Label Update—Denise Alder, Pesticide Registration Branch Senior Specialist Environmental Scientist, DPR
Denise Alder provided an update regarding the reevaluation of pesticide products to ensure pollinator protection. Registrants are submitting information pertaining to adverse effects of their products on pollinators. The reevaluation project is focused on agricultural pesticide products and will conclude with mitigation measures by 2018. The U.S. EPA is partnering with Canada to streamline product labeling.

VI. Volatile Organic Compounds Regulations Update—Randy Segawa, Environmental Program Manager, DPR
Randy Segawa provided an update regarding the volatile organic compounds (VOCs) regulations. He also provided new restriction information for chloropicrin starting January 6, 2015. Final mitigation measures will be put into place through temporary permit conditions that include larger buffer zones, only using tarp on an approved tarp list, and acreage restrictions. Permanent restrictions will be label changes in the near future.

Topics for possible future regulations may include: Research Authorizations notice; VOC clean up package; field worker training to be more consistent with new Worker Protection Standards; pesticide use around schools; pesticide product registration fee increase; leaching; soil fumigant notification (informational workshops begin on April 9, 2015); and personal protective equipment.
Update about current rulemaking packages: the comment period for the closed system regulations ended in February; chlorpyifos regulations will be finalized making chlorpyrifos a restricted material in July with permit conditions provided to the County Agricultural Commissioner.

VII. Agricultural Pesticide Container Stewardship Management – Dave Lawson, President of Lawson and Associates
Dave Lawson presented information on agricultural pesticide container recycling. California requires pesticide registrants to recycle containers. Out of the 12+ million pounds of agricultural plastic that can be recycled, approximately 3 million pounds are collected per year. Non-refillable pesticide containers must be triple rinsed with no residues remaining and drums must be cut in half. Lawson and Associates hosts several container recycling events to ensure that pesticide containers do not get burned or go into the landfill.

VIII. Next Agenda – Date and Topics—Nan Gorder, Pest Management & Licensing Branch Chief, DPR
Date of next meeting: Wednesday, June 10, 2015
Time: 10:00-12:00
Location: Training Room East and West, First Floor
Possible topics may include:
- Developing pollinator issues
- Surface and Groundwater Regulation Updates

Questions should be directed to Laurie Brajkovich at (916) 445-9903 or Laurie.Brajkovich@cdpr.ca.gov.