



Agricultural Pest Control Advisory Committee

Meeting Summary

March 13, 2019

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

CalEPA Building, Training Room East and West, First Floor

Members Present (10): Ronald Berg–Pesticide Dealers, Lisa Blecker–University of California, John Erisey–Agricultural Pest Control Advisers, Glen Foth–Commercial Applicators, Dan Gudgel–Pest Control Aircraft Pilots, Juli Jensen–California Agricultural Commissioners and Sealers Association, Kenneth Oneto–Producers, Matt Scally–Pest Control Maintenance Gardeners, Timothy Smith–Board of Governors of the California Community College System, and Wayne Steel–Pesticide Registrants

Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR) Staff (4): Joseph Damiano–Pest Management and Licensing (PML) Branch Chief, Laurie Brajkovich–Environmental Program Manager, Leslie Talpasanu–Senior Environmental Scientist (Supervisory), Rebecca Olson–Staff Services Analyst

Guests (17): Martin Barela–DPR Administrative Services Division, Paul Curtis–DPR Administrative Services Division, Nathan Desjarlais–DPR Enforcement, Terry Gage–California Agricultural Aircraft Association, Rick Harrison–California Association of Pest Control Advisers, Juan Hidalgo–Santa Cruz County Agricultural Commissioner, Katrina Hunter–University of California, Joshua Ogawa–DPR Enforcement, Shannon Oathout, Ben Sacher–Syngenta, Rob Scherzinger–California Agricultural Aircraft Association, Rick Shade–Past Chair of the California Avocado Commission, Smita Tandel–DPR Administrative Services Division Accounting Office, Jessica Teague–DPR Pest Management and Licensing, Doug Thiel–California Agricultural Aircraft Association, Marylou Verder-Carlos–DPR Assistant Director, Emily Wong–DPR Pest Management and Licensing

Members Absent (3): John Bushoven–Board of Trustees of the California University System, Jeanette Heinrichs–General Public, and Phil Mullins–Agricultural Pest Control Businesses

I. Administrative Topics — Laurie Brajkovich, Environmental Program Manager, DPR-PML

- Housekeeping

- Introductions
- Approval of Meeting Minutes: Approval of the December 12, 2018 meeting minutes. Minutes approved.
- John Bushoven (Board of Trustees of the California State University System) has decided to leave the APCAC committee. Margaret Ellis, John Bushoven's alternate on the committee, has expressed interest in filling the position. DPR will accept interest applications for the next couple of months.
- Juli Jensen (California Agricultural Commissioners and Sealers Association) is retiring and is leaving her position on APCAC. This will be her last meeting.

II. DPR Update — Joseph Damiano, DPR-PML

- Teresa Marks is now Acting Director of DPR.
- Assembly Bill 1480: In February 2019, DPR mailed a letter to license and certificate holders (licensees) and continuing education (CE) sponsors informing them about recent changes to the law. AB 1480 allows the Director to levy a civil penalty against persons that make any false or fraudulent statement, record, report; use any fraud or misrepresentation in connection with meeting any license requirement; or cheat on or subvert a licensing examination. Specifically, the letter cautions against reporting incorrect CE hours, and reminds licensees that they also have a responsibility to report only hours actually attended.

III. Licensing Update — Rebecca Olson, DPR-PML

- 2018 Renewal Season (data as of 3/1/19)
 - DPR mailed 12,606 renewal packets to individuals. 10,800 (85%) have been returned to DPR for processing; 10,643 (84%) have been renewed.
 - DPR mailed 2,279 renewal packets to business license holders. 1,975 (86%) have been returned to DPR for processing; 1,850 (81%) have been renewed.
- 2018 DPR Licenses/Certificates (data as of 3/1/19)
 - New individual license/certificates issued – 2,031
 - New business licenses issued – 331
 - Total valid individual licenses/certificates – 26,040
 - Total valid business licenses – 4,244
- 2019 Renewal Season
 - Early May – DPR will mail postcards to licensees regarding mailing address changes.
 - Late May – DPR will mail renewal packets to “early renewal” candidates.
 - July – Renewal packets will be mailed to all remaining individual license/certificate holders.
 - Late August – Renewal packets will be mailed to all businesses.

IV. 2018 Summary of DPR's Continuing Education and Pest Control Adviser Programs — Jessica Teague, DPR-PML

- Continuing Education Program
 - DPR approved a total of 2,895 CE courses in 2018 (383 conducted in Spanish)

- Meeting/Conference – 1,261 courses and 1,395 additional course instances (i.e. roadshows)
- Online: 190
- Correspondence: 22
- School: 26 (24 courses and 2 additional course instances)
- Pest Control Adviser (PCA) Program 2018 Updates
 - DPR updated 6 pre-existing college course lists.
 - Nine new community colleges were added to the approved list, which added 190 new approved courses to the list.
 - Knowledge Expectations were revised for Category B – Plant Pathogens and Category E – Weed Control.
 - DPR updated the format of the PCA application packet.
 - One new Environmental Scientist joined the PCA program, filling a previously vacant position.

V. University of California Integrated Pest Management (UC IPM) Update – Lisa Blecker

- Staffing Updates – Petr Ako Larbi – Cooperative Extension, Kearney
- UC IPM, established July 1, 1979, will be celebrating their 40-year anniversary. Details will be posted on the UC IPM webpage.
- Agriculture
 - “UC Ag Experts Talk” is a series of monthly one-hour webinars, usually on a pest management topic. Upcoming webinars are March 20 “Laurel Wilt” (Monique Rivera), April 24 “Management of Glyphosate-resistant Weeds in Orchards” (Brad Hanson), and May 22 “Snails and Slugs” (Cheryl Wilen). <https://ucanr.edu/sites/ucexpertstalk/>
 - Pest Management Guidelines (PMGs) Updates
 - Because of the new chlorpyrifos interim permit conditions, UC IPM is revising PMGs for uses that are not critical and if uses are critical, making sure they help inform people about the new conditions.
 - PMGs put into mobile-friendly format since the last APCAC meeting: Dry Beans Revision, Lettuce, Almond, Pecan, Walnut, and Onion/Garlic Revision.
 - PMGs going into mobile-friendly format soon: Blueberry Update, Pomegranate Revision, and Cilantro/Parsley Update.
- Pesticide Safety Education Program (PSEP)
 - UC IPM is revising “Pesticide Safety: A Reference Manual for Private Applicators.”
 - Two Train-the-Trainer workshops (DPR-contracted) were completed in February.
- PSEP staff are working on a Pest Management Alliance grant on sprayer calibration. Planned upcoming workshops will be invitation-only, hands-on training, focusing on

grape applications near school sites. The intent of the grant is to assist growers near schools in meeting the “Pesticide Use Near Schoolsites” regulations.

- Upcoming Pest Notes: “Glassy Winged Sharpshooters,” “Cockroaches,” “Gophers,” “Head Lice,” and “Palm Diseases”
- Pest Notes will be translated into Spanish in 2019: “Weeds in Landscapes,” “Weeds in Lawns,” “Biological Control,” “Brown Recluse,” “Lawn Insects,” “ and “Pesticide Safe Use and Disposal.”
- Green Bulletin Articles recently published: “Controlling Weedy Grasses,” “Calibrating Spray Application Equipment,” and “UC IPM Resources for Landscape Pest Management Professionals”

VI. Committee Review and Vote on Letter to DPR Director (RE: Enforcement of Illegal Online Sales of Pesticides) – Glen Foth, APCAC Member (representing Commercial Applicators)

- Glen Foth and the committee discussed a letter from APCAC members to the Director expressing concern about on-line pesticide sales. The concerns include loss of assessments on pesticide sales, loss of state sales tax, illegal pesticide applications, use of illegal materials, urban poisoning, and reduction of DPR licensing fees. The committee voted unanimously to add an opening statement to the letter and then move it forward to the DPR Director.

VII. Unintended Impacts of Cannabis Production on Pesticide Applications – Rob Scherzinger, Vice Chair CAAA, Aspen Helicopters; Rick Harrison, PCA Nutri Ag Solutions and CAPCA Chair; and Rick Shade, past Chair of the Avocado Commission, and current Citrus and Avocado Grower

- Rob Scherzinger used adjacent avocado orchards and cannabis greenhouses in Carpinteria, CA as an example of the impact cannabis production has on nearby pesticide applications. Because action levels for pesticides on cannabis products are low, and because off-target chemical spread to cannabis greenhouses can occur in various ways (for example through air conditioning systems, insects, or human carriers) pilots are unable to apply pesticides to adjacent fields without risk to nearby cannabis crops.
- Possible solutions include: 1) Physical barriers to chemical relocation to contain greenhouses (filters, etc.), 2) No-grow moratorium for cannabis during certain times of the year, 3) Alter pesticide residue action levels for cannabis. The presenters recognize the barriers to each of these solutions but encourage everyone to put science to work to find solutions.

VIII. Proposed Decision to Begin for Reevaluation of Second-Generation Anticoagulant Rodenticides (SGARs) – Brenna McNabb, DPR Registration Branch

- Brenna McNabb gave the committee an overview of the regulatory status of SGARs.

- California law requires DPR to continuously evaluate registered pesticides, and California regulations require DPR to investigate reports of pesticide impacts. If the Director finds that a significant adverse impact has occurred or is likely to occur, the pesticide must be reevaluated.
- After reevaluation of brodifacoum closed in 2014, DPR adopted regulations on four SGARS: brodifacoum, bromadiolone, difenacoum, and difethialone.
- Since 2014, DPR received incident reports (152) and research studies (11) from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) on wildlife fatalities where SGARs were detected. DPR determined that the data demonstrates SGARs have an adverse impact to non-target wildlife. On November 16, 2018, DPR issued California Notice 2018-22, a proposal to begin reevaluation of SGARs and established a 30-day comment period. About 17,000 comments were received and they are currently under review.
- Reevaluation is pending final determination by the Director.

IX. Next Agenda – Date and Topics – Laurie Brajkovich, DPR PML Branch

Date of next meeting: June 12, 2019

Time: 10:00 am -12:00 pm

Location: Training Room East and West, First Floor

Possible topics may include:

- Cannabis update
- Second generation rodenticides update
- Paraquat label changes

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