



Agricultural Pest Control Advisory Committee
Meeting Summary
December 9, 2020
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Members Present (10): Margaret Ellis–Board of Trustees of the California University System, **John Erisey**–Agricultural Pest Control Advisers, **Glen Foth**–Commercial Applicators, **Dan Gudgel**–Pest Control Aircraft Pilots, **Katrina Hunter**–University of California (Alternate), **Phil Mullins**–Agricultural Pest Control Businesses, **Kenneth Oneto**–Producers, **Matt Scally**–Pest Control Maintenance Gardeners, **Stephen Scheer**–California Agricultural Commissioners and Sealers Association, **Wayne Steel**–Pesticide Registrants

Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR) Staff (6): Joseph Damiano–Enforcement Headquarters Branch Chief, **Laurie Brajkovich**–Environmental Program Manager, **Laura Pauli**–Staff Services Manager, **Kenneth King**–Staff Services Analyst, **Rebecca Olson**–Staff Services Analyst, **Jessica Teague**–Environmental Scientist

Guests (9): Ruthann Anderson–California Association of Pest Control Advisers, **Ruben Arroyo**–Riverside County Agricultural Commissioner, **Izabella Czaja**–DPR Licensing & Certification, **Lisa Estridge**–DPR Environmental Program Manager, **Ken Everett**–DPR Assistant Director, **Terry Gage**–California Agricultural Aircraft Association, **Lucy Graham**–DPR Research Scientist, **James Nakashima**–Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment, **Shernee Tousant**–DPR Staff Services Analyst

Members Absent (4): Lisa Blecker–University of California, **Ronald Berg**–Pesticide Dealers, **Jeanette Heinrichs**–General Public, **Timothy Smith**–Board of Governors of the California Community College System

I. Welcome - Laurie Brajkovich, Environmental Program Manager, DPR-ENFHQ

II. Familiarizing Attendees with Using Zoom – Kenneth King, DPR-ENFHQ

- Instructions and guidelines for today’s APCAC live cast (via Zoom software) quarterly meeting.

III. Administrative Topics - Laurie Brajkovich, DPR-ENFHQ

- Introductions
- September meeting notes: There were no requested revisions to the September APCAC meeting notes.

IV. DPR Update – Joseph Damiano, Enforcement Headquarters Branch Chief

- Joseph Damiano thanked everyone for attending and deferred Licensing and Certification updates to staff scheduled to present.

V. Licensing and Renewals Update – Laura Pauli, Licensing and Certification Program

- A-L Renewal Applications
 - Out of 11,400 individual renewal packets mailed in August 6100 have been returned to DPR and 39% of the individual renewals have been processed.
 - Out of 2,200 business renewal packets mailed in September 1,300 have been returned to DPR and 29% of the business renewals have been processed.
 - We are currently at a 6-week processing time and as we continue the renewal season, processing may take 8 weeks or more.
 - DPR encourages all applicants to mail in required paperwork and fees on or before November 1 in order to guarantee processing by December 31.
 - Licensees may experience longer wait times than previous years to receive their license cards in the mail.
 - If an applicant's payment is processed, then the renewal is in the queue at DPR. Applications are processed in the order received and staff are working on the 10/30/2020 payment date as of this meeting.
- Top Renewal Issues:
 - Renewal form is missing.
 - Renewal form is not signed.
 - Continuing education records are missing.
 - Proof of financial responsibility is missing (business renewals).
 - Incorrect payment amount is enclosed.
- Renewals Are Easy:
 - Clear instructions are available.
 - Applicants who belong to a third-party organization that tracks CE hours can include the report from that organization. Everyone else is encouraged to include copies of their CE completion certificates.
 - Applicants should make sure to include the correct payment with their renewal as we cannot accept payments over the phone or online.
 - Although we relocated in June to a new building, our mailing address remains the same.

VI. DPR's New Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Branch – Aimee Norman, IPM Branch Chief

- The [California Food and Agricultural Code](#) mandates the development of integrated pest management (IPM) strategies.
- In 2020, DPR leadership agreed to reorganize and create a branch focused on IPM. The new Integrated Pest Management Branch is divided between the Urban Pest Management Program (School IPM, Child Care IPM, and Community IPM) and the Agricultural Pest Management Program (Research and Alliance Grants, Endangered Species, and Pesticide Use Reporting).
- The Urban Pest Management Program's current projects are:
 - 2020 Annual IPM Achievement Awards
 - Targeted outreach to schools and child cares
 - Virtual outreach platforms
- The Agricultural Pest Management Program's current projects are:
 - Awarding and managing Research and Alliance Grants
 - Analyzing pesticide use reporting data
 - Conducting outreach about endangered species
- Future projects for the IPM Branch will include additional dialogue with stakeholders, finding and building new partnerships, and growing the work of integrated pest management.

VII. UC IPM Update – Katrina Hunter, UC IPM Program

- Staffing updates:
 - The Pest Management Guidelines Coordinator position is currently in recruitment.
 - UC ANR is currently in a hiring freeze so they will be selectively recruiting for positions.
- Outreach:
 - Online trainings are available on the UC IPM Web site, including a new course funded by a DPR Pest Management Alliance grant “Air Blast Sprayer Application” and a new course on citrus thrips. Both have continuing education hours.
 - “UC Ag Experts Talk About...” webinars are available monthly. Today December 9 from 3-4 pm, Surrendra Dara (extension advisor in San Luis Obispo and Ventura counties) is giving a talk: “Synergistic or Antagonism? Integrating Crop Biologics into IPM.” Recordings of previous Webinars are on the [UC IPM YouTube channel](#).
 - Pest Management Guidelines (PMGs) are made mobile friendly as each one is updated. General content of the PMGs will not change.
- Pesticide Safety Education Program (PSEP)

- PSEP is currently revising the Soil Fumigation Study Guide (Category O) – currently called Field Fumigation. The peer review is being finalized and a final draft will be submitted to DPR soon.
- PSEP will convene a subject matter expert committee to help update the Category A (Residential, Industrial, Institutional) study guide.
- A “Pesticide Safety” Webinar series started in May. Two to four webinars a month provide laws and regulations CE hours. The Webinars are recorded and can be found on the UC IPM YouTube Channel on the [Pesticide Safety Playlists](#).
- Urban and Community IPM Program:
 - The Urban Program worked with StopPests.org in October to deliver a total of 3.5 hours of Center for Disease Control (CDC) required training for public housing staff on bed bugs, cockroaches, rodents, ants, and spiders.
 - The first “Pest Insight” Webinar was held on September 22, 2020. The target audience is pest management professionals. Planning for the next Webinar in the series is underway.
 - Maintenance Gardener pest control online CE training for San Luis Obispo County is currently taking place in English and Spanish from November 30-December 17. Topics covered are IPM and diagnosing pests in the landscape, safe use of pesticides in the landscape, IPM for weeds, and safe use of herbicides. The training targets those who hold a DPR category Q certificate. UC IPM collaborated with the SLO County Ag Commissioner. Six hours of CE are offered. UC IPM is looking into making the training available statewide.
 - Training UC Master Gardeners on pests and pesticides continued via Zoom.
 - Karey Windbiel-Rojas gave several presentations to professional associations (e.g. PAPA, CAPCA, and others) on recent research trials on organic herbicides and reduced risk pesticides as glyphosate alternatives in landscapes.
 - Webinars coming soon will focus on pests in and around the home and landscape. Target audiences will be residents, Master Gardeners, retail nurseries, and licensed urban pest management professionals.
 - “Green Bulletin” is a seasonal newsletter for landscape and structural pest management professionals. Recent noteworthy articles include “California Places Further Restrictions on Rodenticides” ([Fall 2020 Green Bulletin](#)), “Navigating the PPE Shortage During COVID-19,” and “Adding Disinfection Services for Customers” ([Spring 2020 Green Bulletin](#)).

VIII. Meeting the Demand for School Disinfectant Needs Through Outreach and Resources – Christina Wilkinson, IPM Branch

- DPR's School & Child Care IPM Program promotes the adoption of integrated pest management in schools and child care centers and provides support for Healthy Schools Act (HSA) compliance.
- The Healthy Schools Act (passed in 2000 and amended since then) defines requirements for school and child care center staff, pest management professionals, and DPR when pesticides are used in schools and child care centers. (Family/home day care is not included.)
- School disinfectant issues of concern include:
 - Disinfectants are often used incorrectly.
 - Children are especially vulnerable.
 - DPR's Pesticide Illness Surveillance Program (PISP) reports that nearly half of all reported non-agricultural pesticide injuries involve disinfectants and sanitizers.
- In response to antimicrobial illness/injury data and stakeholder feedback, DPR created the HSA training course "Integrated Germ Management" in 2018. In 2018 and 2019 [antimicrobial fact sheets](#) were created by DPR and made publically available.
- In response to an increase in stakeholder questions, DPR coordinated with the Governor's Office to release a "[Reminders for Using Disinfectants at Schools and Child Cares](#)" fact sheet in March 2020.
- In March 2020, there was a noticeable jump in the number of users completing DPR HSA online courses.
- In June 2020, DPR's school and childcare workshops went virtual, increasing the number of participants compared with the previous in-person workshops.
- This year, in cooperation with the University of San Francisco School Of Nursing and the California Childcare Health Program, DPR's School and Childcare IPM Program created antimicrobial outreach posters in English, Spanish, and Chinese. DPR emailed the posters to all available childcare addresses.
- On August 26, DPR presented a "Virtual Brown Bag Seminar" entitled "Maintaining School Sites with IPM in 2020."

IX. Pesticide Illness Surveillance Program (PISP) Report – Michel Oriel, Worker Health and Safety Branch

- The Pesticide Illness Surveillance Program (PISP) derives its authority from the California Health and Safety Code and Title 17 of the California Code of Regulations that requires California physicians to report any suspected case of

pesticide-related illness or injury to the local health officer within 24 hours of examining the patient. Pesticide illness in California is a reportable condition just like smallpox or measles.

- PISP is a passive surveillance program in that data is limited to what it receives. PISP receives reports, then investigates, extracts, and analyzes data from the reports.
- PISP is a model for other United States pesticide programs. It is the oldest, largest, and most comprehensive program in the US and is the only one housed in a regulatory agency. PISP works with all County Agricultural Commissioners.
- The sources of illness reports for PISP are:
 - Pesticide Incident Reports, which come from local health officers through the California Reportable Disease Information Exchange, and the California Poison Control System.
 - Doctor's First Report of Occupational Illness or Injury.
 - Complaints received by the County Agricultural Commissioners.
- PISP extracts relevant information from investigative reports and weighs both physical and medical evidence to determine causal relationship.
- PISP releases an [annual report](#) with a summary of pesticide illnesses and tables and figures summarizing data about agricultural vs. non-agricultural exposures, mechanisms of exposure, and county of occurrence. The current report is for 2017..
- The [California Pesticide Illness Query \(CalPIQ\)](#) retrieves the most frequently requested information from the PISP database and is available to the public on the DPR Web site.

X. Next Agenda – Dates and Topics

Date of next meeting: March 10, 2021 (It is likely that the March 2021 APCAC meeting will also be online.)

Time: 10:00 am -12:00 pm

Possible topics may include:

- Status of antimicrobials
- Renewal season 2020 summary
- Chlorpyrifos update

Please direct questions to Laurie Brajkovich at 916-603-7796 or Laurie.Brajkovich@cdpr.ca.gov