OKLAHOMA COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE

PESTICIDE REPORTS

Division of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources • Oklahoma State University
http://pested.okstate.edu

February, 2012 CHEM

OSU PSEP TEST HELP SESSION

The OSU Pesticide Safety Education Program will its next test help session February 6th in Oklahoma City. The meetings will be held at the Oklahoma County Extension Center at 930 N Portland.

This testing session will focus on information covered in the core/service tech test. OSU PSEP will also answer any questions over other category tests during this session.

Cost of registration is $30 if received by February 1st. Registration will increase to $50 after by February 1st or on site (if space available). **ODAFF Testing fees are not included in the registration fee and must be paid separately**. Register online at the Pesticide Safety Education Program (PSEP) website at http://pested.okstate.edu/practical.htm. Registration forms can also be downloaded from the website. More dates have been scheduled for Oklahoma City and Tulsa for 2012 please check the website or watch the newsletter for future dates. The next test help will be April 12th in Oklahoma City at the Oklahoma County Extension Center.

Registration will start at 8:45 and the program will run from 9:00 am to 12:30 pm. Testing will begin at 1:30 pm.

NO CEU's will be given for this program!

FUMIGATION PRATICAL

The first Fumigation Practical for 2012 has been scheduled for March 27th in Stillwater. Registration is now open for this practical. Please plan accordingly the next and last Fumigation Practical will be held September 25th. Registration is $200 and registration information can be found at http://pested.okstate.edu/practical.htm. (PSEP)

GENETICALLY ENGINEERED BOURBON?!

More than 80% of the non-organic products in our pantries include genetically engineered (GE) ingredients. Turns out, that even includes bourbon.

As Grist reported last week, GE corn — also known as genetically modified, or GMO — has made its way into our liquor cabinets: "Bourbon gives us an interesting window into GMO grain because the spirit must by definition be made with at least 51 percent corn." Since about 85% of the corn in the U.S. is grown from genetically engineered seed, most bourbon is now made from GE corn.

Two companies — Wild Turkey and Four Roses — have bucked the trend and continue to produce GE-free bourbon. Four Roses steers clear of genetically engineered corn primarily to appease its international markets, where 90% of the company's product is shipped.

But Wild Turkey's reasons are entirely different. According to Grist, Master Distiller Jimmy Russell explains his company's policy like this:

The whiskey distilled today will not become a bottled product for another four to 15 years. If a GMO grain is discovered to have an issue five years from now, or if the government decides any GMO products must be labeled as such, then the distillery would be in quite a bind with all that aging product now affected. The premium they pay for non-GMO grain is considered insurance against any possible issues later.

Just as the FDA does not require genetically engineered food to be labeled, GE products in alchoholic beverages are not regulated either. You just never know what you're drinking.(Jan 26 2012 Pesticide Action Network http://www.panna.org/blog/genetically-engineered-bourbon-no-joke)

COURT: FIPRONIL INSECTICIDES DON'T INFRINGE BASF, BAYER PATENTS

The U.S. District Court for the Middle District of North Carolina has ruled in favor of the Makhteshim Agan Group (MAI) regarding litigation initiated by BASF Agro BV and Bayer SAS in April 2010. The Court granted a motion for summary judgment, and found that Makhteshim Agan North America's (MANA) and Control Solution Inc.'s (CSI) fipronil insecticide product would not infringe the patents remaining in litigation (U.S. Patent Nos. 6,414,010 and 6,825,743).

In June 2011, MAI's affiliate CSI launched sales of fipronil-based products under the brand names Taurus for the professional pest control market and Prefurred for companion animal use. MAI's Taurus is the first major generic version of fipronil, a widely used broad spectrum insecticide, to become available in the U.S.

Shaul Friedland, Head of MAI's Americas region said: "The addition of fipronil to our product portfolio has strengthened our position as a comprehensive provider of simple effective crop protection and related solutions, and has further broadened our capabilities to supply more solutions to our customers. In creating Taurus, MAI has taken advantage of novel, advanced technologies to design a new manufacturing process these capabilities will continue to support our portfolio expansion. We plan to launch new fipronil-based products to other markets."

Mark Boyd, President and CEO of CSI, added "We are delighted that the North Carolina Court has ruled in our favor, confirming that our products do not impinge on the patents of any of our competitors. We are proud to lead the industry by offering simple, effective solutions for all uses and pleased with the market reception so far." (Crop Life January 11, 2012 http://www.croplife.com/article/24661/court-fipronil-insecticides-don-t-infringe-basf-bayer-patents)

U.S. DETAINS ORANGE JUICE IMPORTS AFTER FINDING FUNGICIDE

Health regulators detained nine shipments of orange juice from Brazil and Canada that contained traces of an illegal fungicide, and rejected industry calls to overhaul the way they test for the banned substance.

The Food and Drug Administration said carbendazim would remain illegal for citrus in any amount in the United States. Brazil and U.S. industry groups asked the FDA to reconsider its stance on the fungicide, widely used in Brazil to combat blight blossom and black spot, a type of mold that grows on orange trees.

The FDA started testing for the fungicide on January 4, after an alert from Coca-Cola, roiling orange juice futures to record highs as traders feared a prolonged disruption to supply.

Orange juice futures jumped almost 3 percent on Friday after the FDA announcement.

Traders also fretted that the fungicide testing would further dent demand if it translated into higher prices for consumers, or sparked fears of a health risk.

Brazilian orange juice makes up about half of all U.S. imports, and meets more than a tenth of domestic demand.

The U.S. Juice Products Association and Brazil's CitrusBR urged the FDA to raise the amount of the fungicide, carbendazim, it will allow into the country by raising the legal limit for frozen concentrated juice.

"If this were considered, the whole problem would have been already resolved," CitrusBR's Christian Lohbauer told reporters on Friday.

These were the first public efforts by the two countries' industries to persuade the FDA to restore juice imports into the United States since testing began almost a month ago.

Frozen juice exception

The industry groups called on the FDA to differentiate between ready-to-drink juice and frozen concentrate.

Since the concentrate is diluted before drinking, the level could be close to 60 parts per billion (ppb) without exceeding the FDA's legal limit for drinkable juice, industry groups said.

The FDA said any imports with detectable levels of fungicide, which means above 10 ppb, would not be allowed in the country.

The European Union allows 200 ppb, and the FDA has said any level of fungicide below 80 ppb poses no health risk. The agency did not recall any juice already on store shelves in the United States.

Ready-to-drink juice, which makes up about 65 percent of Brazil's juice shipments to the United States, does not seem to have a problem with traces of the fungicide.

Only frozen juice spikes above the limit because it is in concentrate form and would be diluted for drinking, Lohbauer said.

"The agency is using this lower maximum level ... because the letter of the law requires the agency to do so," the U.S. Juice Products Association said in a statement, and said a higher tolerance level would be the logical choice to protect consumers.

But the FDA did not budge on its testing policies.

"We've stated before that we would test imports on an 'as is' basis, and that's still our policy," FDA spokeswoman Siobhan DeLancey said in an email.

Brazil juice imports will continue to falter unless the FDA raises its tolerance level for fungicide, or Brazilian growers find an alternative way to keep trees free from mold, growers said. However, U.S. consumers still have plenty of juice to drink for now because of a large crop this season, analysts said.

The Brazilian juice industry said it would study alternatives if the United States continues to reject its juice shipments.

Positive results

The industry's pressure on the FDA came after the agency announced on Friday that it had blocked three shipments of Brazilian orange juice and six from Canada that tested positive for carbendazim.

Canada, which makes up less than 1 percent of U.S. imports, does not grow its own oranges, and traders assumed the Canadian juice was grown in Brazil. The South American country often ships juice to Toronto, to get it to consumers in Chicago.

Of the six shipments detained from Canada, none had levels of fungicide higher than 31 ppb, and most were below 20 ppb. The Brazilian shipments that tested positive had carbendazim levels between 20 ppb and 52 ppb.

Two other Brazilian concentrate shipments tested positive for the fungicide, but the companies decided not to import the juice into the country, the FDA said.

The FDA said 29 of the 80 orange juice samples it had taken since testing began on January 4 had no traces of carbendazim, including two from Brazil and seven from Canada. Importers will have 90 days to export or destroy the product, the agency said.

The FDA said it would test all shipments twice, and detain any that tested positive for carbendazim at least once.

In the United States, trace amounts of the fungicide are still allowed in 31 food types including grains, nuts and some non-citrus fruits. The fungicide had been allowed for citrus until 2009 as a temporary measure, regulators said.

(Fox News Jan. 30, 12 (Reuters) http://www.foxnews.com/health/2012/01/30/us-detains-orange-juice-imports-after-finding-fungicide/#ixzz1kxmwqcJX)

STUDY: ATRAZINE BOOSTS U.S. CORN YIELDS SUBSTANTIALLY

A recent study by David C. Bridges, Ph.D., agronomist and president of Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College in Tifton, GA, shows atrazine increases U.S. corn crop yields by about 7 bushels per acre, or more than 600 million bushels per year. In sorghum crops, yields rise by more than 13 bushels per acre with atrazine.

Bridges will present the findings from his paper, "A biological analysis of the use and benefits of chloro-s-triazine herbicides in U.S. corn and sorghum production," Jan. 25, 2012, at the 2012 Southern Weed Science Society Annual Meeting in Charleston, SC.

The study's other key findings include:

- Atrazine benefits field corn farmers up to $2.9 billion annually.
- Atrazine provides irreplaceable benefits to farmers of field corn, sweet corn and grain sorghum, including application flexibility, crop tolerance, weed control and tillage compatibility.

"I've spent my life in agriculture, and not just on the academic side of things. I grew up on a farm in Georgia and know first-hand about the never-ending labor and constant insecurity that accompany farming," said Bridges. "As the price of corn rises, the economic benefits of atrazine become even more pronounced, and it becomes even more important to keeping American farmers competitive. The importance of triazine herbicides to U.S. agriculture cannot be matched. There is simply no other comparable product that offers as many benefits."

Though atrazine was introduced more than 50 years ago, its importance, along with simazine and propazine, cannot be overstated. In addition to managing weeds, atrazine and its sister triazines are critical to support conservation tillage and no-till practices, which improve soil conservation in row crop production.

Prior to becoming president of Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College in 2006, Bridges served as a faculty member and administrator at the University of Georgia. He holds a bachelor's degree in agronomy and soils and master's degree in weed science from Auburn University. He earned a doctorate in weed science from Texas A&M University. Much of Bridges' career has been devoted to enumerating the use and benefits associated with pest management and crop protection products.

Syngenta, the principal registrant for atrazine, provided resources and support for Bridges' research. His paper is part of a broad assessment by Syngenta to examine the value of atrazine in today's agricultural economy.

(Crop Life January 20, 2012 http://www.croplife.com/article/24743/study-atrazine-boosts-u-s-corn-yields-substantially)

MYTHS ABOUND IN PERCEPTIONS OF PESTICIDES, DISCUSSION OF BENEFITS ABSENT, SAYS POSITION PAPER

Much discussion of pesticides is based on myth and often ignores the benefits of pesticide use, such as ensuring an adequate food supply and protecting human health, says a paper from the American Council on Science and Health.

The council, a nonprofit educational research institute funded partly by industry, published the position paper, "Pesticides & Health: Myths vs. Realities," (*http://www.acsh.org/publications/pubID.1962/pub_detail.asp*) in November.

The paper is authored by Allan S. Felsot, a professor of entomology and environmental toxicology from Washington State University. On Jan. 17, Felsot spoke about the paper at the ACSH office in Washington, D.C., and later gave a briefing to congressional staffers on Capitol Hill.

The report analyzes what it says are myths about pesticides — such as the belief that pesticides offer no benefit to public health, that pesticide exposure results in adverse health effects, and that pesticides are not needed for farming — and "corrects each with a realistic perspective of the technology." The report also makes the case for the benefits of using pesticides.

Pesticide technology and the way chemicals are applied, the paper says, have changed since the widespread agricultural use of DDT decades ago led to a backlash. Newer pesticides, the paper says, "are used at comparatively low rates compared to the chemicals they are replacing," and today's reduced-risk pesticides are "in many cases tens to hundreds of times less toxic to fish, birds, and non-target predators and parasitoids than chemicals that were introduced to farmers between the 1950s and 1970s."

The paper goes through case studies of atrazine, chlorpyrifos, pyrethroid insecticides and glyphosate, explaining that reports of hazards do not reflect the actual risks.

Myths surrounding pesticide use persist for many reasons. Misleading headlines written to attract readers are often a major problem, Felsot tells *Pesticide & Chemical Policy*, as is media coverage of basic research that is taken out of context. EPA's risk assessment reports and regulatory toxicology research papers are far more accurate to the risks, the paper says, but "are not very interesting to a society hooked on the adrenaline rush of a disaster movie."

Felsot tells *P&CP* that he finds EPA's regulations have been "pretty reasonable" and a good example of how to implement the precautionary principle, though he says EPA could make its ecological risk

assessments “less probabilistic and more deterministic.”

As a critique, Felsot says the pesticide industry could do a better job of sharing information about the ingredients in pesticides. By keeping data about what is in certain pesticides secret, Felsot says the pesticide industry may be making things more difficult.

“When you don’t talk about it, it looks like you’re hiding something,” Felsot says.

Paul Towers, a spokesman for Pesticide Action Network North America, says the arguments presented in the paper are “not surprising” and “more of the same from people who have attempted to obscure and confuse the science of DDT, asbestos and plastics.”

PANNA does recognize that “not all pesticides are created equal,” but Towers says it’s difficult to know whether the newer pesticides being used today are, in fact, safer.

“Each new wave of pesticides that is touted as the next safest wave, we find out many decades later what the true impacts are,” Towers says.

(Pesticide & Chemical Policy, January 20 2012, Volume: 40 Issue: 06)

(Pesticide & Chemical Policy, December 9 2011, Volume: 40 Issue: 01)

In-State CEU Meetings

Date: February 1, 2012
Title: Target Specialty Products
Bed Bug 101 Seminar
Location: Oklahoma City
Contact: Sylvia Kenmuir 1-800-352-3870 ext 125
Course #:

CEU's:	Category(s):
3	7A
3	10

Date: March 7, 2012
Title: OKVMA
Location: Magnuson (Formerly the Clarion) Convention Center Oklahoma City
Contact: Kathy Markham (918)-256-9302
Course #:

CEU's:	Category(s):
4	6
4	10
1	Aerial
1	5
1	8

ODAFF Approved Online CEU Course Links

Wood Destroying Organism Inspection Course
www.nachi.org/wdocourse.htm

CTN Educational Services Inc
http://www.ctnedu.com/oklahoma_applicator.html

Pest Network
http://www.pestnetwork.com/

Univar USA
http://www.pestweb.com/

Southwest Farm Press Spray Drift Mgmt
http://www.pentonag.com/nationalsdm

SW Farm Press Weed Resistance Mgmt in Cotton
http://www.pentonag.com/CottonWRM

Western Farm Press ABC's of MRLs
http://www.pentonag.com/mrl

Western Farm Press Biopesticides Effective Use in Pest Management Programs
http://www.pentonag.com/biopesticides

Western Farm Press Principles & Efficient Chemigation
http://www.pentonag.com/Valmont

For more information and an updated list of CEU meetings, click on this link:
http://www.state.ok.us/~okag/cps-ceuhome.htm

ODAFF Test Information

Pesticide applicator test sessions dates and locations for February/March 2012 are as follows:

February		March	
8	Lawton	5	McAlester
9	Tulsa	6	Goodwell
13	OKC	7	Hobart
16	Enid	8	Tulsa
23	Tulsa	14	OKC
27	OKC	22	Tulsa
		26	OKC

Altus: Western OK State College
2801 N Main, Room A23

Enid: Garfield County Extension Office,
316 E. Oxford.

Goodwell: Okla. Panhandle Research &
Extension Center, Rt. 1 Box 86M

Hobart: Kiowa County Extension Center
Courthouse Annex, 302 N. Lincoln

Lawton: Great Plains Coliseum, Annex Rm.
920 S. Sheridan Road.

McAlester: Kiamichi Tech Center on
Highway 270 W of HWY 69

OKC: Oklahoma County Extension Office,
930 N. Portland.

Tulsa: NE Campus of Tulsa Community
College, (Apache & Harvard)
Large Auditorium

Pesticide Safety Education Program

PESTICIDE APPLICATOR TEST SESSIONS
JANUARY 2012 - DECEMBER 2012

All 23 exams will be available at each session. **PLEASE MAKE SURE** you know in advance which specific exam(s) you need to take (e.g. Service Tech, Ornamental & Turf, Core, Right-of-way, General Pest, etc.).

RESERVATIONS ARE NOT REQUIRED FOR THESE TEST SESSIONS; they are all open to anyone wishing to test for certification. Tests are **$50.00 each**; please bring check, money order, credit card, or the exact amount of cash needed for testing, along with a form of photo ID. There is no fee for government employees in the discharge of their official duties.

Unless otherwise noted, sessions are located as follows:

ALTUS	**WESTERN OK STATE COLLEGE** 2801 N Main Street, Multipurpose Rm, Section A
ENID	**GARFIELD CO. EXT OFFICE** 316 E Oxford
GOODWELL	**OKLA PANHANDLE RESEARCH & EXT CENTER** Rt 1 Box 86M
HOBART	**KIOWA CO. FAIRGROUNDS** 302 N. Lincoln
LAWTON	**GREAT PLAINS COLISEUM** Prairie Bldg 920 S Sheridan Rd
MCALESTER	**KIAMICHI TECH CENTER** on Hwy 270 W of Hwy 69
OKC	**OKLA CO. EXT** 930 N. Portland, Auditorium- **Park on North side & enter North door**
TULSA	**NE CAMPUS OF TCC** 3727 E. Apache (Apache & Harvard) Large Auditorium

If you have any questions, please call (405) 522-5950 or email eva.landeros@ag.ok.gov

Testing will begin at 9:00 am. NO NEW APPLICANTS WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER 11 AM

ALL TEST MUST BE COMPLETED BY 1 PM

JANUARY	
9	MCALESTER
9	OKC
12	TULSA
26	TULSA
30	OKC

FEBRUARY	
8	LAWTON
9	TULSA
13	OKC
16	ENID
23	TULSA
27	OKC

MARCH	
5	MCALESTER
6	GOODWELL
7	HOBART
8	TULSA
14	OKC
22	TULSA
26	OKC

APRIL	
9	OKC
11	LAWTON
12	TULSA
23	OKC
26	TULSA

MAY	
3	ENID
7	OKC
10	TULSA
22	OKC
24	TULSA

JUNE	
5	GOODWELL
7	OKC
14	TULSA
25	OKC
28	TULSA

JULY	
12	TULSA
23	OKC
26	TULSA

AUGUST	
6	OKC
9	TULSA
16	ENID
20	OKC
23	TULSA

SEPTEMBER	
5	ALTUS
10	OKC
13	TULSA
24	OKC
27	TULSA

OCTOBER	
8	OKC
11	TULSA
15	MCALESTER
22	OKC
24	ALTUS
25	TULSA

NOVEMBER	
1	TULSA
5	OKC
5	MCALESTER
6	GOODWELL
7	HOBART
15	TULSA
19	OKC

DECEMBER	
3	OKC
4	GOODWELL
5	LAWTON
6	TULSA
13	ENID
17	MCALESTER
17	OKC
20	TULSA