



Agricultural Pest Control Advisory Committee

Meeting Summary

June 12, 2019

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

CalEPA Building, Training Room East and West, First Floor

Members Present (7): Ronald Berg–Pesticide Dealers, Lisa Blecker–University of California, Glen Foth–Commercial Applicators, Dan Gudgel–Pest Control Aircraft Pilots, Michael Huffman–Agricultural Pest Control Advisers (Alternate), Matt Scally–Pest Control Maintenance Gardeners, Wayne Steel–Pesticide Registrants

Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR) Staff (5): Joseph Damiano–Pest Management and Licensing (PML) Branch Chief, Laurie Brajkovich–Environmental Program Manager, Leslie Talpasanu–Senior Environmental Scientist (Supervisory), Sarah Benedict–Staff Services Manager, Rebecca Olson–Staff Services Analyst

Guests (9): Joyce Basan–California Association of Pest Control Advisers (CAPCA), Ken Everett–DPR Enforcement, Terry Gage–California Agricultural Aircraft Association (CAAA), Leilani Hansen–DPR Registration, Alejandro Merchan–DPR Pest Management and Licensing, Ben Sacher–Syngenta, Robert Sisson–PestScope, Laurel Schmalz–DPR Registration, Dave Tamayo–County of Sacramento Municipal Services Agency

Members Absent (5): John Erisey–Agricultural Pest Control Advisers, Jeanette Heinrichs–General Public, Phil Mullins–Agricultural Pest Control Businesses, Kenneth Oneto–Producers, Timothy Smith–Board of Governors of the California Community College System

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

- Housekeeping
- Introductions
- APCAC has two open positions: California Agricultural Commissioners and Sealers Association (recently vacated by Juli Jensen) and Board of Trustees of the California State University System (recently vacated by John Bushoven). Margaret Ellis has been nominated for APCAC’s Board of Trustees position; her nomination is being routed for Director approval.
- Approval of March 13, 2019 Meeting Minutes. Minutes approved.

II. DPR Update — Joseph Damiano, DPR-PML

- Val Dolcini is now Acting Director of DPR. Teresa Marks (previous Acting Director) has retired.
- Integrated Pest Management Achievement Awards nominations are open until June 30. DPR encourages nominations for any group/individual doing good IPM work.
- The 2017 Statewide Pesticide Use Report was released yesterday. The report is 900 pages in length; DPR also created a six-page document with highlights from the report.

III. Licensing Update — Sarah Benedict, DPR-PML

- 2019 Renewal Packets
 - DPR mailed renewal packets to individuals who may have completed their continuing education (CE) early and to those who do not require CE, such as license/certificate holders whose licenses were issued this year, Brokers, and Dealer Designated Agents.
 - DPR will mail all remaining individual renewal packets in late July with an expected delivery date of August 1.
 - Business renewal packets will be mailed in late August.
 - DPR encourages packets be returned to DPR by November 1 in order to guarantee renewal by December 31, or return by October 1 in order to have your new card and register with the County Ag Commissioner before the new year.
- 2019 Renewal Season Listserv E-mail Outreach
 - March 25 – PML sent a reminder that a roadshow course can only be taken once for credit.
 - May 6 – This e-mail asked licensees to notify DPR of changes of address before renewal packets are mailed in July.
 - May 28 – This e-mail provided links to DPR's updated renewal process presentation and to a list of the top 10 pesticide use violations of 2018.
https://www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/license/license_renewal_ppt.pdf
https://www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/license/cont_ed/2018_code_violations_ppt_05_2018.pdf
- DPR has proctored 4,965 exams so far in 2019.
- 1,116 new individual licenses/certificates have been issued in 2019:
 - 21 Apprentice Pest Control Aircraft Pilot Certificates (APC)
 - 7 Journeyman Pest Control Aircraft Pilot Certificates (JPC)
 - 37 Dealer Designated Agent Licenses
 - 104 Agricultural Pest Control Adviser Licenses
 - 420 Qualified Applicator Certificates
 - 527 Qualified Applicator Licenses
- Licensing staff continued to conduct presentations on renewal and licensing information during the last quarter at large CE courses such as Pesticide Applicators Professional Association and at local County Ag Commissioner offices.

- Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS)
 - The application for UAS Pest Control Aircraft Pilot Certificates will be available on the DPR Web site July 1. Licensing staff will be holding a special exam in the Cal EPA building on August 15 to accommodate the influx of UAS Pest Control Aircraft Pilot applicants.
 - The UAS Pest Control Aircraft Pilot Certificate will be available as an APC, JPC, and Vector Control Technician.
 - To apply for the UAS APC exam, the applicant must submit proof of FAA approval for the individual to use the UAS device for pest control, proof of FAA approval to use the UAS for pest control, and the applicable fees.
 - To apply for the UAS JPC exam, applicants must hold the UAS APC for at least one year and submit the same documentation required for the UAS APC, a statement of supervision attesting to 150 hours of supervision in a fixed wing aircraft or 50 hours of supervision in a non-fixed wing aircraft, and the applicable fee.
 - To apply for the Vector Control Technician exam, applicants must take and pass a Vector Control Technician exam in category B with the Department of Health prior to applying for a Vector Control UAS certificate with DPR. They must also submit proof of FAA approval for the individual to pilot UAS for pest control, proof of FAA approval to use the UAS for pest control, and the applicable fees.

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

- Staffing Updates – A new Western IPM Center Director (USDA-funded) starts July 22. UC IPM is actively recruiting the North Coast IPM position (entomology), and an IPM programmer starts July 2. The Weed Science staff is dwindling, but because of budgetary issues, positions will probably not be filled.
- “Pest Management Guidelines (PMGs)” Updates
 - A new PMG “Relative Toxicities and Miticides Used in Onion and Garlic to Natural Enemies and Honey Bees” is posted on the UC IPM Web site.
<https://www2.ipm.ucanr.edu/agriculture/onion-and-garlic/>
- Pesticide Safety Education Program (PSEP)
 - “Pesticide Safety: A Reference Manual for Private Applicators”, which is under contract with DPR, is in final revisions.
 - Work is beginning on a field (soil) fumigation manual, which is also under contract with DPR.
 - Upcoming Pest Notes: “Soil Solarization for Gardens and Landscape,” “Glassy Winged Sharpshooters,” and “Palm Diseases.”
<http://ipm.ucanr.edu/PMG/PESTNOTES/pn74145.html>
<http://ipm.ucanr.edu/PMG/PESTNOTES/pn7492.html>
 - Twelve more Pest Notes are being translated into Spanish and will be added to the list of those already available.
<http://ipm.ucanr.edu/QT/qtindexsp.html>

- The Spring 2019 Retail Nursery & Garden Center newsletter is now posted. <http://ipm.ucanr.edu/RETAIL/retail-newsletter.html>
- The Summer 2019 Green Bulletin is posted. A DPR article requesting feedback about the Healthy Schools Act is included. <http://ipm.ucanr.edu/greenbulletin/index.html>

V. Federal Label Changes to Paraquat Products – Ben Sacher, Syngenta

- Current risk mitigation measures for paraquat are:
 - Label changes for paraquat products will include: new packaging highlighting paraquat toxicity, a statement restricting the use of all paraquat products to certified applicators only, and U.S. EPA-approved paraquat training course.
 - Supplemental warning materials will be included in English, Spanish, and pictogram format and will include product package safety requirements such as stickers, counter cards with warning information, and a cap sticker with warnings.
 - Targeted training materials for paraquat users are now available, including a U.S. EPA-approved training course.
 - The training is available at: <https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-worker-safety/paraquat-dichloride-training-certified-applicators>
 - Only certified applicators who have completed the training will be able to legally use paraquat, and the training must be completed every three years.
 - The second phase of risk mitigation measures will include closed-system packaging for all non-bulk (< 120-gallon) end-use product containers is required.
 - A discussion was held regarding the appropriate category for those who mix and load aircraft only and do not apply pesticides. Ken Everett of DPR Enforcement clarified that mixers and loaders must have the category appropriate for the setting in which the product will be applied.

VI. Endangered Species Program Update – Polo Moreno, DPR PML Branch

- Pesticide use injunctions for salmonids, the California Red-legged frog, and eleven species in eight San Francisco bay counties are still in place. The injunctions are enforceable by citizen lawsuit.
- DPR's Endangered Species Program produced videos to promote development of local plans and use of the PRESCRIBE database. The videos will be available at the end of June.
- The California Fish and Wildlife Commission, in response to a petition from the Xerces Society, is considering listing four bumblebee species as endangered under the California Endangered Species Act. If the Commission determines this month that the petitioned action may be warranted, then the California Department of Fish and Wildlife will initiate status reviews for all four species.

- In response to public comments on previous biological evaluations, the U.S. EPA has produced a draft “Proposed Revised Method for National Level Endangered Species Risk Assessment Process for Biological Evaluations of Pesticides.”
<https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2019-05/documents/epa-revised-interim-esa-methodology.pdf>

VII. Next Agenda - Date and Topics - Laurie Brajkovich, DPR PML Branch

Date of next meeting: Sept 11, 2019

Time: 10:00 am -12:00 pm

Location: Training Room East and West, First Floor

Possible topics may include:

- Cannabis Program update
- Chlorpyrifos update
- DPR Director update
- BeeWhere Beekeeper registration update

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