

150th Meeting of the Indiana Pesticide Review Board: Office of Indiana State Chemist

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STATE CHEMIST & SEED COMMISSIONER

OFFICE OF INDIANA STATE CHEMIST & SEED COMMISSIONER

History and Backdrop

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Harvey W. Wiley, First Indiana State Chemist

1867 - Graduated Hanover College

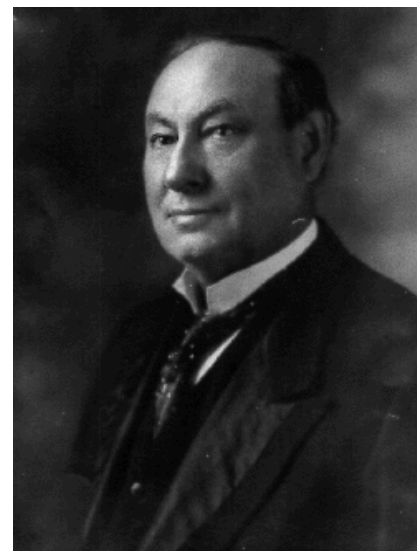
1871- Medical Doctor degree IU

1872? – Chemistry degree Harvard University

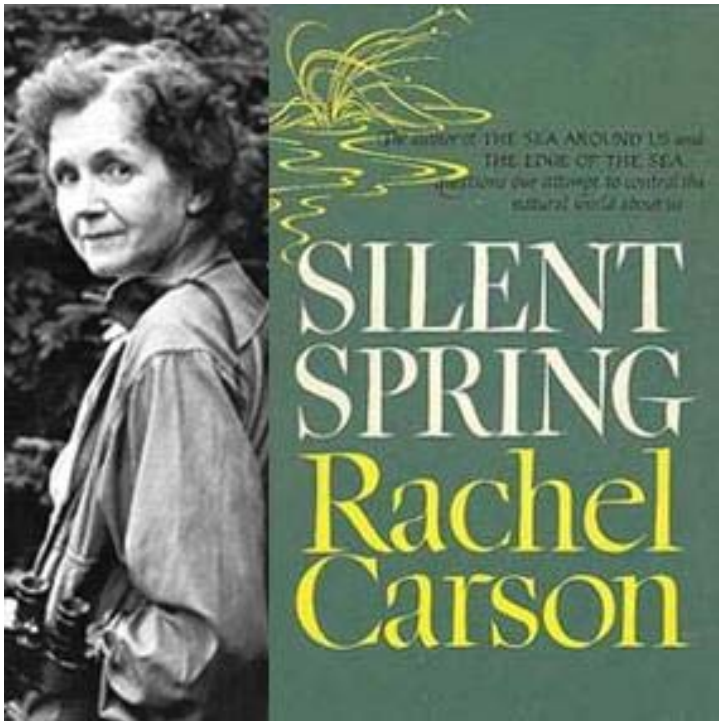
1874-1883 – Purdue University, Agricultural Chemistry Professor

1906 – Pure Food and Drug Act, first Commissioner of FDA

Note: There have been 13 appointed state chemists, and one interim, Dr. Rodney Noel.



Rachel Carson and “Silent Spring” - not so silent



Popular science author

Acknowledged Gene Stratton Porter as an early influence on her interest in science.

1962 book “Silent Spring” hailed as the energizing source of US environmentalism movement.

Impetus to EPA, and pesticide training

Backdrop - The Times

Rachel Carson's book *Silent Spring* (1962), and her published studies on DDT.

Earth Day – April 22, 1970 United States Senator Gaylord Nelson (WI)

- Also home of Aldo Leopold (b1887-d1948), *Sand County Almanac* (1949), et al. Luna B. Leopold (b1915-d2006), son in UC Berkley, US Geological Survey, Hydrologist and Geomorphology,, *A View of the River*, et al. (son A. Carl Leopold (plant physiologist, soybean) was on the faculty of Purdue University 1949-1975)

Establishment of new federal agency – Environmental Protection Agency, December 2, 1970. William D. Ruckelshaus (Indianapolis) appointed first head of EPA by President Richard M. Nixon.

Establishment of IDEM, in 1986 – extracted from Indiana State Department of Health

Personal Backdrop – John V. Osmun

John Osmun (b1918-d2012)

1942 – Masters degree, University of Massachusetts, Amherst

1948 – Assistant Professor of Entomology, Purdue University

1956 – Ph.D. University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana

1956-1972 – Head of Entomology, Purdue University

1972-1974 - (on leave) Cooperative States Research Service (USDA) and director of Operations for EPA (OPP)

1975 – Led Purdue Pesticide Programs.

1987 - Retired from Purdue University



JOHN V. OSMUN

John V. Osmun: Pesticide Training and Certification

“During his career, he served on the National Task Force on Pesticide Assessment, The EPA Task Group on Applicator Certification and Training, and the planning council of the National Pest Control Association. He was also the Project Leader for the EPA Grant on pesticide Technician Training and Chairman of the Commission on Pesticide Training and Education which developed and implemented training and certification programs throughout the United States for private and commercial persons applying pesticides.” (source: Obituary, 2012)

Operations

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Fertilizers – the beginning

1881- Indiana State Chemist appointed to verify fertilizer claims

- (Harvey Wiley appointed)

1965 – Agricultural Ammonia Law

1992 – Licensing of Commercial lawn care service firms

1997 – Fertilizer Advisory Board created by law (Technical appointees, appointed by state chemist. Not a policy board.)

2000 – Anhydrous ammonia rules updated and finalized

2018? – Anhydrous ammonia rules updated to comply with national ANSI standards

Feed Regulations

1907 - Indiana Commercial Feed law – duties were originally assigned to the Director of the Agricultural Experiment Station at Purdue University.

1909 – Indiana Commercial Feed law was amended to include authority to inspect and conduct analyses

An MOU between Purdue University and the State Chemist authorized the OISC to administer the feed laws. Later, language in the law was revised (2008) to designate the State Chemist responsible for the administration of the law.

Seed Regulations

1921 – Indiana Seed Law established by Indiana legislature – mainly a truth in labeling law

19?? – Legume Inoculants –Plant Growth Substances law

1988- Indiana Seed Arbitration Law

2014 – Industrial Hemp Law added

Pesticide Regulations

1962 – Herbicide Law

1971 - Pesticide Registration Law

1975 – Pesticide Use and Application law

Organization

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OISC Overview – A snapshot

70 employees

9 Investigators (primarily pesticide investigation)

7 Inspectors (cross-trained feed, seed, fertilizer)

1 Fertilizer Control Specialist

7 Section program Administrators and service leaders (Pesticides, Feed, Seed, Fertilizer, Audit & Inspection, IT, Quality)

5 Laboratories

- Microbiology
- Pesticide Residues (EPA Region 5 Back-up laboratory)
- Pesticide Formulation (EPA Region 5 Back-up Laboratory)
- Animal Drug & Vitamins
- Feed & Fertilizer Automated Analyses

Overview – A snapshot

Pesticide Review Board, appointed by the Governor, provides certain policy and policy development for Indiana, and for OISC.

Self funded (tonnage, licenses, product registration, and federal grants)

All personnel are Purdue University employees

More than 25,000 analyses annually (all sections)

Concluding Remarks

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Indiana prequels

Gene Stratton Porter (b1863-d1924) – Indiana Author, Conservationist

- Acknowledged source of inspiration to Rachel Carson

May 6, 1869 - Purdue University established as Indiana's land grant university in West Lafayette, IN

1881 - Office of Indiana State Chemist established as part of the Agricultural Chemistry department (Biochemistry) consisting of one employee, Harvey W. Wiley

1962 - Rachel Carson "Silent Spring"

1970 - William D. Ruckleshouse appointed first EPA Commissioner by U.S. President Richard M. Nixon. (Earl Butz, former Dean of Agriculture at Purdue University served as Ag Secretary to Nixon.)

1972-74 - John Osmun on leave from Purdue University to USDA and EPA (OPP). Working for training and certification of pesticide applicators, through 1987.

Learning & Communicating



May 2017 - Newly dedicated statue to Rachel Carson, J.J. Davis, and John Osmun. Illustrates value of intergenerational science and learning. Located on the Purdue University south campus, Agricultural Administration Building. (photo by Melinda Walsh, OISC)

The End..... “is another story and shall be told another time.”

QUOTE FROM: THE CONCLUDING LINES OF “THE NEVER-ENDING STORY” BY MICHAEL ENDE