

1998

PESTICIDE PROGRAM SUMMARY REPORTS OF ACTIVITIES

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The pesticide section of the Office of Indiana State Chemist (OISC) is charged with administration of the Indiana Pesticide Registration Law (I.C. 15-3-3.5), the Indiana Pesticide Use and Application Law(I.C.15-3-3.6), and also represents the United States Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) in Indiana for the purpose of enforcing the Federal Insecticide Fungicide and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA). A full time field staff of five performs inspections at licensees, samples pesticide products and devices, and investigates complaints concerning the use or alleged misuse of pesticide products.

CERTIFICATION AND LICENSING SUMMARY

Licensed Businesses	1766
For-Hire Applicators	3978
Not-For-Hire Applicators	982
Public Applicators	749
Registered Technicians	1858
Restricted Use Dealers Registrations	574
Private Applicator Permits	16,859

The monitoring of certification, licensing, and registration of all individuals and companies that apply pesticides for-hire continued to be a priority for OISC. In 1998, there were 1766 licensed businesses and 3978 certified applicators associated with those businesses. Restricted Use Dealer Registrations were issued to 574 businesses who wished to sell restricted use pesticides and 16,859 private applicator permits were held by farmers who wished to apply restricted use pesticides for the purpose of producing agricultural commodities.

In accordance with the mandate of the Indiana Pesticide Use and Application Law to investigate incidents involving the use or alleged misuse of pesticides, 216 complaints were investigated. Complaints involving wood infesting pest inspection reports, termite control and agricultural drift again topped the list of cases investigated. As a result of these investigations, 80 enforcement letters were issued. Forty-two civil penalties were assessed in fiscal year 1998. Civil penalties collected by OISC are transferred to the Purdue University Cooperative Extension Service and must then be used for pesticide education purposes.

ENFORCEMENT SUMMARY

Complaints investigated	216
Residue Use Samples	143
Enforcement Letters Issued	80
Administrative Hearings	0
License Revocations/Suspensions	5
Criminal Actions	1
Forwarded to US EPA	2
Civil Penalties Assessed	42

The Indiana Pesticide Registration Law requires the registration of all pesticides or pesticidal devices that are used, produced, distributed, sold, displayed or offered for sale within the state of Indiana. The law defines pesticide as any substance or mixture of substances intended for preventing, destroying, repelling, or mitigating a pest or used as a plant regulator, defoliant, or desiccant. OISC maintains a complete label file for all pesticides registered in the state of Indiana.

In 1998, 13,853 pesticides were registered by manufacturers or formulators. Inspections conducted at pesticide producer establishments and in market places resulted in the collection and analysis of 194 pesticide formulation samples. Sixteen of these samples failed to meet their label guarantees or had label defects and were classified as adulterated or misbranded. During the year, it was necessary to issue 42 Stop Sale, Use or Removal Orders for misbranded or unregistered pesticides.



After a two year absence, OISC revised it's Agricultural Compliance Assistance Training (ACAT) and offered the program at two locations in Indiana. ACAT was developed to help agricultural pesticide dealers and applicators with regulatory compliance issues. The 1998 program placed greater emphasis on restricted use pesticide sales and on "site awareness" when using any pesticide. Both programs were well attended and received positive evaluations by the participants. Because demand for the program was again very high, OISC has decided to offer ACAT every two years at an increased number of locations.

Ground water protection activities continued to be a priority for OISC in FY98. Many of these activities require cooperation with state and federal agencies that administer other water related laws such as the Safe Drinking Water Act and the Wellhead Protection Program. OISC expects to submit it's final draft of the Pesticide Management Plan to US EPA and to begin baseline ground water sampling and monitoring for pesticides in FY99.