

2001

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	1922
For-Hire Applicators	4199
Not-For-Hire Applicators	975
Public Applicators	772
Registered Technicians	1405
Restricted Use Dealers Registrations	535
Private Applicator Permits	16,075

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 2001, there were 1922 licensed businesses and 4199 certified applicators associated with those businesses. Restricted Use Dealer Registrations were issued to 535 businesses who wished to sell restricted use pesticides and 16,075 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, 123 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, 86 enforcement letters were issued. Forty-seven civil penalties were assessed in fiscal year 2001. 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	123
Enforcement Letters Issued	86
Administrative Hearings	2
License Revocations/Suspensions	5
Criminal Actions	0
Forwarded to US EPA	4
Civil Penalties Assessed	47

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 2001, 13,879 pesticides were registered by manufacturers or formulators. Inspections conducted at pesticide producer establishments and in market places resulted in the collection and analysis of 214 pesticide formulation samples. Forty-three of these samples failed to meet their label guarantees or had label defects and were therefore, classified as adulterated or misbranded. During the year, it was necessary to issue 18 Stop Sale, Use or Removal Orders for misbranded or unregistered pesticides.

Other significant activities of note for 2001 included the introduction of a new recertification process for farmers, the addition of remote testing opportunities for applicator candidates, and the continuation of the pesticide container recycling program.



Historically private applicators (farmers) wishing to renew their pesticide certification after five years were required to re-examine. Under the new Private Applicator Recertification Program (PARP) introduced in 2001, farmers can now attend approved continuing education programs for credit and recertification much like the commercial applicators have been allowed to do.

OISC has entered into an agreement with a private contractor to provide certification exam taking opportunities at sites other than Purdue's campus, including Evansville, Ft. Wayne, Indianapolis, and numerous sites in our surrounding states.

OISC conducted a plastic pesticide container recycling program at 19 sites in 2001. There were 192 participants (pesticide applicators) that contributed 46,941 containers for recycling.

Visit the OISC website www.isco.purdue.edu for more detailed information on any of the topics listed.