

2003

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	2087
For-Hire Applicators	4710
Not-For-Hire Applicators	997
Public Applicators	856
Registered Technicians	2056
Restricted Use Dealers Registrations	543
Private Applicator Permits	15,512
Registered Pesticide Consultant	171

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 2003, there were 2087 licensed businesses and 4710 certified applicators associated with those businesses. Restricted Use Dealer Registrations were issued to 543 businesses who wished to sell restricted use pesticides and 15,512 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, 129 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, 64 enforcement letters were issued. Thirty-one civil penalties were assessed in fiscal year 2003. 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	129
Enforcement Letters Issued	64
Administrative Hearings	1
License Revocations/Suspensions	1
Criminal Actions	1
Forwarded to US EPA	7
Civil Penalties Assessed	31

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 2003, 13,559 pesticides were registered by manufacturers or formulators. Inspections conducted at pesticide producer establishments and in market places resulted in the collection and analysis of 179 pesticide formulation samples. Fifteen 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 14 Stop Sale, Use or Removal Orders for misbranded or unregistered pesticides.

OISC completed and facilitated a number of additional activities in 2003, including finalizing a pesticides in wellhead protection areas rule, updating several applicator certification exams, and providing safety training for pesticide workers and handlers.



The rule for regulation of pesticides near community public water supply system wells became effective June 1, 2003. This rule compliments other existing state rules for the protection of public water supply wells. It addresses pesticide storage, use, handling and disposal in designated wellhead protection areas.

OISC continued the pesticide applicator certification exam validation process begun in 1997. The category 1a (agricultural pest control), category 7a (residential, institutional, and health care facility pest control) and category 8 (community wide mosquito control) exams were added to the list of certification exams that have been built from scratch by a panel of peer applicators, Cooperative Extension Service educators/specialists and OISC personnel.

During 2003, OISC also continued the contract with Transition Resources Corporation to provide no cost bilingual safety training to over 2,100 pesticide workers and handlers.