

2006

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.

CREDENTIALS ISSUED		ENFORCEMENT SUMMARY	
Licensed Businesses	2502	Complaints Investigated	162
For-Hire Applicators	5415	Enforcement Letters Issued	94
Not-For-Hire Applicators	945	Administrative Hearings	1
Public Applicators	1153	Credential Revocations/Suspensions	6
Registered Technicians	2259	Criminal Actions	1
Restricted Use Dealers	540	Forwarded to US EPA	2
Private Applicators	14,520	Civil Penalties Assessed	47
Pesticide Consultants	306		

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. A listing of currently registered pesticides can be searched on line through the Pesticide Section at www.isco.purdue.edu.

In 2006, 13,976 pesticides were registered by manufacturers or formulators. Inspections conducted at pesticide producer establishments and in market places resulted in the collection and analysis of 114 pesticide formulation samples. 14% of these samples failed to meet their label guarantees or had label defects and were therefore violative. During the year, it was necessary to issue 17 stop sale, orders for pesticide products that were not in compliance. This violative product rate has almost doubled from the three most recent years.

GOLF COURSE INSPECTIONS

OISC conducted 60 inspections at golf courses during 2006. Overall, compliance has improved from the previous two years. Only one instance of an improper pesticide mixing and loading area was documented in 2006. However, other violations such as applicator failure to wear the label required personal protective equipment and failure to keep unprotected golfers out of pesticide treatment areas until the spray had dried continued to be a problem. OISC is currently considering options for improving compliance in these troublesome areas including increased enforcement and/or further regulation. Inspections at golf courses will continue to be a priority for OISC in 2007.

COMPLIANCE ASSISTANCE TRAINING

OISC staff teamed up with the Association of Structural Pest Control Regulatory Officials (ASPCRO) to organize and conduct a series of compliance assistance training programs during 2006. These programs were held at four different locations around the state. They were designed to help structural pest control applicators understand the most significant regulatory compliance issues facing their industry. Over 250 applicators attended this training.



INCREASED PROTECTION ACTIVITIES FOR ENDANGERED SPECIES

The US EPA has recently required more oversight by states requesting special pesticide products needed to address emergency pest problems such as the emerging Asian Soybean Rust threat. In response, OISC worked with a number of related Indiana agencies and departments at Purdue University during 2006 to conduct pesticide risk assessments for endangered species protection and water quality impacts. Developing these capabilities will help insure that Indiana remains ready to address emergency pest threats in a timely manner.