



2009
**INDIANA PESTICIDE CONTROL
SUMMARY REPORT of ACTIVITIES**

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MISSION: The pesticide section of the Office of Indiana State Chemist (OISC) is charged with administration of the Indiana Pesticide Registration Law (I.C. 15-16-4), the Indiana Pesticide Use and Application Law (I.C.15-16-5), and also represents the Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) in Indiana for the purpose of enforcing federal pesticide law. The mission of OISC under these laws is to protect Indiana citizens and the environment from hazardous, ineffective and improperly formulated and labeled pesticide products and devices and to protect citizens and the environment from excessive and unacceptable pesticide exposure by unqualified users.

STAFF: Twenty four full time employees carry out the mission of the Pesticide Section. This number includes seven field staff to perform complaint investigations and field compliance activities, eight laboratory chemists and technicians to analyze environmental and product samples collected as part of the investigations and routine inspections, five program managers and four clerical staff.

PRODUCT REGISTRATION: In 2009, 14,678 pesticide products were registered by manufacturers or formulators for sale and distribution in Indiana. This total well exceeds the 2009 average of 11,920 pesticide products registered by our neighboring Midwestern states. This is a direct indication of the OISC commitment to insure a level regulatory playing field for all pesticide distributors doing business in Indiana. The pesticide staff worked successfully with the USDA/APHIS Wildlife Services unit resident at Purdue University to secure special product registrations to facilitate the control of pest birds in feedlots and bird flock staging areas. Pest bird activity in these areas represents a significant threat to both public health and food safety. Also in 2009, OISC participated in a pilot project to develop procedures to link text-searchable pesticide label images to Indiana pesticide data accessible through our public search engine (<http://state.ceris.purdue.edu>). To date approximately 3,100 label images have been uploaded to the public site. In addition, OISC staff continued to serve as part of a small group of state leaders working with US EPA on current efforts to improve federal pesticide labels.

CERTIFICATION & CREDENTIALING: OISC issued 28,051 total pesticide credentials. This included 2,723 licensed pesticide application businesses, 5,954 for-hire applicators working at those businesses, 930 applicators working for not-for-hire businesses, 1189 government applicators, 2,529 registered technician applicators, 558 restricted use pesticide dealers, 343 consultant retailer businesses, and 13,825 certified farmer applicators. The agency has also been working cooperatively with the Purdue Cooperative Extension Service and the pesticide application industry to develop a national right-of-way pesticide applicator certification examination. This exam should allow for more universal acceptance of common certification standards between states and a reduced burden for right-of-way applicators that operate in multiple states.

COMPLIANCE & ENFORCEMENT: Pesticide staff investigated 168 complaint cases and conducted 1536 routine compliance inspections. Those cases involved the laboratory analysis of 196 environmental residue samples and 189 product integrity samples. While the 196 environmental samples exceed the annual average of 143, it is down significantly from last year's record high of 377 samples. The decrease is due largely to the significantly reduced number of aerial drift complaints during 2009. In all, there were 145 formal violation cases, including 119 written warnings/citations, 55 civil penalties, and 11 credential suspensions. Of the 189 product integrity samples collected, 9 (5.5%) were adulterated and 4 (2.5%) were incorrectly labeled. During 2009 fewer than 6% of the enforcement actions involved repeat violators. Follow-up or compliance assurance inspections were performed in 93% of the violation cases to ensure that the non-compliant behavior had been corrected. These follow-up inspections included compliance assurance visits to a statewide chain of farm supply retailer outlets that had been illegally selling restricted pesticides to unlicensed consumers.

TRAINING, OUTREACH & COMPLIANCE ASSISTANCE: OISC joined with US EPA to conduct a Pesticide Clean Sweep Project, collecting over 11,830 pounds of hazardous waste pesticides from commercial applicators and farmers at little or no cost to the participants. Pesticide staff continued cooperative efforts initiated in 2008 with the Purdue Ag School and grower groups to implement an interactive web site registry www.driftwatch.org designed to allow for effective communication between growers of pesticide sensitive crops and pesticide applicators that operate near those crops and sensitive areas.

INDIANA PESTICIDE REVIEW BOARD: Created in IC 15-16-4-42, this is a twenty-member board appointed by the Governor to develop pesticide policy and regulations and to serve in the formal appeal process for those who might be aggrieved of enforcement actions by OISC. Its members include scientists, government officials, conservationists, industry representatives and a public representative. In 2009 the Board finalized rules detailing applicator recertification procedures, prohibiting open burning of pesticide containers, allowing use of service containers by applicators, requiring certification of pesticide applicators at golf courses, and requiring applicators to notify OISC prior to pesticide applications for preconstruction termite control. In addition, the Board renewed deliberations on a draft rule that would address requirements for pesticide use in schools. The Board also continued discussions of potential safeguards for pesticide sensitive crops (tomatoes, grapes, organics) that could be impacted by the emergence of new agronomic seed technologies that may lead to a statewide increase in the application of some types of herbicides.

Information accurate as of: 3-2-10