



2011
INDIANA PESTICIDE CONTROL
SUMMARY REPORT of ACTIVITIES
Office of Indiana State Chemist

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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 one full-time employees and ten shared staff carry out the pesticide section mission. The full-time staff includes 7 field investigators to perform complaint investigations and field compliance activities, 5 laboratory chemists, 1 technician to analyze environmental and product samples collected by the field staff, 5 program managers, and 4 clerical staff.

PRODUCT REGISTRATION: In 2011, 14,929 pesticide products were registered by manufacturers or formulators for sale and distribution in Indiana. This number exceeds the ten year annual average for Indiana of 14,131. It also exceeds the ten year average of 12,582 pesticide products registered by our Midwestern state neighbors. This is a direct indication of the OISC commitment to insure a level regulatory playing field for all pesticide registrants and distributors doing business in Indiana.

In 2011, OISC continued its participation in Accepted Labels State Tracking and Repository (ALSTAR) a project to link text-searchable pesticide label images to Indiana's publicly accessible database. To date, approximately 3,300 labels have been added to the database <http://state.ceris.purdue.edu>.

In addition, OISC staff continued to serve as part of a select group of state leaders working with US EPA and product registrants to improve federal pesticide labels.

CERTIFICATION & CREDENTIALING: OISC issued 29,032 total pesticide credentials. This included 2,776 licensed pesticide application businesses, 6,500 for-hire applicators working at those businesses, 1,157 applicators working for not-for-hire businesses, 1,888 government applicators, 2,737 registered technician applicators, 574 restricted use pesticide dealers, 349 consultant retailer businesses, and 13,051 certified farmer applicators. The 29,032 total credentials for 2011 exceed the ten year annual average of 27,437.

OISC staff also worked with the Purdue Cooperative Extension Service (CES) and a team of industry representatives to develop subject-matter-valid certification exams for Indiana termite control applicators.

COMPLIANCE & ENFORCEMENT: Pesticide staff investigated 565 complaint cases and conducted 1732 routine compliance inspections. These figures significantly exceeded the ten year annual averages of 157 complaint cases and 1059 compliance inspections.

The complaint investigations and routine inspections involved the laboratory analysis of 711 environmental residue samples and 60 product integrity samples. Five percent of the product integrity samples were adulterated, and five products were incorrectly labeled. The 711 environmental samples significantly exceeded the ten year annual average of 166 samples.

This inflated workload is due largely to an unprecedented number (397) of damage complaints to non-target ornamental landscape plantings resulting from the application of a brand new nationally approved and distributed herbicide on adjacent turf. The rapid and tireless efforts of OISC staff in investigating these complaints and analyzing associated environmental residue samples lead to the state cancellation of this major

new herbicide and a federal stop sale and distribution order by the US EPA. OISC served as a national leader in this regulatory effort that has since resulted in a national product recall and a multi-million dollar consumer damage claims process.

In 2011 there were 106 formal violation cases, including 103 written warnings/citations, 38 administrative fines, 4 applicator credential suspensions, one product registration suspension, and one product registration cancellation. Less than 1% of the enforcement actions involved repeat violators. Follow-up or compliance assurance inspections were performed in 63% of the violation cases to insure that the non-compliant behavior had been corrected. Enforcement action numbers are comparable to the ten year annual average of 111. This is in spite of the significant commitment of resources devoted to addressing the previously mentioned herbicide damage incidents on behalf of Indiana consumers and turf applicators, reflecting how OISC staff were able to rise to the unusual challenge.

TRAINING, OUTREACH & COMPLIANCE ASSISTANCE: OISC joined with US EPA and Purdue Pesticide Programs to conduct a Pesticide Clean Sweep Project, collecting over 23,000 pounds of hazardous waste pesticides from Indiana applicators at little or no cost to the participants. This 23,000 figure exceeded the annual average of 17,190 pounds.

In 2011 OISC and the Purdue College of Agriculture, by means of an EPA grant, expanded the scope of an interactive web site registry www.driftwatch.org beyond the borders of Indiana to now include Illinois, Michigan, Minnesota, and Wisconsin. *Driftwatch*, designed to allow for effective communication between growers of pesticide sensitive crops and pesticide applicators that operate nearby, expanded coverage from 18,000 Indiana acres last year to over 35,000 Midwestern acres during 2011. Plans for 2012 include expansion of *Driftwatch* to Colorado, Montana, Nebraska, and North Dakota.

INDIANA PESTICIDE REVIEW BOARD: Created through IC 15-16-4-42 in 1971, this is a twenty-member board appointed by the Governor to develop pesticide policy and regulations for the State of Indiana. Board members include scientists, government officials, conservationists, industry representatives and a public representative. In 2011, the Board finalized a rule requiring certification of applicators using pesticides in schools and a rule requiring applicators to notify OISC prior to preconstruction termite control applications.

Information accurate as of 2-27-12