



2015
INDIANA PESTICIDE CONTROL
SUMMARY REPORT of ACTIVITIES
Office of Indiana State Chemist

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MISSION & STAFF: The pesticide section of the Office of Indiana State Chemist (OISC) is charged with administration of the Indiana pesticide laws I.C. 15-16-4 and 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 from unacceptable pesticide exposure. Twenty professional staff and five support staff are responsible for carrying out this mission.

PRODUCT REGISTRATION: In 2015, pesticide manufacturers registered 16,101 products for sale and distribution in Indiana. This number exceeds the ten-year annual average for Indiana of 14,792. It also exceeds the last ten-year average of 13,500 pesticide products registered by neighboring states.

During the last year OISC worked cooperatively with US EPA Region 5 in Chicago and with Purdue University's Center for Environmental and Regulatory Information Systems (CERIS) to develop a field inspection tool allowing pesticide regulators nationwide to gain remote web access to both federal and state product registration data. This tool will make routine product compliance inspections much more efficient.

CERTIFICATION & CREDENTIALING: OISC issued 35,299 pesticide credentials. This included licenses for 3382 pesticide application businesses, 13,992 pesticide applicators, 3,653 pesticide technicians, 554 pesticide dealers, and 13,718 farmers using pesticides. The 35,299 total credentials for 2015 are up approximately 25% from the ten-year annual average of 28,149. This rise in credentials was attributed primarily to an increase in the number of commercial lawn and landscape applicator business and licensed farmers.

During 2015 OISC worked with the Purdue Cooperative Extension Service (CES) and a team of industry representatives to develop or upgrade the subject-matter-valid certification exam and corresponding training manual for general pest control (category 7a) commercial pesticide applicators. OISC also reviewed and approved 681 continuing certification training programs for pesticide applicators.

COMPLIANCE & ENFORCEMENT: Pesticide staff investigated 370 complaint cases and conducted 1697 routine compliance inspections, exceeding the ten year annual averages of 286 complaint cases and 1066 compliance inspections. These investigations and inspections required OISC laboratory analysis of 1393 environmental residue samples and 84 product integrity samples. The 1393 environmental samples far exceeded the ten-year annual average of 296 samples. The increased sample load was primarily the result of extensive investigations of incidents involving interior misuse of insecticides, referenced below.

For investigations finalized to date there have been 296 formal violations, including 283 written warnings/citations, 143 administrative fines, and three applicator credential suspensions. Enforcement action numbers have been relatively consistent with the ten-year annual average of 189.

Numbers of off-target pesticide drift complaints (81) and resulting violations (47 to date) exceeded the ten year averages of 76 and 41, respectively.

During 2015 OISC concluded two investigations into the illegal importation and application of a non-registered agricultural insecticide to motel rooms for the control of bedbugs. OISC worked jointly with local health departments and the U.S. EPA Criminal Investigation Division (CID) to prosecute the violators and get

the motel rooms decontaminated. Throughout 2015 OISC has also been working with CID in Atlanta, GA to collect evidence for prosecution of a repeat violator that has been importing and distributing illegal insecticides to local restaurants.

In an effort to ensure that neonicotinoid insecticide products were being used by professional seed treatment applicators in a manner that was responsible and protective of pollinators, OISC conducted over 90 routine compliance inspections at seed treatment businesses.

TRAINING, OUTREACH & COMPLIANCE ASSISTANCE: During 2015, with financial support from U.S. EPA, OISC conducted a Pesticide Clean Sweep Project, collecting 33,271 pounds of hazardous waste pesticides from 125 Indiana applicators at little or no cost to the participants. This collection figure exceeded the annual average over the last five years of 29,463 pounds.

OISC continued to participate in professional and regulatory association affairs with at least 10 staff members serving as officers or committee members on no fewer than 30 regional and national committees and work groups.

INDIANA PESTICIDE REVIEW BOARD: Created through IC 15-16-4-42 in 1971, this twenty-member board is appointed by the Governor to develop pesticide policy and regulations for the State of Indiana. Board members include scientists, government officials, university researchers, conservationists, industry representatives and a public representative. In 2015, the Board and OISC 1) examined the need to make adjustments to the pesticide business license liability insurance regulation; 2) continued to examine potential implications of the introduction of 2,4-D and dicamba tolerant crops; 3) initiated the review of the current state rule regulating the storage and containment of bulk disinfectant pesticides; 4) evaluated comments prepared by OISC and submitted to U.S. EPA in response to proposed amendments to federal applicator certification and training regulations; and 5) initiated the development of a state plan to protect pollinators from negative exposures to pesticides.

Information accurate as of 11-01-16