



Office of
INDIANA STATE CHEMIST AND SEED COMMISSIONER
Protecting Indiana's Agriculture and Environment - Feed, Fertilizer, Pesticide and Seed

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2018
INDIANA PESTICIDE REGULATORY
SUMMARY REPORT of ACTIVITIES

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 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-nine full-time professional and support staff, plus an additional twelve shared OISC support staff are responsible for carrying out this mission.

PRODUCT REGISTRATION: In 2018, pesticide manufacturers registered 16,980 products for sale and distribution in Indiana. This number exceeds the ten-year annual average for Indiana of 15,523. OISC continued to work cooperatively with the U.S. EPA to review and improve federal pesticide registration databases and pesticide product labels. Federal product registration and labeling are paramount to a safe, effective, and credible national pesticide regulatory program. In addition, OISC continues to co-chair the American Association of Pest Control Officials (AAPCO) FIFRA Sec. 25(b) Workgroup to develop consistent national standards for state registration of 25(b) pesticide products that are exempt from federal registration. In 2018, OISC also formalized and implemented the coordination of the procedures between the product registration and compliance sections to help insure violative, misbranded, and unregistered products are removed from the marketplace in a consistent and effective manner.

APPLICATOR CERTIFICATION & CREDENTIALING: OISC issued 31,619 pesticide credentials. This included licenses for 5,388 pesticide application businesses, 11,172 pesticide applicators, 3,639 pesticide technicians, 602 pesticide dealers, and 10,818 farmers using pesticides. OISC continues to work with the Purdue Cooperative Extension Service (CES) and industry representatives to upgrade the commercial applicator seed treatment (category 4) competency exam. In 2018, OISC reviewed and approved over 670 continuing certification training programs for pesticide applicators. Also in 2018, OISC implemented a new data handling system that, unfortunately, has slowed the licensing process. OISC is working diligently to improve upon the challenges posed by the new licensing software, with on-line license renewals being one of the ultimate improvements.

COMPLIANCE & ENFORCEMENT: Pesticide staff investigated 562 complaint cases and conducted 881 routine compliance inspections, exceeding the ten-year annual averages of 379 complaint cases and 1639 routine compliance inspections. These investigations and inspections required OISC laboratory analysis of 1906 environmental residue samples and 101 product integrity samples. Investigation sample numbers have increased over the last decade due to the increase in glyphosate tolerant crops, fungicide use on corn, and significant misuse cases involving aminocyclopyrachlor, fipronil, dichlorvos, and now dicamba. In 2019, 900 of the investigation samples were directly attributable to dicamba complaint investigations. Prior to the 2017 and 2018, glyphosate, 2,4-D, and fungicides had been the most common analytes requested by OISC inspectors. By comparison, OISC collected only 124 environmental residue samples in 2006. The most notable compliance

issue for 2018 was agricultural drift, with 270 drift complaints (145 dicamba) investigated. The annual ten-year average of off-target drift complaints (all active ingredients) is 110. For investigations and inspections finalized to date there have been 318 formal violations cited. Both U.S. EPA and the Indiana Pesticide Review Board (IPRB) will be tracking dicamba drift closely again in 2019.

OUTREACH & COMPLIANCE ASSISTANCE: During 2018, with financial support from U.S. EPA, OISC conducted a Pesticide Clean Sweep Project, collecting 43,301 pounds of hazardous waste pesticides from 186 Indiana applicators at minimal to no cost to the participants. This collection figure exceeded the six-year annual average of 30,097 pounds of pesticide waste.

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 2018, the Board and OISC: 1) reviewed civil penalty mitigation appeals for five different OISC enforcement proposals; 2) reviewed potential impacts to state laws and rules resulting from federal EPA applicator certification and training rule revisions; 3) updated the state plan to protect pollinators from negative exposures to pesticides; and 4) continued to study and evaluate the need for state restriction of agricultural use of dicamba in Indiana in 2019 and beyond.

Information accurate as of 5-28-19