



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

Robert D. Waltz, Ph.D.
State Chemist &
Seed Commissioner

Purdue University • 175 South University Street
West Lafayette, IN 47907-2063
Telephone (765) 494-1492 • Facsimile (765) 494-4331
www.oisc.purdue.edu

2019
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-seven full-time professional and support staff, plus an additional twelve shared OISC support staff are responsible for carrying out this mission.

PRODUCT REGISTRATION: In 2019, OISC registered 17,064 pesticide products in the state of Indiana, including registrations from 123 new registrants/manufacturers. Product registration numbers included 1,407 new registrations, 15 FIFRA Sec. 24(c) registrations, 531 FIFRA Sec. 25(b) registrations, 637 device registrations, and one FIFRA Sec. 18 registration for a herbicide used in mint production. OISC also collaborated with the Purdue University Cooperative extension Service to provide an overview of the legal use of pesticides to hemp growers during applicator trainings. OISC continued to work cooperatively with the U.S. EPA and other State Lead Agencies to review and maintain and correct product registration databases and product labels. Adequate product registration and labeling are paramount to a safe, effective, and credible national pesticide regulatory program. In addition, OISC continued to 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.

APPLICATOR CERTIFICATION & CREDENTIALING: OISC issued 30,415 pesticide credentials. This included licenses for 3,838 pesticide application businesses, 11,232 pesticide applicators, 4,216 pesticide technicians, 609 pesticide dealers, and 10,520 farmers using pesticides. Working with an expert committee of commercial applicator seed treatment practitioners, OISC overhauled and implemented the seed treatment (category 4) competency exam. In 2019, OISC reviewed and approved over 700 continuing certification training programs for pesticide applicators. As required by new EPA certification and training rules, OISC worked filed a state plan for revising state certification and training requirements for pesticide applicators to make them comparable with federal requirements.

COMPLIANCE & ENFORCEMENT: In 2019 pesticide staff investigated 517 complaint cases and conducted 657 routine compliance inspections. Previous five-year highs were 518 complaint investigations in 2017 and 1773 routine inspections in 2017. In 2019 OISC pesticide laboratories analyzed 1426 environmental residue samples and 107 product integrity samples. The previous five-year high was 2577 environmental residue samples in 2017. The 107 product integrity samples in 2019 is the high mark for the past five years. Complaint investigation sample numbers have increased significantly over the last three years due to the unprecedented increase in the complaints resulting from the adoption of dicamba tolerant crops and a corresponding increase of the use of dicamba herbicides on those crops. Prior to the 2017 and 2018, glyphosate, 2,4-D, and agricultural fungicides had been the most common analytes targeted in OISC investigations. By comparison, OISC collected only 124

environmental residue samples in 2006. As in 2017 and 2018, the most notable compliance issue during 2019 was agricultural drift, with 344 total (197 dicamba) drift complaints investigated. The annual ten-year average of off-target drift complaints (all active ingredients) is 110. Both U.S. EPA and the Indiana Pesticide Review Board (IPRB) continued to track dicamba drift and volatilization incidents closely again in 2019.

OUTREACH & COMPLIANCE ASSISTANCE: During 2019, with financial support from U.S. EPA, OISC conducted a Pesticide Clean Sweep Project, collecting 59,211 pounds of hazardous waste pesticides from 189 Indiana applicators at minimal to no cost to the participants. This collection figure was second only to the previous all-time high in 2017 of 104,520 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 2019, the Board and OISC worked cooperatively and successfully to: 1) lobby FieldWatch/DriftWatch to include IDNR nature preserves on their listing of drift sensitive sites; 2) revise OISC's enforcement response policy for drift violations; 3) draft legislative revisions for successful enactment by the Indiana Legislature to accommodate federal certification and training rule revisions for pesticide applicators; and 4) develop state label restrictions for dicamba herbicide products under FIFRA Sec. 24(c) in an effort to reduce the unacceptable number of dicamba drift and volatilization incidents in the upcoming growing season.

Information as of 1-5-22