

Pesticide Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes  
Guyer Conference Room, MDA Laboratory, East Lansing  
October 19, 2007

Present: Gary King, Bill Weil, Brian Rowe, Roger Wabeke, Jim Johnson, Carolyn Randall, Abby Schwartz, Bob England, Phil Korson, Bruce walker, and Ken Rauscher

Pesticide Advisory Committee (PAC) Chair, Jim Johnson, welcomed everyone to the meeting. Jim indicated that the Governor's office asked if this committee could be abolished. A memo was sent back to the Governor stating this committee is necessary and does not cost anything to run. The committee is an advisory group to MDA and thus has a very vital role to advise MDA's director. No response has been received back from the Governor's office.

Jim stated he will move forward with appointments to the PAC.

A motion to approve the July minutes was made. The motion was seconded and carried.

**Pesticide Surveillance Update** - The Michigan Pesticide Illness and Injury Surveillance Project Quarterly Report was sent to the Pesticide Advisory Committee (PAC) members prior to the meeting. Abby Schwartz discussed the report with the committee. Abby will send a copy of the annual report to Jim who will forward to committee members.

**PPPM Update** – Ken Rauscher stated PPPM plans to run a Gypsy Moth suppression program in 2008. There was no suppression program in 2007. Biological controls are contributing to the decrease in the Gypsy Moth infestation.

Ken distributed and discussed maps showing the EAB infestation in the Moran area and quarantine in the Upper Peninsula. Ken indicated that staff have removed 50% of the trap trees. No exit holes have been observed, only larvae has been found. The quarantine map represents 50 square miles. All ash materials will be restricted to the area until the extent of the infestation is determined. USDA considers the UP and bridge inspection point very important. Biological controls (wasps) have been released in Ingham, Jackson, and Shiawassee counties. The wasps were collected in China. USDA continues to research biological controls.

Ken indicated exemption requests to hire a person for the pesticide registration manager and an animal feed manager have been filed and have been at the Department of Management and Budget for three months. PPPM will conduct interviews for these positions in order to be able to fill them when approval is given.

Ken discussed issues of funding from PPPM to MSU Pesticide Education office – Carolyn Randal. The funding has declined in recent years and currently PPPM does not have any funding available for the program. This is a concern because Carolyn and staff

write the certification manuals for PPPM's certification program. A question was asked: What is the solution? One way pesticide education revenue will be generated is as new manuals are developed, \$10 will be added to the cost of the manual.

**Agenda item for January meeting** – discuss possible ways to fund MSU education program.

**Pesticide Section Update** – Brian updated the PAC on Senate Bill 682 – the proposal to license agricultural pesticide dealers inside and outside Michigan. Agricultural dealers will need to become licensed if they are selling pesticides in Michigan. Brian said it looks like this Bill will be passed.

Regulation 637 hearing was held in September and is progressing through the legislative process.

Brian informed the committee of a project whereby staff have been researching internet sales of pesticides.

**MSUE Pesticide Education Update** – Carolyn Randall indicated that commodity groups are also concerned about maintaining the pesticide education office. Discussion ensued concerning how to get funds, the ramification of losing the position, what will happen to training for pesticide applicators and to the MSU/MDA partnership. Phil Korson said he will contact Ken Rauscher concerning this issue.

Carolyn distributed and discussed the Fourth Quarter Report from MSUE (Michigan State University Extension). MSU has received a grant from EPA to set up IPM Academy. Carolyn is working with Larry Swain and a committee to create the IPM Academy which will provide IPM training programs for the industry. Another grant was received to fund translation of the new national core into Spanish.

The comprehensive Core training sessions are being planned for later this year. It will cost \$75 to attend. The applicator will attend a one day seminar, take a test (20 question), and received 8 credits towards his/her core recertification.

Roger Wabeke will send a list of contact information for pool of presenters. Gary King will give Larry Swain Roger's contact information.

**Enforcement Report** – Gary King, Enforcement Manager, distributed and discussed the FY2007 Pesticide Use Investigation Report.

Gary discussed the NOI (Notice of Intent) process, this is a process whereby the fine amount indicated can be negotiated. All 2005 Use Investigations that did not response to the original NOI will be sent an NOV (Notice of Violation). The NOV is another enforcement tool utilized by PPPM. After this document is issued to the firm, the penalty is assessed at maximum but can still be negotiated. If no payment is received, the file is

forwarded to the Attorney General's office for collection. The firm can ask for a formal hearing if they do not agree with the NOV.

**Follow-Up Items**

- Multiple Chemical Sensitivity Awareness Week – Russ Ives and Brian Rowe will watch for this week.
- Quaternary ammonium chloride based disinfectant products - Roger Wabeke discussed disinfectant applications and violations. He indicated this should not be used as an aerosol fogger. He believes the air quality should be verified.

**Miscellaneous** – Discussion was held concerning legal capabilities of certification and licensing of duct cleaning applicator/firms. Where do we go from here?

The next PAC meeting is scheduled for January 18, 2008 at 9:30 in the Guyer Conference Room, Geagley Laboratory, East Lansing. The meeting was adjourned.