

2007 Montana Special Registrations Meeting

Thursday November 1, 2007
Director's Conference Room 111
MT Department of Environmental Quality
1520 East Sixth Avenue
Helena, MT

Questions or Comments? Please contact Amy Bamber, 406-444-3676 or abamber@mt.gov

Meeting Summary

In attendance: Jason Dahl, Busch Ag. Resources, Inc; Gary Iverson, Great Northern Growers; Will Lanier, MSU; Janet Kirkland, MDA; Carl Mattson, Montana Grain Growers Assn.; Kim Falcon, Montana Wheat and Barley Committee; Levi Ostberg, MDA; Doug Urdahl, Winfield Solutions; Brent Esmoil, USFWS; John Larson, MT EPA; Greg Ames, MDA; Lynn Jones, MDA; Cecil Tharp, MSU; Gary Adams, APHIS-PPQ; Craig Essebaggers, MDA/ State Grain Lab; Fabian Menalled, MSU; Joe Merenz, APHIS-PPQ; Patricia Denke, MDA; Virginia Knerr, Broadwater Co. Extension; Joel Clairmont, MDA; Steve King, MSU; Ron de Yong, MDA; Pam Langley, Montana Agricultural Business Association; Amy Bamber, MDA.

Ron de Yong, Director of the Montana Department of Agriculture, welcomed everyone to the meeting. Director de Yong briefly described his family farm in the Kalispell area. Having just joined the department in September, Director de Yong said he looked forward to getting to know the meeting participants and working together in the future. Introductions around the room followed.

Endangered and Threatened Species

There were two presentations on endangered and threatened species. In the first, John Larson, who is our new MT EPA pesticide program contact, discussed the Endangered Species Protection Program (ESPP) that EPA has initiated. The program will provide county bulletins per active ingredient. The bulletins will be updated throughout the year, to take into account changes in species needs and distribution, are available online, and—are considered part of the label. This means that they are enforceable.

John's presentation is available here: <M:\ASD\TSB\AMY\Special Registrations\Annual Fall Meeting\2007-2008\powerpoints>

If you have questions about the ESPP, John may be reached at: Larson.John@epamail.epa.gov , or you can contact Amy Bamber.

Brent Esmoil from the USFWS was the next presenter. He was standing in for Karen Nelson, who was unable to be present for the meeting this year. Brent presented the Services' perspective regarding their review of threatened and endangered species protection for special pesticide registrations. In particular, Brent emphasized the importance of performing accurate ecological risk assessments, on a local level. Brent's presentation is available here: <M:\ASD\TSB\AMY\Special Registrations\Annual Fall Meeting\2007-2008\powerpoints> Questions regarding the USFWS's role in the special registration reviews should be directed to Karen Nelson, 406-449-5225 ext. 210, or karen_nelson@fws.gov .

A question that came up was, can the protection of threatened and endangered species and/or habitat be used as a rationale in a Section 18 request?

Entomology and Integrated Pest Management

Cecil Tharp from MSU began the entomology portion of the day with a presentation on Haanchen Mealy Bug (HMB). HMB has been seen in Montana barley for the last two years, and its population appears to have increased this past year, particularly in the Pondera and Teton County area. HMB is...confusing!

There are no chemical controls for the pest, and in Cecil's presentation he described how some tried and true "hot" chemicals did not touch it in his field experiments. It can appear that HMB has destroyed fields early in the year, but then the crop can at times grow out of it. Many things are still unknown about HMB, for instance: how much of an impact does HMB have on yield; how does the presence of HMB influence the susceptibility of the crop to other pest or environmental pressures; what are the economic thresholds? These are just some of the questions raised in Cecil's presentation. One thing is known, and that is that crop rotation and tillage can help decrease future HMB numbers. Cecil's presentation may be found here: <M:\ASD\TSB\AMY\Special Registrations\Annual Fall Meeting\2007-2008\powerpoints> and he may be contacted at 406-994-5067 or ctharp@montana.edu .

Will Lanier and Barry Jacobsen, both from MSU, then tag-teamed to give us an interesting presentation on where we might be headed in the future, regarding IPM. First, Will reviewed the AgAlerts system—and if you are not signed up, you can do so yourself at <http://www.gpdn.org/>, or you may contact Will at 994-5690 or wlanier@montana.edu or contact Amy Bamber. People at MSU and MDA use the AgAlerts system to provide up to the minute information regarding pests in Montana, and we want to make sure that everyone who should be receiving the information is receiving it. So sign up and tell others who may benefit from it to sign up too!

Because having accurate environmental information is so important for integrated pest management, Will and Barry brought up the North Dakota Agricultural Weather Network (NDAWN) website: <http://ndawn.ndsu.nodak.edu/>. This website shows North Dakota's system of weather stations, which allow producers to access up to the minute climatic information, at a very local scale. NDAWN currently helps North Dakota growers to use degree growing days to predict growth stages for barley, canola, corn, potato, sunflower, and wheat. Weather information-based disease prediction systems are available for canola Sclerotinia white mold, potato early and late blight, cercospora in sugarbeets, and several wheat diseases. Models are also available for several insect pests including midge on wheat, and there are degree growing day models for potato emergence and herbicide application to sugarbeets. Crop water use models based on temperature and evapo-transpiration rates for many crops commonly grown in MT are available, as are irrigation models. Heating and cooling degree information is also available and can be used in grain and potato storage decision making.

North Dakota has found that by using this climatic data when making pest management decisions, producers can save up to a million dollars a year. These weather stations may at first seem a bit expensive for a community to invest in, about \$5,000, but by using the data to fine tune scouting and pest management activities, producers in North Dakota feel that the stations more than pay for themselves. Is this something producers in Montana are interested in? If some of our communities are interested in using these stations, are there avenues that we could pursue for financial assistance in getting the stations set up?

According to Barry and Will, the NDAWN group will provide the Montana version with equipment specifications and advice gained operating their network. Current state funding is substantially enhanced by local community donations. The towers have become pets for some growers groups. During start up NDAWN will allow Montana's network to deliver information using its proven web interface. The NDAWN support will be very appreciated during the initial start-up phase of the project.

A survey, led by Gina Snyder (Roosevelt County agent) to determine current equipment resources and if that equipment is suitable for the Montana degree day project, is underway. It is hoped there are existing hardware resources that with upgrades could form the skeleton network and help demonstrate the projects value.

While local level weather stations may provide a tool for producers across the state, many times problems and solutions vary considerably from one county to the next. Barry discussed a potential mini-grant program that could be used to address IPM needs at the local level. The grants would be coordinated by the extension agents, and would allow each county's producers an avenue to pursue on the ground implementation of IPM.

Both of these ideas are forward thinking mechanisms to help more of Montana's producers successfully use integrated pest management--a sustainable approach to managing pests by combining biological, cultural, physical and chemical tools in a way that minimizes economic, human health and environmental risks.

Patricia Denke, MDA's Pest Management Supervisor, also made us aware of two new pests of quarantine significance that have been found in Canada. Because of golden nematode, there are no Alberta seed potatoes moving into MT at the current time. Also, commercial potatoes for consumption cannot come in unless there is no evidence of dirt remaining. Swede midge has been found in the far northern areas of Saskatchewan. The third and future generations of Swede midge affects seed production in members of the brassicacea family—like canola, rapeseed and camelina. There may be a preliminary survey along the border next summer to try and understand swede midge's distribution—but currently funding is an issue.

2007 Special Registrations Summary

Amy Bamber reviewed the past year in Special Pesticide Registrations.

Section 18 Emergency Exemptions from registration:

Crop	Pest	Product	A.I.	Company
Lentils	Ascochyta blight	340-F, LSP	Thiabendazole	Syngenta, Gustafson
Barley	Russian Wheat Aphid, Cutworms, Cereal Leaf Beetle	Warrior	Lambda-cyhalothrin	Syngenta
Wheat	Fusarium Headblight	Folicur and generics	Tebuconazole	Bayer, MANA, AgriStar
Barley	Fusarium Headblight	Folicur and generics	Tebuconazole	Bayer, MANA, AgriStar

Section 24(c) Special Local Need registrations:

Crop	Pest	Product	A.I.	Company
Alfalfa Seed	weeds	Prowl 3.3EC	Pendimethalin	BASF
	Prairie Dogs	ZP Rodent Bait AG	Zinc Phosphide	Bell Labs
Alfalfa Seed	Grasshoppers	Dimilin 2L	Diflubenzuron	Chemtura
Alfalfa Seed	Lygus Bug	Rimon	Novaluron	Chemtura
Lentils	weeds	Sonalan 10G	Ethalfuralin	Dow
Alfalfa Seed	weeds	Prowl H2O	Pendimethalin	BASF
Barley		Axial-Warrior tank mix		Syngenta
Safflower	Alternaria Leaf Spot and Downy Mildew	Quadris	Azoxystrobin	Syngenta
Flax	weeds	Touchdown	Glyphosate	Syngenta

Montana special registrations can be seen online at:
<http://agr.state.mt.us/pestfert/pesticideRegistration1824.asp>

Tebuconazole (for use in wheat and barley for Scab, or Fusarium Head Blight) update, what is needed for 2008? EPA says:

In the event that the Montana Department of Agriculture requests this use pattern next year in connection with an emergency exemption, EPA is making a preliminary determination that this use is eligible for the re-certification program (40 CFR 166.20(b)(5) in 2008 with the submission of the following data needed to determine if there is a significant economic loss with the use of propiconazole and the recently registered, prothioconazole:

- the last 5 years of production and price information on a per acre basis for wheat and barley growers in Montana including yield in bushels per acre, price/bushel, gross revenue per acre, operating costs per acre;
- yield loss due to FHB on a per acre basis;
- quality loss due to DON including: difference in the prices received (premium price vs. reduced price) and the percentage of the growers marketable yield that is affected on a per acre basis;
- and the average active ingredient and application cost for prothioconazole on a per acre basis. This can be an average dependent upon the estimated number of growers affected.

We are going to have to work together to try and adequately answer EPA's questions for the 2008 tebuconazole exemption.

New request from USA Dry Pea and Lentil Council for Lorox-Linuron

Currently MDA is working on broadcast zp 24(c) label for small grains.

3 Requests did not meet criteria:

Camelina Section 18 request, Rozol 24(c) request, 24(c) Kaput-D request

Lambda-cyhalothrin (Warrior) has received a permanent tolerance for barley.

Beekeepers are again requesting Checkmite-coumaphos.

Poast on Camelina

The IR-4 petition for the use of BASF's Poast (EPA Reg. No. 7969-58) on camelina is currently being reviewed at EPA. EPA must make a decision by September 13, 2008.

Since there is a lot of interest in attaining pesticide registrations for camelina, it is worth looking a little closer at how this petition came about.

Two important pieces had to fall into place to make this petition possible.

- Camelina has been informally approved at EPA as being part of the Oilseeds Crop Group 20, in the Canola Subgroup.
 - This means that research used to determine the tolerance of Poast on canola can be referenced by the camelina petition. If EPA allows it, canola's tolerance data will be used for camelina.
- BASF supports the use of Poast on camelina.
 - BASF does not have concerns regarding things such as phytotoxicity, even with very little research.

Can we pursue a similar avenue for other chemicals?

- The chemical has to be registered for use on canola.
- The chemical registrant has to support the use. In most cases this means that sufficient research has to have been conducted that shows the active ingredient will not harm the crop. In field trials camelina has not always responded to herbicides in the same manner as canola.

Most likely we are still a couple of years away from seeing a chemical registrant support a new use on camelina.

Bayer Update

- 2007
 - Section 3 for Proline: fungicide (prothioconazole) registered for cereals, peas, beans.
- 2008
 - Section 3 for Proline on sugar beets
 - Huskie (pyrasulfatole) is registered-for sale in '08. New mode of action for cereals for broadleaf weeds.

Huntley Herbicide Research Update

Dr. Steve King continued his pesticide trials on camelina in 2007, and had similar findings to his 2006 work. Steve will continue working with camelina in 2008.

Steve discussed many other areas of his herbicide research, including sugar beets, oilseeds, and small grains. Please contact Steve directly for questions regarding his work.

The Montana Special Registrations Meeting took place on Thursday November 1, 2007

Thursday, November 1, 2007

10:00 am to 3:00 pm

***Department of Environmental Quality Director's Conference Room 111
1520 East Sixth Avenue
Helena, MT***

AGENDA

- 10:00 a.m. Welcome, Introductions Ron de Yong, Director, MDA***
- 10:15 a.m. EPA Update John Larson, MT EPA***
- 10:30 a.m. Threatened and Endangered Species Karen Nelson, USFWS***
❖ TES review for Special Registrations
- 11:00 a.m. MSU Entomology Update Will Lanier, MSU
Cecil Tharp, MSU***
❖ Haanchen Mealy Bug research
- 11:30 a.m. Group Discussion—IPM in Montana Barry Jacobsen, MSU***
- 12:00 noon Lunch on your own***
- 1:00 pm Summary of 2007 season Amy Bamber, MDA***
❖ Approved Section 18 and 24(c) products
What has happened since this time last year?
- Pesticide Updates***
- ❖ Recent pesticide research at Huntley ***Steve King, MSU***
- ❖ Poast on Camelina petition ***Amy Bamber, MDA***
- ❖ All pesticide industry representatives are asked to give a short presentation on behalf of their respective companies. Briefings should include a summary of recent or pending EPA registration actions, tolerances, etc.
- New & emerging pests; Section 18 exemption requests for 2008***
- ❖ Participants will be given an opportunity to discuss any new or emerging pest problems observed during the 2007 growing season. Grower representatives will also present their Section 18 exemption proposals for 2008.
- 3:00 pm Public Comment
Adjournment***