

STATE OF MICHIGAN



JOHN ENGLER, Governor

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

P.O. BOX 30017 • LANSING, MICHIGAN 48909
611 W. OTTAWA • LANSING, MICHIGAN 48933

DAN WYANT, Director

Commission of Agriculture

Douglas E. Darling
James E. Maitland
William G. Pridgeon
Jordan B. Tatter
Nora M. Viau

DATE: June 11, 2001

TO: Norm Nesheim, President
American Association of Pesticide Safety Educators (AAPSE)

FROM: Gina Davis, Liaison

SUBJECT: Liaison Activities

Thank you for the opportunity to present this report on my activities as liaison to the American Association of Pesticide Safety Educators (AAPSE).

In this role, I have attempted to keep both AAPCO and AAPSE informed about the significant issues and activities of each association.

For the most part, this information has been communicated directly to the respective presidents of AAPCO and AAPSE, although, there have been instances where this communication has extended to the AAPCO Board and AAPSE Executive Committee.

Current issues and activities that may be of interest to AAPSE are as follows:

EPA's Authorization Criteria for State and Tribal Inspectors.

In September 2000, EPA distributed the draft Authorization Criteria to each state agriculture commissioner, state environmental protection administrator and the leader of each federally recognized tribe. EPA requested and received many comments, including those submitted by Barry Brennan on behalf of AAPSE. EPA is currently drafting changes, as appropriate, to the Criteria and is preparing responses to the issues raised in the comments. Clearly, states are concerned about the additional funding resources that will be necessary for this training. The concept of utilizing Pesticide Safety Education Centers for this training has been discussed in several forums, including the AAPCO Board of Directors and SFIREG Working Committee on Pesticide Operations & Management.

FIFRA FY2002/2003 DRAFT PESTICIDE COOPERATIVE GRANT GUIDANCE

EPA recently solicited comments from state lead agencies and tribes on the draft FY 2002/2003 Pesticide Cooperative Grant Guidance. This guidance, developed by EPA's Office of Pesticide Programs (OPP) and Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assistance (OECA), is intended to describe the application process for State/Tribal pesticide program and enforcement cooperative agreements. It includes information on pesticide program and enforcement activities that may be eligible for funding and describes the requirements and expectations of applicants. This draft guidance also identifies EPA's enforcement priorities.

For FY 2002/2003, the following four enforcement priorities have been proposed:

1. WPS Compliance and enforcement
2. 25(b) pesticides
3. E-Commerce
4. Unregistered sources of active ingredients

Other items included in the draft guidance:

Draft EPA WPS Routine Agricultural-Use Inspection Guidance -
EPA was particularly interested in receiving comments on this draft document, the purpose of which is to provide guidance on the minimum requirements for a WPS inspection for reporting purposes under state cooperative agreements.

Integration of Worker Safety Programs -
EPA OPP is concerned about the impacts of pesticides on worker health and safety and has identified worker safety programs (WPS, C & T, and National Strategy for Outreach to Health Care Providers) as high priority to focus on in FY 2002/2003.

States and tribes were encouraged to begin thinking about the integration of these programs and the impact this approach may have at the state level.

States and tribes were also encouraged to actively participate in, and support, the ongoing national assessment of the worker protection and C & T programs.

SUMMER AAPCO MEETING

The 55th annual meeting of AAPCO is scheduled for August 8 - 10, 2001 in Scottsdale, Arizona. Agenda items will include cross border issues, water issues, endangered species, food safety, the methyl bromide phaseout, OPP, OECA and NASDA updates, plus more. A two-hour presentation on the validation of pesticide applicator exams is also included on the agenda.