

## **National Pesticide Stewardship Alliance (NPSA)**

### **Liaison: Pat Hipkins, Virginia Tech**

#### *Overview -- AAPSE-NPSA relationship:*

Mission Statement (posted on website) -- no specific reference to AAPSE or other organizations.

By-Laws in draft; nothing official posted on the website. (See below.)

AAPSE, as an organization, has no provisions for joining other organizations. AAPSE has no plans to change its By-Laws to allow for membership in other organizations.

However:

- AAPSE members may join NPSA.
- AAPSE appoints liaisons to other organizations, working groups, and panels involved in activities that relate to pesticide safety education. Examples include AAPCO, PESP, full SFIREG, SFIREG Policy Operations and Management (POM), SFIREG Working Committee on Water Quality and Pesticide Disposal, and EPA working groups (Endangered Species, International Harmonization/Classification, CCA-treated Wood.)
- AAPSE and NPSA interact with similar audiences. AAPSE's Executive Committee wishes to keep lines of communication open. To provide that link, AAPSE President Amy Brown appointed AAPSE member Pat Hipkins to the post of official liaison to NPSA.

Early drafts of the NPSA By-Laws listed AAPSE as an affiliate. NPSA is aware that this is not an appropriate designation.

Roger Springman of NPSA wrote (fall/01): "...we have been trying to find the best way to refer to your organization... other groups have this same broad issue too....I have alerted other key Advisory Council members to be diligent in their reference to AAPSE membership in materials and conversations."

The 2002 meeting announcement simply states:

Organizations with members attending NPSA conferences include Ag Container Recycling Council (ACRC), Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), CropLife America (formerly American Crop Protection Association), American Association of Pesticide Safety Educators (AAPSE), Ag Retailers Association (ARA), and National Pest Management Association (NPMA). In addition, state pesticide collection programs and their hazardous waste haulers along with state container recycling programs use NPSA as their principal networking and conference site.

Issues and comments related to NPSA from AAPSE (11/01) at a NPSA Planning Meeting:

AAPSE members work across disciplines, and provide outreach and education to all pesticide users (not just certified applicators.)

AAPSE and NPSA, through cooperation, can provide resources to one another.

NPSA and AAPSE have many common goals. The mission of NPSA is pesticide stewardship -- from manufacture through use or disposal-- of products and containers. NPSA plans to use education, training, and outreach to accomplish stewardship objectives. AAPSE is committed to the highest standards of pesticide safety education and implementation of safe and effective pesticide use practices. AAPSE members have a strong working relationship with pesticide users via science-based pesticide safety education programs delivered by tribal and government agencies and the land-grant university cooperative extension services. AAPSE seeks to protect human health and the environment through education.

AAPSE encourages NPSA to:

- include education and outreach in conference working sessions;
- provide educational materials and technical expertise that AAPSE members can use in educational programs;
- work on joint projects;
- work w/ the AAPSE liaison to identify projects and disseminate information and materials.

Important stewardship issues are:

- product disposal,
- container management (disposal, recycling, and reuse),
- prevention = waste minimization in products and packaging.

In addition, biosecurity is a very important and timely issue.

To answer a question posed regarding effective methods of communication, AAPSE responded this is an internal issue, and must be decided by NPSA. However, AAPSE offered the following comments:

The conference is a very good tool for networking, but the website is also extremely important. If more resources were put into development and maintenance of the website, it might significantly improve the overall success of the organization.

NPSA provides an important forum for networking between chemical manufacturers, container manufacturers, hazardous materials personnel, and state and federal regulators. AAPSE noted also that fiscal resources available to many NPSA members (i.e. industry) may support NPSA's objectives. AAPSE believes it's important for NPSA to focus now on what it wants to be, and what it can provide that is unique. An organization cannot be all things to all people, and NPSA needs to build an identity.

AAPSE have some concerns regarding the NPSA conference. AAPSE members generally/routinely cannot afford to attend meetings with high registration fees. In addition, it is difficult for some AAPSE members to justify travel to high cost cities and facilities. Finally, AAPSE members cited the number of meetings they need to attend as a problem. Most simply don't have time to attend all of the meetings they would like to attend, even if given unlimited financial resources.

NPSA proposes close relationship w/ AAPSE; methods suggested (unofficially) by NPSA include:

- Modify AAPSE By-Laws to allow AAPSE to become affiliate members of other organizations.  
AAPSE proposed that NPSA describe 'partner' and 'supporter' groups (vs. affiliates), as the PESP program does.
- Hold joint meetings.  
AAPSE informed NPSA that the organization currently meets at the C&T Workshop in odd years, and meets jointly with AAPCO in the odd years.

- Invite NPSA to attend AAPSE's meetings, as speakers and/or as participants.  
The rest of the meeting dealt with internal issues that are N/A to AAPSE.

*2000 NPSA Meeting:*

1<sup>st</sup> Annual Conference on Pesticide Stewardship -- papers and proceedings are posted on the NPSA website. Several AAPSE members attended as participants and presenters. The meeting included a section re: Applicator Education, Training and Research.

*2001 NPSA Meeting:*

2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Conference on Pesticide Stewardship -- papers and proceedings will be posted on the NPSA website. AAPSE had an even stronger presence at this meeting, based on number of participants and presenters. Again, there was a session devoted to pesticide safety education.

*2002 NPSA Meeting Plans:*

At the request of Kathy Brooks, NPSA Director of Operations, sent a general announcement and call for papers for the 2002 meeting to the AAPSE list serve. The 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Conference on Pesticide Stewardship is scheduled for August 25<sup>th</sup> to August 28<sup>th</sup> in Seattle, Washington.

Tentative topics include:

- label language adjustments to improve stewardship: what else is left to do?
- rinsate and sludge management options for dealer sites
- aquatic pesticide application stewardship needs and directions
- endangered species issues: implications on pesticide Best Management Practices
- alternative funding options for ag pesticide collection programs
- international stewardship partnerships: models and options for the future
- case studies of stewardship promotions that work at the dealer/retailer level
- clopyralid and composting: directions and solutions to move us forward
- improving the stewardship message (communication): what works and what doesn't?
- ensuring pesticide security at manufacturer, distributor, retailer, and end-user facilities
- tactics for improving container recycling and pesticide collection in metro areas
- improving the economics of ag plastics recycling: plastic lumber opportunities and partnerships
- reducing liabilities associated with pesticide disposal and container handling

*NPSA website(s):*

<http://www.acrecycle.org/NPSA/>

<http://www.npsalliance.org/>