

AAPSE Board of Directors Conference Call
September 26, 2008

In attendance: Jennifer Weber, Carol Ramsay, Ples Spradley, Ron Gardner, Dan Wixted, Kevin Keaney, Pat Hipkins, and Jim Wilson.

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m. (Pacific Time)

Antimicrobial (anthrax agent) Manual and Exam

Kevin Keaney said that a new antimicrobial exam and manual needs to be developed in order to ensure the proper use of restricted-use antimicrobials, such as those to control anthrax. He said that PRN 2008-02 describes the products and their use. The PRN was published last week and is available on the EPA website.

The category would be for a niche group, such as emergency medical technicians and first responders. Kevin said that this is completely apart from the certification and training module because it doesn't fit the regulatory requirement for a restricted-use product classification, based on toxicity and particular structure for the RUP. He said that the group that would fall into the category is very small. He also said that there are only few (possibly six) restricted-use antimicrobial products currently on the market.

Carol said that the proposed exam and manual will be focus on products that will only be used to control anthrax. Board members asked if the same products were used for other purposes, in addition to anthrax control. If so, would everyone who will use these products need to take this exam? Kevin didn't know if these products were going to be used for other purposes, but the Board members discussed the possibility that these products have a unique active ingredient and are labeled strictly for use on anthrax.

Kevin brought this topic to the AAPSE Board because there will be a request for proposals (RFP) for funding to develop the exam and manual very soon. Kevin said that the network of people from Extension Pesticide Safety Education Programs and State Lead Agencies are those who would be capable of developing these materials. EPA would provide and describe the blueprint. Jeff Kempter is overseeing EPA's Office of Pesticide Program's Antimicrobial Division and will meet with Kevin next week so that they can discuss the specifics of the RFP and the exam development. Kevin wanted to share this information with AAPSE so that members will have time to think about whether they would want to submit a proposal. He will let AAPSE know as soon as the RFP is available.

Ples said that in this case it would be best to develop the exam questions first and then write the study manual to support the exam's content. He said that AAPSE does have the expertise to develop the materials (exam and manual) but there would be a concern of the infrastructure and how the association would tackle this project, especially in relation to funding. Joanne asked about overhead and other monetary concerns when grants are awarded to universities.

The Board agreed that they will send a notice to the membership about the upcoming RFP. If AAPSE members or a group of members would like to submit a proposal, this will allow them ample time to prepare their documents. Ples said that he would like to hear more about this following Kevin's meeting with Jeff Kempter. In the meantime, Pat suggested that we send a message to the membership to query who might be interested in this type of project. If more than one person is interested, the Board could match them up so that they could submit a collaborative project proposal if desired.

Update on Soil Fumigant RED Response

Ples and Carol participated in the first conference call about the soil fumigant issue. They said that Dirk Helder wants to move quickly on this.

Several Board members provided input on this topic and the progress that has been made. Carol said that she got a good response from the AAPSE membership. Her plan is to move forward on this and to create a bulleted list of items and ask the board to identify which of the items should be addressed, before drafting a letter to send to the Board. Ples said that Kevin and group are aware of our position on this issue, so we can keep the letter short and direct.

Announcements of AAPSE Representation in Upcoming Meetings and Events

The following events and meetings were presented to the Board

- 1.) Soil Fumigation EPA group conference calls – September 30 and October 2, 2008
- 2.) Web-distributed labeling Pesticide Program Dialogue Committee (PPDC) workgroup meeting – October 2, 2008. Note: Catherine Daniels to participate as AAPSE representative
- 3.) SFIREG POM – October 6 and 7, 2008
- 4.) PPDC meeting October 7 and 8, 2008. Amy Brown (AAPSE Rep) and Carol Ramsay will participate
- 5.) Full SFIREG, December 8 and 9, 2008. Carol Ramsay will participate as AAPSE representative

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m. (Pacific Time)