

# Look What's Out There

in

## Integrated Pest Management

John F. Baniecki, Ph.D., Coordinator, Pesticide Safety Education Program  
M. Essam Dabaan, Ph.D., Pesticide Safety Education Program  
Rakesh S. Chandran, Ph.D. Coordinator, Integrated Pest Management Program  
**West Virginia University Extension Service.**

Issue 4– April 2005  
<http://www.wvu.edu/~agexten/>

### TREE FRUIT SCHOOL

The 2005 Tree Fruit Schools held at Romney and Kearneysville in March was considered useful by fruit growers in the state. The theme was "Challenges and Opportunities for IPM in Tree Fruit Production". Presentations given by the various speakers can be viewed at:

<http://www.caf.wvu.edu/kearneysville/wvufarm1.html>

### REDUCED HERBICIDE USE IN PASTURES TO MANAGE WEEDS

Demonstrations will be carried out in the counties of Barbour, Clay, Fayette, Greenbrier, Jackson, Lewis, Mason, Monroe, Nicholas, Raleigh, Randolph, and Summers on the use of wick applicators to control pasture weeds while trying to reduce herbicide use per acre.

### USDA FINALIZES REGULATIONS ON AGRICULTURAL SELECT AGENTS AND TOXINS

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service today announced the publication of a final rule that, among other things, removes plum pox and Asian soybean rust from the list of select agents and toxins. The list of (Plant Pest Quarantine) select agents and toxins was developed by USDA in conjunction with regulations governing the

possession, use and transfer of these agents and toxins, which have the potential to pose a severe threat to public health and safety, to animal or plant health, or to animal or plant products.

This final rule revises the format and content of USDA's regulations, which prescribe registration, biocontainment/biosafety, incident response and security measures for facilities handling these agents and toxins to protect against the use of such agents or toxins in domestic or international terrorism.

Asian soybean rust is a fungal disease which was naturally introduced into the southeastern United States in the fall of 2004. Because the disease spreads primarily by wind-borne spores, it will continue to spread naturally. Asian soybean rust has been removed from the list of select agents and toxins to facilitate timely research on effective means to manage the disease.

Plum pox potyvirus is a virus of stone fruit that causes yield losses to growers and reduces the marketability of fruit. Plum pox has been removed from the list of select agents and toxins because it does not spread easily by natural means and it would be difficult to spread intentionally.

These amended regulations are now substantially parallel to regulations promulgated by the Department of Health and Human Services'

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The removal of plum pox and soybean rust from the list of select agents was effective upon signature of the rule. The USDA and HHS final rules are scheduled to be published in the March 18 Federal Register. APHIS documents published in the Federal Register are available on the Internet at

<http://www.aphis.usda.gov/ppd/rad/webrepor.html>.

For further information, please follow this link:

[http://www.aphis.usda.gov/lpa/news/2005/03/slctagnt\\_ppq.html](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/lpa/news/2005/03/slctagnt_ppq.html)

Background: Final rule: Agricultural Bioterrorism Protection Act of 2002; Possession, Use, and Transfer of Biological Agents and Toxins. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE; Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service; 7 CFR Part 331 and 9 CFR Part 121; [Docket No. 02-088-4];RIN 0579-AB47; ACTION: .

Soybean rust Info:

See extensive Southern Plant Diagnostics Network page on Soybean rust @

[http://spdn.ifas.ufl.edu/soybean\\_rust.htm](http://spdn.ifas.ufl.edu/soybean_rust.htm)

<http://www.usda.gov/soybeanrust/>

Plum Pox Virus

<http://www.aphis.usda.gov/ppq/plumpox/>

Pest Alert Fact Sheet

<http://www.aphis.usda.gov/ppq/plumpox/plumpxfs.pdf>

(USDA, WASHINGTON, March 18, 2005)

Contacts: Dore Mobley (301) 734-7255;

Jerry Redding (202) 720-6959

## **BETTER LABELS FOR MOSQUITO CONTROL PRODUCTS**

EPA is issuing seven new recommendations to pesticide registrants and others to improve label statements for pesticide products used to control adult mosquitoes. The recommendations pertain to pesticide products applied by ultra-low volume aerial or ground application methods. The recommendations promote consistency and clarify labeling statements that may have been

unclear to users. The improvements will help public health mosquito control officials use the most effective techniques while ensuring that use of these products will not pose unreasonable risks to public health or the environment.

The recommendations are:

(1) adult mosquito control applications should be limited to trained personnel; (2) mosquito control directions and precautions should be clearly distinguished from any other use directions allowed on the label, such as agricultural crops; (3) label precautions and directions should be revised as needed to make hazards to aquatic life as clear as possible, and also to allow the application of these products over or near a body of water allowable under some circumstances; (4) users should consult with the state or tribal agency for pesticide regulation to determine if permits or other regulatory requirements exist; (5) labels should specify a spectrum of spray/fog droplet sizes, and indicate that droplet size should be determined according to directions from equipment manufacturers or other appropriate sources; (6) precautionary language to protect bees should have a provision to allow mosquito control applications in order to respond to threats to public health which are identified by health or vector control agencies on the basis of evidence of disease organisms or diseases cases in animals or humans; and (7) labels for adult mosquitoes should include limits on timing and number of applications to the same location. EPA worked with state agencies to develop initial recommendations and presented them at two public meetings of the Pesticide Program Dialogue Committee, an advisory committee to EPA representing a full spectrum of interests, including pesticide manufacturers, public health agencies, academia, user groups and public interest groups. In April 2004, EPA issued draft recommendations for public comment. To view the seven new recommendations, go to:

[http://www.epa.gov/PR\\_Notices/](http://www.epa.gov/PR_Notices/).

(EPANEWS: March 09, 2005) Contact: Enesta Jones, 202-564-7873 / [jones.enesta@epa.gov](mailto:jones.enesta@epa.gov).

## Agricultural and Environmental News

- In response to the recent introduction of *Phakospora pachyrhizi*, or soybean rust, into the United States, USDA facilitated the development of a federal, state, university and industry-coordinated framework for surveillance, reporting, prediction, and management of soybean rust for the 2005 growing season. This site includes links to local extension offices, the National Plant Diagnostic Network, and Regional Integrated Pest Management Center Resources. The purpose of the new USDA Soybean Rust Web Site (<http://www.usda.gov/soybeanrust>) is to support the goals of the coordinated framework and to provide stakeholders with timely and accurate information for managing soybean rust this year. This web site is a one-stop resource for soybean rust. It will be updated as new information becomes available (Bill Hoffman, CSREES/USDA).

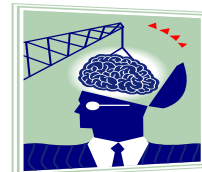
- EPA Announces Landmark Clean Air Interstate Rule.  
Acting Administrator Steve Johnson today signed the final Clean Air Interstate Rule (CAIR), a rule that will ensure that Americans continue to breathe cleaner air by dramatically reducing air pollution that moves across state boundaries in 28 eastern states. By 2015, CAIR will provide health and environmental benefits valued at over 25 times the cost of compliance, and those benefits will continue to grow (EPA, News for release: Thursday, March 10, 2005). Contact: Cynthia Bergman, 202-564-9828 / [bergman.cynthia@epa.gov](mailto:bergman.cynthia@epa.gov)
- Two documents released today provide principles and procedures to guide EPA scientists assessing cancer risk from exposures to environmental pollutants. The documents, "Guidelines for Carcinogen Risk Assessment (Cancer Guidelines)," and "Supplemental Guidance for Assessing Susceptibility from Early-Life Exposure to Carcinogens (Supplemental Guidance)"

reflect EPA's evolving approach to cancer risk assessment. The guidelines are prospective only and will apply to the agency's current and future risk assessments of environmental pollutants. The draft cancer guidelines and draft Supplemental Guidance were announced in the Federal Register on March 3, 2003. Both documents issued as final today have undergone extensive public comment and independent scientific peer review. Both documents and additional information are available at:

<http://www.epa.gov/cancerguidelines>.

(EPA, News for release: Tuesday, March 29, 2005). Contacts: Cynthia Bergman, 202-564-9828; [bergman.cynthia@epa.gov](mailto:bergman.cynthia@epa.gov). Rich Hood, 202-564-4355; [hood.rich@epa.gov](mailto:hood.rich@epa.gov).

## Did You Know That



West Virginia ranked 15<sup>th</sup> in United States tobacco production in 2003

- Tobacco total area harvested was 12,000 acres with yields averaging 1,300 pounds per acre and production totaling 1,56 million pounds
- Tobacco production value was \$3,065,000
- West Virginia's tobacco crop is mainly concentrated in the southwestern region of the state.
- Mason County is the leading tobacco producing county with 379,000 pounds, followed by Cabell (345,000), Putnam (270,000), and Lincoln (263,000) county.

