

Look What's Out There

in

Integrated Pest Management

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Issue 5– May 2006
<http://www.wvu.edu/~agexten/>

Weed Control Update

Remember one of the definitions of a weed is "a plant whose virtues are unknown," but when it is a plant "growing out of place", it becomes a weed problem.

1. Stinging nettle

Stinging nettle is a plant that has several medicinal attributes yet causes painful irritation to human skin upon contact. It is a perennial and responds to systemic herbicides like 2,4-D ester (broadleaf) and spot applications of glyphosate (or Roundup , non-selective), if it needs to be controlled. More information about this plant can be found at:

<http://www.oznet.ksu.edu/library/hort2/mf2631.pdf>

<http://www.umm.edu/altmed/ConsHerbs/StingingNettlech.html>

2. New Sweet Corn Herbicides

There are two new herbicides "Lumax" and "Lexar" that could be used for weed control in sweet corn. Both are restricted use herbicides since they contain atrazine. Both are preemergence herbicides and provide a broad spectrum of weed control (both grasses and broadleaves). Apart from atrazine and metolachlor, both contain the active ingredient mesotrione which is also registered in sweet corn as "Callisto". Atrazine and metolachlor extends the spectrum of weed control provided by Callisto.

New Online Resource for Aquatic Weed Control

A regional electronic publication "Mid-Atlantic Aquatic Plant Management Newsletter" offers timely and brief updates on important issues. To receive the letter, you need to register. For quick registration go to:

<http://www.weedscience.ncsu.edu/aquaticweeds/>, click on Register for Aquatic Plant Newsletter, enter requested information into the fields provided.

EPA Signs Settlement Agreement Regarding Endangered Species

EPA has signed a Settlement Agreement that resolves a lawsuit brought against the EPA by the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC). The Settlement Agreement establishes a series of deadlines for the Agency to make "effects determinations" for the pesticide atrazine to determine its potential effect on any of 21 named endangered or threatened species, or their designated critical habitat. The Agency will make "effects determinations" to determine whether its action: (1) has no effect on any of the named species; (2) may affect but is not likely to adversely affect any of the named species; or (3) may affect and is likely to adversely affect any of the named species (EPA, April 11, 2006).

EPA has posted a copy of the Settlement Agreement and a fact sheet at:

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

Funding Opportunity

- EPA (Region VI) is soliciting proposals to help implement the Food Quality Protection Act (FQPA) and to support efforts by the agricultural community to "transition" away from high-risk pesticides to lower risk pesticides and sustainable practices in food production. The program supports grants for education, extension and demonstration projects for FQPA transition and reduced risk practices for pest management in agriculture.

Deadline(s): 06/16/2006.

Link to full program description:

http://www.infoed.org/new_spin/spin_prog.asp?82952

Program URL:

<http://www.grants.gov/search/search.do?oppId=9128&mode=VIEW>

http://www.epa.gov/Arkansas/6pd/pd-p/ag_rfp06.pdf

Contact E-mail: thilsted.eugene@epa.gov

Agricultural and Environmental News

- A new database will provide the public with available information on the potential hazards associated with the most widely used industrial chemicals. The High Production Volume Information System (HPVIS) will provide comprehensive and easy access to basic health and environmental effects on the 2200 High Production Volume (HPV) chemicals that are sponsored under the HPV Challenge Program. This program challenges U.S. companies to voluntarily make publicly available basic health and safety data for chemicals manufactured or imported in volumes of one million pounds or more per year. HPVIS offers several options for accessing the data including, standard reports, customized requests, and the ability to review data for either individual chemicals or categories of chemicals (EPA, News: April 13, 2006). Information on the HPVIS: <http://www.epa.gov/hpvis>
- Under the terms of a recent settlement with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency,

Restore4, Inc. of Northridge, Calif. will pay \$5,200 for allegedly distributing an unregistered pesticide over the Internet, a violation of federal law. Responding to a tip, EPA investigators determined that Restore4, Inc. had sold and distributed "Restore4" – a kitchen/bathroom cleaner over the Internet – claiming it "kills pathogenic bacteria." Restore4 was not registered as a pesticide with the EPA, a violation of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act which regulates the sale, distribution, and use of pesticides within the United States (EPA, News: April 7, 2006).

- Connecticut and New York lobstermen have reached a \$12.5 million out-of-court settlement with Cheminova in a class action suit that claimed the company's alleged mislabeling of an insecticide contributed to the massive 1999 Long Island Sound lobster die-off (Pesticide & Chemical News, April 19, 2006).
- EPA has delayed approval of the fumigant iodomethane, a potential partial replacement for methyl bromide, while it continues its cluster risk assessment for all currently registered fumigants (Pesticide & Chemical News, April 24, 2006).
- EPA is soliciting applications for critical use exemptions (CUEs) from the phaseout of methyl bromide for 2009 and beyond, the agency announced in a Federal Register notice today (Pesticide & Chemical News, April 26, 2006).
- A senior development manager for Syngenta Seeds said that the company is at least six years away from rolling out what would be the world's first genetically modified wheat seed, and the company is now trying to determine if it should continue with the controversial project. Syngenta has recorded good results from five years of field trials for a type of genetically modified wheat that is resistant to Fusarium infection, which has cost U.S. wheat farmers millions of dollars in losses in the last several years (Via Chemically Speaking, UFL, March 2006).

Did You Know That

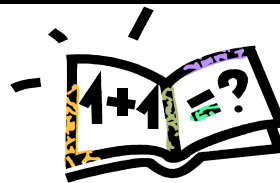


The amount of toxic chemicals released into the environment decreased four percent from 2003 to 2004 according to the Environmental Protection Agency's Toxics Release Inventory (EPA, April 12, 2006)

Comment Section

If there are any comments from the information presented, please let us know by sending an e-mail to: jbanieck@wvu.edu

Events



May 6-9, 2006

All Things Organic, Chicago, IL
<http://www.organicexpo.com%20/>

May 14-17, 2006

5th Natural Resource Extension Professionals Conference, Park City, UT.
<http://www.anrep2006.org/Home2.cfm?homeextra=yes>

August 7-9, 2006

International Conference on The Future of Agriculture: Science, Stewardship, and Sustainability, Sacramento, CA.
<http://www.dce.ksu.edu/dce/conf/ag&environment/>

August 15-17, 2006

North Central SARE's National Conference on Sustainable Agriculture, Oconomowoc, WI.
http://www.sare.org/ncrsare/2006_national_conference.htm

October 4-7, 2006

Natural Products Expo East, Baltimore, MD.
<http://www.expoeast.com/>