

# 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 7– July/Aug. 2006  
<http://www.wvu.edu/~agexten/>

### **Risk Management and Tolerance Reassessment Decisions Announced for Pyrethrins, Piperonyl Butoxide, and MGK-264**

EPA has determined that, with one exception, uses of pesticide products containing pyrethrins, piperonyl butoxide (PBO), and MGK-264 are eligible for reregistration, provided that risk mitigation measures identified in the Reregistration Eligibility Decision (RED) documents are adopted and product labels are amended accordingly.

Pyrethrins, PBO, and MGK-264 raise residential post-application risk concerns for adults and/or children, including exposures following broadcast dust applications to carpets and applications from indoor metered release devices. Pyrethrins and PBO also pose risks following applications from outdoor residential misting systems. MGK-264 also poses risks following indoor spray applications, indoor aerosol space spraying, dust application to pets, and use of insect repellents.

The Agency requests public comments on these decision documents during a 90-day period ending on October 24, 2006. Federal Register notices announcing the availability of the RED documents for the pyrethrins, PBO and MGK-264 are available on our website at <http://www.epa.gov/fedrgstr/>. (USEPA, News: July 31, 2006)

### **Floating Plant Mats Help Clean Manure Lagoons**

Studies have shown that it's possible to remove excess nutrients from manure lagoons by growing plants on floating mats. Agricultural Research Service (ARS) scientists in Tifton, Ga., have been studying how to most efficiently use this method to extract excess nitrogen and phosphorus from wastewater so it won't become an environmental problem.

Soil scientist Robert Hubbard, in the ARS Southeast Watershed Research Unit at Tifton; plant pathologist Jeffrey Wilson and geneticist William Anderson at the ARS Crop Genetics and Breeding Research Unit in Tifton; and colleagues Larry Newton, John Ruter and Gary Gascho at the University of Georgia are trying to determine the feasibility of removing excess nutrients in this way.

Lagoons are commonly used to store wastewater from confined-feeding dairy and swine operations. The nutrient-laden water is generally applied to land as fertilizer. But if it's not applied properly, any excess nitrogen and phosphorus may eventually contaminate drinking water, impair soil quality and cause "dead zones" in surface waters.

One research phase has been completed and a second is under way. The first phase was conducted in small tanks, the mats tested on full-strength wastewater, half-strength wastewater, or

an inorganic solution. Vegetation was grown atop floating rafts constructed of PVC pipe and chicken wire that was covered with jute erosion-control matting.

In that phase, cattail grew the best on full-strength wastewater, produced the most biomass, and removed the most nutrients. Studies showed that harvesting cattail from the floating rafts could remove an average of 493 grams of nitrogen and 73 grams of phosphorus per square meter per year (USDA-ARS, News: Aug. 1, 2006).

### **South American Countries to Develop Their Own Biotech Soybeans**

Leading research institutes in the Mercosur bloc of South American countries (Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay) have unveiled their strategy for overcoming dependence on biotech seeds developed outside the region (Pesticide and Toxic Chemical News: Volume 8, Issue 139, July 20, 2006).

### **Funding Opportunity**

- The Northeastern Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Center is pleased to announce the availability of funding through the Northeastern Regional IPM Competitive Grants Program. A Request for Applications (RFA) is posted on the Center's web page at [http://NortheastIPM.org/about\\_fund.cfm](http://NortheastIPM.org/about_fund.cfm). Approximately \$610,000 will be available in 2006 to support projects that develop individual pest control tactics, integrate tactics into an IPM system, and develop and implement extension education programs. A letter of intent is required with a deadline of Friday, October 7, 2005. Proposals are due Friday, November 18, 2005.

- The Northeastern Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Center is pleased to announce the availability of funding through its IPM Partnership Grants Program for 2006. A Request for Applications (RFA) is posted on the Center's website at [http://northeastipm.org/about\\_fund.cfm](http://northeastipm.org/about_fund.cfm), where it

can be downloaded in various formats. Approximately \$465,000 is available to support projects that will address or develop regional IPM priorities and will further the mission of the Northeastern IPM Center. Proposals are due Friday, December 16, 2005

### **Agricultural and Environmental News**

- The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has fined Envirosystems of Santa Clara, Calif., \$16,358 for the alleged sale and distribution of an antimicrobial disinfectant that failed effectiveness testing, in violation of federal pesticide law. The EPA cited Envirosystems for allegedly selling and distributing "EcoTru professional Broad Spectrum Disinfectant Cleaner," "EcoTru 1453," and "Steri-Safe." All three products claim to be hospital-grade disinfectants that will eliminate potentially harmful bacteria commonly found in hospitals. Sampling results indicate the products do not live up to their claims. (USEPA, News, July 05, 2006).
- A pesticide producer and a telemarketer/distributor in Suffolk County, New York have been cited by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for multiple violations of the federal pesticide law. EPA is seeking financial penalties totaling nearly \$1.5 million in separate complaints against the Topaz Turf Corporation in Holtsville and Southern Chemical Supply, Inc. (USEPA, News: July 19, 2006).
- A National Research Council (NRC) report released last week said more research is needed to determine how trichloroethylene (TCE) causes cancer and adverse health effects, but concluded that enough data are available for EPA to complete a human health risk assessment. The report recommended EPA perform a new analysis of the available epidemiologic data on TCE in order to support a risk assessment (Pesticide and Toxic Chemical News: Volume 8, Issue 146, July 31, 2006).

## Did You Know That



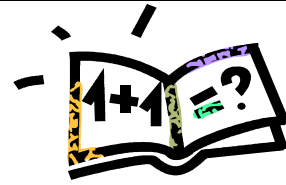
The U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) released a report in early March describing the occurrence of pesticides in streams and ground water during 1992-2001. The report concludes that pesticides are typically present throughout the year in most streams in urban and agricultural areas of the nation, but are less common in ground water. The report also concludes that pesticides are seldom at concentrations likely to affect humans (USGS, 3/3/06).

---

### Comment Section

If there are any comments from the information presented, please let us know by sending an e-mail to: [jbaneick@wvu.edu](mailto:jbaneick@wvu.edu)

## Events



### 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](http://www.sare.org/ncrsare/2006_national_conference.htm)

### Sept. 19-21, 2006

West Virginia Pest Control Operators Association Annual Conference. Ramada Inn, Morgantown. Further information will be forthcoming. Contact Dr. John Baneicki at 304-293-8835.

### Sept. 20, 2006

Ornamental and Turf workshop. Ramada Inn, Morgantown. Further information will be forthcoming. Contact Dr. John Baneicki at 304-293-8835.

### October 4-7, 2006

Natural Products Expo East, Baltimore, MD.

<http://www.expoeast.com/>