For Pesticide Enforcement Activities
by
Department of Pesticide Regulation
and the
Ventura County Agricultural Commissioner
for
Calendar Years 2019-2020

County

Name: Andy Calderwood
Title: Deputy Agricultural Commissioner
Date:

Name: Edmund E. Williams
Title: Agricultural Commissioner
Date: 9/20/2019

DPR

Name: Kamrul Bhuiyan
Title: Environmental Scientist
Date: 9/23/2019

Name: Jahan Motakef
Title: Environmental Program Manager I
Date: 9-24-2019
Pesticide Use Enforcement
2019-2020 Work Plan

County Program

Resources

Staff
1 Deputy Commissioner 2,000 hrs
2 Supervising Inspector / Biologists 4,000 hrs
8 Inspector / Biologists 14,000 hrs
1 Clerical Support 2,000 hrs
2 Student Aides 3,000 hrs

Bilingual Skills
One of the supervisors, four of the inspectors and the clerical support are fluent in Spanish.

Equipment
8 vehicles
Sample collection equipment (jars, bags, alcohol, etc.)
Each staff member has a:
  Work cubicle
  Computer terminal w/ internet access
  Field tablet
  Cell phone
Offices

Santa Paula                       Camarillo
1 Supervising Inspector          1 Supervising Inspector
4 Inspectors                      4 Inspectors
1 Student Aid                     1 Student Aid
Clerical support                 Clerical support

I. Restricted Materials (RM) Permitting

A. Current Status (2018)

Ag Permits Issued:               283
Non-Ag Permits Issued:           66
Operator ID Numbers:             292
(All include New Permits + Renewals, not Supplements or Corrections)

- Permits issued according to Chapter 7 of DPR’s *Pesticide Use Enforcement Program Standards Compendium.*
- Pre-Site Inspections: 227.
  Selection Criteria for Notices of Intent (NOI) for Pre-sites:
  - Proximity to schools, homes or historically sensitive sites;
  - Field fumigation;
  - Chlorpyrifos;
  - Poor compliance record.
- All Notices of Intent (NOI) are evaluated.
- Fumigation NOI evaluated by select staff only.
- Nineteen NOI denied. When staff find a non-compliant NOI, they contact the applicator to adjust the application or permit.
- Chlorpyrifos use fell from 6400 gallons in 2017 to 750 gallons in 2018, due to tighter permit conditions.

B. Planned Improvement

- Add Paraquat to NOI Pre-site selection criteria.
- Train staff in coming changes in paraquat restrictions.
- Map all fumigations digitally.
- Train all PUE staff in fumigation NOI.
- Deny non-compliant NOI instead of adjusting them.
- Adopt DPR’s strict ¼-mile buffer zone and other conditions suggested by DPR for chlorpyrifos permits.
- Develop a plan to phase out chlorpyrifos, following DPR’s proposed cancelation of the pesticide.

C. Goals and Projected Deliverables
- More Paraquat Pre-site inspections.
- Fumigations mapped and available to all inspectors.
- All inspectors evaluating fumigation NOI.
- Reduce chlorpyrifos use through ¼-mile buffer zone and other permit restrictions.

D. Measures of Success
- Increased staff flexibility as all staff able to evaluate fumigation NOI.
- Fewer NOI submitted out of compliance with permit.
- Fewer chlorpyrifos NOI.
- Less chlorpyrifos use.

II. Compliance Monitoring
A. Current Status
- 680 complete compliance monitoring inspections, exceeding 2018 Work Plan targets.
- Compliance levels:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Inspection Type</th>
<th>w/ Violations</th>
<th>Inspections</th>
<th>Violation %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ag Applications</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>394</td>
<td>1.5 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Ag Applic.</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Structural</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>104</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Branch 1</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Branch 2</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fieldworker Safety</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>2.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HQ, Grower</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>9.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HQ, Non-Ag</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HQ, Structural</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Compliance levels high in ag applications.
• Compliance levels low in non-ag applications, including structural.
• Compliance levels low in headquarters inspections of small growers and non-ag businesses.

B. Planned Improvement
• Increase outreach to non-ag businesses and small growers.
• Increase inspection targets for Branch 2 structural applications.
• Inspect the headquarters of ¼ of structural pest control businesses with branches in our county, approximately 20, per year.
• Increase inspection targets for landscape businesses.
• Increase inspections of small growers.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Inspection Type</th>
<th>2018 Target</th>
<th>2019 Target</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pre-site (102)</td>
<td>154</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Application-Grower (104)</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Application-PCB (104)</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mix/Load-Grower (104)</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mix/Load-PCB (104)</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Field Fumigation (106)</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commodity Fumigation (105)</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fieldworker Safety (103)</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Headquarters-Grower (109)</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Headquarters-PCB (110)</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Headquarters-SPCB (110)</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Headquarters-Dealer (109)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Headquarters-PCA (109)</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Structural-Branch 1 (107)</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Structural-Branch 2 (108)</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Structural-Branch 2-Mix/Load (108)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Structural-Branch 3 (108)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Structural-Branch 3-Mix/Load (108)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Totals</strong></td>
<td><strong>536</strong></td>
<td><strong>617</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

• Train mostly new staff in inspection procedures, with emphasis on quality inspections.

C. Goals and Projected Deliverables
• Create outreach packet for structural pest control businesses to help them better understand what is expected regarding records, pesticide storage,
PPE storage, decontamination, etc.
• Achieve Inspection targets set above.

D. Measures of Success
• Increased inspections of structural Branch 2 applications, structural headquarters, and other non-ag businesses.
• Increased compliance percentages for Branch 2 and other non-ag in 2020.

III. Enforcement Response
A. Current Status
• Period from non-compliance to enforcement action often more than 12 months.
• In 2018, from 47 compliance actions, 9 agricultural and 13 structural civil penalties levied.

B. Planned Improvement
• Shorten time from non-compliance to enforcement action.

C. Goals and Projected Deliverables
• Non-compliance to Enforcement Action: 180 days (2019).
• Non-compliance to Enforcement Action: 60 days (2020).

D. Measures of Success
• Notice of Proposed Action ( NOPA) sent within two months of a violation.

IV. Beekeeper Notification
A. Current Status
• Requirement to notify beekeepers not enforced.
• New app, Bee Where, to be available in 2019, facilitating all aspects of beekeeper notification.
• Apiary locations mapped onto a GIS layer by a single staff member, who is the only one who can query data to execute a beekeeper notification inquiry.
B. Planned Improvement

- Outreach to applicators, Pest Control Advisors (PCA), and beekeepers on their obligations under 3CCR Section 6654 and the FAC.
- Monitor Pesticide Use Reports (PUR) to check that applicators are doing the notification required.
- Document Proximity-to-Apary queries from applicators of pesticides toxic to bees.
- Move notification function to new Bee Where app when it becomes available.

C. Goals and Projected Deliverables

- Conduct at least five presentations on bee protection at industry meetings.
- Determine level of compliance with bee protection regulations.
- Bring beekeepers into compliance regarding registration and notification of apiary movements.
- Create and maintain formal record of bee notification inquiries.
- Employ Bee Where app for notification.

D. Measures of Success

- High rate of compliance with notification obligation.
- Beekeepers registering and notifying CAC of apiary movement.
- Apiary registrations increase.
- Bee Where app widely used by beekeepers, PCA’s, applicators and CAC staff, with most beekeepers taking over management of their own apiary location records through Bee Where.
- Few reports of bee kills.

V. Tarp Sampling

A. Current Status

- County does not test Totally Impermeable Films (TIF) to confirm efficacy.

B. Planned Improvement

- Under contract with DPR, sample ten fumigation tarps and submit for testing.
- Conduct investigations when tarp specs fall short of TIF standards.

C. Goals and Projected Deliverables
• Sample ten fumigation tarps and submit for testing.
• Conduct investigations as needed.

D. Measures of Success
• Data collected on tarp quality.

VI. Pesticides and Industrial Hemp
A. Current Status
• Industrial hemp not grown commercially in California.
• Registration of industrial hemp to begin Spring 2019.

B. Planned Improvement
• Prepare for pesticide applications on hemp.
• Evaluate pesticide labels for use on hemp.
• Reach out to applicators regarding drift onto hemp crops.

C. Goals and Projected Deliverables
• Create Hemp Working Group so that hemp growers and other stakeholders can meet to discuss the special problems posed by this new commodity.
• Develop protocol for adding hemp to permits and Op ID’s.
• Present information on hemp and pesticides to industry groups.
• Develop list of pesticides allowed on hemp.

D. Measures of Success
• Growers use products permitted for use on hemp.
• Few complaints of pesticide drift onto hemp.
• Illegal residues not detected on hemp.

VII. Maintenance Gardeners
A. Current Status
• Most landscape maintenance gardeners (MG) applying pesticides not licensed by DPR nor registered with the CAC.
• No formal program to bring unlicensed MG into compliance.

B. Planned Improvement
• Actively seek contact with MG.
C. Goals and Projected Deliverables
- Create standard contact form to give to MG.
- Log contacts with MG on a master file.
- Map MG contacts and create schedule for revisiting MG and monitoring progress toward compliance.

D. Measures of Success
- Large list of unlicensed MG created.
- Increase in licensed and registered MG.
- Fewer unlicensed MG encountered in field.

VIII. Pesticide Container Recycling
A. Current Status
- Conduct two pesticide container recycling events per year in Santa Paula, one in spring and one in fall.
- In 2018, collected 24,000 lbs of plastic for recycling.

B. Planned Improvement
- Conduct one of the two events on the Oxnard Plain, closer to more pesticide operations.

C. Goals and Projected Deliverables
- Run two recycling events, one at the Camarillo Airport, one in Santa Paula.

D. Measures of Success
- Increase in total weight of plastic collected.

IX. Pesticide Residues on Produce
A. Current Status
- 20 cases of illegal pesticide residues on produce coming from Ventura County farms ("T-cases" from Tolerance) in 2018, highest number by far in CA.
• Many cases taking 6 months or more to complete.

B. Planned Improvement
• Shorten time to complete t-case investigations.
• Reach out to growers to teach about known causes of illegal residues.

C. Goals and Projected Deliverables
• Conduct five presentations covering illegal residues before industry groups.
• Conduct compliance interviews with growers with a history of illegal residues.
• Complete t-case investigations within 3 months of initiation.

D. Measures of Success
• Fewer cases of produce residues above tolerance.
• T-cases completed within 3 months.