

**ASPCRO Bed Bug Committee
2014 Annual Committee Report
August 24, 2014**

Committee Members: Liza Fleeson, Chair, Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services; Tim Drake, Clemson University; Jung Kim, North Carolina Department of Agriculture; Steve Sims, Kentucky Department of Agriculture; Dave Scott, Office of the Indiana State Chemist; Jim Fredericks, National Pest Management Association; Julie Spagnoli, JM Specialty Consulting (Consultant For RISE); Norman Goldenberg, Consultant; Jim Warneke, Fulton Marine International; Jonathon Berger, BASF; and Kim Kelley-Tunis, Rollins.

COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES UPDATE

25(b) Products

During 2013, ASPCRO provided comments to the proposed 25(b) rule in which EPA is proposing to more clearly describe the active and inert ingredients permitted in products eligible for the exemption from regulation for minimum risk pesticides and to modify the label requirements in the exemption to require the use of specific common chemical names in lists of ingredients on minimum risk pesticide product labels, and to require producer contact information on the label. Given reports of lack of efficacy of these products and/or efficacy data; false or misleading statements or claims to protect human or public health; and misuse, the Committee continues to believe the need to 1) maintain our efforts to have the EPA address efficacy of 25(b) products labeled not only for bed bugs but all 25(b) products and 2) continue discussions with EPA regarding future efforts.

In early 2014, EPA expressed an interest in collaborating with states (5 or 6 states) to start a dialogue to discuss issues of state registration requirements. In consultation with EPA, the Chair made initial contact with select states who had previously indicated an interest in working towards addressing such issues. Florida, Indiana and Pennsylvania (States) expressed a continued willingness to work on this issue. Subsequently, a meeting was held with EPA HQ Registration Division to discuss potential activities or paths forward with the process. The Committee also became aware of a complementary process through OECA working through Full SFIREG that focuses primarily on non-compliance issue through a compliance assistance process. A conference call to discuss possible paths to address these issues was held in April with interested States. Given 25(b)s are not considered a “priority” by EPA, while a number of possible options were discussed to address these issues, it was concluded that the best path forward was to “make the case” that they should be a priority. It was also decided that the current status of OECA’s process should be determined.

The Committee was represented at the SFIREG Pesticide Operations and Management (POM) Working Committee Meeting May 12-13, 2014. Regarding OECA’s compliance assistance efforts, given the current Staffing levels due to retirements and having not filled vacant positions within OECA, the compliance assistance process is currently on “hold” with the intent to continue work over the summer. A web page, targeted at the general public, is slotted to go up later this summer to answer basic questions about 25(b). Interested States provided comments on the webpage on two separate occasions.

The Committee was also represented during the Full SFIREG Meeting June 9-10, 2014. Regarding 25(b)s, Steve Howie, OECA, offered his assistance as the new liaison for these products. The Association of American Pesticide Safety Educators (AAPSE) also expressed ongoing concerns regarding the issue of the 25(b) products. A White Paper regarding this was developed and submitted to AAPCO for comment in 2013. AAPSE would like to move forward with this issue, but wants to insure that any position taken by them is aligned with that of AAPCO. As a result, they have been waiting for feedback from AAPCO and would like to know the status of this

request. Finally, Anthony Lamanno (Region 2) will be taking the lead regarding 25(b) repellency at next Full SFIREG Meeting.

Based upon the multiple efforts underway, the Committee activities to date as it relates to 25(b)s will remain status quo until the next Committee Meeting scheduled in conjunction with the 2014 Annual Meeting on Saturday, August 23 @ 1 PM. At that time, the Committee will be asked their thoughts on continuing to focus on all 25(b) products or returning efforts to only those 25(b) products labeled for bed bug use and how best to coordinate with other groups.

ASPCRO –Development of Phase 2 Survey

The Committee agreed to move forward with the review of the draft questions that were proposed, however, not included in the Phase 1 Survey and begin the development of the Phase 2 Survey and that preliminary input into the Phase 2 Survey will be requested from both the Federal Bed Bug Workgroup as well as SFIREG's Environmental Quality Issues Working Committee. These groups, in addition to AAPCO, will have additional opportunities to comment on the Phase 2 Survey. The Phase 2 Survey of State Lead Agencies may assist in refining the issues experienced by States as they relate to the 25(b) product efficacy and non-compliance (see note above regarding efforts to address 25(b) issues for bed bug products). The draft survey is scheduled to be reviewed during the August 23 Committee Meeting and will also be distributed to Committee Members who are unable to attend.

EPA Clearinghouse for Resources – Review of Website

The Committee has received comments or concerns regarding EPA's Clearinghouse and the information presented for bed bug related outreach and education materials. Of particular concern is the list of products and the general public's perception as it relates to these products, for example, safe; efficacious; approved etc. The Committee did inform the EPA of the general concerns and offered their assistance with the review of the website. EPA has indicated their willingness to accept comments or suggestions from the Committee. There has been no additional activity for the reporting period

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES TO BE DISCUSSED

On July 11, 2014, an email was sent to all Committee Members requesting ideas on where the activities of the Committee should be (re)focused as we move ahead. This will continue to be explored at the Committee Meeting and with member states.

Respectfully submitted,



Liza J. Fleeson
Chair - Bed Bug Committee

[August 20, 2014]