

**ASPCRO Bed Bug Committee
Mid-Year Committee Report
April 3, 2012**

Members: The Bed Bug Committee welcomed two new members: Jung (Woogie) Kim, North Carolina Department of Agriculture, and Jim Warneke, Orkin Pest Control. Committee members also include: Matt Beal, Ohio Department of Agriculture; Dr. Timothy Drake; Clemson; Steve Dwinell, Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services; Eric Pearson, Oklahoma Department of Agriculture; Julie Spagnoli, FMC; Norm Goldenberg, Terminix; Bob Rosenberg, NPMA, and Liza Fleeson, Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (Chair).

The Bed Bug Committee (Committee) met in conjunction with the Annual Meeting on August 27, 2011 as well as via conference call and email. Committee priorities moving into 2012 included 1) the development of a dedicated webpage to provide not only information about the Committee to Members and the general public, but, links to, for example, resource materials including fact sheets and NPMA's Best Management Practices; 2) distribution of the final results of the Phase 1 Survey and development of the Phase 2 Survey Instrument for State Lead Agencies; 3) the development of a testing protocol for bed bug products; 4) creation of a clearinghouse of State Lead Agency resources; 5) review of label language for bed bug products; and 6) hosting an ASPCRO EPA Training to include bed bugs. The following items reflect current Committee activities and status:

Bed Bug Webpage The Committee drafted for consideration by the Board introductory information to appear on the dedicated webpage as well as an initial listing of links. The Committee intends to submit the draft to the Board for approval at the Mid-Year Meeting (attached).

ASPCRO – Survey of States – The Committee finalized the survey and released it on June 27, 2011 with a closing date of July 15, 2011. Liza Fleeson presented the preliminary survey findings during the 2011 Annual Conference. Tim Drake is in the process of drafting the final report for distribution to Members and other interested parties. A total of 42 (84%) of State Lead Agencies responded. Of those States that responded, 98% indicated a willingness to participate in future surveys.

In addition to the presentation at the Annual Meeting, the preliminary survey results were shared with the Federal Bed Bug Workgroup as well as SFIREG's Environmental Quality Issues Working Committee. The Committee requested input on the Phase 2 Survey from both groups. Upon completion of the Phase 1 Final Survey Report, the Committee will begin development of the Phase 2 Survey and will again seek comment from the aforementioned groups as well as AAPCO.

Testing Protocols – On March 6-7, 2012, EPA convened a FIFRA Scientific Advisory Panel (SAP) to receive expert opinions and recommendations on the design and scientific soundness of its "*Draft Product Performance Test Guidelines OCSPP 810.3900: Laboratory Testing Methods for Bed Bug Pesticide Products*". This guideline describes approaches to efficacy testing procedures, test methods, data reporting and evaluation of testing results for Section 3 bed bug pesticide product registration. In addition to submitting nominations for candidates to serve as ad hoc members of the SAP, ASPCRO provided written comments to the SAP. Tim Drake and Liza Fleeson also attended and presented oral comments on behalf of ASPCRO during the March 6, 2012 Public Comment period. In summary, ASPCRO concurred with the proposed methods and trusts that the final product of this process will address concerns regarding the efficacy of new conventional bed bug pesticide products, however, did offer the following summary comments to the Panel:

- The proposed guidelines address the concerns regarding the efficacy of new conventional bed bug products. The need, however, to address efficacy for not only those pesticides that are currently registered but also those that are exempt from federal registration remains.
- Notwithstanding the necessity to generate statistically meaningful data by using multiple strains of the test species, we believe that the current requirements may deter new products from entering the marketplace because of the lack of insect availability and high costs associated with maintaining those colonies; and

- Given that bed bug strains maintained in the laboratory have been shown to lose their resistance over time, known resistant strains should be re-tested for resistance at regular intervals and have their levels of resistance documented prior to efficacy testing

Complete comments are available (**Docket Number: EPA-HQ-OPP-2011-1017**)

Clearinghouse for Resources– One of the outcomes of the EPA’s National Bed Bug Summits was the clear need to provide a “Clearinghouse” for bed bug related outreach and education materials. ASPCRO offered its assistance in the development of the Clearinghouse. In May 2011, the EPA notified the Committee that they were ready to “test” the vetting process for the clearinghouse and requested the Committee’s assistance in submitting resources for consideration. Virginia submitted 26 bed bug fact sheets (13 each in English and Spanish). In November 2011, the Committee was informed that the EPA was ready to accept materials from governments and universities only. The Committee requested that its Members submit bed bug outreach and education materials, for example, Fact Sheets, Posters, Presentations, etc, that could be shared with the EPA and posted in the Clearinghouse. ASPCRO received materials from 15 Members and forwarded them to the EPA. Although no release date has been set, the EPA anticipates the Clearinghouse will be available in mid April. The Committee intends to make these materials available via the ASPCRO website as well.

Label Language Review – Bed Bug Products - The Bed Bug Committee early on identified bed bug label language as one of the items or issues that needs to be addressed and planned to work with ASPCRO’s Label Stewardship Committee to identify particularly problematic label language with the expressed goal of recommending or providing alternative language. The process began with the initial review of products labeled for bed bugs (August 2010) and was further refined (September 2010).). The process will move forward on April 2, 2012 with a Joint Meeting of the Bed Bug Committee and Label Stewardship Committee scheduled for 1:30 PM in the Jefferson Conference Room. The EPA, which had previously indicated they were undertaking a similar effort, along with the Membership and other interested parties, will be provided the work product of this effort.

ASPCRO EPA Field Training – On November 14 and 15, 2011, ASPCRO hosted field training for EPA Headquarter and Region 3 Staff. The Field Training included presentations and field activities related to: Rodenticide Risk Mitigation Decisions including the challenges in rodent control at the National Zoo and Apple Orchard as a result of the label amendment; **Bed Bug Infestations and Treatment Options including inspections of infested, occupied units and the challenges in effective treatment**; IPM in Schools including the challenges with implementation for both the facility and pest management professionals; and Brown Marmorated Stink Bug including both the Agricultural and Non-Ag Nuisance Pest issues and the challenges with control. The Field Training took place in the District of Columbia, Virginia and West Virginia. .

Other Activities: In addition to the above, Committee Members have attended and participated in the Pesticide Performance Dialogue Committee’s Public Health Working Group Meeting on October 11, 2011. The next meeting of the Working Group scheduled for May 2, 2012.

Next Meeting - The Committee is scheduled to meet on April 2, 2012 as part of the Mid-Year Meeting. In addition to the above items the agenda includes the following topics for discussion:

- Prophylactic Treatments for Bed Bugs;
- Development of Treatment Specific Fact Sheets (for example, heat treatments);

The Committee will meet at 10:30 AM in Jefferson A Conference Room. Participation is also available via conference call [Dial-In Number 866-842-5779; Conference Code 8042252223].

[3/20/12]

DRAFT

ASPCRO's Bed Bug Committee

Bed Bugs are not a new pest – their presence has been documented for centuries. In the United States, bed bugs were common through World War II when the advent and use of pesticides, for example, DDT, virtually eliminated them as a household pest and as such bed bugs had fallen off the radar of pest management professionals, state regulators as well as the general public. Due to a number of factors, including global travel and commerce, housing trends, changes in pesticide usage, and insect resistance, there has been a resurgence of these pests in developed countries.

In the United States, bed bugs have established themselves as a pest in all types of residences, including single and multifamily units, hotels and motels, assisted living facilities, and hospitals as well as public venues such as movie theaters. Although bed bugs are not proven to transmit disease, bed bugs have quickly become the public health pest of the 21st Century due to the difficulty of treatment, high expense for control, social stigma and emotional and psychological trauma experienced by individuals. Unlike common pests, for example, cockroaches and rodents, the long absence of bed bugs as pest has resulted in many stakeholders seeking information about the biology of bed bugs, the health significance of the pest, inspection and current treatment methods, regulation of bed bugs, challenges of bed bug management and suggested best management practices.

To help fill the needs of its member states and other stakeholders, in August 2009, ASPCRO formed its Bed Bug Committee. It's mission.....*to assist State Lead Agencies, the Environmental Protection Agency and other stakeholders as they address the issues surrounding the re-emergence of bed bugs as a pest of concern by facilitating dialogue among stakeholders; identifying data gaps and mechanism to gather data; serving as a clearinghouse for resources & developing resources as necessary and keeping abreast of both Federal and State initiatives, legislation and other activities.*

Built upon the idea that to effectively address the many issues, all stakeholders need to be at the table, current members of the Committee include:

Liza Fleeson, Chair, Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
Matt Beal, Ohio Department of Agriculture
Tim Drake, Clemson University
Steve Dwinell, Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
Eric Pearson, Oklahoma Department of Agriculture
Jung Kim, North Carolina Department of Agriculture
Bob Rosenberg, National Pest Management Association
Julie Spagnoli, FMC
Norman Goldenberg, Terminix International
Jim Warneke, Orkin Pest Control

For information related to Committee activities and easy access to resource materials, please select from the topics listed below: [Note: these will be links]

[2011 Bed Bug Survey Results](#)

[NPMA's Bed Bug Best Management Practices](#)

[EPA's Bed Bug Product Efficacy Data](#)

[Outreach & Education Materials](#)

[Committee Reports](#)