



COMMUNIQUÉ

REPORT OF THE 8th MEETING OF THE FEDERAL PROVINCIAL TERRITORIAL COMMITTEE ON PEST MANAGEMENT AND PESTICIDES

October 18- 20, 2004, Vancouver, British Columbia

The eighth meeting of the Federal Provincial Territorial Committee on Pest Management and Pesticides (FPT Committee) was recently held in Vancouver, British Columbia. It was co-chaired by Madeline Waring, Food Safety and Quality Branch, British Columbia Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries, and Trish MacQuarrie, Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA), Health Canada.

This committee brings together provincial, territorial, and federal representatives who are involved in pesticide regulation, use, and management to enable the exchange of information and coordination of actions related to pest management issues. The regulation of pesticides in Canada is governed under both federal and provincial legislation. This committee builds strong linkages that facilitate effective, efficient management and solutions to shared concerns. The FPT Committee also serves as a vehicle for the discussion of current pesticide and pest management issues.

The half-day Technical Session on Monday morning provided FPT members with detailed information on implementing the new federal *Pest Control Products Act*.

Main areas of discussion at the FPT Committee meeting were as follows:

Working Group Reports

The FPT addresses a number of their challenging issues through its associated working groups. The following is a summary of the status or progress of the various working groups since the FPT Committee met last year.

The Classification Implementation Working Group (CIWG) reported on the status of developing a harmonized approach to classification. The FPT acknowledges that this is a difficult task and supports the ongoing work of the CIWG in further analysing stakeholder comments and implementation issues necessary in moving towards a final harmonised system.

The Working Group on Pesticide Education, Training and Certification (WGPETC) reported on the completion of priority items on their workplan including the Landscape module and the

Framework document. The Landscape module which outlines the knowledge requirements for landscape applicators now includes enhanced information on integrated pest management. The FPT approved the Framework Document which lays out the details of the National Standard on Pesticide Education, Training and Certification including certification and recertification criteria. FPT continues to place priority on the update of the basic knowledge requirements for applicators.

The Healthy Lawns Working Group (HLWG) met on Sunday, October 17th prior to the FPT meeting. The HLWG reported to FPT on their continued efforts to reach homeowners with messages on integrated pest management practices with regard to lawn care, improve labelling of household use products, and to address recommendations with regard to which type of product should be available to homeowners. The Healthy Lawns recommendation that registrants voluntarily cease marketing fungicide/insecticide and fertilizer/herbicide combinations due to their lack of IPM compatibility have contributed to the discontinuation of a number of these products. FPT was interested in pursuing discussions with the Canadian Food Inspection Agency to examine concerns related to fertilizer/herbicide combination products. The Working Groups' continued emphasis on the importance of reading the label resulted in the development and distribution of 17,000 "Read the Label" pamphlets. FPT continues to support these efforts and encourages the HLWG to finalize remaining workplan commitments as quickly as possible.

The FPT Buffer Zone Working Group (BZWG) appointed a provincial co-chair to help facilitate communication and is committed to addressing buffer zone issues. The PMRA has prepared a new draft of the Buffer Zone Regulatory Proposal and will circulate it to the FPT BZWG for comment. FPT encouraged the group to host a teleconference call to advance communication on the proposal in the near future.

The Pesticide Risk Indicator Working Group reported on their progress and highlighted the need to communicate with stakeholders on the recommendations of a pesticide risk indicator model. FPT supports the ongoing efforts of this group and wants to ensure that any Canadian approach stays current with international progress on risk indicators.

The National Pesticide Sales Database Working Group (NPSDWG) has completed their work. The National Sales Database is now being published as a key regulation under the new federal *Pest Control Products Act*. Since the NPSDWG has completed their task, the FPT agreed to discontinue this group.

The Minor Use Working Group continues to meet monthly by conference call as well as annually with its key stakeholders to review and establish Canadian minor use priorities as well as resolve minor use issues. The FPT agreed with the idea that AAFC/PMC establish minor use scientific technical committees with provincial minor use co-ordinators and PMRA.

Other main areas of discussion included:

1. updates on items of interest within the respective provinces;
2. FPT members' participation and representation on external committees;
3. activities relating to the product re-evaluation process; and the access to an electronic

- summary of re-evaluation actions and decisions;
4. PMRA's Risk Reduction Strategy for pest management in agriculture and Harmonization; and
 5. a summary of emergency registration decisions for 2004.

Stakeholder Involvement

The stakeholder session prior to commencement of the formal FPT Committee meeting included presentations to the FPT Committee by the Canadian Aerial Applicators Association, the Urban Pest Management Council of Canada, Syngenta Crop Protection Canada Inc., the Consumer Chemical Specialty Products Association, the World Wildlife Fund, BC Landscape & Nursery Association, Integrated Vegetation Management Association, CropLife Canada, and the Forest Pest Management Caucus.

Topics discussed by stakeholders included supporting the principles and development of Integrated Pest Management in sustainable forestry, regulations for expedited review of reduced risk and minimal risk pest control products, an overview of how essential aerial application is to the Canadian economy, harmonized pesticide classification, and the monitoring of atrazine.

The next meeting of the FPT Committee is planned for St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador and will be held in October 2005.