

## MINUTES

### **Pesticide Advisory Committee January 29, 2007**

Present: Scott Armbrust, Gerry Cummins, Leonard Felix, Byron Kunugi, Sandra McDonald, Hal Pearce, Dale Tanda, Tom Tolkacz, Larry Walker, and Richard Dykstra, Angela Medbery, Katy Walker of Colorado Legal Services – Migrant Division, Shana Baker and Danelle Morgan of the Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment, and Mitch Yergert, Dave Joeris, Laura Quakenbush, John Scott and Jeannine Coppage of the Colorado Department of Agriculture (CDA).

Tom Tolkacz, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 9:36 a.m.

CDA and Plant Industry Division Update: Mitch Yergert announced that the Colorado Department of Agriculture has a new Commissioner, John Stulp, a farmer and rancher from Lamar. He is a veterinarian who attended Colorado State University and is a former Prowers County Commissioner. His farm is actively involved with renewable wind energy. Don Ament, the previous Commissioner, has retired and moved back to his farm.

Mitch reported that construction is ongoing in the Division to provide a new office for the Pesticide Program Manager and to switch areas for the enforcement specialists and inspectors in order to better maximize space.

Pesticide Act Rule Changes: Laura Quakenbush reported that the first rule change to add federal restricted use pesticides (RUPs) to dealer record-keeping requirements took effect January 1. The second rule change to exempt devices from regulation will take effect March 4 and there is an emergency rule change in effect until then.

Private Applicator Program Implementation: John Scott said that he's heard positive comments on the smooth transition of the Private Applicator Program from EPA to CDA.

CDA has compiled a grower database. It includes nurseries, which are the single largest group lacking in knowledge of Worker Protection Standard (WPS) requirements.

John distributed two "Pesticide Safety Sheet" brochures, one in English and one in Spanish. A third handout is the "Agricultural Worker Information Referral Form," which was designed to be filled out by clinics, housing units, etc., on behalf of workers who don't want to file formal complaints and wish to remain anonymous.

CDA has been working with migrant coalition groups. There will be a statewide migrant coalition group meeting in April.

John reported that the Federal Registry Notice of CDA's assumption of the Private Applicator Program from EPA was published around Christmastime and received no comments. The final Registry Notice is being worked on now and should be published in a week or two.

CDA's Information Technology (IT) team is developing an on-line database of private applicators that RUP dealers can access using their ID # to determine if purchasers are licensed or not.

Pesticide Use Survey Update: Rob Wawrzynski, CDA Groundwater Coordinator, said that a letter will go out to commercial applicators soon; informing them of the on-line survey and asking them for their participation. The survey should be available on-line by mid-February and will remain on the web site for about two months. There are four separate surveys for the following areas: agricultural, turf and ornamental, structural and agricultural non-crop. The survey is completely anonymous.

Pesticide Applicator Exam Item-Writing Committee Update: Sandra McDonald said that two exam item-writing committees are running concurrently every other Tuesday. They are for Public Health Pest Control (Category 110) and Forest Pest Control (Category 106).

PAC Member Appointments: John reported that letters have gone out to commercial applicators and industry organizations asking for nominations or renominations for the PAC members whose terms expire on February 9. These members are:

<u>Member</u>	<u>Representing</u>
Scott Armbrust	Commercial applicator, structural
Gerry Cummins	General public
Fred Dickman	Limited commercial applicator
Leonard Felix	Commercial applicator, agricultural
Tom Tolkacz	Commercial applicator, turf & ornamental

After receiving nominations, CDA makes recommendations for members to the Ag Commission, which appoints or reappoints members. The next meeting of the Ag Commission is March 5.

Gerry Cummins and Tom Tolkacz announced that they will not be submitting their names for renomination for the next term. Scott Armbrust and Leonard Felix will be submitting their names again.

The three remaining meetings of the PAC for 2007 will be:

April 30

July 30

October 29

The meeting adjourned at 11:43 a.m.