



National School IPM Steering Committee
January 18th, 2019

Send additions, omissions or other corrections to jcooper@ipminstitute.org.

Participants:

1. Julian Cooper, IPM Institute of North America
2. Shaku Nair, University of Arizona
3. Joe LaForest, Southern IPM Center
4. Dawn Gouge, University of Arizona
5. Fudd Graham, Extension Specialist, Auburn University
6. Seth Dunlap, Arkansas Agriculture Department
7. Matt Bauer, Western IPM Center
8. Joellen Lampman, New York State IPM
9. Lynn Braband, Cornell University
10. Lucy Li, University of Arizona
11. John Connett, University of Wyoming

Agenda:

1. Seth Dunlap – Pesticide applications while children are present and call for literature
2. Joellen Lampman, Lynn Braband – Update from New York State IPM, Cornell
3. Julian Cooper – Pest Defense website statistics
4. Member updates
5. Agenda

1. Seth Dunlap – Pesticide applications while children are present and call for literature

- Arkansas Agriculture Department – Commercial Pest Control Program
- School IPM not mandated by law in Arkansas. Need license to use restricted use pesticide on school property, that's the only requirement.
- Schools have no incentive to even reach out to learn about IPM.
- Interesting case – commercial operator made applications during school hours while children and staff were present. Seth has talked to operator, educated them on laws and requirements, worked with him many times.
- Pesticide applicator said, "I stopped spraying every time they walked past."
- Arkansas Inspector's sons go to this school!
- School district is getting confrontational with Arkansas Ag Dept. Anonymous complaint. School more worried about rates going up on monthly pest control services than safety.
- Seth would much rather regulate through education, but in this case need to educate through enforcement.
- Applicator knows its wrong. But didn't use the knowledge. There is documentation of training to hold applicators accountable.
- Luckily no *confirmed* human exposure, but very strong case that there was exposure.

- Label is law – none of these labels permitted spray with people present.
- Swab samples detected very high levels of pesticide. Going to retest swab samples to confirm levels before drawing conclusions, but they are very sure.
- Luckily this time it happened where it can be seen and stopped. How often is thing happening in rural areas?
- Nobody wants more regulation. Difficult situation from a regulatory standpoint to enforce the laws and regulations.
- Knowledge and education sharing is key. Create more awareness about regulations.
- Send learning materials to Seth.Dunlap@agriculture.arkansas.gov
- Questions/comments:
- Dawn Gouge – Is company/technician a repeat offender?
 - i. Seth Dunlap – Yes. Company has already got two other violations from two different locations and two different technicians on separate occasions for misapplication of pesticides. One confirmed exposure to an infant at a hospital.
 - ii. Dawn Gouge – is the offense an off-label use of pesticide?
 1. Seth Dunlap – Yes.
 2. Dawn Gouge – If swab samples are confirmed to be higher than the max application rate than the label, I would revoke business license.
 3. Seth Dunlap is unbiased, he only compiles evidence. Arkansas State Board and Pesticide Committee will hold a hearing and pass sentence. But he agrees that it would not be undue to revoke license.
 4. Dawn – Public health decision. This is bad for industry, bad for schools, bad for everybody.
 - iii. Seth Dunlap – People don't understand. Social platforms with misinformation, fake news, memes. Not everyone looks at these and sees satire. People really do believe the most outlandish things. It's very frustrating when you are trying to education people on facts, science and regulations, but they come back at you with fake science and rules. Creates a backfire effect and people become more entrenched in their beliefs and viewpoints and it becomes harder to change their minds.
- Matt Bauer – Importance of communicating risks of pesticides and pesticide use. Link to risk communication work group in Western IPM Center?
 - i. Dawn Gouge – It would be great to bring situation to work group. Ask them to think of best approach. Huge proponent of education, but when it comes to public health, we need regulation.
 1. For example: People buckle their seatbelts because they 1) Don't want to pay ticket, or 2) Don't want to crash through windshield.
 - ii. Matt Bauer – We don't want to data dump all ecotoxicology information on people. Paul Jebson, Oregon entomologist, has success with communicating to producers the risks of pesticides and convincing readers that it may not be in their best interest to use hazardous pesticides. People think that pesticides are safe if you use PPE and follow label. Education is important – help people understand hazards posed to themselves and others to conclude that what they're doing may not be the best thing.
- Lynn Braband – Research pointing towards level of education has little effect on views. Depends more on community they identify with.

- Seth Dunlap – Extension educates, but Seth’s role is more regulatory. They follow the label. Label is law. Label language are legally-binding words. Seth must remain unbiased and cannot speak to personal opinions.
- Dawn Gouge – This is why we need easy-to-understand tools and strategies to replace bad habits. We emphasize proactive, preventative pest management to cut out as many pesticide application triggers as possible. Difficult to bring people together across districts.
- Send your literature and resources to Seth Dunlap at Seth.Dunlap@agriculture.arkansas.gov

2. Joellen Lampman – Updates from New York State IPM, Cornell

- New profiles developed for all 31 active ingredients that make up the 25-B products. Even cedar oil! View online at New York State IPM website <https://nysipm.cornell.edu/environment/active-ingredients-eligible-minimum-risk-pesticide-use/>
 - i. Want people to see the risks and benefits of minimum risk pesticides.
- Kyle Vicking – Cornell Entomology, beneficial nematodes to combat white grubs on school turf/athletic fields.
 - i. Issue with buy-in. Held a workshop to train teachers from four districts, had them use their science classroom to sample fields. Half of fields had nematodes. Half did not. Trained to do bioassays. Going to compare and see if beneficial nematodes are a suitable control!
 - ii. Wanted to determine if this was a good way to monitor for white grubs.
 - iii. Not allowed to apply pesticide for white grubs in NY.
- Ticks – received money from NY State Senate for site assessments for Lyme Disease risk in schools. Black-legged ticks require high humidity, not found often in middle of fields. Late winter, hot summer, then rain all through fall. Confirms old findings. Ticks along edge, even more than farther into the woods.
 - i. Hot spots in playgrounds against woods.
 - ii. Held mini-tick IPM school workshop that covered tick biology, where they’re found, monitoring, control, created tick drag and practiced scouting.
- Dawn Gouge – Are materials online?
 - i. Don’t Get Ticked NY website with school-specific infographics. One on monitoring, one on management.
- New York also hot spot for lone star and Asian. Lone star can tolerate hotter conditions. Asian long-horn tick - Finding 1000s of larvae at a time.
- NY State IPM partner with Cornell turf grass team for a six-day workshop. Schools are sending landscape professionals/mowers, not building management. Provide landscape workers basic landscape IPM and how to argue for materials needed and education further.
- Julian will link NY State resources on Pest Defense for Healthy Schools website.

3. Julian Cooper – Pest Defense for Healthy Schools website statistics

- Looked at seven key metrics: Sessions, % New Sessions, Users, New Users, Bounce Rate, Registered Users, Certificates
- Tried to track events and promotion that may have influenced website traffic.
 - i. Summer: High traffic as we reached out to organizations to meet grant objectives
 - ii. November: Low traffic, busy getting NC IPM center grants together
 - iii. December: Highest traffic, rebranding press release sent out. Really shows that online referrals are best way to increase traffic, even more than in-person events.

- Can also see breakdown of number of certificates/modules on the side
 - i. Let me know if you want more in-depth information on any courses, i.e, nurses
- Moving forward – exclude bots and spiders, per Joe LaForest’s suggestion
- Bots, spiders and crawlers are software applications that run automated tasks on the internet. There’s a lot of them: Bot traffic now represents around half of the world’s total internet traffic.
 - i. Good: Search engines, check copyright
 - ii. Bad: Copy content, fake reviews/comments

4. Regional Updates

- **Western region**
 - i. John Connett – looking for updated information on number of school districts that don’t allow pesticide applications on grounds or no regulations against spraying, and how many school districts have IPM plans or policies? Beyond Pesticides information online is old and out-of-date. Will contact Janet Hurley for more information.
 - ii. Dawn Gouge – First southwest rodent academy was a success. A lot of people flew in from out of state. There are several other rodent academies around the country. Kathy Murray in Maine might be hosting a rodent academy. It’s great to see how the rodent academy is expanding.
- **Southern region**
 - i. Fudd Graham – Planning a conference call for a grant for training of Extension agents. Only 10% of population uses pest management professionals. Texas/Alabama/Florida training to work with homeowners so agents are educated on urban IPM.
- **Northeast region**
 - i. Lynn Braband – Waiting to hear on NE IPM Partnership Communication Grant application to update SIPM Best Practices on NE IPM Center website and upgrade WG website.
- **Northcentral region**
 - i. WI Green and Healthy Schools presentation – helps certify US Dept. of Education Green Ribbon Schools, has IPM requirement. Working with schools in WI to become Green Ribbon certified.
 - ii. Bethany Olson – New EPA R7 IPM Coordinator
 - iii. Illinois mandated IPM training project with Ruth Kerzee and Midwest Pesticide Action Center nearly complete, training now available on Pest Defense website. Plans to get approved under IL Dept. of Public Health and IL Structural Pest Control Act, but contact may have left the department. Reached out to replacement this week, stay tuned.
 - iv. Upcoming Pest Defense trainings in Las Vegas, NM 1/23, Las Vegas, NV NEA ESP Conference 3/22-24, Pittsburgh, PA 4/15
 - v. Should hear back about School IPM WG grant from NC IPM Center in ~ 2 weeks, end of January.

Our next WG call will be Friday, February 15th from 1:30-2:30 pm CT.