



## Pesticide, Anhydrous Dealers, Pesticide Applicator Honored

The North Dakota Department of Agriculture (NDDA) and the North Dakota Agricultural Association (NDAA) honored three pesticide and anhydrous ammonia dealers and applicators during the NDAA's December 2013 annual meeting in Fargo.

"These awards recognize good stewardship of soil, water and air through the safe and proper use of plant nutrient and crop protection products," said Gary Knutson, NDAA executive director. "The North Dakota Agricultural Association is proud to sponsor these awards and recognize people who excel in customer service and environmental awareness."

For the second consecutive year, Wholesale Ag Products-West of Underwood, managed by Chad Olson, was named the North Dakota Outstanding Pesticide Dealer of the Year.

"Wholesale Ag Products-West hosts grower meetings to help their clients better understand the safe and legal use of pesticides," said Jim Gray, NDDA pesticide and fertilizer division director, who presented the awards on behalf of Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring.

"They have excellent pesticide storage and repackaging facilities, and their recordkeeping is meticulous."

Kent Taylor, owner of Taylor Ag Services in Watford City, was named 2013 Outstanding Pesticide Applicator of the Year.

"Mr. Taylor has invested in top-of-the-line sprayer technology to reduce drift and improve accuracy, and he keeps his equipment in top condition," Gray said. "He is extremely conscientious about when and where he applies pesticides, and he keeps excellent records, including maps for each treatment site, weather data taken at multiple times, and start and stop times for each application."

Started in 1985 with two small planes, Taylor Ag Services today operates three granular fertilizer spreaders, three ground sprayers and four airplanes, and sprays an average of 200,000 acres each year.

North Dakota has approximately 9,000 commercially certified pesticide applicators.

Dakota Fertilizer of New Leipzig, owned by Reggie Pahl, was named the 2013 Outstanding Anhydrous Ammonia Dealer of the Year.

"The facility is very neat and professional in appearance and could serve as a model for others," Gray said. "They have worked with their customers and NDDA to get farmer-owned nurse tanks into compliance."

Nominees were selected and scored by North Dakota Department of Agriculture field staff. Scoring criteria included recordkeeping, storage, use of personal protective equipment, overall appearance, improvements and contributions to product stewardship.

### 2013 Awards Nominees

#### Outstanding Pesticide Dealer of the Year

- Jamestown CPS, Jamestown
- Southwest Grain, Elgin
- Taylor Ag, Watford City
- West Central, Inc. Fargo
- Wholesale Ag Products – West, Underwood

#### Outstanding Pesticide Applicator of the Year

- Dennis Horpestad, CHS Milton
- Brian Rau, Medina Flying Service
- Rocky Rice, Hunter Grain
- Kent Taylor, Taylor Ag Services

#### Outstanding Anhydrous Ammonia Dealer of the Year

- Cando Farmers Grain and Oil
- Dakota Fertilizer, New Leipzig

### In this issue ...

Pesticide, Anhydrous Dealers, Pesticide Applicator Honored.....	1
Coordinator's Comments .....	2
EPA Proposes New Worker Protection Standard Regulations .....	2
EPA Announces Plan for Federal Certification of Pesticide Applicators on Indian Reservations.....	3
Comparison of Major EPA WPS Regulation Changes, Feb. 20, 2014 .....	4
State Pollinator Plan Online .....	6
Maps Help Pesticide Applicators Avoid Sensitive Locations.....	7
Sixth Edition of 'Recognition and Management of Pesticide Poisonings' Available Online and in Print.....	7

# COORDINATOR'S COMMENTS

Back in the fall of 2005, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced that it was going to revise the Worker Protection Standard (WPS) regulation and the Certification and Training (C&T) regulation. In mid-February, the EPA rolled out its draft WPS regulations for public comment.

The regulations were published in the Federal Register on March 19, 2014. As for the C&T regulations, they still are being processed through the EPA mill, and the best guess on their release is it will not be until the middle of 2015, if then.

Elsewhere in this PQ, I published the EPA's news release regarding the WPS proposal and the summary of the most significant changes being considered. This is only the very tip of the iceberg. The official notice, rationale and description of the changes run 89 pages in the Federal Register.

Unfortunately, with a rule change of this magnitude, getting your mind around it is difficult, much less being able to comment upon it intelligently. My colleagues in other states even now are trying just to read through this for the first time and have yet to really critique it in any meaningful way.

Based on my very preliminary read of the various documents the EPA has supplied, it is fair to say that this is a **very significant** regulation change and one that will impact all users of pesticides on farms, forest and nurseries and in greenhouses. You will see more about this proposal in the next issue of the PQ, and you should keep your eye on this matter and take the time to make comments. Comments are due on June 17, 2014.

Another major regulation change announced in February was the implementation of the "EPA Plan for the Federal Certification of Applicators of Restricted Use Pesticides (RUPs) Within Indian Country." You can read more about this in the EPA's news release published in this PQ.

The plan would result in the issuance of federal certification credentials to applicators who will use RUPs on Indian reservations. Very few tribes have existing authority to recognize or issue state certifications. Thus, the EPA is taking this step to facilitate the legal use of RUPs on Indian reservations.

## Julie Anderson to retire

In 2004, Julie came to work for the NDSU Pesticide Program based upon her experience in the Moorhead School District and her work with Prudential Insurance. She quickly made a positive impact by organizing and administering our financial responsibility process.

She has played an active role in many facets of the program, but she has provided exceptional leadership in supporting our country Extension programs, training and managing our college work study students (which are so crucial to our effort), scheduling our trainings and processing commercial/public/dealer certificates. She has been a delight to work with through the years. Her last day with the program will be May 16, 2014. Thank you, Julie.

Best regards for a successful spring spraying season,



Andrew A. Thostenson,  
Pesticide Coordinator

## EPA Proposes New Worker Protection Standard Regulations

*Editor's note: Since the fall of 2005, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has been working on an overhaul of the Worker Protection Standard (WPS) regulations for pesticides used on farms, forests and nurseries and in greenhouses (agricultural uses). On Feb. 20, 2014, the EPA announced its draft regulation. For more on this, see the chart the EPA has developed comparing the old with the proposed new regulations in this Pesticide Quarterly. Also read more comments on this in the Coordinator's Comment section.*

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced proposed revisions to the Worker Protection Standard to protect the nation's 2 million farm workers and their families from pesticide exposure.

"Today marks an important milestone for the farm workers who plant, tend and harvest the food that we put on our tables each day," said Gina McCarthy, EPA administrator. "EPA's revised Worker Protection Standard will afford farm workers similar health protections to those already enjoyed by workers in other jobs. Protecting our nation's farm workers from pesticide exposure is at the core of EPA's work to ensure environmental justice."

The EPA is proposing significant improvements to worker training regarding the safe usage of pesticides, including how to prevent and effectively treat pesticide exposure. Increased training and signage will inform farm workers about the protections

*Continued on Page 3*

# EPA Announces Plan for Federal Certification of Pesticide Applicators Within Indian Country

*Editor's note: This plan impacts all tribal lands in North Dakota except the Three Affiliated Tribes of Fort Berthold. They have an existing Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) plan to issue tribal certificates based on North Dakota State University certifications. To obtain a Three Affiliated Tribe Certificate, contact Jim Mossett, Tribal Pesticide Program Manager, Environmental Division, Three Affiliated Tribes of Fort Berthold, 404 Frontage Road, New Town, ND 58763; telephone (701) 938-4403; cell (701) 421-0665; or email: jmossett@mhanation.com.*

On Feb. 6, 2014, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency released its "Plan for the Federal Certification of Applicators of Restricted Use Pesticides (RUPs) Within Indian Country." The EPA is taking this step to make RUPs available for

**The website for the EPA's plan for certifying applicators of RUPs in Indian country is at:**

[www2.epa.gov/pesticide-applicator-certification-indian-country](http://www2.epa.gov/pesticide-applicator-certification-indian-country)

use in Indian country where no certification mechanisms exist. This action will give pesticide applicators who apply or seek to apply in Indian country access to the same pest control tools available elsewhere in the U.S. and ensure that these applicators have met competency standards.

The full text of the EPA plan is available online at Federal Certification to Apply Restricted Use Pesticides in Indian Country URL above. Tribes participated in the development of this new plan through consultations and the EPA's Tribal Pesticide Program Council.

Generally, state pesticide applicator certifications are not valid in Indian country, and most areas of Indian country do not have other certification mechanisms.

If you intend to apply RUPs in Indian country, please refer to the EPA Plan Web page above to see what areas are covered by this plan and if you need a federal certification.

## **To apply for certification to apply restricted-use pesticides in Indian country:**

- Check with the tribe where you intend to apply RUPs to determine if the tribe has any additional requirements or restrictions relating to the use of pesticides on its lands. Tribes may have additional restrictions beyond federal requirements for their lands.
- Review the detailed instructions for applying for certification to apply RUPs in Indian country.
- Submit your application.

## **If you are a dealer of RUPs in Indian country:**

- Send the business name and address for each dealership to the appropriate EPA regional contact.
- Review the plan for the requirements for RUP dealers.

---

## **EPA Proposes New Worker Protection Standard Regulations**

*Continued from Page 2*

they are afforded under the law and will help them protect themselves and their families from pesticide exposure.

Workers and others near treated fields will be protected from pesticide overspraying and fumes. In addition, the EPA has proposed that children under 16 be barred legally from handling all pesticides, with an exemption for family farms. These revisions protect workers while

ensuring agricultural productivity and preserving the traditions of family farms.

This proposal represents more than a decade of extensive stakeholder input by federal and state partners and from across the agricultural community, including farm workers, farmers and industry on the current EPA Worker Protection Standard for Agricultural Pesticides, which were established in 1992.

**For more information on the EPA's Proposed Worker Protection Standard, visit:**

[www.epa.gov/oppfead1/safety/workers/proposed/index.html](http://www.epa.gov/oppfead1/safety/workers/proposed/index.html)

# Comparison of Major EPA WPS Regulation Changes, Feb. 20, 2014

## ■ Pesticide Safety Training

Proposed Changes	Current Regulation
<b>Train workers and handlers every year.</b> This includes stricter qualification for trainers of workers.	Train workers and handlers every five years.
<b>Expand training content to include information on reducing take-home exposure.</b> Workers and handlers would be trained on reducing take-home exposure and, the hazards from residues on clothing, and warned not to take containers home.	No training is provided on reducing take-home exposure. Workers and handlers are trained on hazards from residues on clothing and warned not to take containers home.
<b>Reduce “grace period” to two days</b> before full WPS training is required; expand the content of the abbreviated, pre-“grace period” training; and require distribution of the information sheet listing training points.	The grace period is five days, the abbreviated training contains less content, and no information sheet is available.
<b>Require recordkeeping of training for two years.</b>	Recordkeeping of training is not required.

## ■ Mandatory Posting of ‘No Entry’ Signs

Proposed Changes	Current Regulation
<b>Require posting of treated areas</b> when the restricted-entry interval (REI) is greater than 48 hours. The REI is the interval after application during which worker entry generally is prohibited, except as allowed under the early entry exceptions.	Oral or posted notification is acceptable for REIs of any length unless the pesticide labeling requires both.

## ■ Minimum Age

Proposed Changes	Current Regulation
<b>Require pesticide handlers and early entry workers to be 16 years old.</b>	No minimum age is required.
Members of the owner’s immediate family are exempt from this (and most other) requirements of the WPS.	No minimum age is required.

## ■ ‘No Entry’ Buffer Areas Adjacent to Areas Being Treated on Farms and Forests

Proposed Changes	Current Regulation
<b>Prohibit entry into 25- to 100-foot buffer areas around the during field pesticide application on farms, forests, nurseries and greenhouses</b> to protect people from pesticide overspraying and fumes. The buffer size depends on the type of application.	This regulation applies only in nurseries and greenhouses.

## ■ Personal Protective Equipment (PPE): Respirators and Closed Systems

Proposed Changes	Current Regulation
<b>Adopt the OSHA standard for respirators:</b> fit test, medical evaluation and training. Require recordkeeping to document the completion of these requirements.	The employer must provide the respirator listed on the pesticide labeling and ensure it fits. Recordkeeping is not required.
<b>Add specific performance standard requirements for closed systems based on the California standard to permit PPE exceptions.</b> This does not include the California requirement to use closed systems for certain types of pesticides.	The closed system definition fails to provide specific criteria for the PPE exception.

## ■ Hazard Communications

Proposed Changes	Current Regulation
<b>Require employers to maintain and make application-specific information, labeling and safety data sheets (SDS) available to workers, handlers or their authorized representatives. Retain this information for two years.</b>	Employers are not required to make safety information available to an authorized representative.
<b>Remove the burdensome requirement to post application-specific information at a central display.</b>	Recordkeeping is not required; however, application-specific information must be posted at a central display until 30 days after the REI expires.

## ■ Notification for Early Entry Workers

Proposed Changes	Current Regulation
<b>In rare circumstances, early entry workers can enter while the REI is in effect. For these situations, provide notification of the pesticide application (what was applied, when and where), specific task to be performed and amount of time the worker is allowed to remain in the treated area, along with the pesticide hazard information from the labeling.</b>	Early entry workers must be informed only of hazards written on pesticide labeling.
<b>Require recordkeeping for two years of the notifications that are provided to early entry workers.</b>	Recordkeeping is not required.

## ■ Definitions

Proposed Changes	Current Regulation
<b>Expand the definition of “immediate family” to more accurately reflect farm families who qualify for the exemption from most WPS requirements.</b>	The definition does not include family members such as grandparents, grandchildren and in-laws.

# State Pollinator Plan Online

On March 3, 2014, Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring announced the “North Dakota Pollinator Plan” to better protect honeybees while enabling cultivation practices necessary for modern agriculture.

“The final version is now on the North Dakota Department of Agriculture (NDDA) website,” Goehring said. “I encourage all stakeholders – farmers, ranchers, landowners and beekeepers – to download a copy and give it careful consideration.”

The website is [www.nd.gov/ndda](http://www.nd.gov/ndda).

Goehring said the plan is voluntary and completely nonregulatory.

“The plan was developed to a growing demand for balanced public policy to reduce risk to honeybees while minimizing the impact of that mitigation on production agriculture,” he said. “It includes best management practices and other proactive measures and practices to help agricultural producers and beekeepers find common ground.”



Last July, Goehring convened the first statewide pollinator summit of beekeepers, growers, pesticide applicators, crop consultants and other stakeholders. Taking testimony and other information presented at the summit, he directed staff from NDDA’s pesticide and plant protection divisions to prepare a draft of the plan. The draft was published in December and was opened for public comment.

“The feedback we received was favorable,” he said. “We made some small revisions in the draft, mostly to clarify the language.”

Goehring said the document remains subject to change.

“It’s not a static document,” he said. “We intend to revisit and update it as needed.”

For the past decade, North Dakota has led the nation in honey production. In 2012, the state produced 34.2 million pounds of honey from 495,000 colonies. The honey crop was valued at \$64.6 million.

Nationally, beekeepers have struggled to maintain healthy honeybee colonies. In addition to bee health problems, some beekeepers also have experienced a widespread disappearance of bees, commonly referred to as colony collapse disorder. The factors blamed for decreasing health and colony collapse disorder include stress due to environmental changes, malnutrition, pests, parasites, disease, pesticide exposure, lack of genetic diversity and migratory beekeeping.

**Need help with  
pesticide certification or  
general pesticide use issues?**

**Contact:**

NDSU Pesticide Training and  
Certification Program  
205 Walster Hall  
NDSU Dept. 7060, P.O. Box 6050  
Fargo, ND 58108-6050 USA  
Phone: (701) 231-7180  
Fax: (701) 231-5907  
Email: [NDSU.pesticide@ndsu.edu](mailto:NDSU.pesticide@ndsu.edu)  
Web: [www.ndsupesticide.org](http://www.ndsupesticide.org)

# Maps Help Pesticide Applicators Avoid Sensitive Locations

March 5, 2014 – Pesticide applicators now can use Global Information System (GIS) maps from the North Dakota Department of Agriculture (NDDA) to locate sensitive application areas, such as certified organic acreage, bee yards and vineyards.

“NDDA is the only state agency maintaining these maps,” said Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring. “Putting the service under one roof ended some duplication and ensures that information on the maps is current.”

Goehring said letters have been sent to the seven companies certifying organic acreage in North Dakota,

asking them to provide information on the certified land, including:

- Legal descriptions, including latitude and longitude
- Producers’ contact information
- Crops grown on the land

“The contact and crop information for each organic producer is important, but if a producer does not want to provide that information, it will not be published on the map,” Goehring said. “Certifying agencies should not send any information a client does not want published but should remind clients to submit changes in their information during the growing season.”

Certifiers offering services in North Dakota include Global Organic

Alliance Inc., Bellefontaine Ohio; International Certification Services Inc., Medina, N.D.; Minnesota Crop Improvement Association., St. Paul, Minn.; Montana Department of Agriculture, Helena; Oregon Tilth, Corvallis, ; Organic Crop Improvement Association, Lincoln, Neb.; Quality Assurance International, San Diego, Calif.; and Stellar Certification Services, Philomath, Ore.

In addition to certified organic acreage, the maps also show vineyard and bee colony locations.

You can access this system via the NDDA home page at [www.nd.gov/ndda](http://www.nd.gov/ndda). Or you can go directly to the maps at the following URL: <https://apps.nd.gov/ndda/mapping>.

## Sixth Edition of ‘Recognition and Management of Pesticide Poisonings’ Available Online and in Print

Pesticide poisoning symptoms often go unrecognized or misdiagnosed. Typically, the symptoms of pesticide poisoning are similar to those of other types of poisoning and diseases.

Heat stress, food and alcohol poisoning, asthma and other illnesses sometimes are confused with pesticide poisoning. Because of this, diagnosis can be challenging. The reality is that most doctors never have seen a case of pesticide poisoning.

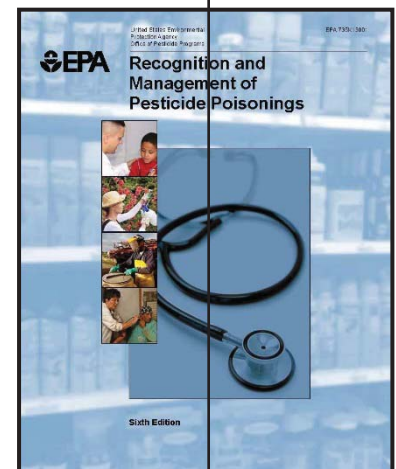
Doctors may have been trained to recognize the symptoms of a pesticide poisoning, but class time devoted to the subject likely was limited, given how uncommon they are and how many other illnesses also require training time.

A great resource exists for medical professionals and it’s just been updated. The 2013 (6th) edition of “Recognition and Management of Pesticide Poisonings” is available. Call the National Service Center for Environmental Publications at (800) 490-9198 and order publication EPA 735K13001. They’re free!

The online version is available at [www.epa.gov/oppfead1/safety/healthcare/handbook/handbook.htm](http://www.epa.gov/oppfead1/safety/healthcare/handbook/handbook.htm).

The Index of Signs and Symptoms may be of particular interest.

Send your doctor an email today to tell him or her about this resource. Or better yet, surprise your doctor with a book on your next visit.



North Dakota State University  
Agriculture Communication  
NDSU Dept 7070  
PO Box 6050  
Fargo ND 58108-6050

Non-Profit Org  
US Postage

**PAID**

Permit No 818  
Fargo ND



NDSU encourages you to use and share this content, but please do so under the conditions of our Creative Commons license. You may copy, distribute, transmit and adapt this work as long as you give full attribution, don't use the work for commercial purposes and share your resulting work similarly.

For more information, visit  
[www.ag.ndsu.edu/agcomm/creative-commons](http://www.ag.ndsu.edu/agcomm/creative-commons).

North Dakota State University does not discriminate on the basis of age, color, disability, gender expression/identity, marital status, national origin, public assistance status, sex, sexual orientation, status as a U.S. veteran, race or religion. Direct inquiries to the Vice President for Equity, Diversity and Global Outreach, 205 Old Main, (701) 231-7708.

County Commissions, NDSU and U.S. Department of Agriculture Cooperating. This publication will be made available in alternative formats for people with disabilities upon request, (701) 231-7881.