



# Newsletter

DEPARTMENT OF ENTOMOLOGY • COLLEGE PARK, MD 20742 • (301) 405-3810

## PESTICIDE NOTES

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**New EPA brochure provides tips on green landscaping practices** – EPA's Office of Pesticide Programs is pleased to announce a new publication, GreenScaping: The Easy Way to a Greener, Healthier Yard. This brochure was developed for homeowners and is a joint effort of the EPA Office of Solid Waste, Office of Water and Office of Pesticide Programs. To view the brochure on line, go to <http://epa.gov/oppfead1/Publications/catalog/greenscaping.pdf>.

EPA's GreenScapes Alliance program provides cost-effective and environmentally friendly solutions for landscaping. The Alliance is a growing group of organizations, large and small, that implements and promotes sustainable landscape design, construction, and maintenance. For general information about GreenScapes, visit the EPA web site at [www.epa.gov/greenscapes](http://www.epa.gov/greenscapes).

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To order free copies of the GreenScaping brochure (EPA530-K-06-002) – between 5 and 100 copies – contact the National Service Center for Environmental Publications (NSCEP) on the Internet at [www.epa.gov/epaoswer/osw/pub-n](http://www.epa.gov/epaoswer/osw/pub-n), by email at [ncepimal@one.net](mailto:ncepimal@one.net), by phone 1-800-490-9198 or (513) 489-8190 or by mail U.S. EPA/NSCEP P. O. Box 42419 Cincinnati, Ohio 45242-0419. For large orders (100 or more), please contact Kathy Seikel at [Seikel.Kathy@epa.gov](mailto:Seikel.Kathy@epa.gov) with your contact information and the number of copies you would like sent to you. [EPA OPP Update 09-12-2006]

**OSHA and DOT move on Globally Harmonized System; EPA holding public meeting** – The Office of Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) is proposing to move forward with requirements under the UN's Globally Harmonized System (GHS), the Department of Transportation (DOT) has published actual proposed GHS rules, and EPA is holding a workshop on its intentions for pesticide labels. Implementing the changes for Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) will be complicated; for pesticide labels, the changes may be costly, as well.

The GHS [see *Pesticide Notes* Volume 23, Number 9 (September 2004)] was formally proposed during the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (also known as the "Earth Summit"). In July 2003, the GHS was formally adopted by the UN Economic and Social Council; in August 2004, EPA's Office of Pesticide Programs (OPP) issued for public comment a White Paper outlining options and ideas for GHS implementation. OSHA published an Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (ANPR) to adopt the GHS on Sept. 12 (71 Federal Register 53617), opening a 60-day comment period. On

Aug. 31, DOT went a step further – proposing a rule to adopt the GHS (71 FR 51894) and opening a comment period which closes on Oct. 16.

EPA's Office of Pesticide Programs has yet to take either of those steps, although OPP has scheduled a stakeholder workshop to discuss the options for GHS implementation [see article below]. It is still unclear when OPP might put a formal plan on the table.

One of the key GHS benefits touted by the United Nations is label harmony, which is expected to speed up international trade and marketing by eliminating differing requirements among importing and exporting nations. As the Notice points out, "The inconsistencies between the various laws and safety data sheets [as MSDS's are known in GHS parlance] are substantial enough that different labels must often be developed for the same product when it is marketed in different nations. "Canada, for example," the Notice continues, "has established requirements for labels under its Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System [which] requires that labels include specified symbols within a defined circle. U.S. chemical manufacturers must label chemicals accordingly for marketing in Canada."

At the same time, the Notice suggests, there are foreign-sourced chemicals in the workplace which might not meet all of the OSHA rules for MSDS's. "While there are no format requirements in the U.S. that are violated by ... differing [MSDS] formats," the Notice says, "the underlying hazard criteria from another country may be different and that could make the information on the labels out of compliance with the [HCS]." [*Pesticide.Net Insider eJournal* 3(18)]

### **Public meeting on Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labeling**

EPA's Office of Pesticide Programs will hold a public meeting to discuss the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS) as it may relate to pesticide products that are registered under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA). The goals of the workshop are to discuss and clarify the scope and potential application of GHS to pesticide products; to examine key issues raised in public comments on OPP's GHS White Paper; to gain a better understanding of stakeholder concerns and explore ways to address them; and to assess potential paths forward to maximize benefits and minimize the costs. The meeting will take place on Wednesday, October 18, from 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. and on Thursday, October 19, from 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. It will be in 4th-floor conference room #4830 of Two Potomac Yard (north building), 2733 S. Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA. To facilitate entry into the secure EPA building, EPA requests that you preregister for the meeting by Tuesday, October 10, by contacting Janelle Christian, Field and External Affairs Division, Office of Pesticide Programs, by telephone at 703-308-3003, or by e-mail at [christian.janelle@epa.gov](mailto:christian.janelle@epa.gov).

Agenda topics for the meeting include: Overview of GHS NAFTA and stakeholder perspectives on GHS, Building blocks and sample label presentation, Key issues and concerns raised in comments on the OPP White Paper, Options for implementation mechanisms and a possible pilot, Key state issues, and Education, training, and outreach. For more information on the GHS, including a link to OPP's White Paper, visit the Web site at <http://www.epa.gov/oppfead1/international/globalharmon.htm>. [EPA OPP Update 09/15/2006]

### **Opportunities for comment to public agencies**

- *Reduced risk pesticides* – EPA has announced a petition filed by the Consumer Specialty Products Association (CSPA) pertaining to FIFRA section 25(b) pesticide products (also called minimum risk pesticides). The petition requests the Agency to modify the minimum risk regulations at 40 CFR 152.25(f) for those products that claim to control public health pests (as defined in Pesticide Registration (PR) Notice 2002-1) and requests that any such product making public health claims be subject to EPA registration requirements as a precondition of their sale. The Agency has determined that the petition may be of regional and national significance. Comments must be identified by docket identification (ID) number EPA-HQ-O.P.-2006-0687, and must be received on or before November 13, 2006 by following the on-line instructions at [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov). For further information, contact: Brian Steinwand, Biopesticide and Pollution Prevention Division (7511P), Office of Pesticide Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460-0001; telephone number: (703) 305-7973; fax number: (703) 308-7026; e-mail address: [steinwand.brian@epa.gov](mailto:steinwand.brian@epa.gov) [[envsubset@epamail.epa.gov](mailto:envsubset@epamail.epa.gov) 09-13-2006]
- *Global Harmonization System (GHS)* – EPA's Office of Pesticide Programs will be convening a public stakeholder meeting to discuss Global Harmonization System (GHS) issues and concerns raised in comments on the EPA White Paper that was issued for public comment in late 2004. The EPA White Paper and related information

can be found at <http://www.epa.gov/oppfead1/international/globalharmon.htm>. Comments on the White Paper are available at [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov). Click on "Advanced search" and search for EPA docket number O.P.-2004-0205.

The public meeting is scheduled for October 18-19 at EPA's Potomac Yard facility in Crystal City, Virginia; participants are requested to pre-register with EPA. EPA is also considering providing the opportunity for a background briefing in advance of the public meeting, designed especially for those stakeholders who may not have been following GHS developments closely. This briefing would be strictly informational. If you/your group would be interested in attending such an informational briefing, please let the Agency know. Please respond to Janelle Christian at: **[christian.janelle@epa.gov](mailto:christian.janelle@epa.gov)**.

On August 31, the Department of Transportation published a proposed rule that includes provisions to implement certain elements of the GHS. The comment period closes October 16. On Tuesday, September 12, the Department of Labor Occupational Safety and Health Administration published an Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking regarding the GHS. The comment period will close November 13. These items are/will be posted at <http://www.gpoaccess.gov/fr/index.html>.

The European Commission has issued a draft regulation for implementation of the GHS in Europe, along with an impact

assessment and other related documents. The public consultation period on the EU proposals is set to run through October 21. The public consultation site may be found at [http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/reach/ghs\\_consultation\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/reach/ghs_consultation_en.htm) [*Email memo from M.F. Lowe, EPA-O.P. 9/11/2006*]

- *Methyl bromide* – On August 9, 2006, EPA announced the availability of EPA's Tolerance Reassessment and Risk Management Decision (TRED) for methyl bromide, and Reregistration Eligibility Decision (RED) for methyl bromide's commodity uses, and opened a 60-day public comment period on the document. EPA has now announced an extension of the comment period for an additional 45 days.

Comments, identified by docket identification (ID) number EPA-HQ-OPP-2005-0123 must be received on or before November 24, 2006. Follow the detailed instructions as provided under ADDRESSES in the Federal Register document of August 9, 2006.

For further information, contact Steven Weiss, Special Review and Reregistration Division (7508P), Office of Pesticide Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460-0001; telephone number: (703) 308-8293; fax number: (703) 308-8005; e-mail address: **[weiss.steven@epa.gov](mailto:weiss.steven@epa.gov)** [*envsubset@epamail.epa.gov 09/29/2006*]

## References cited in this volume of Pesticide Notes

- **EPA OPP Update** Update from Office of Pesticide Programs, EPA
- **Pesticide.Net Insider eJournal**

### Editor's Notes –

- *How to find documents for comment* – To access documents on-line, go to the web site <http://www.regulations.gov>. From the menu just under the banner at the top of the page, click on “Advanced Search” and then “Docket Search.” This will bring up a page on which you can enter the Docket ID (see above). Once you have entered the Docket ID, scroll to the bottom of the page and click on “Submit.” When the next page comes up on your screen, click on the appropriate Docket ID. This will take you to a list of all the documents within the public docket for that chemical.
- *Time-sensitive information* – Some of the actions described in this newsletter have comment periods designated. Because the turnaround time for comments is often relatively short, *Pesticide Notes* is not always able to publish the opportunity for comment before the comment period closes. If you think you may be interested in commenting on pesticides in the future, please sign up for the free subscription to *Just-In-Time Pesticide Info*. Subscribers to the *Just-In-Time Pesticide Info* service are notified of upcoming pesticide policy-related meetings; requests for comment on proposed actions such as cancellations, restrictions, or changes in registrations; and other time-sensitive pesticide issues. Being on the listserv maximizes the time subscribers have to plan for meetings, learn about possible actions, or prepare comments. *Just-In-Time Pesticide Info* subscribers will also receive more detailed information about how to access documents for comment. To subscribe to this free service, please visit the University of Maryland Pesticide Education and Assessment Program web site at <http://www.pesticide.umd.edu/management/JustInTime.html>.
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