



STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY
BOARD OF PESTICIDES CONTROL
28 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333

JANET T. MILLS
GOVERNOR

AMANDA E. BEAL
COMMISSIONER

BOARD OF PESTICIDES CONTROL

January 15, 2025

1:00-2:00 PM Board Meeting—Hybrid
2:00-3:00 PM Public Forum
3:00-4:00 PM Board Meeting Continued as Necessary

MINUTES

1. Introductions of Board and Staff

- Board members: Adams, Bohlen, Carlton, Fanning, Gray, Neavyn
- Staff: Boyd, Couture, Grindstaff, Nelson, Peacock, Pietroski, Poisson, Smith, Saucier, Vacchiano

2. Consideration of a Request for Financial Support from Maine Mobile Health

Since 1995 the Board has supported the Migrant and Seasonal Farmworker Safety Education program. The Maine Mobile Health Program (MMHP) provided training to 65 farmworkers during the 2024 season. Funding to support the effort in 2025 is being requested in the amount of \$6,432.00 which is the same funding amount provided by the Board in 2024. The funding has been accounted for in the Board's FY25 budget.

Presentations By: Hannah Miller, Director of Outreach, Maine Mobile Health

Action Needed: Discussion and Approve/Disapprove this Request.

- Miller was not in attendance so this agenda item will be brought up at the March 14, 2025 Board meeting.

3. Service Container Labeling Policy

At the October 25, 2024, and December 6, 2024, meetings, staff proposed a policy regarding labeling of service and secondary containers for pesticides. Upon taking into consideration the feedback during the discussion at the meeting, the staff has revised the proposed policy.

Presentation By: Alex Peacock, Director

Action Needed: Amend and/or Adopt

- Peacock explained that the proposed Service Container Labeling Policy, discussed at the December 6, 2024 Board meeting, was revised by staff to narrow the definitions of service containers and secondary containers. The revised definitions are as follows.
 - **Service Container:** A container used to store undiluted pesticide concentrates that is not the original container in which the pesticide concentrate was distributed.
 - **Secondary Container:** A container used to mix pesticide concentrates into end-use solutions following the pesticide label and typically used by the end-user to make the pesticide application.
- Peacock told the Board that, on numerous occasions, staff had encountered pesticide concentrates in unlabeled service containers, which was especially concerning due to the increased risks and implications of exposure to concentrates. He added that, at a minimum, he felt it was important that secondary service containers were labeled with a pesticide trade name and an EPA registration number so that a label could be obtained if necessary.
- Adams and Bohlen noted that the draft policy seemed to overlook the significant issue of transportation.
- Gray stated that he appreciated the practicality of the policy only pertaining to undiluted concentrates in service containers because transportation is already regulated.
 - **Gray/Carlton: Moved and seconded to approve the Service Container Labeling Policy**
 - **In Favor: Unanimous**

4. BPC Informational Videos

In 2023, BPC staff employed the services of Stobo Films of Portland, Maine to create several short informational videos for the public and the regulated community to understand BPC operations and responsibilities better. These videos are now available on the BPC website.

Presentations By: Karla Boyd, Policy & Regulations Specialist

Action Needed: Review/discuss provided information

- Boyd reminded the Board that in 2020, BPC had received an EPA grant to develop educational videos for applicators and the public that explained when and how to use pesticides. She said the completed videos could be found on the BPC’s website and the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry’s YouTube channel. Boyd played one of the videos for the Board.
- The Board thanked Boyd and offered their compliments on the quality of the educational videos.

5. Complaint Overview for CY 2024

Historically the Board has been updated on complaints and inquiries received by staff. This update provides a general overview of the complaint and inquiry topics with general descriptions in the calendar year of 2024.

Presentations By: Alex Peacock, Manager of Compliance

Action Needed: Review/Discuss

- Peacock noted that it had been a few years since staff had presented this information to the Board. He said that, for the most part, constituents reached out to the BPC staff for many of the same issues, including general licensing questions, health risks from unsafe pesticide exposure, unauthorized applications, drift, and misuse of mothballs.
- Bohlen said that reading the comments gave him a better overview of what questions staff were fielding, and he thanked Peacock for providing that content.

- **Carlton/Gray: Moved and seconded to suspend the meeting and open the public comment session at 2:00 PM**
- **In Favor: Unanimous**
- **Carlton/Bohlen: Moved and seconded to close the public comment session and reopen the meeting at 2:30 PM**
- **In Favor: Unanimous**

6. Other Old and New Business

a. EPA Releases Draft Biological Opinion for Carbaryl for Public Comment

b. EPA Finalizes Settlement and Announces New Tracking Website for Endocrine Disruptor Screening Program Data Call-In Notices

c. Overview of 2024 Obsolete Pesticide Collection

- Another 5,000 pounds of obsolete pesticides were collected and disposed of during the 2024 program.

d. Overview of 2025 pesticide product registration renewal progress

- Vacchiano updated the Board on the progress of 2025 product registrations. There were 10,591 products registered, and major companies were continuing to submit renewals.

e. EPA Announces Interim Decisions on Chlorothalonil, Thiophanate-methyl, and Carbendazim

- Peacock told the Board that EPA's new interim decision on chlorothalonil resulted in new PPE and respirator requirements when used as an antimicrobial. He added that the EPA placed emphasis on exposure from drinking water due to groundwater contamination from Chlorothalonil and their effects on human health, and how that will dictate future labeling decisions on personal protective equipment from the EPA.

7. Schedule of Future Meetings

The next scheduled Board meeting date is Friday, March 14, 2025, at the Deering Building, Room 101, Augusta

Future Meetings: April 11, 2025, May 23, 2025, July 11, 2025

8. Adjourn

- **Carlton/Gray: Moved and seconded to adjourn at 3:00 PM**
- **In Favor: Unanimous**