

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS



Department of Agricultural Resources

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PESTICIDE APPLICATOR PESTICIDE ADVISORY COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES

Date: October 18, 2024

A. ROLL CALL

Bob Leon, Ecologic Entomology & New England Pest Management Association	Absent
Molly Moran, Forshaw	Present
Jeff Utley, Nutrien Ag Solutions	Present
Jared DeBettencourt, Minute Man Pest Control	Absent
Bob Mann, National Landscape Association of Landscape Professionals	Present
Nicholas Millen, Arborjet	Present

The Pesticide Applicator Pesticide Advisory Council ("Council") did meet or exceed the minimum number three (3) of members present to form a quorum and conduct business.

DOCUMENT(S) PRESENTED:

Draft minutes from the meeting held on July 8, 2024

A. REVIEW OF MINUTES:

Motion: M. Moran

Second: J. Utley

In favor: All

Abstention: None

B. PESTICIDE PROGRAM UPDATES, T. LASCOLA

Pesticide Licenses: Renewal period has opened for 2025 licenses.

2023 Annual Use Report: MDAR has posted the 2023 annual use report information. T. LaScola noted that the list posted online was categorized by product information. MDAR is no longer posting the list categorized by company name. This is due to some language in M.G.L.c. 132B which limits information such as location to be shared with the public. Because applications can take place directly at a farms address, this may be considered location of application. Therefore, MDAR is airing on the side of caution and no longer posting that information online. If someone wants company specific information, they can submit a public information request, and it will be reviewed and determined if we can release the information depending on the ask.

Glyphosate Commission: The scientific review has been completed. It has been sent to the joint committee and to the Pesticide Board Subcommittee ("Subcommittee"). MDAR asked the Subcommittee members if they wanted any additional information as part of the individual review and as of now the answer

is no. Therefore, MDAR will begin putting together a package to submit to the Subcommittee for review and deliberation on Glyphosate.

There was a question from the public asking how long it would be before the Subcommittee would conduct its individual review. T. LaScola stated that she did not want to give a specific timeline, but it would take a few months for MDAR to get things together to present to the Subcommittee.

C. PESTICIDE LICENSE REQUIREMENTS, B. LEON

Because B. Leon couldn't attend as planned, B. Mann asked the members if they wanted to add anything to the topic. M. Moran asked if there was a way to stagger recertification years for individuals that have multiple categories. T. LaScola stated that there wasn't an easy way to do it and that there weren't many individuals that had more than one or two categories associated with their license.

D. PRE-NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS, B. LEON

T. LaScola provided an overview of what the Conservationist Pesticide Advisory Council ("Council") was working on. She stated that the Council was reviewing 333 CMR 13.00 and the notification requirements. They were focusing on what neighboring properties and the public should be able to access and when they should be able to access it. The Council will develop formal recommendations to the Pesticide Board. The Council would also like to meet with these members prior to formalizing the recommendations so that there could be a larger discussion.

T. LaScola noted that MDAR received approval from the Board to update all of 333 CMR 13.00 to reflect the current environment, address issues that MDAR is noticing and make more user friendly. She noted that in some instances, MDAR is aware and already discussing some of the issues/concerns the Council has.

A member of the public stated that they sometimes run into an issue with the pre-notification requirements relative to multi-unit dwellings. He believed that this requirement provides delays, increases the costs for the service, and inadvertently encourages tenants to purchase and use pesticides themselves. He does not believe that in instances where the occupant is aware that the application is taking place a two-day pre-notification is needed.

T. LaScola stated that the prenotification also provides product information and precautions that they would need to take which ordinarily would only be provided to the contracting entity.

E. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business discussed.

F. ADJOURN

Motion: M. Moran

Second: J. Utley

In Favor: All