

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: July 8, 2024

A. ROLL CALL

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

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 March 15, 2024

A. REVIEW OF MINUTES:

Motion: B. Mann

Second: J. Utley

In favor: All

Abstention: None

B. PESTICIDE PROGRAM UPDATES, T. LASCOLA

Rodenticides: T. LaScola stated that Harvard Law on behalf of several wildlife rehabilitation organizations submitted a petition to the Subcommittee to conduct an individual review of anti-coagulant rodenticides. The petition is currently being reviewed. She also stated that MDAR has been reaching out to organizations that work with domestic animals and wildlife requesting that MDAR be notified of any rodenticide incidents.

Annual Use Report: T. LaScola informed the Council that the annual use reports were being collected and that MDAR added specific agricultural sites to the 2023 use report because of comments made about removing them for the 2022 report. Additionally, MDAR provided a guidance document on how to fill out the form. T. LaScola stated that she had received replies to the survey she sent out relative to other states use reporting systems but has not had a chance to review it.

C. PESTICIDE USE DATA, B. MANN

B. Mann presented the letter he drafted in response to the letter the Conservationist Advisory Council submitted to the Pesticide Board requesting that they consider adding additional elements to the pesticide use report. He stated that the Conservationist Advisory Council did not consider other types of pesticide data is collected by

other organizations. He also stated that the information needs to be used for a legitimate scientific purpose and one would need to look at the entire body of data for your research. He stated that there is a financial implication to adding more elements to the use reports and it could take away from other things. The Council agreed to issue the letter at the next Pesticide Board meeting.

D. PESTICIDE LICENSE REQUIREMENTS, B. LEON

B. Leon continued the discussion that he believed that the two-year waiting period for an individual to take the commercial certification exam was too long. B. Mann stated that his opinion on this topic has changed, and he would be willing to agree to eliminate the two-year requirement, but an individual would need to submit a resume of some sort indicating they have previous experience. B. Leon stated that he would draft a letter relative to this issue and present it at the next meeting.

T. LaScola stated that if someone has previous experience then an individual does not need to wait two years to take the commercial certification exam.

E. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business discussed.

F. ADJOURN

Motion: B. Mann

Second: J. Utley

In Favor: All