



New Pesticide PPE Brochure Available

The National Pesticide PPE Training Solutions Committee recently worked with Syngenta and the National Association of County Agricultural Agents to produce a new PPE brochure, *"Dress for Success: Some Things to Know about Personal Protective Equipment BEFORE You Handle a Pesticide"*.

Anyone can view or download this and six other general pesticide stewardship brochures at:

<http://pesticidestewardship.org/Pages/Resources.aspx>

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National Agriculture Census

<http://www.agcensus.usda.gov/index.php>

The Agriculture Census is taken every five years and is a census of U.S. farms and ranches and the people who operate them. The Census looks at land use and ownership, operator characteristics, production practices, income, and expenditures. This Census is the nation's leading source of information on U.S. agriculture and is used to shape many local, state, and national farm programs, services, and policies. If you have not received a census form and would like to sign up, you can do so at:

<https://www.agcounts.usda.gov/cgi-bin/counts/>

The following are excerpts from the US Census website:

Why is the Census of Agriculture important?

The Census provides the only source of uniform, comprehensive and impartial agricultural data for every county in the nation. Through the Census, producers can show the nation the value and importance of agriculture and they can help influence the decisions that will shape the future of American agriculture for years to come. By responding to the Census, producers are helping themselves, their communities and all of U.S. agriculture.

Is the information on individual operations kept confidential?

Yes. Respondents are guaranteed by law (Title 7, U.S. Code, and CIPSEA, Public Law 107-347) that their individual information will be kept confidential. NASS uses the information only for statistical purposes and publishes data only in tabulated totals. The report cannot be used for purposes of taxation, investigation or regulation. The privacy of individual Census records is also protected from disclosure through the Freedom of Information Act.

When will 2012 Census results be released?

NASS will release Census data, in both electronic and print formats, beginning in February 2014. Detailed reports will be published for all counties, states and the nation.

On-Line Pesticide Use Reporting

If you have access to the Internet, please consider reporting on-line!

With the budget crisis hitting the State hard again this past year, the State Department of Agriculture has seen some drastic cuts. In addition to losing many programs, the State has reduced the funding to counties to input pesticide use report data into the State database.

Every paper use report sent to our office is entered into a State database. This, as you can imagine, can take a lot of time and resources to accomplish! The good news is we have an on-line pesticide use database that will accept data from a number of pesticide use recording systems. If you are using a pesticide reporting software program such as Tiger Jill, chances are you will just need to do a simple data transfer to quickly and efficiently submit your pesticide use reports each month.

If you are not using a computer program to track your pesticide usage electronically, the on-line use reporting program can still be a benefit. You will not only save on postage each month, but it will save you time. Once you enter your information into the computer program, it will remember you and will auto-fill information such as your address, phone number, etc. each time you log in to submit a report.

Over the past year, we have received over 8,800 electronic pesticide use reports. Congratulations to all that have gone electronic! Cal Ag Permits has been up and running for almost a year with the number of web users continuing to grow. Thank you for your participation!!

If you haven't jumped on line and you'd like to do away with postage and running to the post office by the 10th of every month; consider electronically posting your use report!

We will personally help you set up your on-line reporting. Call today to set up your **FREE** appointment with our On-Line Use Reporting expert.

We will set you up with a log in name, password, and details of how to submit your monthly use reports.

For information about On-Line Use Reporting, Please contact Biologist Kristian Barbeau at (408) 201-0650 or E-mail: Kristian.Barbeau@aem.sccgov.org

South County Office Has Moved!

The new San Martin office



After almost 20 years at the Tennant Avenue location in Morgan Hill, our south county office has moved!

80 W Highland Avenue
Building K
San Martin, CA 95046

Our office hours are the same, 8:00 – noon, but phone numbers have changed and the forwarding service will end November 30, 2012. The new numbers are:

Main Line: 408-201-0640

District Biologists:

Kristian Barbeau: 408-201-0650
Nancy Barrera: 408-201-0646
Shannon Lundin: 408-201-0644
Lori Oleson: 408-201-0643

There haven't been any changes to our north county location and the office hours are still 1:00 – 5:00. The Berger Drive phone numbers are as follows:

Main Line 408-918-4600

District Biologists:

Matt Beauregard: 408-918-4614
Mario Nunez: 408-918-4645
Nick Otterlei: 408-918-4611
Jennifer Pate: 408-918-4683
Mike Walker: 408-918-4612

Sniffing Out Invasive Threats

Santa Clara County Canine Parcel Inspection Team



Every year billions of dollars worth of agricultural products are shipped into and through California. These shipments present a major risk to California's agricultural industry and natural resources because they could contain invasive species of insects, plant diseases, and weeds that can cause major damage to agriculture or to our local ecosystem. To combat this problem, our department has employed an inspector that works for nothing but treats and free room and board.

Our team consists of our detection canine "Hawkeye", our dog handler/biologist, and a quarantine biologist. During a typical inspection, Hawkeye's handler will direct Hawkeye through hundreds of packages. Hawkeye will alert our handler by scratching on the package when it contains any kind of agricultural product. Then the quarantine biologist will remove the package and inspect its contents to determine if it is allowed into California. All agricultural material shipped into California must comply with a large number of restrictions which limits movement of agricultural products into and out of California.

Interested in shipping or receiving something from out of State?

For domestic shipments destined for California; you can contact your local agricultural commissioner's office with questions, or visit the California Department of Food and Agriculture's website at:

<http://www.cdffa.ca.gov/plant/PE/interiorexclusion/pqm.html>

If you would like to ship something to another State, you can visit that state's agriculture website or you can look up their entry requirements at the National Plant Board's website:

<http://www.Nationalplantboard.org/laws/index.html>

Markings: Any shipment of agricultural products that enters or passes through California must be conspicuously labeled with the name and address of the shipper and receiver, the name of the country, state, or territory where the agricultural item was grown, and a statement of its contents.

For more information, feel free to visit our website and check out Hawkeye's webpage:

<http://www.sccagriculture.org>

Deregulation Recommended for Santa Clara County

Photo from UCIPM

<http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu>



The European grapevine moth (EGVM), *Lobesia botrana*, is a lepidopteron pest that primarily feeds on grapes; larvae feed inside the fruit and within the fruit clusters. This pest will also occasionally feed on the flower and fruit of other crops such as blackberry, cherry, kiwi, olives, nectarine, persimmon, and plum.

EGVM is native to Mediterranean Europe and was first reported in North America in Napa County, California vineyards in September 2009. In September 2010, three moths were found in Gilroy, which triggered a quarantine covering approximately 94 square miles of the County. The quarantine affects 39 commercial growers and approximately 620 acres of wine grapes. In the spring of 2011, 19 moths were detected in the same vicinity of Gilroy, near Watsonville Rd. and Day Rd. No additional moths were found in Santa Clara County in 2011 and 2012.

Grape growers, stone fruit growers, and nurseries within the quarantine were required to maintain compliance agreements regulating movement of host fruit and plants and in some cases requiring treatment of plants prior to movement. Vineyards within 500 meters of an EGVM find were asked to treat the vines for the first and second generation of the EGVM flight. Treatment timing recommendations were developed by UC IPM advisors using a degree-day model for the moth and local weather station data.

California Department of Agriculture (CDFA) staff worked with residents with small acreages of non-commercial grapes within the 500 meter treatment area. Residents were given the option of flower and fruit removal or treatment with organic-approved insecticide Bt.

Due to the cooperation of growers and residents, the Technical Working Group (TWG) – a group of scientists which act as the advisory panel to the EGVM Program – has recommended Santa Clara County be deregulated from EGVM quarantine requirements. If the Program adopts the TWG recommendation, deregulation should be in place by February 2013. We will continue to trap for this pest in our grape growing region this coming year.

Illegal Pesticide Sales to Peach Growers

California Department of Pesticide Regulation
NEWS FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 2012

SACRAMENTO - Two San Joaquin Valley pesticide dealers were penalized a total of \$105,000 for knowingly selling a pesticide product for a use not allowed by the label - controlling mites on peaches, Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR) Director Brian R. Leahy announced today. The product was propargite - trade name Comite - commonly used in California on field and some vegetable crops.

“Our investigation found that dealers who employ pest control advisers sold the product to growers who did not produce any field crops on which the product could legally be used,” Leahy said. “Dealers are licensed by DPR and responsible for knowing and complying with pesticide laws. Their compliance with these laws is critical to ensure the safety of the public, workers and our food supply.”

Under the settlements, which were based on the number of sales:

- Gar Tootelian Inc. of Reedley in Fresno County paid a \$60,000 penalty for unlawfully selling Comite in Fresno and Tulare counties from 2008 through 2010 for a use not stated on the product’s registered label.
- Britz-Simplot Grower Solutions LLC of Traver in Tulare County paid a \$45,000 penalty for selling Comite in Fresno and Tulare counties from 2009 through 2010 for the same violation.

Both companies agreed to implement control measures to ensure these violations do not occur again.

The investigation was initiated after illegal residues of propargite were detected on peaches collected in July 2010 by DPR’s residue monitoring program. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency canceled use of this pesticide on peaches in 1996. Although illegal, the residue was at such a low level it did not pose a health risk to farm workers or consumers.

DPR immediately directed removal of the peaches from the market. More than 2.4 million pounds of peaches with an estimated value of more than \$1.1 million were affected.

The monitoring program collects produce samples from wholesale and retail outlets, chain store distribution centers and farmers’ markets for testing at California Department of Food and Agriculture’s laboratories. The laboratories test for more than 200 pesticides and breakdown products.

Crop Report

Statistical analysis of California crops



California remained the number one State in cash farm receipts with 11.6 percent of the US total in 2011. California agriculture also experienced a 15% increase in sales. The state's 81,500 farms and ranches received a record \$43.5 billion in sales last year, up from the \$38 billion reached during 2010.

Each year, statistical data is collected by agricultural commissioners to provide a description of all agriculture production in their respective county. Each county in California is required to submit an annual crop report to the California Department of Agriculture, which is then compiled into the California County Agricultural Commissioners’ Report by USDA-National Agricultural Statistics Service.

The crop report includes a variety of categories: Nursery, Floral (cut flowers), Field Crops, Fruits and Nuts, Bushberries and Strawberries, Seed, Forest Products, Vegetable, and Livestock and Poultry. Santa Clara County has a wide range of agriculture products and livestock because of our varied geography and micro-climates.

Each grower/producer who contributes to the crop report can be assured that their information is kept confidential!

There are many reasons for contributing to the crop report each year. The crop report is used to accurately determine crop values when disasters like hail, drought, or fire occur in a county and we need to secure funding or loans through the federal government. During pest eradication efforts, the crop report helps in establishing crops potentially at risk and their values. Pesticide (mostly fumigant) manufacturers occasionally adjust buffer zones and the crop report shows acreage and value of target commodities which helps determine potential use.

It is important that the crop report be accurate and up to date so Santa Clara County is properly represented in California. Thank you for your continued cooperation and the accurate information you have given us over the years!

To view our crop report, visit our website at: <http://sccagriculture.org>