

# The Pesticide Review



Santa Clara County Division of Agriculture

November 2012

## The Green Bulletin

*Looking for topics for your next tailgate meeting?*

The University of California Statewide IPM Program has a publication for pest management professionals: the UC IPM Green Bulletin. This newsletter focuses on specific practices and information that pest management professionals can incorporate into their daily work to manage pests effectively while reducing pesticide runoff and other environmental problems. To view this publication, visit

[www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/greenbulletin](http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/greenbulletin)

## The Pyrethroid Working Group

*Addressing the use of pyrethroids*

The Pyrethroid Working Group (PWG) is an alliance of companies that manufacture pyrethroid insecticides. This group has come together to address the specific issues relating to pyrethroid insecticide use. They have posted several Surface Water Regulation videos for use by structural applicators, maintenance gardeners, and pest control businesses applying pyrethroids to landscapes. Visit their website at: [www.PWG2PMP.com](http://www.PWG2PMP.com) to view their helpful videos. (Each clip is only about 2.5 minutes; total series runs about 10.5 minutes.)

### Inside this issue:

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## Changes to Use Reporting for Structural Pest Control Companies

*DPR Enforcement Letter 12-18*

There was a policy letter issued decades ago that exempted structural pest control companies from recording the number of non-restricted pesticide applications made on their monthly use reports. This exemption has been repealed! Effective January 1, 2013 the total number of applications made for each registered pesticide must be reported on monthly summary pesticide use reports.

Companies can continue submitting their pesticide use reports by mail the old fashioned way or another choice is to do on-line reporting through the CalAgPermit system.

In order to satisfy the code section requiring companies to affix structural stamps to use reports, you can send us stamps at the beginning of the year. Be sure to staple your stamps to some letterhead and call your district biologist ahead of time. We want to make sure we secure your stamps! (Please check with each county you do work in to find out how they want you to submit your stamps in the event you report on line.)

## 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>

# 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.cdfa.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, plum and pomegranate.

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.

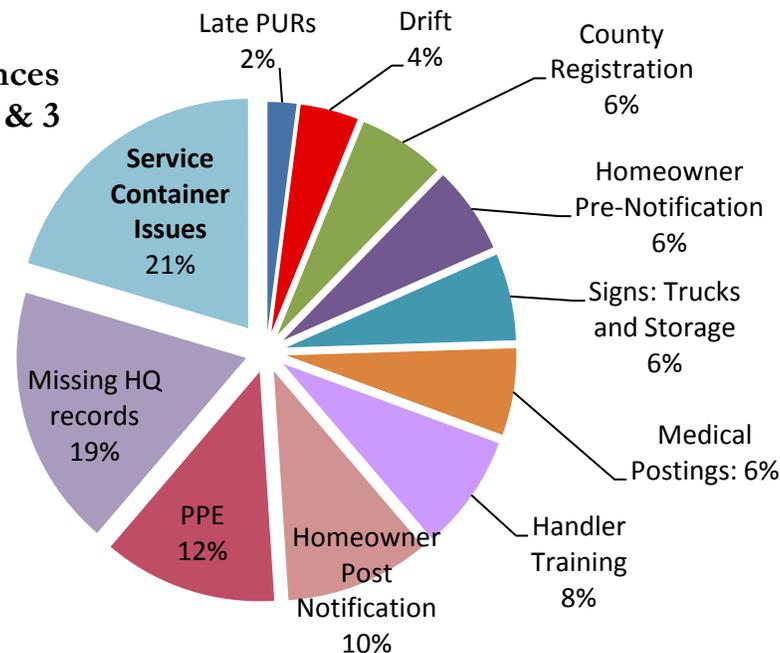
# Inspections in Santa Clara County

Did your company get inspected last fiscal year? Was your business in compliance? Our office reviewed the inspections conducted last fiscal year and asked the question, “What did we find wrong?” We asked this question because we want to try to reduce those types of non-compliances next year.

Because we conduct a wide variety of inspections we grouped our findings by the type of pest control.

## Breakdown of inspections for Fiscal Year 2011-2012

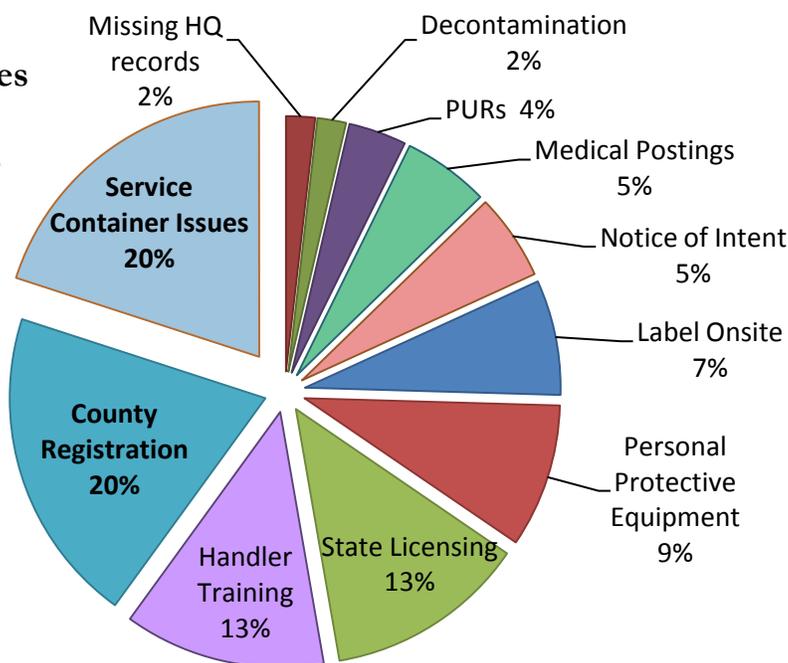
### Non-Compliances Branch 2 & 3



The top 3 violations found in Branch 2 & 3 inspections were:

1. Service container issues
2. Missing headquarter records.
3. Personal protective equipment (PPE) non-compliances

### Non-Compliances AG PCB Companies



The top 3 violations with Maintenance Gardeners and Agricultural Pest Control Companies were:

1. Tied for the first spot were service container issues and county registration. (Registration and licensing non-compliances are high in this chart due to inspectors discovering unlicensed maintenance gardeners.)
2. Handler training was tied with State Licensing
3. Personal protective equipment (PPE) non-compliances

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# Inspections in Santa Clara County

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The top violations of concern were headquarter records and PPE non-compliances. Please be sure to keep three years worth of records and document all of your pesticide and respirator training. In addition to training, wearing PPE is an essential part of keeping your employees safe. Review your company's expectations and make sure your employees follow your policies!

Looking at both sets of data, we found the most common violation was service container labeling. How well do you know your service container laws and regulations? Would your containers pass an inspection? Read on!

## Service Containers

A service container is simply any container that holds a pesticide other than the original pesticide container. A number of items can qualify as a service container, such as a backpack sprayer, B&G, tip & pours, spray rigs, hand cranked spreaders, and bait stations. During our inspections, we found a number of service labels had fallen off, or in several instances rat bait stations were placed without labels. Please note that a coffee cup is never a proper service container as one gardener tried to explain to one of our biologists.

We have also found instances where there were *too many* labels on a service container. We came across an applicator that had a B&G with Cy-kick, yet the container had two labels attached. One label was for Cy-kick and a second one for Gentrrol, which wasn't in the container. Sometimes more does not make it better.

As a side note -- in one case we found a company re-using tip and pours that had the words, "Do Not Reuse" imprinted into the container. Though we applaud the company's recycling effort, we obviously do not want to see such a container re-used.

Many companies use their business cards to create service container labels. Business cards are not only a convenient size, but also satisfy the requirement to identify the company. However, the internet has changed the world to a 'global' economy and some businesses do not list their physical address on their cards. We need to see an address written or typed onto the card if it is to be used as a service label. To further complete the service container label, a company can simply write the name of the chemical and its signal word on the back of the card and affix it to their service container.

California Code of Regulations Section 6678 requires that all service containers have the following:

- 1) The name and address of the person or firm responsible for the container.
- 2) The identity of the pesticide in the container
- 3) The word "Danger", "Warning", or "Caution", in accordance label on the original container.

Prior to attaching the service label to the container, many companies laminate the card to make it waterproof. To attach the laminated card, a hole is punched in the corner of the card and a plastic tie on a key ring or rubber band is used to affix the label to the service container.

## On-Line Pesticide Use Reporting

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

With the electronic age of information, many companies have gone digital. If you would like to find out if your daily use record system will "talk" to the on-line pesticide use report system, give us a call! Many systems like Tiger Jill can do an easy download to the Cal Ag Permits system and your monthly reporting can become less burdensome.

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. 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.

We have received over 8,800 electronic pesticide use reports over this past year. Congratulations to all that have gone electronic! Cal Ag Permits has been up and running for a year now with the number of web users continuing to grow.

If you would like to do away with postage and running to the post office by the 10<sup>th</sup> 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 pesticide use reporting, please contact biologist Kristian Barbeau at (408) 201-0650

or E-mail: [Kristian.Barbeau@aem.sccgov.org](mailto:Kristian.Barbeau@aem.sccgov.org)

# Grow Your Business – Become Certified In Integrated Pest Management



Written by: Vishakha Atre  
Santa Clara Valley Urban Runoff  
Pollution Prevention Program (SCVURPPP)

Begin the New Year with new business prospects. Get trained and certified in Integrated Pest Management (IPM) services that meet new municipal hiring standards and open doors to clients seeking environmentally friendly services.

Pesticide applications around buildings may pollute Santa Clara Valley creeks and the San Francisco Bay. New mandates require government agencies to reduce pesticide use by employing pest control operators (PCOs) that are certified in Integrated Pest Management (IPM) techniques.

IPM is an effective and environmentally sensitive approach to eradicating pest problems. It focuses on a tiered approach trying least toxic solutions (physical, cultural and biological deterrents) first and using pesticides as a last resort. IPM certification programs rely on current, scientific understanding of the life cycles of pests and their interaction with the environment to determine the safest treatment.

“Using an IPM certified pest control operator is a good choice for the protection of public health and the environment,” says Jill Bicknell, Assistant Program Manager, Santa Clara Valley Urban Runoff Pollution Prevention Program (SCVURPPP). “We encourage pest control businesses to become certified in IPM techniques and meet the increasing demand for less-toxic pest management services.” SCVURPPP is a coalition of 15 municipal agencies in Santa Clara Valley that work together to prevent the pollution of local creeks and the San Francisco Bay.

PCOs have the option of choosing from three certification programs: EcoWise, Green Pro, and Green Shield. Information on these certification programs is available on SCVURPPP’s public information website [www.MyWatershedWatch.org](http://www.MyWatershedWatch.org). The IPM certification designation assures residents and businesses that their pest control professional will use pesticides only when necessary, and the pesticides will be applied in ways that minimize impacts on water quality, people, animals, and the surrounding environment.

SCVURPPP does not endorse any particular pest control business; however the SCVURPPP collaborative does promote IPM certified vendors in media advertising and other public information, giving certified PCOs an opportunity to capitalize on the increasing demand for green services while protecting public health and water quality. Look into an IPM certification process now, and grow your business potential by offering safe and responsible pest control services.

## Top Pesticide Blunders by Consumers

*Underscores the Importance of Following Label Instructions*

SACRAMENTO – In San Diego County in March 2011, three teenagers watched YouTube videos that prompted them to combine pool chlorine tablets with vinegar, baking soda and hydrogen peroxide in plastic bottles to cause explosions.

One boy threw some of the bottles onto rocks and breathed the toxic gas formed by mixing the chemicals. After experiencing shortness of breath, the teen called his mother, who called 911. Fire department paramedics responded and treated the boy. The Sheriff’s Department’s bomb squad vented the remaining bottles and environmental health officials neutralized the chemicals.

This incident is one of the California Department of Pesticide Regulation’s (DPR) “Top Pesticide Blunders by Consumers” released today. They remind consumers to follow the label instructions of household cleaning and gardening products to avoid illness and injury.

The San Diego County incident and blunders below in alphabetical order by county were drawn from 2011 illnesses and injuries reported to DPR by the California Poison Control System. State privacy law protects the identities of the individuals, who all sought medical treatment.

- In Contra Costa County, a woman hurried to address an infestation of fleas and lice while she had dogs and children out of the home. She was steam cleaning the carpet with dog flea shampoo while she had lice shampoo on her own head when something got in her eye. She didn’t know whether the eye irritant was the dog shampoo (a registered pesticide) or the lice shampoo (a pharmaceutical, outside DPR jurisdiction).

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## Top Pesticide Blunders

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- In Kern County, a man saturated soil with insecticide before planting marijuana in his yard. He sprayed the soil around the plants as they grew. The man became nauseated after smoking his homegrown marijuana.

No pesticides are registered for use on marijuana by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency because marijuana is considered an illegal crop by the federal government. In California, a pesticide cannot be registered unless it is registered by U.S. EPA. As a result, no analysis has been done by the state or federal governments to determine potential health and environmental risks posed by pesticide applications on marijuana.

- In Los Angeles County, a 4-year-old boy ate an unknown amount of roach gel mixed with peanut butter. That afternoon, he began vomiting and was found to have a low-grade fever.
- In Yolo County, a woman set off a fogger and left her apartment, but immediately re-entered to turn off the smoke alarm. The fogger sprayed her in the face, and she developed burning and watery eyes, runny nose, coughing, shortness of breath and sensation of throat swelling. She re-entered again to get her car keys, which exacerbated the symptoms.

## Our South County Office Has Moved!

If you register out of our south county office, please note our office recently moved. South County's new phone number is: (408) 201-0640 and their address is 80 W Highland, Building K, San Martin, CA. 95046

## Reporting Bedbug Treatments in San Francisco

<http://www.baycitizen.org/health/story/sf-begin-tracking-bed-bugs/#.UKKKXnH5ROs.email>

The Board of Supervisors in San Francisco will soon require pest control companies to report the number of units treated for bedbugs each month to the [Department of Public Health](#). It doesn't look like companies will have to include the address of their clients, but they will have to use each unit's census tract so Public Health can chart the bedbugs' distribution around the city. If you register in SF, you will probably receive a letter from the department of health letting you know about the reporting requirements.

## Entering License Numbers on Pesticide Use Reports

Have you had one of those nagging calls from a county Ag Biologist about a license number, or numbers, you entered on one of your use reports? You are not alone! Many companies have been confused about what number to enter and where. If you have questions, here are some guidelines to follow:

First of all, do not enter an OPR, FR, QAL, or QAC number on a pesticide use report. Pesticide use reports require BUSINESS license numbers.

STATE OF CALIFORNIA	
<b>MONTHLY SUMMARY PESTICIDE USE</b>	
DPR-ENF-060 (REV. 4-12) PAGE 1 OF 2	
<b>INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING THIS FORM ARE INDICATED BY</b>	
OPERATOR (FIRM NAME)	ADDRESS
OPERATOR ID/PERMIT NUMBER	LICENSE NUMBER
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

### Agricultural Pest Control Companies:

- If you have a Restricted Materials Permit Number, enter that number in the box labeled "**Operator ID/Permit Number**". If you do not have a permit from our office, leave this box blank.
- If you perform agricultural pest control for hire, enter your DPR issued business license number (usually a 5 digit number) in the box labeled "**License Number**".

### Structural Pest Control Companies:

- The Operator ID/ Permit Number does not apply to you. Please leave this box blank! (Structural companies are not required to obtain a restricted materials permit.)
- If you perform structural pest control for hire, enter your SPCB issued structural business license number (PR or BR) in the box labeled "**License Number**".

### Dual Licensed Pest Control Companies

- If your company does both structural and agricultural pest control, you can report your pesticide use with either business license number. We just ask that you use the same number each time you report so your use reports will be recorded consistently in our data system.

If you should have any questions regarding pesticide use reporting, call our office at (408) 918-4600 or your District Biologist!