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Pest Bureau

Certification and training, worker protection

Idals takes samples and keeps them for their own testing

EPA Pesticide label is the key

Testing for label → registration with EPA, there is a registration number

All are toxic, all have benefits

Recommendations on label are not enforceable. Interpretations are not enforceable.

Manufacturers have an additional registration for use in IOWA.

Product registration

Pesticide bureau within IDALS regulates use, misuse, licensure of applicators

Two kinds of pest 1. General use and 2. restricted use (EPA req's certification for private and commercial use)

Certification exam, fee → look up the applicator who was granted the license

Core test is general info: Know of laws and regs, safety, environ protection, some pest mgt.

~ 30 Category tests: for special uses e.g. lawns, Orkin, rodent control, etc. **community insect control (mosquito and fly control)**

City employees must be certified regardless of type of pesticide

License granted to organization, employees have **certification** under the license

Commercial = for hire

Public applicators = not for hire, same test as commercial applicator

Private applicators are not subject to bee rule

Certification valid for three years; either re-take test or attend 2-hr. training session every year for three years

Records must be kept for each application; wind speed is not required recording. IDALS checks nearest three weather stations, three different directions from an incident

Falsifying records is tough to prove but is regulated

Busy year = 140 incidents for state, April – end of Oct., depends on rain (compresses spraying season)

Aphid infestations seem to roam around the state randomly

Bee law: product is labelled as toxic to bees, must not be applied to blooming crop between 8 a.m. – 6 p.m. within 1 mile of registered hive.

Tags in lawns are law for commercial applicators

Regulation: Mosquito sprayers cannot tag all lawns. They can give mass communications to residential areas intended dates, times, locations: radio, tv, newspaper, letter, normal way to reach, doesn't have to reach everyone, but be reasonable. Small communities have pre-notification registry (e.g. Zearing). Those who registered get pre-notified at least 24 hrs before. If weather prevents, then new pre-notification must be given or arrange with each person on registry.

IDALS cannot make an applicator shut off misting

DriftWatch/BeeCheck benefit is visual: applicators pay fee to use; can visualize sensitive site easier with product. Payment will also kick notifications as they come in/hives move. Non-paying applicators still get info. Bee law still valid, applicators still required to check first of every month.

If drift:

1. Ask the property owner
2. Check records of the applicator
3. 8 pesticide staff for entire state
4. Photographs to give context
5. Save fabric, clothes, sheets that you laid over hive
6. Protect your hives
7. Only approved staff can take samples like vegetation, bees (as many as possible), hive products i.e. honey, propolis, things in the hive are better than collecting bees

Pesticide bureau does testing, turn-around time is lower than in past as flexible schedules have been added; limited by amount of equipment, which won't change regardless of demand

Graduated penalty schedule for violators

Pesticide bureau is regulatory only, it doesn't sample