

THE TAPA QUARTERLY

The Newsletter of the Tennessee Agricultural Production Association

June/July/August 2017

Our summer meeting in Gatlinburg ...mixing business with pleasure!

You are invited to attend Tennessee Agricultural Production Association's **Annual Meeting and Agronomic Workshop**, to be held at the Park Vista Hotel on 705 Cherokee Orchard Road in Gatlinburg, Tennessee. This event will begin on Tuesday morning, August 1, and will conclude at noon on Thursday, August 3. The CCA and TAPA Boards will meet on Monday afternoon, July 31.

This meeting has the Agricultural professional strictly in mind. Whether your business is in retail, consulting, university, industry, research, or government, you will want to attend this informative meeting. Bruce Kirksey is program chairman this year and is inviting an impressive list of speakers to Gatlinburg that will be helpful to you in your agricultural business.

Your attendance at the business session on the morning of the first day (August 1) is important to our association moving forward. As a member you will vote on the new president-elect and three new board of directors. Also, the three college student winners of the TAPA Three Star Scholarship Program will be announced. Also during this session the TAPA Outstanding Individual Award and the Tennessee Outstanding Certified Crop Advisor Award will be announced. Lastly, Rick Turnage will give a brief report on the issues presented to the Tennessee legislators on his visit to Washington, D.C. last month.

Pre-Registration: You can save \$15 by pre-registering for this meeting by July 4, 2017. Go directly to the meeting's pre-registration form by clicking on this link: [Pre-Register Here](#)

Membership: Your TAPA membership dues are included when you register for the Annual Meeting Tuesday, August 1. If you are unable to attend this meeting, we encourage you to become a TAPA member for the new business year by checking the box that corresponds to "TAPA Membership Dues" on the pre-registration form and sending your \$30 check to our treasurer, Dianne Jenkins. Credit cards are also accepted.

Hotel Registration: The Park Vista Doubletree by Hilton Hotel is offering TAPA members a **Single Rate and a Double Rate of \$125 + tax per night. Individual Reservations must be made no later than midnight, June 30, 2017.** Once the cut-off date has passed, all unreserved guestrooms will be released from the block. Guestrooms and the guestroom rate will be based on availability for any individuals calling to make reservations under the golf block after the cut-off date.

Reservations can be made online or by phone. The website for online reservation is www.parkvista.com and the on-line booking code is **TAP**. The Hilton Reservation line is 800-421-7275 and you can use the Group Code **TAG** or **TAPA Annual Meeting** when making reservations by phone. For TAPA members wanting to arrive early or stay a few days after the meeting you can still get the TAPA room rate. If the reservationist does not give the proper room rate when making the reservation contact Ricky Foster at tnfan01@gmail.com and he will notify The Park Vista to make sure that TAPA members get the proper room rate.

(For TAPA Members who are interested: The Park Vista also offers King Suites at a rate of \$225 per night and Family Suites at a rate of \$245 per night that can be reserved by TAPA members. The suites are based upon availability.)

Certified Crop Advisor CEUs and Tennessee recertification points (C1, C4, C10, C12) will be available at this meeting.



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

*Rule for Private and Commercial Applicators—
Darrell Hensley...*

Page 2

*Washington, D.C. Trip—
Rick Turnage...*

Page 3

*Pesticides Bill Moves—
Todd Neeley...*

Page 4

*Upcoming Field Days
and Tours...*

Page 5

*Industry Sponsors,
TAPA Officers, Board of
Directors, Committee
Chairs...Page 6*



Golfers: Be sure to sign up for the golf event when pre-registering for the Summer Meeting in Gatlinburg. Tee times will begin at 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, August 2. The golf committee has chosen Bent Creek Golf Course, an 8-mile drive from the Park Vista Hotel.



The Proposed New Certification and Training Rule for Private and Commercial Applicators (40 CFR 171)

By Darrell Hensley

On December 12, 2016, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued revisions to the existing Certification of Pesticide Applicators rule (40 CFR 171). These revisions should help to provide assurance that certified applicators and noncertified applicators under their direct supervision are competent to use restricted use pesticides (RUPs) in a manner that will not cause unreasonable adverse effects on human health or the environment. Below lists a few of the proposed revisions which are planned to go into effect on May 22, 2018. The Tennessee Department of Agriculture may impose stricter guidelines on a later date.

EPA's proposed revision for Certification and Training includes the following:

Private applicators must demonstrate competency in pest control in the production of agricultural commodities in regard to topics similar to those in the core competency standards for commercial applicators (i.e., label and labeling comprehension; safety; environment; pests; pesticides; equipment; application techniques; laws and regulations; responsibilities for supervisors of noncertified applicators; stewardship).

Private applicator competency must include ability to read and understand pesticide labeling.

Private applicators must either attend a training program covering the mandatory competency standards or pass a written exam.

No "non-reader" option for persons who cannot read to obtain certification to use specific RUPs.

EPA is adding the statement "presence of pollinators" as topic under "Environment" heading in the proposed general private applicator competency standards and commercial core competency standards.

EPA has requested comment on whether to add pollinator protection to the proposed training program for noncertified applicators.

Establish categories for private and commercial applicators performing: aerial application, soil fumigation, and non-soil fumigation.

For commercial applicators, EPA will be requiring concurrent certification in at least one pest control category to be eligible for certification in application method-specific category.

EPA would require the addition of categories for private and commercial applicators using products: sodium fluoroacetate (Compound 1080) in livestock protection collars and sodium cyanide delivered through M-44 devices.

It would be required that candidates must present identification for initial and recertification exams and training sessions.

A codify policy would be set in place requiring all exams to be closed book and proctored. Specific requirements for exam administration and security on the proctor would be imposed.

Noncertified applicators would be required to receive annual training on safe pesticide application and protecting themselves and others from pesticide exposure (similar to the new WPS

handler training). Exemption from training requirement for those with valid WPS handler training and those who have passed the commercial core exam.

Noncertified applicator training could only be provided by one of the following: a currently certified applicator, a certifying authority-designated trainer of certified applicators or handlers, or a person who has completed an EPA approved train-the-trainer course under the Worker Protection Standard.

Require annual pesticide safety training for noncertified applicators using RUPs Similar to the training for handlers under the Worker Protection Standard (safety, Proper pesticide application techniques, responding to spills, protecting oneself, others and the environment).

Alternatives to training under the rule include completing WPS handler training or meeting state-specific requirements.

It would require all persons using restricted use pesticides to be at least 18 years old (private applicators, commercial applicators, noncertified applicators). Exception for minimum age of at least 16 years old for noncertified applicator on a farm under the supervision of a private applicator who is a member of the noncertified applicator's immediate family.

For additional information concerning the revisions to the Certification of Pesticide Applicators rule, please visit:

<http://www.epa.gov/pesticide-worker-safety/revised-certification-standards-pesticide-applicators>



Turnage Returns to Washington, D.C. as TAPA's Representative

I was chosen to represent our TAPA organization as a delegate for the Tennessee team at this year's Southern Crop Production Association (SCPA) Hill Visits in Washington, D.C. on May 4. My teammates were Louis Rodrigue, Helena; Kevin Stewart, Gowan; and Joel Alvey, Dow AgroSciences.

We were very pleased with the results of our eleven scheduled appointments. The tone in our nation's capital is much different with a new administration in place. In fact, SCPA's Executive Committee met with the new EPA Director Scott Pruitt the afternoon of the event for the first time ever. He actually asked them what EPA could do to help U.S. agriculture and our efforts to feed and clothe the ever-growing world population.

The issues we focused on dealt with reaffirmation of Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA), National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits, Endangered Species Act (ESA), and Pesticide Registration Improvement Act (PRIA). Basically, the plea is for sound science-based decisions affecting legislation and enforcement of laws regarding pesticide use as well as registration and re-registration of crop protection products. Pollinator health was not listed as an issue this year but in two meetings with Tennessee legislative aides, it was mentioned. SCPA says that the states are becoming more active with bee and other pollinator policies and not so much from a federal level as in the previous administration.

Visiting our Representatives and Senators is not a once-a-year event to just happen at this annual visit to Washington, D.C. Throughout the districts in Tennessee and throughout the year, we might have the opportunity to visit with our Congressmen at various Ag-related events. Please take those opportunities to make a connection and spread the word on the current agricultural and industry issues in our state.

Rick's group missed visiting with Rep. David Kustoff (R-District 8) in his D.C. office, but he did get to visit with the representative in Brownsville, Tennessee recently during an Ag-related tour of his district. Rick took advantage of a good opportunity and reinforced SCPA's stance on the issues with him. He was delighted to hear that Rep. Kustoff was very much in favor of its views.



L-R: Joel Alvey, Dow AgroSciences; Allen Johnson, legislative aide to John Duncan (R-District 2); Kevin Stewart, Gowan; and Rick Turnage, TAPA and Bayer

Our discussions and visits were very positive and were mutually agreed upon, no matter the political affiliation. I'm very optimistic about the immediate future of Ag policy after this year's SCPA event on Capitol Hill and look forward to giving our TAPA members more details at our annual meeting in Gatlinburg this August.

In the meantime, I want to thank you for your confidence in me to represent our organization; it is an honor I do not take for granted.

Respectfully,
Rick Turnage



L-R: Rep David Kustoff; Rick Turnage

Pesticides Bill Moves Measure Would Scale Back Permits

Todd Neeley , DTN Staff Reporter
5/22/2017 | 2:51 PM CDT

OMAHA (DTN) -- The U.S. House of Representatives may take action this week on a bill designed to reduce the regulatory burden on farmers and others who apply pesticides.

On Monday, the House Committee on Rules is expected to consider the debate rules for a bill introduced back in February by Rep. Bob Gibbs, R-Ohio. The measure would prohibit the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and states authorized to issue permits through the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System, or NPDES, from requiring permits for some pesticides applications.

The bill, HR 953, the Reducing Regulatory Burdens Act of 2017, has come up repeatedly over the past several years but has been unable to make it into law.

Once a bill makes it to the Rules Committee, it usually means it is expected to be debated by the full House shortly after. The rules committee has scheduled a hearing for late Monday.

For farmers, this would include not requiring NPDES permits for pesticide residues that result from pesticide applications.

The bill would eliminate the need for NPDES permits for certain discharges of pesticides if their use is authorized under the FIFRA, or if such discharge already is regulated as a storm water, municipal or industrial discharge by the Clean Water Act.

The bill lists some exceptions that would still demand a permit. That includes discharges that result from pesticide applications that were done in violation of FIFRA, "or the amount of pesticide or pesticide residue in the discharge is greater than would have occurred without the violation."

When the pesticides bill was reintroduced back in February, Rep. Gibbs hailed the measure as a way to cut "bureaucratic red tape."

"Requiring an NPDES permit is unnecessary," Gibbs said in a statement. "It only adds compliance costs, and no new environmental protections. FIFRA appropriately regulated pesticides for 60 years before the enactment of the Clean Water Act and has regulated pesticides for 40 years after."

On Nov. 27, 2007, the EPA issued a final rule that concluded pesticides applied in accordance with the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act, or FIFRA, were exempt from the Clean Water Act's permitting requirements.

Back in 2009, however, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit in Cincinnati vacated the rule as a result of a lawsuit filed by environmental and industry groups.

The court ruled that pesticide residues coming from pollution point sources should be regulated by the Clean Water Act, requiring farmers and others to seek NPDES permits.

Now, Congress is attempting to change the Clean Water Act to essentially support EPA's original final rule.

President Donald Trump signed on Jan. 30 signed an executive order to scale back government regulations. The president's executive order was praised by a number of agriculture interest groups.

Todd Neeley can be reached at todd.neeley@dtn.com. Follow him on Twitter [@toddneeleyDTN](https://twitter.com/toddneeleyDTN)

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HR 953, the Reducing Regulatory Burdens Act of 2017, would prohibit the EPA and states authorized to issue permits through the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System, or NPDES, from requiring permits for some pesticides applications. (DTN/The Progressive Farmer file photo by Jim Patricio)

Add these important events to your 2017 Calendar!



**PROGENY
AG PRODUCTS
FIELD DAY**

THURSDAY, JULY 20, 2017

Research Farm on Hwy 64 in Wynne, AR
Registration begins at 8:00 A.M.
Tours begin at 9:00 A.M.
Lunch provided by Cajun Express

For more information, contact:
Hillary Spain
(870) 208-6032

19th Annual
Monsanto Field Day

Thursday, August 3, 2017
Monsanto Research Facility
Union City, TN

For more information, contact:
Larry Ganann
(901) 326-7140



UT Weed Tour - Wednesday, June 21

Dear Colleagues,

The University of Tennessee Weed Tour will be held Wednesday, June 21 at the West Tennessee Research & Education Center in Jackson, TN (605 Airways Blvd). Registration will start at 8:30 A.M. and the tour will begin at 9:00 A.M. It will end about 11:30. We will have breakfast biscuits available before the tour starts.

This guided tour will cover 60 weed management research tests in corn, soybean and cotton. Most of the research shown will be on management of glyphosate resistant horseweed and Palmer amaranth. Management of these weeds in Liberty, Balance Bean, glyphosate, Xtend and Enlist weed control systems along with some of the new herbicide technology traits on the horizon in cotton and soybeans will be highlighted. Also some strategies to manage the increasing problem with glyphosate-resistant grass species as well as glyphosate/PPO resistant Palmer amaranth will be discussed.

Moreover, cultural weed control practices and many of the newer premixes in corn and soybean will be demonstrated. Ph.D candidate Drake Copeland, myself and our very special guest, Dr. Alan York, weed scientist with North Carolina State, will lead the tours and be available for consultation as well as discussion of issues and product performance.

Hope to see you there,

Larry Steckel



<i>University Event</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Location</i>
Fruits of the Backyard	June 13, 2017	Middle Tennessee AgResearch & Education Center
Tobacco, Beef and More	June 22, 2017	Highland Rim AgResearch & Education Center
Summer Celebration	July 13, 2017	West Tennessee AgResearch & Education Center
Steak and Potatoes	August 1, 2017	Plateau AgResearch & Education Center
Cotton Tour	September 6, 2017	West Tennessee AgResearch & Education Center
Turf and Ornamental Field Day	September 7, 2017	East Tennessee AgResearch & Education Center - Plant Sciences Unit
Forest Research Overview Gathering	September 14, 2017	Forest Resources AgResearch & Education Center - Cumberland Forest
Ag in the Foothills	October 6, 2017	East Tennessee Ag Research & Education Center - Blount Unit
Northeast Tennessee Beef Expo	October 12, 2017	AgResearch & Education Center at Greeneville
Organic Crops Field Tour	October 26, 2017	East Tennessee AgResearch & Education Center - Organic Crops Unit



**PIONEER WHITE CORN
FIELD DAY**

~
Wednesday, July 26, 2017
Murray State University Campus
Murray, KY
Registration: 8:30 A.M.
Program Begins: 9:00 A.M.

For more information, contact:
John Raines
(731) 694-3283

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Production Association*
website? Click here:
tapa.tennessee.edu

TAPA has a Facebook page with
excellent Tennessee ag-related
posts! Just [CLICK HERE](#) and
click on the "Like" button.

Would you like to become a
TAPA member? If so, send an
email with your phone number
to: tapanews@gmail.com.
Ron Akin will contact you with
membership details.

The Tennessee Agricultural Production Association (TAPA) is a non-profit organization established in September 1996 through the merger of the Tennessee Agricultural Chemical Association (TACA) and the Tennessee Plant Food Educational Association (TPFEA). TAPA's purpose is to promote, coordinate and disseminate information related to current recommended agricultural production practices among those engaged in research, education, manufacture, distribution and regulation of Tennessee agriculture.

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UNISOUTH GENETICS	usgseed.com
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BRONZE LEVEL—\$150**website**

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