

# THE TAPA QUARTERLY

*The Newsletter of the Tennessee Agricultural Production Association*

## Revisions to the Worker Protection Standard (WPS) How will it affect you?

By Dr. Darrell Hensley



Darrell Hensley

The Federal Register recently released the proposed changes for the Worker Protection Standard (WPS). One major change will require the frequency of full training for workers and handlers to occur every year. Originally, WPS training was required every 5 years. This will require employers to maintain documentation of training of workers. Mandatory record-keeping helps improve states' ability to follow up on pesticide violations and enforce compliance. Records of application-specific pesticide information, as well as farm worker training, must be kept for two years.

In prior versions of the WPS regulations, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) allowed a 5-day grace period with abbreviated training for workers, however new changes to WPS provide no grace period and workers must be trained before they work in areas where a pesticide has been used or a restricted-entry interval has been in effect for the past 30 days. The new provisions also prohibit children under 18 from handling pesticides.

Additional changes to WPS require:

- Expanded training to include instructions to reduce take-home exposure from pesticides on work clothing and other safety topics.
- Expanded mandatory posting of no-entry signs for the most hazardous pesticides. The signs prohibit entry into pesticide-treated fields until residues decline to a safe level.
- New no-entry application-exclusion zones up to 100 feet surrounding pesticide application equipment will protect workers and others from exposure to pesticide overspray.
- Requirement to provide more than one way for farm workers and their representatives to gain access to pesticide application information and safety data sheets – centrally-posted, or by requesting records.
- Anti-retaliation provisions are comparable to Department of Labor's (DOL).
- Changes in personal protective equipment will be consistent with DOL's standards for ensuring respirators are effective, including fit test, medical evaluation and training.
- Specific amounts of water to be used for routine washing, emergency eye flushing and other decontamination, including eye wash systems for handlers at pesticide mixing/loading sites.
- Continue the exemption for farm owners and their immediate families with an expanded definition of immediate family.

The majority of EPA's rule revisions will be effective approximately 14 months after the rule publishes in the Federal Register. This will give farmers and states time to adjust to the new requirements, as well as time for EPA and states to develop updated materials for training and other purposes. EPA will have an official effective date once the rule publishes in the federal register.

Source: <http://www2.epa.gov/pesticide-worker-safety/revisions-worker-protection-standard>

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December 1, 2015



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Thank you!

We're winding down on another year, both in our agricultural businesses and in the TAPA organization. At this time the officers and board of directors would like to thank our members very much for supporting our organization. May God bless you, your family, your business, and our country in the year ahead.

## Add these important events to your 2016 Calendar!

### TAPA Winter Agronomic Workshop

Wednesday, February 17, 2016  
 DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel  
 Jackson, Tennessee

Registration: 7:30 a.m.

Program: 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

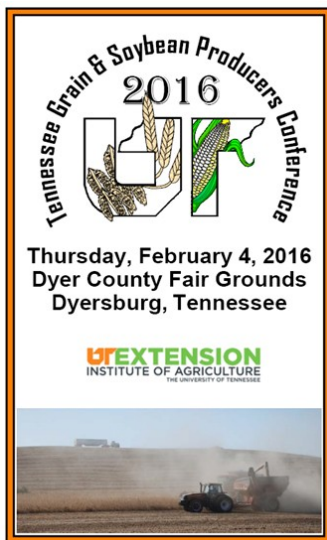
Agenda & registration information  
 will be mailed to you on December 15!

### TAPA Annual Meeting & CCA Workshop

July 26-28, 2016  
 The Park Vista Hotel  
 Gatlinburg, Tennessee

Mix business and pleasure!  
 (See page 6)

More details later!



### Tennessee Grain & Soybean Producers Conference

Thursday, February 4, 2016  
 Dyer County Fair Grounds  
 Dyersburg, Tennessee

Registration: 7:45 a.m.  
 Program: 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

For the list of speakers and topics, click here:  
[Tennessee Grain & Soybean Producers Conference](#)

For a map to the conference, click here:  
[Map of Event Location](#)

Event	Dates	Times	Location
Beltwide Cotton Conference	January 5-7, 2016	—	New Orleans Marriott Hotel New Orleans, LA
Tennessee Grain & Soybean Producers Conference	February 4, 2016	Registration: 7:45 a.m. Program: 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.	Dyer County Fair Grounds Dyersburg, TN
Tennessee Cattlemen's Association's Convention and Trade Show	February 4-6, 2016	—	Embassy Suites Murfreesboro, TN
Southern Weed Science Society Annual Meeting	February 8-11, 2016	—	Sheraton Puerto Rico Hotel San Juan, PR
CCA / TAPA Board Meetings	February 16, 2016	CCA Board: 1-3:00 p.m. TAPA Board: 3-5:00 p.m.	DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Jackson, TN
TAPA Winter Agronomic Workshop	February 17, 2016	Registration: 7:00 a.m. Program: 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.	DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Jackson, TN
Cotton Focus (University of Tennessee)	February 18, 2016	8:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. (Lunch Provided)	WTREC Jackson, TN
TAPA Annual Meeting & CCA Agronomic Workshop	July 26-28, 2016	July 26-27: Annual Meeting July 28: CCA Workshop	Park Vista Hotel Gatlinburg, TN

**Tennessee Certified Crop Advisor Board of Directors Announces 2016 Tennessee Outstanding Certified Crop Advisor Award**

Criteria for Selection:

- ☐ Be actively involved as a CCA in the agricultural industry
- ☐ Be well respected in their agricultural community
- ☐ Accomplishments in their field will impact and have impacted many over time
- ☐ Have either a lifetime of achievement in agriculture, be an industry leader, or an upcoming active innovative crop advisor (or a combination)

Selection Process: Scan and submit nomination package by email to CCA Board Awards Selection Committee by May 15, 2016.

Nomination package should contain:

1. Signed letter of nomination addressing above criteria with contact information for individual making the nomination
2. 1 to 3 signed letters of support from current clientele with contact information for each client

Submit package by email to: TN CCA Board awards selection committee C/O jseyay@ourcoop.com

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**TAPA Sponsor List 2015**  
*We want to thank our sponsors for their support this year! You can learn more about them by clicking on their links below:*

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TENNESSEE FARMERS CO-OP	<a href="http://ourcoop.com">ourcoop.com</a>
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THE LAND TRUST FOR TENNESSEE	<a href="http://landtrusttn.org">landtrusttn.org</a>
VALENT USA	<a href="http://valent.com">valent.com</a>

## Retailer News and Views



### ResponsibleAg Registration: It's time to register!

The explosion of the West, Texas retail facility in April 2013 marked a low point in the public and regulatory agencies perception of the fertilizer industry. The industry was criticized for not having an organized effort to assist retail dealers in understanding and complying with existing federal regulations. Help is in place now. We highly recommend you register and participate in ResponsibleAg. For more information and to register, go to: [www.responsibleag.org](http://www.responsibleag.org)

### OSHA's Top 10 Violations for 2015

An annual tradition at the National Safety Congress is OSHA's announcement of the preliminary Top 10 most frequently cited workplace safety violations for the fiscal year and 2015 was no different. National Safety Council President and CEO Deborah A.P. Hersman says, "The OSHA Top 10 list is a roadmap that

identifies the hazards you want to avoid on the journey to safety excellence."

The Top 10 with regulation reference and number of citations for FY 2015 are:

1. 29 CFR 1926.501 6,721 – Fall Protection
2. 29 CFR 1910.1200 5,192 – Hazard Communication
3. 29 CFR 1926.451 4,295 – Scaffolding
4. 29 CFR 1910.134 3,305 – Respiratory Protection
5. 29 CFR 1910.147 3,002 – Lockout/Tagout
6. 29 CFR 1910.178 2,760 – Powered Industrial Trucks
7. 29 CFR 1926.1053 2,489 – Ladders
8. 29 CFR 1910.305 2,404 – Electrical – Wiring Methods
9. 29 CFR 1910.212 2,295 – Machine Guarding
10. 29 CFR 1910.303 1,973 – Electrical – General Requirements

### PSM: Special Report Available for Ag Retailers Process Safety Management

Process Safety Management (PSM) has been a popular topic since OSHA's announcement on July 22nd rescinding the retail exemption. The tools necessary to help retailers comply with PSM and upgrade their Risk Management Programs from Level 2 to Level 3 were recently launched meaning it is time to get busy. If you haven't read [Process Safety Management \(PSM\) for Ag Retailers](#), we recommend you do so today.

### WOTUS Rule Halted

On October 6th, a judge halted the government's enforcement of EPA's Waters of the United States (WOTUS) rule until certain procedural challenges are decided. This ruling extends nationwide an August ruling by another court that halted enforcement in 13 states. This temporary ban on enforcement could last several years as the lawsuits wind their way through the courts.

### ResponsibleAg's Top 25 Audit Issues

More than 400 ResponsibleAg audits have been completed this year, with 66 locations already becoming certified under the new program. On average, the typical facility discovers 32 issues that need attention. One facility out of every four discovers they have missed one of the ten "Significant Issues" identified by ResponsibleAg as needing immediate attention.

Here is the list of the Top 25 issues discovered:

1. Lockout/Tagout, Annual Review of Program
2. Training, Oxygen & Acetylene
3. Spare Fuses, DOT
4. Lockout/Tagout Program
5. Safety Shower/Eye Wash Maintenance
6. Guarding and Clearances, Grinders
7. SDS, Available Upon Request Sign
8. Hearing Conservation Program
9. Confined Space Entry Annual Review
10. Training, Drug & Alcohol for Supervisors
11. Training, Security In-Depth (DOT)
12. Gas, Portable Containers
13. Markings, NFPA 704 Markings on Fuel Tanks
14. Labeling of Containers, Hazard Communication
15. Workplace Hazard Assessment
16. Bloodborne Pathogens Program
17. Forklift, PIT Inspection & Maintenance
18. Confined Spaces Labeled
19. Visibility of Workers
20. Sign, Pesticide Storage Area
21. Backflow Prevention, Inspection of RPZ Valve
22. Welding Screens
23. Confined Space Entry Program
24. Sign, No Smoking (Battery Charging Area)
25. First Aid Kit



## News from “The Hill”

### Popular Herbicide Glyphosate ‘Unlikely’ To Cause Cancer: European Food Safety Agency

The widely used herbicide glyphosate is “unlikely to pose a carcinogenic hazard to humans,” according to a Nov. 12 reassessment report from the European Food Safety Agency, though EFSA said it also would propose new measures to tighten controls for the chemical in food.

EFSA’s findings are contrary to those from the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC), part of the World Health Organization (WHO), which said glyphosate was “probably carcinogenic” to humans. EFSA said it considered IARC’s findings in its research, also with its own research and other studies not monitored by the IARC.

“This has been an exhaustive process,” Jose Tarazona, head of EFSA’s Pesticide Unit, said in a statement. “It was a full assessment that has taken into account a wealth of new studies and data. By introducing an acute reference dose we are further tightening the way potentials risks from glyphosate will be assessed in the future.”

The announcement is the result of a peer-review expert group comprised of EFSA researchers and risk assessment bodies from European Union states led by the German Federal Institute for Risk Assessment to determine the health impacts of glyphosate at a reference dose of 0.5 milligrams per kilogram of body weight.

In effect, the study found that a person weighing 70 kilograms, or 155 pounds, should not consume more than 35 milligrams of glyphosate a day. EFSA said it was the first time such a high exposure threshold had been applied to glyphosate.

“EFSA concluded that glyphosate is unlikely to pose a carcinogenic hazard to humans and the evidence does not support classification with regard to its carcinogenic potential,” the agency said.

*Chemical Regulation Reporter*  
Vol.39, No.45

### Advocates Seek Legal Deadline for EPA To Finalize Chlorpyrifos Ban

Environmentalists are urging an appeals court to set a legal deadline for EPA

to finalize its proposal to ban the commonly-used pesticide chlorpyrifos by the end of next year, arguing the agency has repeatedly stalled in responding to advocates’ calls for a ban, though EPA says it is moving quickly and further deadlines may compromise the final rule.

EPA Oct 30 announced a proposal to ban chlorpyrifos by Dec. 31, 2016, to protect against risks from exposure through drinking water in small watersheds, meeting a U.S. Court of Appeals for the 9<sup>th</sup> Circuit deadline for the agency to act on advocates’ long-standing petition to ban the substance on grounds it poses neurodevelopmental risks to children.

In a Nov. 4 filing, petitioners in the case *Pesticide Action Network North America (PANNA) and the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC) v. EPA* urge the 9<sup>th</sup> Circuit to require that EPA comply with its stated deadline. The advocates also ask the court to impose additional deadlines, including that EPA provide progress reports every six months until finalizing a ban, and to respond to any industry objections within six months after they are filed.

*Environmental Policy Alert*  
November 11, 2015

These thumbnail summaries are printed exclusively for TAPA members. The views expressed in these articles are not necessarily the views of the Tennessee Agricultural Production Association but the articles were felt to be worthy of their attention. Source: *On Guard*, Southern Crop Production Association, Dawson, GA

### White House Honors Ag Researcher Don Tyler



The White House has recognized University of Tennessee Institute for Agriculture (UTIA) researcher Don Tyler as a Champion of Change. Tyler, a soil management researcher and professor in the Department of Biosystems Engineering and Soil Science, is one of twelve Americans celebrated in October for doing extraordinary things that inspire and empower their community members.

Tyler was cited for contributions in sustainable agriculture—specifically for leadership and innovation in agricultural production and education of no-tillage cropping systems.

“I am happy and humbled to receive this distinction,” Tyler says. “I think it represents a team effort on the part of a number of UTIA researchers, Extension agents, specialists, and other government agencies that were successful in advancing the adoption of no-till agriculture.”

Tyler is based at the West Tennessee AgResearch and Education Center in Jackson. That Center and the AgResearch Center in Milan are pivotal to UTIA’s no-till research and education impacts and successes.

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(2015-2016)**

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Would you like to visit the Tennessee Agricultural Production Association website? Click here: [tapa.tennessee.edu](http://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@ymail.com](mailto:tapanews@ymail.com). Ron Akin will contact you with membership details.

## Plan for our summer meeting in Gatlinburg...and bring the family!


The 2016 TAPA Annual Meeting and CCA Workshop will be held at The Park Vista a Doubletree by Hilton Hotel that is located at 705 Cherokee Orchard Road in Gatlinburg, Tennessee. The meeting will begin on the morning of July 26, 2016 and will conclude at Noon on July 28, 2016.

The Park Vista a Doubletree by Hilton Hotel is offering TAPA members a Single Rate and a Double Rate of \$119 per night. The Park Vista also offers One and Two Bedroom Suites, King Suites and Family Suites that can be reserved by TAPA members at the following rates, based upon availability:

One Bedroom Suites.....	\$269 per night
Two Bedroom Suites.....	\$385 per night
King Suites.....	\$219 per night
Family Suites.....	\$239 per night

**Individual Reservations must be made no later than Midnight July 8, 2016.** 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 group block after the cut-off date.

Reservations can be made online or by phone. The website for online reservation is [www.parkvista.com](http://www.parkvista.com) and the Group Code is **TAG**. 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 [Ricky.Foster@tn.gov](mailto:Ricky.Foster@tn.gov) and he will notify The Park Vista to make sure that TAPA members get the proper room rate.



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.

*The TAPA Quarterly* is published in March, June, September, and December. Please submit articles or other information of interest to be published to Ron Akin at [tapanews@ymail.com](mailto:tapanews@ymail.com). Use this e-mail address if you wish to unsubscribe.

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