

**VERMONT AGENCY OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND MARKETS (AAFM)
VERMONT PESTICIDE ADVISORY COUNCIL (VPAC)
OCTOBER 17, 2017 MEETING MINUTES – FINAL**

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Giguere, Cary
Hazelrigg, Ann
Hoffman-Contois, Razelle (Chair)
LaValley, Jenn (Admin)
Levey, Rick
Palmer, Eric
Schultz, Barbara
Shively, Andy

MEMBERS ABSENT

Bosworth, Sid
Darrow, Casey

GUESTS

Mike Bald

Meeting Called to Order

8:55: am EDT

Meeting Adjourned

11:25 am EDT (C. Giguere moved, B. Schultz seconded)

Announcements

- Minutes from the June 6, 2017 meeting were reviewed and approved with minor edits (A. Hazelrigg moved, R. Levey seconded; Yes 6 and E. Palmer abstained as was absent). Final minutes will be posted on the VPAC SharePoint.

Public Comment – Mike Bald (Got Weeds?) asked if anyone on the Council knew if people are applying broadleaf weed killer on pastureland used for bed straw. Cary Giguere replied, yes. He explained that some products have been removed from such use due to issues that were identified a few years ago with resulting residues in compost. The primary tools at present are products 2,4-D and dicamba. He described investigations that have occurred related to off-site drift of 2,4-D and asked that he be contacted directly if anyone observes any indication of off target movement. Mr. Bald asked if anyone had any thoughts regarding the reason for the condition of this year's apple crop. Ann Hazelrigg noted that impact has primarily been from apple scab (a fungus). A limited discussion of the general condition of large trees along the East coast ensued. Rick Levey thanked Mr. Bald for providing guidance regarding nonchemical means of controlling knotweed to various community groups and local authorities in the Mad River Valley.

Business

Overview of proposed revisions to the Policy for Pesticide use on ANR Lands – Barbara Schultz, Forest Health Program Manager with Vermont Department of Forests, Parks & Recreation, provided an overview of proposed draft revisions to the Policy for Pesticide Use on Agency of Natural Resources Lands. The draft process, including both policy and implementation, was then discussed line by line with Council members offering feedback on various aspects along the way. In response to Razelle's question, Barbara confirmed that the draft revisions include a provision that the Council review any associated Pesticide Use Impact Assessments conducted.

Status Report on Topics of Interest – Cary Giguere, Agrichemical Program Manager with AAFM, provided brief status reports on various topics of interest as the Council may be called upon to participate in some of these discussions at some point. Topics covered included, but were not limited to, dicamba use and off-target migration; use of RNAi pesticides; pesticide use oversight and regulation in cannabis growing operations; Worker Protection Standards; chlorpyrifos registration; plantback restrictions; feed additives and pass through insecticides; devices and structural fumigation; H.328 which proposes a ban on use of glyphosate containing products by State agencies and municipal governments and, treated articles.

Additional Business: Rick Levey initiated a general discussion of the Pesticide General Use Permit (PGP) including specific points related to mosquito adulticiding efforts conducted by the Mosquito Control Districts.

Next meeting: December 2017. Date and agenda to be determined.