

**VERMONT PESTICIDE ADVISORY COUNCIL**  
**February 19, 2014 MEETING MINUES**

**MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE**

Decker, Kathy  
Gary, Lené  
Giguere, Cary  
Hoffman-Contois, Razelle (Chair)  
Levey, Rick  
LaValley, Jenn (Admin)

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Bosworth, Sid  
Palmer, Eric

**GUESTS**

Barbara Schultz  
Nat Shambaugh  
Robert Wright  
Sylvia Knight

**Meeting Called to Order**

1:10 pm EST

**Meeting Adjourned**

3:21 pm EST

**Announcements and General Business**

- Minutes of the January 15, 2014 meeting were reviewed and approved. C. Giguere moved, K. Decker seconded. Vote- 4 in favor. L. Gary abstained as not present at January 2014 meeting. Will be posted to the newly created VPAC Sharesite.
- Jenn LaValley, Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets (AAFM), was introduced as the new Administrative Coordinator.
- Jenn has created a VPAC SharePoint site accessible to the Council and general public. All documents that were on the VPAC ftp are now on the Share. Please continue to send documents for posting or requests for removal of posted materials directly Razelle as she and Jenn will work together to keep the Share running smoothly. Council members, and others who request to be on the distribution list, will be notified by e-mail as documents are posted. Jenn has updated the VPAC webpage [http://agriculture.vermont.gov/pesticide\\_regulation/vpac](http://agriculture.vermont.gov/pesticide_regulation/vpac) to include a list of meeting dates/times/locations and a link to the VPAC Share itself <https://outside.vermont.gov/agency/agriculture/vpac>. Welcome Jenn!
- Razelle announced that Andy Shively has resigned as the VTrans representative on the Council. With the retirement of Craig Dusablon, Andy will be taking over management of the VTrans Pesticide Management Program. All agreed that Andy has been a vital member of the Council and will be missed.

**Business**

**Invasive Forest Pest Management - Continued Discussion of and Development of Recommendations regarding Pesticide Use Impact Assessment (PUIA) for *Demonstration Treatment of Hemlock Woolly Adelgid in Jamaica State Park***

As agreed at the November 13, meeting, Council members shared the results of their continued research regarding potential points of concern related to the proposed basal trunk spray of a limited number of trees using a registered pesticide product containing the neonicotinoid insecticide dinotefuran. Barbara Schultz, Vermont Department of Forest, Parks and Recreation Forest Health Program Manager, and Nat Shambaugh, AAFM participated in the discussion. Razelle noted that products with this active ingredient (a.i.) are registered for a variety of agricultural uses, in food/feed handling establishments and several food tolerances exist. Cary noted that forest pesticide management is a more recent use pattern. The Council noted that while potential environmental impacts appear to be of primary concern, a great deal of uncertainty regarding the potential nature and extent of such impact remains. Cary noted that while an antibiotic is available for such use it has not been widely used or effective. Rick's research did not identify a product with another neonicotinoid that is less toxic. The Council discussed the larger issue that while not yet reported in Vermont, the Emerald Ash Borer has been confirmed in states that border Vermont. The products in question would also be used to treat for this invasive pest. Entities that are not required to submit a PUIA or request approval could already be using such products perhaps prophylactically. Lené stressed the importance of outreach and education particularly if it is believed that such products may already be in use. After much discussion, the Council agreed that the proposed demonstration product, coupled with a limited environmental monitoring effort (pollen and soil collection and analysis) could provide much needed information regarding potential impact on conifer pollen and behavior of this product in the environment. Razelle will draft a letter of recommendation for the Council to review. Extensive discussion ensued regarding development of an interagency framework for the use of neonicotinoids in forest pest management. The Council believes this is an area ripe for involvement and would appreciate the opportunity to work collaboratively on such an effort.

**Natular G30® – Discussion of the January 29, 2014 Exposure Assessment Summary provided by Clarke®**

Several questions were raised about various aspects of the Exposure Assessment Summary including but not limited to application rates and effective concentrations. It was agreed that Cary and Rick will draft a letter to Clarke® on behalf of the Council outlining questions and concerns and requesting clarification. The potential for non-target impact if aerial versus ground based application is used was raised. Discussion of Natular G30® has been tabled until such time as additional information is provided for review.