

**VERMONT PESTICIDE ADVISORY COUNCIL (VPAC)
February 25, 2015 MEETING MINUES**

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Darrow, Casey
Decker, Kathy
Giguere, Cary
Hoffman-Contois, Razelle (Chair)
Levey, Rick

MEMBERS ABSENT

Bosworth, Sid
Gary, Lené
Palmer, Eric

GUESTS

Michael Bald
Patti Casey
Alan Graham
Nat Shambaugh

Meeting Called to Order

1:06 pm EST

Meeting Adjourned

4:07 pm EST

Announcements

- Minutes from the January 14, 2015 meeting were reviewed and approved (R. Levey moved, K. Decker seconded; C. Giguere abstained as absent from 1/15 meeting). Final minutes will be posted to the VPAC SharePoint site.
- Razelle announced that the Council comments regarding proposed revisions to AAFM's Regulations for the Control of Pesticides were submitted to the Agency for consideration on February 3, 2015.
- Razelle gave a brief description of the VT ALERT all-hazards and notification web-based portal. Council members were interested in learning more to determine if this system could be of use in public notification regarding pesticide treatment activities. Razelle and Cary will follow up and report back. VT Alert home page <http://www.vtalert.gov/Public/SiteText/SiteTextDisplay.aspx?text=AboutSite>
- VPAC SharePoint site continues to evolve. Please send any suggestions for improvement or documents for posting to Razelle.

Business

Mosquito Control – A recap of 2014 and a look ahead to 2015

On behalf of the Agency of Agriculture and Department of Health, Alan Graham, State Entomologist and coauthor Patti Casey, Vector Management Coordinator for AAFM, provided a presentation entitled *2014 Arbovirus Surveillance in Vermont*. A summary of the 2014 mosquito trapping efforts and detected arbovirus activity was described and discussed. In total, there were 67 trap locations in 54 towns representing 12 counties (none in Bennington and Essex counties). Two elevated risk areas were identified. Maps of these and others areas of potential interest were presented and discussed. Knowledge gaps regarding overwintering and potential hosts, including potentially *Oc. canadensis* was described. An overview of the Deer and Moose (Cervid) Sero Survey program was presented along with results from the 2014 effort. An overview of the current State of Vermont Arbovirus Surveillance and Response Plan was provided. The role of the Council was described and discussed. The presentation will be posted to the SharePoint.

Natular G– Status information request - Cary reported that the registrant has not yet provided sufficient information to address questions regarding efficacy raised by the Council. Razelle suggested an amendment to the Council's 2013 recommendation regarding addition of this product to the Mosquito Larvicide Permit Application Procedure may be in order. Upon discussion, it was agreed that Razelle would provide the Council with draft language describing the concern, proposed course of action and proposed amendment of the 2013 recommendation. Council members are to review and send any edits to Razelle. Any revised recommendation will be provided to the Secretary of AAFM.

Public Comment

Nat Shambaugh offered written comments on neonicotinoid/insecticide use and the current status of the AAFM Pesticide Use Database. A discussion of both topics ensued. An electronic copy of Mr. Shambaugh's comments has been posted to the SharePoint.

Rick Levey shared a general comment from Sylvia Knight, who was unable to attend the meeting, who requests that the Council be mindful of basin wide use/planning when considering potential pesticide use/treatments.

Next VPAC Meeting: Thursday March 26, 2015 Montpelier National Life Building Camel's Hump Room N111

Agenda: Status Reports on Pollinator Protection Plan and Neonicotinoid Report, continued discussion of Mosquito Adulticiding Efforts.