



# Chemogram

Agricultural and Environmental Safety Unit - <http://www-aes.tamu.edu>

## Table of Contents

**It's a Privilege and a Responsibility** ..... 1  
Dr. Don Renchie

**EPA Cancellation of Over'n Out™ (Fipronil)** ..... 1  
Dr. Grady Glenn

**Methyl Parathion and Supracide™ Pesticide Cancellations** ..... 2  
Dr. Mark Matocha

**New Regulations for Use of Phosphide Fumigants** ..... 2  
Dr. Grady Glenn

**Question Corner (Certification, Recertification, and CEUs)** ..... 3  
Dr. Mark Matocha

**New Herbicide Registration** ..... 3  
Dr. Mark Matocha

**Structural Pest Control Service Update** ..... 3  
Dr. Grady Glenn

**Last Chance Video Course Numbers for 2010** ..... 4  
Dr. Mark Johnsen

**First West Nile Virus Case of 2010** ..... 4  
Dr. Mark Johnsen

2.) **Time:** Make sure the time you allot for Continuing Education Units (CEUs) meet the TDA requirements (50 minutes of instruction and 10 minutes for questions).

3.) **Attendance:** Only give certificates of completion to participants who attend the sessions. Individuals who arrive after a program has begun (more than 10 minutes late) are not eligible to receive a CEU for that session.

Our customers have high expectations of us, as these licenses are critical to their ability to engage in the various agricultural, structural, and public health enterprises they use to sustain their businesses and livelihoods. Keep up the **GREAT WORK!**

### EPA Announcement for Over'n Out™ (Fipronil) product By Dr. Grady J. Glenn

The following link highlights an item in the Federal Register relating to products with Fipronil:

<http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2010/2010-2147.htm>

According to this cancellation order, dated February 3, 2010, the EPA terminates the uses of certain products containing the pesticide fipronil, following the November 15, 2009 expirations of conditional registration. The notice “announces the expiration of certain corn-in-furrow and turfgrass end-use fipronil products registered under section 3 of FIFRA.”

<u>EPA Registration Number:</u>	<u>Product Name:</u>
7969-206	Regent 1.5G
7969-208	Regent 80WG
7969-212	H&G 61748 / “Over'n Out”

While two of these are agricultural registrations, the “Over'n Out” product with fipronil as the active ingredient is used by many homeowners and consumers. The provisions for disposition are as follows (underlining by me):

#### EPA Provisions for Disposition of Existing Stocks

Existing stocks are those stocks of registered pesticide products which are currently in the United States and which were packaged, labeled, and released for shipment prior to the effective date of the cancellation action. The cancellation order issued in this notice includes the following existing stocks provisions.

1. The registrant may continue to sell or distribute existing stocks of fipronil products with previously approved labeling until May 15, 2011.

### “It's a Privilege and a Responsibility” By Dr. Don L. Renchie

State Pesticide Safety Education Programs (PSEP) are the backbone of licensing programs nationally. They involve most every facet of Extension programming (ANR, Marine and Aquaculture, FCS {Food Service Licensing}, and Consumer Education {Master Gardeners}). Our Extension programs have allowances under the Texas Pesticide Laws and Regulations as well as the Texas Structural Pest Control Act which allow our Specialists and County Extension Agents to provide products and services other public and private sector entities are precluded from offering. Consequently, this privilege brings with it lots of responsibility (scrutiny). With that in mind, remember the rules of engagement when conducting PSEPs. Follow these 3 guiding principles:

1.) **Don't do it if it is not related to PSEP:** We are allowed to provide up to 3 CEUs for pesticide or pest management related subject matter without prior approval from the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA). Private sector course providers continually notify TDA when they feel our courses or activities do not meet the spirit of the regulations. If you are not sure about the appropriateness of an intended program, contact our office or send the proposed course outline for review.

2. Persons other than the registrant may continue to **sell or distribute existing stocks** of fipronil products with previously approved labeling until such stocks are exhausted.

3. Persons other than the registrant **may use** existing stocks of fipronil products **until existing stocks are exhausted**. Any use of existing stocks must be in a manner consistent with the previously approved labeling for that product.

I am not aware of any plans for the cancellation of fipronil in Termidor™ or TopChoice™ at this time, but TopChoice™ is reported to be designated soon as a “Restricted Use” pesticide.

### **Methyl Parathion and Supracide™ Pesticide Cancellations**

By Dr. Mark A. Matocha

**Methidathion (Supracide™)** has been voluntarily cancelled. Any comments to this cancellation notice must be received by May 7, 2010.

EPA has received requests from the registrants to voluntarily cancel all product registrations containing **methyl parathion**, a restricted use organophosphate insecticide and acaricide used primarily on cotton, corn, and rice, as well as on other agricultural crops. These requests would terminate the last methyl parathion products registered for use in the U.S., effective December 31, 2012. End-use products will not be sold after August 31, 2013, and end-use products cannot legally be used after December 31, 2013. All end use product labels will be amended to reflect the last legal use date.

In an April 28, 2010, Federal Register notice, EPA is inviting comment on the voluntary cancellation requests until May 28, 2010. Additional information on methyl parathion and the voluntary cancellation requests is available in registration review docket EPA-HQ-OPP-2009-0332 at

<http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2010/2010-9627.htm>

### **EPA Announcement for Phosphide Fumigants**

By Dr. Grady J. Glenn

Following the recent Utah phosphide poisoning and deaths of two children, the EPA has announced expanded phosphide use restrictions in a press release dated April 7, 2010:

<http://www.epa.gov/oppsrrd1/reregistration/alphosphide/>

### **Expanded Aluminum and Magnesium Phosphide Use Restrictions**

To increase public safety by reducing potential exposure to phosphine fumigants, EPA is expanding the restrictions and requiring clearer label directions and precautions for aluminum and magnesium phosphide products that are used in rodent burrow fumigation. Phosphine fumigants are highly toxic pesticides that are restricted to use only by specially trained pesticide applicators. Indoor use of such products has long been prohibited. EPA has recently expanded and clarified the outdoor use restrictions for these products as follows:

- Use is strictly prohibited around all residential areas, including single and multi-family residential properties, nursing homes, schools (except athletic fields, where use may continue), day care facilities, and hospitals.
- The products must only be used outdoors for control of burrowing pests, and are for use only on agricultural areas, orchards, non-crop areas (such as pasture and rangeland), golf courses, athletic fields, parks and recreational areas, cemeteries, airports, rights-of-way, earthen dams, and other non-residential institutional or industrial sites.
- Products must not be applied in a burrow system that is within 100 feet of a building that is or may be occupied by people or domestic animals. This buffer zone for treatment around non-residential buildings that could be occupied by people or animals has been increased from 15 feet to 100 feet.
- When this product is used in athletic fields or parks, the applicator must post a sign at entrances to the treated site containing the signal word DANGER/PELIGRO, skull and crossbones, the words: DO NOT ENTER/NO ENTRE, FIELD NOT FOR USE, the name and EPA registration number of the fumigant, and a 24-hour emergency response number. Signs may be removed 2 days after the final treatment.
- When this product is used out-of-doors in a site frequented by people, other than an athletic field or park, the applicator shall post a sign at the application site containing the signal word DANGER/PELIGRO, skull and crossbones, the name and EPA registration number of the fumigant, and a 24-hour emergency response number. Signs may be removed 2 days after the final treatment.

Fumigant Management Plans must be written before all applications of phosphine products, including all burrowing pest fumigations. A Fumigant Management Plan is a written description of the steps designed to plan for a safe, legal and effective fumigation. The certified applicator and owner of the property to be fumigated must characterize the area to be treated and include all safety requirements in the plan before application.

For more information or assistance concerning fumigation or urban pest control contact Dr. Grady J. Glenn at [GJGlenn@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:GJGlenn@ag.tamu.edu).

## Question Corner

By Dr. Mark A. Matocha

### How are CEUs calculated?

There must be a 1:1 ratio of one CEU per hour of actual instruction time (spent on appropriate content).

A 60 minute activity equals 60 minute credit. This can be 50 minutes of instruction and 10 minutes of Questions and Answers.

\*\* You can build some thought provoking questions into your program.

Do not include time allowed for breaks, room changes, speaker changes, welcomes, etc. You may elect to give fractions of CEUs in 1/4 increments; e.g., 1.25 CEUs for 75 minutes or 0.5 CEUs for 30 minutes.

### I never received my license renewal?

The most common cause for not receiving a license renewal form is that the license holder did not notify TDA of a change of address. According to the TDA Laws and Regulations it is the responsibility of the applicator to notify TDA within 30 days of any change of address.

### Can I carryover my CEUs from one cycle to the next?

No. CEUs received during any one or five-year recertification cycle may only be applied to the cycle in which they were received. TDA does not allow CEUs to be carried forward.

## New Herbicide Registration

By Dr. Mark A. Matocha

Pastora™ herbicide has received a full label from the U.S. EPA. Pastora may be used for selective postemergence annual and perennial broadleaf and grass weed control in established bermudagrass pastures. There are no grazing or haying restrictions for this product.

Additionally, a 2(ee) recommendation has been issued by TDA for the suppression of vaseygrass in bermudagrass pastures and hay meadows in Texas.

## Structural Pest Control Service Update

By Dr. Grady J. Glenn

Structural pest control businesses and applicators will see some changes over the next few weeks. Structural licenses will be transitioned into the Texas Department of Agriculture licensing system.

This update involves complex structural changes to TDA's existing licensing system. As with any major modification there may be some unforeseen technical hurdles to overcome during the transition period.

Existing TPCL numbers will be retained in the new licensing, and businesses will not have to put new numbers on trucks. Individual applicator license numbers will change, but the existing license numbers will also be retained in the new licensing system as a legacy license number that will tie the old number to the new number. This will allow for identification of any existing applicator by either the old legacy number or the new license number. The new license numbers are necessary because the TDA licensing system issues license numbers sequentially and automatically and is a security control to ensure that license numbers cannot be duplicated, nor manipulated. Apprentices will also receive a new registration with a unique number. Expiration dates will be advanced to the last day of the month in which it currently falls. For example, if your current expiration date is January 15, 2011, it will change to January 31, 2011. Current license numbers are valid until they expire.

They have been using this licensing system for all TDA licenses for several years, and they believe this will increase their ability to get licenses to Structural applicators sooner. Application forms will change to enhance data entry. There will be some change to the appearance of renewal invoices and the online renewal format will change.

Apprentices will also receive a new registration with a unique number. Expiration dates will be advanced to the last day of the month in which it currently falls. For example, if your current expiration date is January 15, 2011, it will change to January 31, 2011. Current license numbers are valid until they expire.

Inspections will be entered into the TDA data system. Inspectors will now be able to leave a report of the inspection explaining the results of the inspection. This will also allow TDA to generate reports to see the type of noncompliance issues that are most common and design education and compliance assistance tools that will aid in improving compliance.

In addition, the information from the old Structural Pest Control Service Web site will be incorporated into the TDA site. You will still be able to access the Structural home page by entering [www.TexasAgriculture.gov/SPCS](http://www.TexasAgriculture.gov/SPCS). TDA is working on redesigning the agency's Web pages and hope to have a new look and better navigation in the next few months.

In other news, the next Structural Pest Control Advisory Committee meeting will be held April 29 at the Stephen F. Austin Building in Austin. An agenda and meeting location is available on the website. The agenda can be accessed by selecting the Upcoming Open Meetings tab on the left all pages or by choosing Structural Pest Control Advisory Committee on the right of the Structural home page.

The Structural Pest Control Service law and regulations manual has been updated to include the changes made during the 81st Legislative Session. The updated law and regulations manual can be purchased from the Agricultural and Environmental Safety Unit by contacting Ms. Rochelle Heslip at 979-845-1099 or through the website at [http://www-aes.tamu.edu/Manual\\_Order\\_Forms.html](http://www-aes.tamu.edu/Manual_Order_Forms.html).

## Last Chance Video Course Numbers

By Dr. Mark M. Johnsen

The Last Chance Videos have been renewed by the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) and assigned new course numbers. Old 2009 TDA course numbers will **NOT** be accepted in 2010.

These videos are only for use in County programs or in the office in a monitored setting. These videos may **NOT** be sent home with an individual for independent study. Numbers have been removed for the online version of the newsletter.

- Tape 1 Laws & Regulations (1.5 hr laws and regulations and .5 hr general) TDA course number (**removed**)
- Tape 2 Integrated Pest Management (2.0 hr IPM) TDA course number (**removed**)
- Tape 3 Drift Minimization (1.5 hr drift and 0.5 hr general) TDA course number (**removed**)
- Tape 4 Safety (2.0 hr general) TDA course number (**removed**)

## First West Nile Virus Case of 2010

By Dr. Mark M. Johnsen

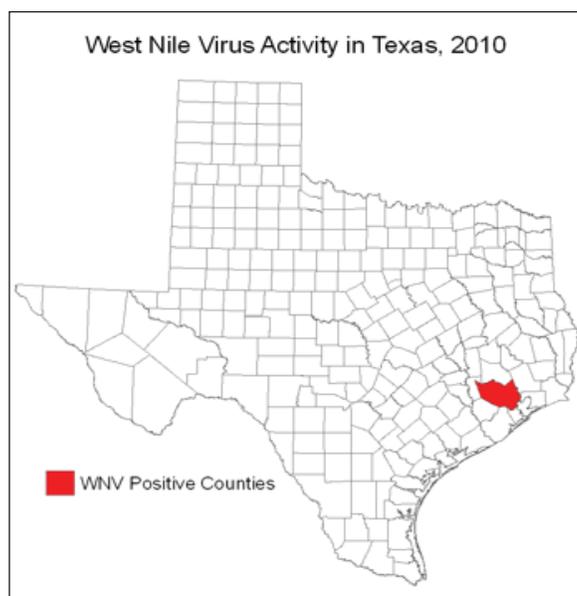
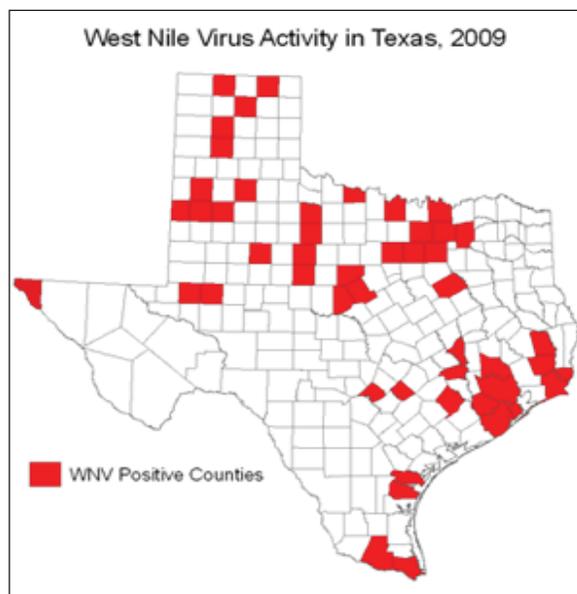
The first laboratory confirmed case of West Nile virus (WNV) was isolated from mosquitoes trapped on the 9th of April by the Harris County Public Health and Environmental Safety - Mosquito Control Division. The infected mosquitoes were identified as the primary vector of this disease in Texas, the southern house mosquito (*Culex quinquefasciatus*). This mosquito species breeds in septic water found in roadside ditches, storm sewers, birdbaths, or any container that holds water for more than seven days.

The best defense against contracting WNV is to practice the four “Ds” of mosquito control. These include:

- **Drain** – dump, clean, turn over, or cover all containers that can hold water for over three days;
- **Dusk** and **Dawn** – avoid being outside during periods of peak mosquito activity;
- **Dress** – wear loose fitting, light colored, long sleeved shirts and pants when outside;

- **DEET** – use mosquito repellents during outside activities.

Further information on this disease, mosquito identification and surveillance training classes, vector control category exam preparatory classes, and fact sheets on mosquitoes can be found on the Agricultural and Environmental Safety website ([www-aes.tamu.edu/Public\\_Health,\\_Vector,\\_and\\_Mosquito\\_Control.html](http://www-aes.tamu.edu/Public_Health,_Vector,_and_Mosquito_Control.html)).



The information given herein is for educational purposes only. Reference to commercial products or trade names is made with the understanding that no discrimination is intended and no endorsement by the Extension Service is