# Stewardship Needs: WDG/DF Formulation Products

Pat Hipkins
Virginia Cooperative Extension
VT Pesticide Programs

### Problems: In many situations

- end users do not understand the properties of WDG/DF formulations
  - …are NOT "Granules"
  - …like WPs, WDGs / DFs must be measured by WEIGHT (not volume)
- end users do not use the measuring device supplied with the product
- dealers/suppliers do not give end users a proper measuring device and/or measuring instructions

#### Scenario...

- > farmer problem...
- > 'phone call from (good) field agent...
- discussion / points of misunderstanding...
- contact with sales, technical representatives....
- > contact with local (ag) dealers...



# Handling and Measuring DF / WDG Formulation Pesticide Products

Wes Alexander, Southampton
Pat Hipkins, VT Pesticide Programs

## Units of Measurement



## Dry Ounce -vs- Fluid Ounce



## Fluid Ounce

#### Measure of Volume

```
1 fluid ounce = 1.8 cubic inches
```

= 2 tablespoons

 $= \sim 30 \text{ cc's} (= 29.6 \text{ cm}^3)$ 

 $= \sim 30 \text{ mL} (= 29.6 \text{ mL})$ 

## Fluid Ounce

#### 1/128 of a US Gallon 1/16 of a US Pint



## Dry Ounce

## Measure of Weight 1/16 of a Pound



## Fluid Ounce -vs- Dry Ounce

- 3-oz table salt measured by volume
- 3-oz table salt measured by weight







## Dry Ounce

Product-specific Measuring Containers for Dry Flowables/Water-Dispersible Granules



32 fl. oz. ——			24 oz.	
31 fl. oz. ——	-16 oz-		23 oz.	
30 fl. oz. ——	4		22 oz.	
29 fl. oz. ——— 28 fl. oz. ———	-15 oz-	12.0	21 oz. —	
27 fl. oz. ——				
26 fl. oz. ——	-14 oz-		20 oz. ——	
25 fl. oz. ——			19 oz. ——	
24 fl. oz. ——	-13 oz-	VAI	18 oz.	
23 fl. oz. ——		AH	17 oz.	
22 fl. oz. ——	-12 oz-	SX		
21 fl. oz. ——			16 oz.	
20 fl. oz. ——	-11 oz-		15 oz.	
19 fl. oz. ——	40	Measungs	14 oz. ——	
18 fl. oz. ———	-10 oz-	Herbicit	13 oz. —	
17 fl. oz. ——	0	Malametri		
16 fl. oz. ——	— 9 oz —	Volumetral	12 oz. ——	
15 fl. oz. —	0	Weigh #31 Control of	11 oz. ——	
14 fl. oz. ——	— 8 oz —	more plantage and a second	10 oz. ——	
13 fl. oz. ——	7	A CONTRACTOR OF THE PARTY OF TH		
12 fl. oz. ——	— 7 oz —	Not for the	9 oz. —	
11 fl. oz. ——	- 6 oz -		8 oz. —	
10 fl. oz. ——	- 0 02		7 oz. —	
9 fl. oz. ——	- 5 oz -	100		
8 fl. oz. ——	3 02	Made # Form 141	6 oz. —	
7 fl. oz. ——	- 4 oz -		5 oz. —	
6 fl. oz. ——	102	Sec. of	4 oz. —	
9.16. GZ.			1 76	

## Dry Ounce

Note the placement of the mark for 1 dryounce (weight measure) mark:





#### What is a DF / WDG?

Water-Dispersible Granule (WDG) and Dry Flowable (DF) formulations are made by compressing ("aggregating") a Wettable Powder (WP) into "dust-free" particles.

## DF / WDG -- DISadvantages

Like WPs, form a suspension (not a solution) in a spray tank

- > As a result, they
  - require agitation
  - may clog strainers/screens

## DF / WDG -- Advantages

#### > Like WPs:

- low dermal hazard
- less likely to be phytotoxic than some other sprayable formulations (ex. ECs) because they don't contain any oils or solvents

#### Unlike WPs

- Easier to take out of packaging
- Easier to measure....but mixer-loaders MUST use device specifically calibrated for that product AND that "batch" of product\*
- Reduced inhalation hazard to the applicator (due to larger "dust-free" particle size)

#### What is a DF / WDG?

- > easier and safer to handle...BUT
- measured by weight (batch density), not by volume







## Measuring WDG/DF Products

- ➤ The weight of each product -- and each batch of the same product (!) -- will vary, depending on the amount of active ingredient AND the properties of the carrier used.
- WDG/DF products come with a measuring device calibrated for a specific "batch" of a specific product. The lines on the container indicate weight, NOT volume.





## Summary

DFs and WDGs have many advantages, including being easier and safer to use than many other pesticide formulations

DFs and WDGs <u>must</u> be measured properly



## In some situations...

- dealers / distributors and end users do not understand the properties of WDG/DF formulations
- dealers / distributors do not give end users a proper measuring device and/or measuring instructions
- end users do not use the appropriate measuring device / method

## 1:1



## 6:8





## Solutions

- > Education/Outreach
- > Packaging
  - Shrink-wrap measuring device to product container
- Labeling
  - Color code and mark both product container and corresponding measuring device (name and year + "batch": ex:
    - Osprey 2008-A
    - Ally 2008-B

## Conclusion

Stewardship efforts are needed to ensure that DF/WDG formulation product users apply these materials at the proper rate.