

Label-Mandated Training and State Certification and Training Programs

WSU Spokane
Recertification



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C&T History

- **Pre-1970 – USDA supported Pesticide Applicator Training**
 - **Grower community**
- **1970's applicator certification as a part of FIFRA implemented (PSEP)**
 - **Commercial applicators**
 - **Private applicators**
- **State regulations expanded certification types, categories, and recertification**



40 CFR 171.3 EPA Categories

- **10 EPA Certification Categories** (1970's-no changes)
 - **Most based on pests and management**
 - Ag Pest (plant/animal), Aquatics, Forest
 - Public Health, Ornam. & Turf, Rights of Way
 - Industrial-institutional-Structural-Health (IISH)
 - **Some based more on application method**
 - Seed treatment
 - **Some based on user**
 - Regulatory, Demo-research
 - **Some categories very broad**
 - Agricultural Plant, IISH

40 CFR 171.3 (c) Categories

- **States may:**
 - **Add new categories or subcategories**
 - **Delete categories**
- **State needs: New/altered Categories & Types**
 - **Expanded “commerical applicator”**
 - **New or Split Categories**
 - **Chemigation, Birds on Bridges**
 - **Turf & Ornam. Weed only, Stored Grain only**
- **EPA can designate new RUPs**

Extension Service Training

- **Statewide Pesticide Safety Education Program**
 - **Statewide Coordinator (PSEP)**
 - **Extension Specialists & Associates**
 - Weed Scientists, Plant Pathologists, Entomologists, Toxicologists, Agricultural Engineers, Farm Safety, Soil Scientists, Bee Specialists, Invasive Species
 - **County (or Parish) Extension Faculty**
 - Agriculture, Horticulture, Master Gardeners
- **Operational Funding** – serious cuts anticipated in states
 - EPA-USDA-PRIA funding
 - State/county funding, study manuals, user fees
 - Grant funding for special projects

Extension Service Training

- **Core and category study manuals**
- **SLA exam development/revision**
- **Pre-certification classes**
 - **Classroom, Internet, DVD**
- **State recertification training**
 - **Exam only, credits/year (category-specific), course/ year**
 - **Classroom, hands-on workshops, fly-ins, clinics**
 - **Extension, SLA or other course sponsors**
 - **Extension coordinates independently or with commodity groups and professional organizations**

basic risk assessment

Label-mandated Training

- **Products (AI's) must be classified RUP**
- **Detail why RUP certification is insufficient!**
- **Clearly assess risk(s) to be mitigated by training**
 - **Is the risk for a single product, active ingredient, or class for products?**
 - **Application site or method**
 - **Water quality or spray drift concerns**
 - **Other environmental or human health reasons**

basic risk assessment

Label-mandated Training

- **Evaluate current state C&T programs and exam standards - adequate or lacking to address risk**
 - **Are mitigation issues already addressed?**
 - **Can changes to training curriculum and exam standards address the added mitigation needs?**
 - **Is mitigation product-specific, AI-specific, or a concern for several AI's or use patterns?**

basic risk assessment

Label-mandated Training

- **Consider limiting use of RUP to only certified applicators**
 - **Certification must be in the appropriate category**
 - **Prohibit supervision of non-certified people**
- **If RUP certification or supervision prohibition is insufficient, or un-workable**
 - > **consider label-mandated training**

above & beyond RUP certification

Label-mandated Training Needed

- **AI's or Products must be classified RUP**
 - **Current RUP certification required**
 - **Basic competency documented**
- **Required training beyond applicator certification must be a **condition of SALE and USE** of product**
 - **Reduces compliance issues**
 - **If certified, but not “trained”- can purchase legally, but use is illegal**
 - **Creates a significant non-compliance concern**

above & beyond RUP certification

Label-mandated Training Needed

- **AI's or Products must be classified RUP**
- **Some concerns with individual products warrant label-mandated training and RUP applicator user restrictions**
 - **Livestock Protection Collars & Compound 1080**
 - **M-44 and sodium cyanide**

above & beyond RUP certification

Label-mandated Training Needed

- **Registrant-Specific, Label-Mandated Training**
- If multiple registrants – applicator may need to obtain training from each registrant.
 - Provide for “joint efforts” (label language)
- Dealer stocks could require applicators to receive similar risk training for similar products/AI's

above & beyond RUP certification

Label-mandated Training Needed

- **Registrant-Specific, Label-Mandated Training**
- **Not integrated into state Certification and Training Program**
 - **Applicators familiar with C&T Program**
- **Registrant Responsibilities**
 - **Training announcements**
 - **Development and delivery**
 - **Tracking trainees and retraining**
 - **Notifying SLA of list of trainees and dates**

Options to Incorporate Additional Stewardship Training into C&T

1. Add a new federal category – change CFR
2. RUP statement would require a special state category certification (water quality, drift, soil fumigation, etc.)
 - States must add category to existing system for state registration approval
 - Requirement falls within “normal” certification and training process
 - Registrant works with Extension and user industry to develop state or regional study manuals and corresponding exams

Option: Independent of C&T

- 1. Registrants develop their own training program**
 - **Must be available to any user**
 - **Must track successful completions**
- 2. Must have enforcement effort to ensure compliance**

independent or part of state C&T

Prior to Consideration or Implementation of Label-Mandated Training

- **Engage the following stakeholders**
 - EPA Risk Assessors
 - EPA Product Registration Managers
 - Registrant Product Registration Managers
 - Registrant Stewardship Experts
 - EPA OPP Certification & Training Branch
 - University Extension PSEP Coordinators
 - SLA Certification Managers
 - User groups

independent or part of state C&T

Prior to Consideration or Implementation of Label-Mandated Training

- Who **defines** the scope of training?
 - EPA risk manager or product manager?
 - Involvement of EPA C&T Branch?
 - Registrant stewardship and product managers?
- Who **reviews** approves the training curricula?
 - RD, RD or C&T, outside stakeholders
- Who **approves** the training curricula?
 - RD, RD or C&T, outside stakeholders

independent or part of state C&T

Prior to Consideration or Implementation of Label-Mandated Training

- **Must target risk and not be redundant of existing training requirements**
- **Clear, concise label language needed to reduce applicator confusion with existing RUP certification requirements**
- **Funding sources needed to develop curricula and outreach**

independent or part of state C&T

Prior to Consideration or Implementation of Label-Mandated Training

- **Training must be adequately monitored**
 - **Consequences to the course sponsor and to attendees if insufficient**
- **Implementation of a field enforcement program that ensures compliance**



AAPSE Concerns with Applicator Burden

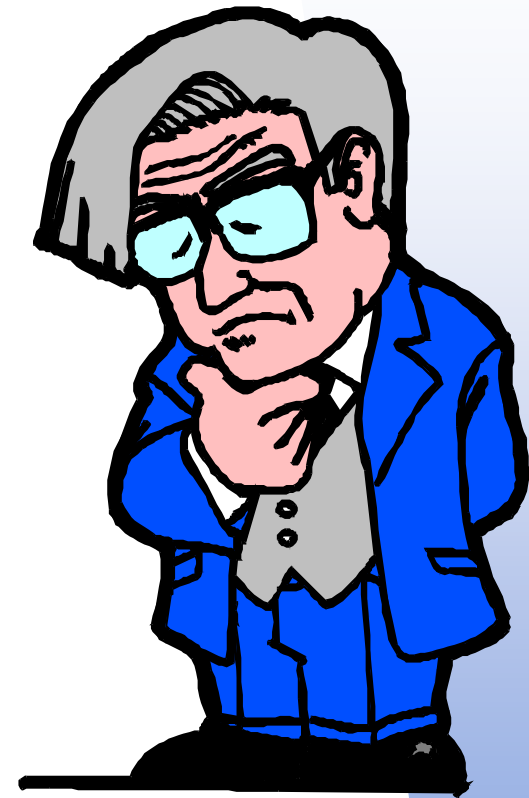
- **Confusion with state certification requirements**
 - RUP training
 - Product-training - **WHY MORE TRAINING?**
 - State recertification
 - Product retraining
 - Is follow-up training independent of state recertification?
- Who do applicators contact for which training and when?

AAPSE Concerns with Applicator Burden

- **Cautious of label language**
- **Cautious of duplicative training for different products with same risk profile**
 - **Markets and dealer stocks drive what applicators purchase**
 - **Reciprocity with other registrants**
- **Cautious about training accessibility and numbers of offerings**

Other AAPSE Concerns

- Training used for exclusionary registrations
- As more products undergo registration review, are there risk clusters that should be anticipated?



Request to Registrants and EPA

- **Carefully assess the suitability of stewardship programs**
- **Work together to develop standards or policies for training requirements beyond the scope of FIFRA-mandated RUP certification programs**
 - **commercial and private applicators**
- **EPA, registrants, SLA, and Extension must have a well thought-out plan for using label-mandated training as a mitigation approach**

A roadmap for label-mandated training assessment and implementation must be carefully crafted

**AAPSE offers to participate
in any dialogue**

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**State C&T Managers
State Extension Specialists**

