

The American Phytopathological Society: A Resource for EPA

The American Phytopathological Society (APS) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) are effectively cooperating to provide the agency with objective, science-based information for risk assessments on crop protection chemicals and biotechnology products to ensure their continued availability for combating crop diseases. The following is a list of current focus areas for continued discussion:

▶ Endocrine Disruptor Screening Program

- Testing results of Tier 1 and Tier 2 compounds and their impact on pesticide availability are of high concern to APS.
- How is the information being reviewed and what are the criteria?
- What is the most effective way to prevent the loss of important chemistries for end-users?
- Where can APS be effective in providing information during the testing and evaluation process?

▶ Endangered Species Act (ESA) Impact on Pesticide Use

- APS is highly concerned about recent developments that could impact pesticide use.
- What is the current status of lawsuits against the EPA and how will they affect pesticide use?
- APS is highly concerned about the loss of multisite fungicides such as chlorothalonil due to ESA
- How can APS provide information or research to aid in mitigating the effects of pesticides on Endangered Species?

▶ Pesticide Drift Labeling

- APS, WSSA and ESA were active in providing input in 2010 for Pesticide Drift Labeling
- APS appreciates the proposed revisions in the labeling language
- Are there additional updates on this issue and what are the final results of this process?

▶ National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System for application of pesticides

- NPDES may have a critical impact on pesticide use
- What is the status of NPDES and what pesticide uses will it directly affect for end-users?

▶ Fungicide Resistance

- Pesticide resistance continues to be a issue of concern for APS.
- What is EPA proposing for fungicide resistance management; how can it be effectively incorporated into labeling.
- APS Resistance Symposium in 2012 hopes to have significant EPA support and involvement.
- What research and information can APS contribute to aid EPA efforts?

▶ Use of Fungicides to Promote Plant Physiological Benefits in Crops

- Use of fungicides for plant health promotion continues to be a controversial issue for APS.
- Is EPA reconsidering how this should be regulated, and is there EPA interest in revisiting this topic at the annual meeting in 2012.

▶ EPA and APS Co-sponsored Regulatory Issues Symposium

- APS members would benefit from a better understanding of regulatory processes, registration and use of pesticides.
- A Regulatory Symposium for the 2012 APS Annual Meeting in Providence, RI would be an excellent opportunity to increase awareness in APS.

▶ Agricultural Chemical Usage Surveys

- USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) surveys are important for pesticide risk/benefit assessments, but at risk due to budgetary constraints.
- How can APS and EPA continue to support the continuation of this key program?

▶ American Phytopathology Society EPA OPP Subject Matter Expert Program

- APS has benefitted from the increased interaction with EPA and also WSSA and ESA through the establishment of a Subject Matter Expert at EPA.
- How can the SME program be improved?
- How can APS and EPA work together to make this a long-term relationship?

- ▶ **Contacts:** APS Public Policy Board (PPB) members **Jim Mueller** (jpmueller@dow.com) and **Frank Wong** (frank.wong@ucr.edu) as well as PPB Chair **Jan Leach** (jan.leach@colostate.edu) and APS's Washington liaison **Kellye Eversole** (eversole@eversoleassociates.com) are available to answer any additional questions.