



Arizona Department of Agriculture

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Region 9 Pre-SFIREG

The Region 9 pre-SFIREG call was held May 10, 2023 via Google Meet at 3:00 pm. This allows everyone from across our diverse time zones, a 20 hour spread, to all participate. One thing to note is we have 8 tribes that participate as well as 3 territories.

EPA. States were reminded to only put in the inspections covered with federal funding was in the “projected inspections” field of the Form 5700 for the workplan. States were also encouraged to provide the total number of inspections conducted (federal and state funded) in the “accomplished inspections” field in the Form 5700 when reporting inspection that were conducted. A meeting regarding the bilingual labeling will be occurring in June for 2 hours. (The announcement has been sent out.) States were asked to consider EJ in their workplans. It would be good for a round table discussion to see what states were doing as we can all learn from one another. All state C&T plans have been approved with the territories moving along and they will meet the deadline. All tribes in Region 9 are under the Federal Plan except for the Yurok tribe which all together prohibits the use of RUPs.

Nevada. Working on getting new documents for their C&T plan. They are doing training with Indian tribes. Manuals are updated and they are creating an on-line training for everyone to take to be updated on the new standards of competency which will be available in July for certified applicators to take when convenient and for which they will receive CE credit. They have had several drift complaints, more urban than agriculture.

Arizona. The University of Arizona uses our pesticide use reporting data to comment on the EPA regulatory issues. Our challenges are there is a lot to do and we have one University person to update all the training materials. The biggest hurdle is going to be for the applicators who cannot get CEUs relating to their categories of certification, which was required to be part of the C&T plan, IE: power pole treatment. Ernie mentioned the problem we had last year with CDX and our data was lost. Numbers are not that big of a deal but narratives are, so do them somewhere else and copy them into the database. We are contacted monthly by a registrant asking about dicamba complaints. We have had 1 in all the years...cotton is not as sensitive as soy beans. For PRIA, because there is the Spanish Translation guide from the EPA has, this seems reasonable. The one concern is if labels are found done improperly, what is going to happen...is there going to be follow-up at the federal level?

California. They are heavy into outreach for their certification plan. Most of their manuals have been updated. CDX does allow for OPP and OECA staff and the state to all comment on the workplan during review, just a reminder for everyone to use it. CA ag use rule for neonics will be coming out 1/1/24. It provides further protections for pollinators.

(https://www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/legbills/rulepkgs/22-001/22-001_final_text.pdf) Legislative issue relating to the rodenticides, CDPR is reviewing to determine appropriate protections. The legislature is also looking at seed treatments, a seed could be treated with a pesticide that is not registered for use, so this may be addressed.

CNMI. They are down staff so people have had to take on additional responsibilities. They do not have dicamba there. They are working on the C&T implementation strategy until they receive final approval on their C&T plan.

Gila River Indian Community. They have implemented 100% use reporting. They also require 8 hour advance notice on aerial applications. They have developed a phone APP and the applicators can use this to notify of applications. The community members can sign up to receive these notifications if they want. It provides exact field locations and what products will be used.

Guam. Similar to CNMI, they are down staff. The RUPs they have are mainly used structurally.

Submitted by Jack Peterson – Region 9 SFIREG Rep.