Contents

• Introduction to the USDA Office of Pest Management Policy (OPMP).

• Overview of pesticide regulatory processes.

• How professionals in agriculture, including IPM coordinators, can provide input on federal pesticide regulation.

• Current status of EPA Registration Review and Other Activities
Office of Pest Management Policy

• OPMP is in the USDA Office of the Chief Economist.

• We are responsible for:
  • developing USDA policy on pest management, pesticides, and agricultural biotechnology;
  • consulting with stakeholders on pest management-related actions taken by USDA and other agencies; and
  • interagency coordination with EPA, FDA, and other federal and state regulatory agencies.

• [https://www.usda.gov/oce/pest/about](https://www.usda.gov/oce/pest/about)
Office of Pest Management Policy

• Interdisciplinary, collaborative group
  • Sheryl Kunickis, Director (retired)
  • Clayton Myers, Acting Director, Entomologist
  • Elyssa Arnold, Regulatory Risk Assessor (Ecology and Env. Fate)
  • Anastasia Bodnar, Agricultural Biotechnology Advisor
  • Julie Chao, Regulatory Risk Assessor (Human Health)
  • Cameron Douglass, Agronomist/Weed Scientist
  • Julius Fajardo, Plant Pathologist
  • Seth Wechsler, Agricultural Economist
  • Lori Quade, Administrative Officer

• Contact information and bios: https://www.usda.gov/oce/pest/office-staff
OPMP Stakeholders

- Growers
- Pesticide applicators
- Pesticide registrants
- Federal agencies
- State agencies
- Extension agents
- Congress
- International agencies
Federal Pesticide Regulation

• The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is responsible for federal pesticide regulation.
  • Evaluate potential harm from pesticides to humans, wildlife, and water resources.
  • Approve pesticide labels with use directions and restrictions intended to reduce risk.
  • Conduct periodic re-revaluation of pesticide registrations (every 15 years).
OPMP’s Role in Pesticide Regulation

• OPMP provides agricultural context and usage information to assist EPA in pesticide regulation.

• Examine EPA’s inputs for assessing risks (typical usage vs worst case assumptions).
  • What is the pesticide used for?
  • How is the pesticide applied?
  • Where is the pesticide applied?
  • How much of the pesticide is used?
  • What are the existing label use directions and restrictions?
OPMP’s Role (continued)

• Help EPA to assess potential impacts of proposed changes to label use directions and restrictions.
  • Proposed changes may unnecessarily restrict or limit use of a pesticide.
  • Proposed changes may be expensive or difficult for farmers or applicators to implement.

• Provide information about benefits.
  • Availability or viability of alternative methods to control a pest.
  • Comparative risks of available alternatives.
  • Importance of a pesticide to integrated pest management or to resistance management.
Public Comments

• EPA posts draft and final documents for public review.
  • Ecological risk assessments
  • Human health risk assessments
  • Preliminary interim decisions
  • New pesticide active ingredients or new uses
  • Rulemaking and other policy proposals
Public Comments

- Comments are typically made through Regulations.gov.
- Anyone can provide public comments within the open comment period.

Make a difference. Submit your comments and let your voice be heard.

SEARCH for: Rules, Comments, Adjudications or Supporting Documents:

[Search Bar]
Substantive Comments

• Raise **scientific**, **legal**, or **technical** issues relevant to the proposed action.

• Specific examples, citing published literature, economic data, personal experience.

• Describe how the action could impact you, or your business, research, institution, stakeholders...

• Answer specific questions posed by an agency.

• Send comments to OPMP!
Reg. Review Cases of Note

- October 2022 deadline for finishing--**difficult cases still remain**
- Numerous fungicides, including triazoles and multi-site protectant active ingredients
- Organophosphate insecticides
- Neonicotinoid insecticides
- Pyridine/pyrimididine herbicides
- Post-harvest fumigants
ESA and Other Regulations

• EPA ‘Biological Evaluations’ for Carbaryl, Methomyl, Glyphosate, Triazines, Neonicotinoids
• FWS and NMFS ‘Biological Opinions’ for Malathion, Chlorpyrifos, Diazinon, Herbicides, 1,3-D
• Litigation Support to EPA on behalf of important pesticide benefits for agriculture
• Informal Working Group with EPA and stakeholders on Compost Residue Concerns
Learn More

• Learn more about OPMP: https://www.usda.gov/oce/pest
• Learn more about pesticide registration: https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-registration/about-pesticide-registration
• Learn more about pesticide reevaluation: https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-reevaluation/registration-review-process
• Learn more about providing public comments: https://www.regulations.gov/help
• Images via Flaticon.com.