

The state legislative mandate (The Pesticide Control Act of 1990) of the Pesticide Regulatory Programs Unit is to regulate pesticides in the public interest. In addition, the Unit operates under a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for pesticide enforcement under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act. The various program activities of the Unit include agromedicine, certification and training, compliance assistance, enforcement, environmental programs, pesticide registration and agricultural worker protection.

The **Agromedicine Program** is a collaboration of agricultural and medical professionals that deals with health and safety issues in modern agriculture. The **Certification and Training Program** provides guidance to public and industry groups and the West Virginia University Cooperative Extension Service (WVU-CES) concerning initial and recertification pesticide application training; evaluates pesticide recertification and registered technician training programs for State approval; and participates in and develops recertification training programs. The **Compliance Assistance Program** works with the educational and licensing aspects of the pesticide program as they relate to helping pesticide applicators, primarily those not for hire, achieve compliance with pesticide laws and rules. The **Enforcement Program** provides assistance to individuals and businesses in complying with the requirements of state and federal pesticide laws and ensures compliance with those laws and regulations through enforcement action when necessary. The **Environmental Programs** develop and implement activities to prevent, minimize, and monitor the effects of pesticides on environmentally sensitive areas and resources. The **Pesticide Product Registration Program** registers all pesticide products offered for sale or transported through the state. The **Worker Protection Standard (WPS) Program** works with the WVU-CES and EPA Region III to implement the WPS through outreach efforts, utilizes time to implement the WPS through various WPS training

programs, implements a "Train-the-Trainer" Program, and works with designated WPS trainers in the education of agricultural pesticide workers and handlers.

#### ***Administrative Accomplishments:***

- Received funding from the West Virginia Nursery and Landscape Association, allowing the continuation of the popular AgSafety Days Programs.
- Continued the Urban/Rural Pesticide Education Program through the WVU Safety and Health Extension Office.
- Completed and submitted three FIFRA Section 18 Emergency Exemption requests to EPA to allow the use of pesticide products on watercress, honey bees, and peaches and nectarines.
- Completed and submitted a FIFRA Section 24(c), Special Local Needs registration to allow flexibility and increased economy in the use of SpinTor by nectarine growers.
- Finalized regulation changes to increase the pesticide product registration fee from \$50 per product to \$100 per product, bringing an additional \$400,000 into the Department.
- Worked to further the use of electronic means to provide pesticide applicator and registration information to the public and educational and regulatory agencies.

#### ***Agromedicine Program Accomplishments:***

- Began serving as chair of the North American Agromedicine Consortium's (NAAC) Outreach Subcommittee, with focus directed to assisting states with the development of formalized agromedicine programs. Assistance was provided to the states of New York, California, Texas, Nebraska and Michigan.
- Participated in agromedicine on the state level by continuing to organize projects and facilitate business meetings of the West Virginia Agromedicine Program (WVAP) and by representing our state agromedicine program at national meetings throughout the year.
- Approved certification licenses for 124 private applicators, 221 commercial and certified public applicators, 641 registered technicians, 41 businesses, 3 dealers and 1 consultant.
- Administered 827 examinations to commercial and certified public applicators, with a pass/fail rate of 572/255, or 69 percent/31 percent.
- Administered 1,012 examinations to businesses and applicators.
- 118 private applicator examinations were graded and processed with a passing rate of 98 percent.
- Administered 67 business examinations, with a passing rate of 99 percent.
- Reviewed and approved 191 training programs for recertification credit.
- Reviewed and approved 32 registered technician training programs, which gives a total of 210 programs that have been approved for West Virginia licensed and regulated pesticide application businesses.