In July of 1995 the North Carolina General Assembly enacted legislation creating the Pesticide Environmental Trust Fund (PETF). The challenges faced by the North Carolina Department of Agriculture to implement programs being handed down from the federal level were more than the Pesticide Program’s existing budget could afford. The conceptual planning for the fund originated with the North Carolina pesticide industry and groups of stakeholders. Collaborations by many interested parties resulted in the current structure of this fund in order to assure a consistent and effective pesticide management program within the state. Support for the fund came from state legislators, pesticide industry representatives, environmental groups, academia and agribusiness.

In North Carolina each pesticide product prior to being offered for sale, must be registered with Food and Drug Protection Division, Pesticide Section. Receipts collected from pesticide product registration fees paid by registrants finances the fund. The assessment to the company is based on the total sale of each pesticide product in the state. For sales totaling under $5,000.00 a $25 fee is assessed. For product sales totaling over $5,000.00 a $50 fee is assessed. Since 1995 the total contribution to the PETF by pesticide registrants has been over $4,500,000.

The Pesticide Environmental Trust Fund has enabled the state to develop and implement agronomic programs at North Carolina State University, East Carolina University and North Carolina Agricultural and Technical University. In addition, money has been used to implement a pesticide container recycling and disposal programs in many counties across the state. The funding for recycling has made our state one of the national leaders in reducing the number of plastic agricultural chemical containers buried in landfills. In addition to the agronomic and recycling benefits, a very diverse group of environmental projects has received support from the fund over that last 10 years. The projects have included pesticide epidemiological studies, drift and use reduction studies, efforts to reduce ground/surface water contamination, various IPM programs, efforts to reduce children’s poisonings and pesticide exposure reduction efforts for agricultural workers through outreach and education.

The Pesticide Environmental Trust Fund is a true success story demonstrating how collaborative efforts by different interest groups have achieved common goals by enhancing workerclass, improving environmental protection and utilizing scientific approaches to address pesticide management issues.

IPM Practices for Christmas Tree Growers and Their Hispanic Farmworkers

Dr. Jill Sidedbottom with NCSU Cooperative Extension Service and a group of Specialists developed and conducted a training program on scouting and Integrated Pest Management (IPM) practices for Christmas Tree Growers and their Hispanic farmworkers.

Christmas tree growers received a 4-hour training that included post identification, discussion of post control strategies revolving around the scouting schedule, and spray drift reduction management. The training also included increased scouting and better groundcover management.

The Christmas tree Hispanic farmer training targeted year round and seasonal Hispanic workers in 5 Counties (Alleghany, Ashe, Avery, Watauga and Jackson). The five hour training was conducted in Spanish and consisted of three training sessions.
Prudent Use of Soybean Rust Fungicides Recommended

Soybean rust, a potentially devastating disease of soybeans, was first discovered in the continental United States last year in Louisiana. Shortly after this first detection, the disease was also confirmed in Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, Missouri, North Carolina, and Tennessee. So far in 2005, soybean rust has been found in Florida and in the southeastern corner of Georgia and Alabama. Several fungicides have been approved for use against soybean rust. Some are to be applied to prevent disease detection to help prevent disease development while others have some curative qualities, to help combat the disease after it has already infected the plant. While it is the grower’s decision as to when to begin application of these fungicides, the North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services and the North Carolina Extension Service recommend that applications of the preventative products not begin until there is a reasonable threat of the disease in North Carolina.

Prudent use of these fungicides is important for several reasons. First, the number of applications that can legally be applied to soybeans is limited. Therefore, every application needs to count. Second, just like with any other pesticide, unnecessary applications that can legally be applied to soybeans is limited. Therefore, every application needs to count. Second, just like with any other pesticide, unnecessary applications of fungicides that can legally be applied to soybeans is limited. Therefore, every application needs to count.

Several applications of fungicides are needed to provide personal protective equipment. Support materials for this training were developed and translated by Dr. Sidasottom and Dr. Hamilton with some assistance by Ms. Hanson.

NCPB Actions (continued)

Poisoning Control Requirements: Mr. Ward agreed to pay a monetary penalty of $400.00.

Barry L. Judge, Scottsdale, Ne, (Halifax County), for the alleged violation(s) of operating and acting in the capacity of a certified pest control applicator without a valid license or certification and for failing to provide personal protective equipment and pesticide safety training to workers, for failing to provide personal protective equipment and pesticide safety training to workers.

Mr. Judge agreed to pay a monetary penalty of $7,200.00.

Kelley L. Phillips, Robbinsville, NC, (Graham County), for the alleged violation(s) of operating and acting in the capacity of a licensed pest control applicator without a valid license or certification and for failing to provide personal protective equipment and pesticide safety training to workers.

Mr. Phillips agreed to pay a monetary penalty of $750.00.

Mitchell B. Balance, Fairfield, NC (Hyde County), for the alleged violation(s) of using a pesticide in a manner inconsistent with its label by making a pesticide recommendation or application not in accordance with the registered label and for failing to provide personal protective equipment and pesticide safety training to workers.

Mr. Balance agreed to pay a monetary penalty of $750.00.

Extra actions taken by the NCPB are listed below:

- Anthony E. Darden, Clinton, NC, (Sampson County), for the alleged violation(s) of using and applying a pesticide(s) in a manner inconsistent with the label and for depositing a pesticide container on property not in accordance with the registered label and for failing to provide personal protective equipment and pesticide safety training to workers.

Mr. Darden agreed to pay a monetary penalty of $750.00.

- Ronald D. Wade, Morehead, NC, (Whistler County), for the alleged violation(s) of using and applying a pesticide(s) in a manner inconsistent with the label and for depositing a pesticide container on property not in accordance with the registered label and for failing to provide personal protective equipment and pesticide safety training to workers.

Mr. Wade agreed to pay a monetary penalty of $750.00.

- Russell L. Huffman, Fremont, NC (Wayne County), for the alleged violation(s) of using and applying a restricted use pesticide available to a non-certified private applicator.

Mr. Huffman agreed to pay a monetary penalty of $800.00.

- Anthony C. Kyle, Raeford, NC, (Hoke County), for the alleged violation(s) of using a pesticide(s) in a manner inconsistent with its label and making and applying an aerial application of a pesticide within 25 feet of a right-of-way or public road.

Mr. Owens agreed to pay a monetary penalty of $450.00.

- Charles R. Belch, Cranston, NC, (Northampton County), for the alleged violation(s) of using and applying a pesticide(s) in a manner inconsistent with its label and making and applying an aerial application of a pesticide within 25 feet of a right-of-way or public road.

Mr. Stumml agreed to pay a monetary penalty of $750.00.

- Jim R. Saylor, Sabury, NC, (Gates County), for the alleged violation(s) of using a pesticide(s) in a manner inconsistent with its label and making and applying a pesticide(s) for sale or offering for sale.

Mr. Saylor agreed to pay a monetary penalty of $750.00.

- Brandon O. Wilson, Lexington, NC, for the alleged violation(s) of using a pesticide(s) in a manner inconsistent with its label and making and applying a pesticide(s) for sale or offering for sale.

Mr. Wilson agreed to pay a monetary penalty of $1,300.00.

- Jeffrey C. Martin, Snow Hill, NC, (Gates County), for the alleged violation(s) of using and applying a restricted use pesticide to a dealer who does not hold a valid North Carolina pesticide dealer license.

Mr. Martin agreed to pay a monetary penalty of $1,800.00.

- Robert F. E Qualtrough, Kinston, NC, for the alleged violation(s) of using and applying a restricted use pesticide to a dealer who does not hold a valid North Carolina pesticide dealer license.

Mr. E Qualtrough agreed to pay a monetary penalty of $3,000.00.

For more information about pesticides, contact your local Cooperative Extension Service office.