

Pesticide Update

North Carolina's Plastic Pesticide Container Recycling Program — A Successful Collaboration

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The NCDA&CS Structural Pest Control & Pesticides Division (SPCAP) promotes the recycling of plastic pesticide containers by farmers and commercial pesticide applicators through grant funding from the Pesticide Environmental Trust Fund (PETF) to support county pesticide recycling programs. This very successful program is a collaborative effort with county NC Cooperative Extension Service agents, county Solid Waste Services directors, pesticide dealerships and farmers. Through funding support from the PETF county governmental agencies can purchase items to implement and enhance pesticide container recycling programs, such as large cargo storage containers, signage, and pressure rinse nozzles. The SPCAP provides guidance to county agencies



on the management of their pesticide container recycling programs. Pesticide inspectors visit recycling sites to identify any problems that will result in the rejection of pesticide containers by the designated recycling contractor and discuss with site personnel ways to alleviate problems. Collection sites for empty, properly prepared pesticide containers are located at landfills, recycling convenience centers, agricultural chemical dealerships, NC Cooperative Extension offices, and farms. There is no landfill fee or charge to the farmer or commercial applicator to recycle their clean, empty containers.

Since the program's inception in 1995, NC applicators have recycled over 8.8 million pounds of pesticide containers and the state currently ranks 8th in the nation for plastic pesticide container recycling. 2017 was a record year for pesticide container recycling with 637,925 pounds collected.

With more than 200 pesticide container collection sites across the state, recycling is convenient and very beneficial to the state's farmers, pesticide users, consumers and our environment for several reasons:

- Recycling reduces the burden on local solid waste disposal facilities and landfills.



- Farmers and commercial applicators have a more environmentally friendly and inexpensive option for disposal of empty containers.
- Recycling provides an alternative to illegal burning, burying, or dumping of pesticide containers.
- Recycling conserves a non-renewable resource; recycled plastic pesticide containers are used to manufacture industrial type products that are approved by the Ag Container Recycling Council (ACRC), such as agriculture drainage pipe, keeping resources within the ag community.



Farmers and commercial applicators who participate in county recycling programs are reminded to do the following so their containers of 55-gallons or less in size will be acceptable for recycling:

- Triple or pressure rinse immediately after emptying the contents of a container and add the rinse water to the spray mix.
- Be sure all container caps are removed. If label booklets, metal handles, or rubber linings are on the containers, they must be removed also.
- Store the empty containers out of the rain because water in a container can be mistaken for residue.
- Keep dirt and gravel out of the containers because these substances can cause problems for the recycling company during the grinding process.

It is best to recycle pesticide containers at collection sites that store empty plastic pesticide containers separate from other types of plastic to ensure only industrial type products will be made with them.

For a list of recycling centers near you, please visit <http://www.ncagr.gov/SPCAP/pesticides/recycle.htm> or call Renee Woody, NCDA&CS Structural Pest Control & Pesticides Division 919-733-3556.

DO YOU HAVE ENOUGH CREDITS TO RECERTIFY?

Winter is the most popular time to earn your continuing education credits!

Attend a class now before your busy season starts!

Check your credits online here:

<http://www.ncagr.gov/SPCAP/LicenseSearch.htm>

Find approved continuing education courses here:

<https://apps.ncagr.gov/Pesticide/CourseCalendar>

See how many continuing education credits are required for your license category here:

<http://www.ncagr.gov/SPCAP/pesticides/RECREDRE.HTM>

2019 Auxin Herbicides Update

New Applicator Licensing Requirement

Prior to applying dicamba products (Xtendimax, Fexapan, and Engenia) postemergence in-crop on dicamba tolerant cotton or soybeans for the 2019 growing season, **all applicators** must have a commercial pesticide license or private pesticide certification **AND** have completed the updated auxin-specific training for 2019. The training: **“Auxin Herbicides – Best Management Practices”** must be approved by the North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (NCDA&CS). Non-licensed applicators may no longer use these products.

Enlist One and Enlist Duo (2, 4-D products) remain general use pesticides. Non-licensed applicators can apply these products under the supervision of a licensed or certified applicator if they have attended the updated auxin-specific training for 2019.

Applicators who attended an auxin herbicide training in previous years will need to attend an approved course this year as well before using these products. Licensees that attend the training will earn 1 continuing education credit in the N, O, D, and X categories. For more information, contact the NCDA&CS at 919-733-3556, contact your local County Cooperative Extension Service office, or visit <http://www.ncagr.gov/spcap/pesticides/auxin.htm>.

RECERTIFICATION REMINDERS

When you add a category to an existing license, your certification expiration date **does not change**.

Certification credits for the new category must be earned by your current certification expiration date, **unless** the new category was added in the same year that you recertify.

For commercial and public licenses, credits for **each** category must be obtained in at least **2 different calendar years**.

If your certification date is 6/30/2019 or 9/30/2019 but your license does not expire until 12/31/2019, **you must get your credits by your certification date**.

Check out DriftWatch!

DriftWatch, BeeCheck and FieldWatch are intended to help specialty crop producers, beekeepers, and pesticide users be good neighbors and work together to protect our pollinators and avoid drift on sensitive crops. The program is voluntary, non-regulatory, and free to use. Visit www.driftwatch.org!



North Carolina Pesticide Board Actions

At the December 2018 and January 2019 meetings of the North Carolina Pesticide Board, the following settlement agreements were approved for alleged violations of the NC Pesticide Law of 1971. Consent to the terms of the settlement agreement does not constitute an admission of guilt to any alleged violation.



Settlements are listed by county below:

- **(Anson) James Steven Austin**, a private pesticide applicator in Marshville, agreed to pay \$600 for drift damage to a hay field from a pesticide application to a neighboring property. N.C. law states that no person shall apply pesticides under such conditions that drift from pesticide particles or vapors results in adverse effects.
- **(Beaufort) Thomas L. Jefferson**, a pesticide dealer at Meherrin Agricultural and Chemical in Belhaven, agreed to pay \$1,400 for selling a restricted-use pesticide to Marshall T. Spain. At the time of the transaction Spain did not hold a pesticide license.
- **(Burke) Aaron A. Smith**, owner of Rose Creek Nursery and Landscaping in Morganton, agreed to pay \$500 for using a pesticide product that is highly toxic to bees near neighboring hives. The label of the pesticide he was using clearly indicated not to use the product when bees are foraging.
- **(Cleveland) Mark A. Greene**, manager of Southern States Services in Waco, agreed to pay \$1,500 for drift damage to a soybean field from a pesticide application. N.C. law states that no person shall apply pesticides under such conditions that drift from pesticide particles or vapors results in adverse effects.
- **(Cumberland) David V. Walton**, a private pesticide applicator in Lumber Bridge, agreed to pay \$600 for drift damage from a pesticide application sprayed on a field to a neighboring property's yard and garden. N.C. law states that no person shall apply pesticides under such conditions that drift from pesticide particles or vapors results in adverse effects.
- **(Davidson) Adam White**, a private pesticide applicator in Lexington, agreed to pay \$500 for not attending training required to apply products with dicamba.
- **(Gaston) Preston M. Stewart**, owner of Stewart's Lawn and Landscaping in Gastonia, agreed to pay \$600 for performing commercial pesticide applications without a valid license.
- **(Guilford) Alan Lowe**, owner and operator of Triad Mosquito Control in Brown Summit, agreed to pay \$500, for operating in a faulty, careless or negligent manner, failure to renew license and operating without the proper commercial public health license that is required for mosquito spraying.
- **(Harnett) Robert Craven Millican**, a commercial pesticide applicator for Crop Production Services in Erwin, agreed to pay \$1,000 for drift damage to a neighboring yard from a pesticide application to a soybean field.
- **(Henderson) Richard Baxter**, pesticide dealer for Southern Agricultural Insecticides Inc. in Hendersonville, agreed to pay \$2,100 for selling a restricted-use soil fumigant to a pesticide applicator not certified in soil fumigation.
- **(Jones) Patrick E. Faulkner II**, a commercial pesticide license holder for Crop Production Services in Trenton, agreed to pay \$1,000 for dicamba injury to a tobacco field from a pesticide application to an adjacent soybean field. N.C. law states that no person shall apply pesticides under such conditions that drift from pesticide particles or vapors results in adverse effects.

North Carolina Pesticide Board Actions Continued

- **(Lenoir) Christopher Sanderson**, a private pesticide applicator from Kinston, agreed to pay \$600 for drift damage to a tobacco field from a pesticide application to a dicamba-resistant soybean field. N.C. law states that no person shall apply pesticides under such conditions that drift from pesticide particles or vapors results in adverse effects.
- **(Lincoln) Claude D. Morgan**, operator of Dream Green, Inc. of Denver, agreed to pay \$15,400 for applying agriculture chemicals to turf and ornamental areas and storing these products in containers with improper labels. A stop-use was issued for these products. An application record provided by Morgan showed that a mixture of certain products was applied on properties, contrary to labeling for such products.
- **(Madison) Luther Ball** of Marshall agreed to pay \$500 for using a pesticide in a manner inconsistent with its labeling and not following safety procedures such as respirator use and buffer-zone requirements. Ball also did not have a site-specific fumigant management plan or proper record keeping. Although Ball had a valid private pesticide applicator's license, he was not certified in the fumigant category.
- **(New Hanover) Christopher Brian White** with Red River Specialties in Wilmington, agreed to pay \$600 for offering pesticide consulting services without a valid pesticide consulting license.
- **(Pender) Ronald D. Graves**, president and responsible pesticide license holder for Woodtreaters, Inc in Rocky Point, agreed to pay \$1,200 for commercially treating and selling lumber to consumers with an expired pesticide license. Graves has been since taken the wood treatment pest control exam and is recertified as a commercial applicator.
- **(Pitt) Marshall T. Spain** of Greenville agreed to pay \$800 for purchasing restricted-use pesticides from Meherrin Agricultural and Chemical in Belhaven without a valid license. He now holds a valid private pesticide applicator license.
- **(Richmond) Jeffery L. Vuncannon**, a pesticide dealer for EE. Vuncannon, Inc. in Ellerbe, agreed to pay \$800 for selling restricted-use pesticides to a pesticide applicator with an expired license.
- **(Scotland) Paul I. Jett**, a pesticide dealer for Triangle Cardinal Chemicals in Aberdeen, agreed to pay \$1,200 for selling restricted-use pesticides to a pesticide applicator with an expired license.
- **(Wayne) Shawn Mitchell of Dudley** agreed to pay \$600 drift damage to a neighboring yard from a pesticide application to a soybean field. N.C. law states that no person shall apply pesticides under such conditions that drift from pesticide particles or vapors results in adverse effects.
- **(Wayne) Kenneth Parnell**, a commercial pesticide applicator with P&P Spraying in Goldsboro, agreed to pay 1,000 for drift damage to a residential garden from a pesticide application to a soybean field directly across from the garden. N.C. law states that no person shall apply pesticides under such conditions that drift from pesticide particles or vapors results in adverse effects.
- **Michael Allen Bostrom**, an aerial pesticide applicator with Aero-Tech Helicopters of Kingstree, SC, agreed to pay \$1,200 from a drift damage to a neighboring yard from an aerial pesticide application. Bostrom also failed to notify a neighboring beekeeper registered with the N.C. Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services Plant Industry Division that there would be spraying near his apiary as required.

Resources

PESTICIDE SECTION

- INFORMATION & ASSISTANCE WITH PESTICIDE REGULATIONS & COMPLIANCE
- PESTICIDE CERTIFICATION & LICENSING QUESTIONS
- EXAM SCHEDULES & REGISTRATION
- RECERTIFICATION CREDIT QUESTIONS & APPROVED COURSES

NC Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services
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<http://www.ncagr.gov/SPCAP/pesticides/>

POLLINATOR PROTECTION:

<http://ncagr.gov/spcap/bee/>

PESTICIDE WASTE DISPOSAL:

Derrick Bell

<http://www.ncagr.gov/SPCAP/pesticides/pdap/>

PESTICIDE SCHOOLS AND MATERIALS FOR CERTIFICATION & RECERTIFICATION

CONTACT: Andrea Crozier, Dept. of Horticultural Science
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