



MARYLAND PESTICIDE NEWS

(February 2023)



Welcome to the first Maryland Pesticide Newsletter! If you would like to receive this newsletter or have any questions about it, please email Niranjana Krishnan <nkrish@umd.edu>

1. Proposed Restrictions on Rodenticides

- In November 2022, the EPA proposed risk mitigation measures for 10 rodenticides, including three 1st generation anticoagulants (chlorophacinone, diphacinone, warfarin)⁺, four 2nd generation anticoagulants (brodifacoum, bromadiolone, difenacoum, difethialone)[#], and three non-anticoagulants (bromethalin, cholecalciferol, zinc phosphide):

Proposed changes (green color indicates impacted rodenticides)	1st gen anticoagl ⁺	2nd gen anticoagl [#]	Bromethalin	Cholecalciferol	Zinc phosphide
All commercial/professional structural products made restricted use pesticides					All products = restricted use pesticide
Cancel all general use pesticides for control of field pests			Except worm baits for moles		
Limit use on crops (apply only during non-growth periods, etc.)					
Prohibit spot/scatter+broadcast app. to range, pasture, fallow land					
Prohibit spot+broadcast app. to turf, lawns, parks, golf courses, campsites					
Specific respirator requirements for app. of most baits, powders, pellets					
Chemical-resistant gloves for app. of most baits, powders, pellets					
Strengthen prior glove requirements = all chemical-resistant + thicker					
For some uses, statements for post app. followup (carcass search/disposal, etc.)	Mandatory or Advisory statements	Advisory statements	Advisory statements	Advisory statements	Mandatory statements
Cancel reusable consumer bait stations and refills (only pre-filled allowed)					
Include endangered species and Bulletins Live! Two label language					

2. Pesticide Labels will include Spanish Translations

- In December 2022, the Pesticide Registration Improvement Act of 2022 was passed. As part of the bill, the EPA was asked to translate human health precautionary language on registered pesticide labels to Spanish
- The timeline for implementing the label changes is between three to eight years, based on the toxicity and use of the pesticide product

3. Proposed Restrictions on Carbaryl

- In December 2022, the EPA proposed risk mitigation measures for carbaryl (a carbamate insecticide)
- To address human health concerns, the proposed mitigations include:
 - a) reduced application rates for sweet corn, turf, and citrus
 - b) cancellation of some uses for residential dust formulations, residential granular formulation on turf, use on rice, and backpack applications to control tree boring beetles
 - c) additional PPE for some uses
 - d) longer restricted entry intervals for some uses
- To address non-target concerns, the proposed mitigations include:
 - a) mandatory spray drift language that prohibits application close to aquatic habitats (25 feet for ground and 150 feet for aerial applications)
 - b) protection statements and restrictions on applications during rain
 - c) restrictions on applications during bloom
- Additionally, the EPA identified jeopardy for several endangered species and proposed early mitigations ; the identified species are not native to Maryland
- Based on the Maryland Department of Agriculture survey, nearly 2000 lbs of carbaryl were applied in the state in 2020

4. Proposed Rule to Reinstate Provisions from the 2015 Worker Protection Standard

In February 2023, the EPA proposed to reinstate several provisions from the 2015 Worker Protection Standard (WPS) to protect farmworkers and pesticide handlers from exposures. These provisions were weakened in a 2020 rule that never went into effect. The provisions focus on the Application Exclusion Zone (AEZ), which is an area surrounding an ongoing pesticide application that people must not enter to avoid exposure. The reinstated provisions will require:

- a) application of the AEZ beyond an establishment's boundaries and also when individuals are within easements (e.g., utility easement).
 - b) establishment of AEZ distances for ground-based spray applications [25 feet for medium or larger sprays (when sprayed from a height greater than 12 inches from soil surface or planting medium) and 100 feet for fine sprays]
- In addition, the EPA is proposing to retain two provisions from the 2020 rule:
 - c) clarification that suspended pesticide applications can resume after people leave the AEZ
 - d) an "immediate family exemption" that allows farm owners and their immediate family to remain inside enclosed structures or homes while pesticide applications are made
 - Public comment on the proposed rule will be allowed for 60 days (see link below)

References/Links

Proposed rodenticide restrictions: <https://www.epa.gov/pesticides/epa-proposes-new-mitigation-measures-rodenticides-including-pilot-protecting-endangered>

Inclusion of Spanish translation: <https://crsreports.congress.gov/product/pdf/download/IF/IF10424/IF10424.pdf>

Proposed carbaryl restrictions: <https://www.epa.gov/pesticides/epa-proposes-improved-mitigation-insecticide-carbaryl-including-pilot-protecting>

Reinstating 2015 WPS provisions: <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-proposes-rule-protect-farmworkers-and-pesticide-handlers-exposures>