



OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE NATIONAL ALLIANCE OF INDEPENDENT CROP CONSULTANTS

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN




*By
Debra Keenan
NAICC
2015 President*

Worker Protection

One hot topic that the NAICC Governmental Affairs Committee and the board have been working on over the last few months is the Worker Protection Standards (WPS). EPA has sent the draft final rule to USDA and the Office of Management and Budget seeking their input on the final rule. (see related article below regarding NAICC's input) We expect the final rule to be published this fall.

EPA proposed that the exemption for employees under the direct supervision of certified and licensed crop advisors be removed. There was no change to the crop advisor exemption, just for the employees. NAICC does not want the rule to change. NAICC encouraged EPA through its official comments (see NAICC website for official comments) not to make changes to the exemption currently in place for employees who are under the direct supervision of a certified or licensed crop advisor.

The crop advisor's goal is to offer the most effective alternatives for pest management, resistance management and all other components of IPM.

They are responsible to the grower to provide the best and most economical recommendations and their employees are critical to providing these services. Certified or licensed crop advisors will NOT take risks when it comes to the employees' safety, the grower's bottom line or their own professional integrity.

If EPA should decide to require specific training for the employees of crop advisors to ensure that they understand the risks of entering and working in areas treated with pesticides, NAICC's commented that training for new employees and annual refresher training should be adequate. Although certified or licensed crop advisors should cover the necessary precautions during employees training at the start of the season, NAICC would be willing to enter into discussion with EPA regarding training intervals and content that would recognize the workers' existing experience and previous training, the nature of the duties of the employees and whether changes in duties have occurred since the last training.

Due to the training given to employees and the educational background and experience of the certified or licensed crop advisor, employees will be aware of the precautions required when in contact with crop that has been recently treated and should be exempted from the WPS requirements for provisions for decontamination supplies and emergency assistance and from following the labeling requirements for PPE for early entry. With advancements in technology, all employees have ample access to labels, Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS), and safety precaution information through electronic data, the internet and direct access to the certified or licensed crop advisor.

The below chart is from page 80 of the HOW TO COMPLY publication from EPA. The yellow highlighted areas are the actions that employees would have to do if they lose the exemption. If the employee of a certified crop advisor exemption is lost, it would have a profound effect on the businesses of NAICC members.

Summary of WPS Requirements for Employers of Crop Advisors												
WPS Provision	Uncertified and Unlicensed Crop Advisor						Certified or Licensed Crop Advisor					
	Noncommercial (Employed Directly by Ag Establishment)			Independent (Commercial)			Noncommercial (Employed Directly by Ag Establishment)			Independent (Commercial)		
	During Application	During REI	After REI Expires	During Application	During REI	After REI Expires	During Application	During REI	After REI Expires	During Application	During REI	After REI Expires
Information at a Central Location	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	Not applicable	YES	YES	Not applicable	NO	NO
Pesticide Safety Training & Information	YES (handler)	YES (handler)	YES (worker)	YES (handler)	YES (handler)	NO	Not applicable	YES (handler)	YES (worker)	Not applicable	YES (handler)	NO
Decontamination Supplies	YES (handler)	YES (handler)	YES (worker)	YES (handler)	YES (handler)	NO	Not applicable	NO	NO	Not applicable	NO	NO
Emergency Assistance	YES (handler)	YES (handler)	YES (worker)	YES (handler)	YES (handler)	NO	Not applicable	NO	NO	Not applicable	NO	NO
Monitoring Handlers	YES	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO	Not applicable	NO	NO	Not applicable	NO	NO
Special Instructions for Handlers	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES	NO	Not applicable	NO	NO	Not applicable	NO	NO
Duties Related to PPE	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES	NO	Not applicable	NO	NO	Not applicable	NO	NO
Notice About Applications	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO	NO	Not applicable	NO	YES	Not applicable	NO	NO
Restrictions During and After Applications	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO	NO	Not applicable	NO	YES	Not applicable	NO	NO

NAICC at CropLife Spring Conference

Jim Steffel, James Todd and Allison Jones represented NAICC at the CropLife Spring Conference in April. With the theme, "Science Speaks," the conference briefed these members on:

- Government Perspectives on Pollinator Health
- Endangered Species Act
- Office of Pesticide Programs: Today's Work and Priorities
- Water, Contaminants and Policy
- Checking All the Boxes: Complying with Supplemental Distribution Requirements
- Trade Regulation and Impacts on Pesticides
- From Cell Culture to Humans: Modeling Kinetics - Understanding Human Relevance
- Stakeholder Perspectives on Pollinator Health
- OSHA Safety Data Sheets and EPA Labels: A Primer on Liability and Compliance

EPA and USDA officials were invited to attend the tradeshow held just prior to the start of the educational sessions. NAICC had a booth in the exhibit hall staffed by Jones, Steffel and Todd. According to Jones, "The traffic circulating past the booth was great. We met several new people from EPA and reconnected with others with whom we have worked. We also were able to connect with some of our NAICC Sustaining Members who were exhibiting as well."

While in DC, the three NAICC reps met with EPA, USDA, Small Business Administration, Congressional Staffers and CropLife staff.

Ray McAllister and Janet Collins with CropLife visited with the group regarding the lack of research facility audits as well as WPS. Discussions are on-going within the GLP task force on how to proceed.

The trio met with Sheryl Kunickis, Director at USDA's Office of Pest Management Policy, and Teung F. Chin and Jill Schroeder also with OPMP. This group is part of the interagency review of the WPS final rule. Discussion centered on the need to keep the crop advisor exemption intact for employees under the direct supervision of certified or licensed crop advisors.

Jim Steffel represented NAICC at the Insect Resistance Action Committee (IRAC) meeting. IRAC requested and was granted

booth space and a spot on the Emerging Technology Session for the 2016 Annual Meeting.

Meanwhile James Todd and Allison Jones met with Keith Jones, with the House Ag Committee. The group discussed WPS and Waters of the US.

The three then attended a meeting at USDA with Diane Gelburd, Ph.D., Special Assistant to the Chief for Strategic Initiatives and Mark Rose, Gregorio Cruz, Terrell Erickson, Noller Herbert all from NRCS. They reviewed new NRCS Farm Bill programs as well as updates on TSP. (See article Learn About Conservation Grants Program in this issue)

Jim and James met with officials from EPA's Biopesticides and Pollution Prevention Division (BPPD) and discussed the status of the Corn Rootworm Insect Resistance Management (CRW IRM) proposal. BPPD officials noted that the comments received, including those received from the NAICC, were helpful to BPPD in identifying the issues most important to growers. Most of the grower-based comments expressed concerns about restricting or mandating CRW management tools, such as soil-applied insecticides and crop rotation.

BPPD will convene several meetings with the Agricultural Biotechnology Stewardship Technical Committee (ABSTC) to discuss the proposal. All meetings related to the proposal will be summarized for the docket to maintain a transparent, open process. BPPD emphasized that no agreements or arrangements have been reached yet regarding the proposal. Meeting summaries can be found under "supporting documents" at <http://www.regulations.gov/#!docketDetail;D=EPA-HQ-OPP-2014-0805>.

A meeting was also held with officials at the Small Business Administration (SBA). The group met with the SBA attorney working on WPS. SBA is also part of the interagency review for WPS and communicates to EPA on how the changes will affect small businesses, which includes the majority of the NAICC consultants and researchers.

As a result of this meeting, SBA requested that the three NAICC reps participate in a conference call the following week regarding the certification and licensing changes EPA is proposing to the applicators program.



Jim Steffel and Allison Jones staff the NAICC booth at the CropLife Spring Conference.



Jim Steffel visits with Lydia Cox, Ph.D., Director of Regulatory Affairs with Nichino America.



Happenings on the Hill

USDA

Several environmental groups claim that some USDA scientists researching neonicotinoids, insecticides and glyphosate are being harassed and their work is being overly censored or oppressed. The groups filed a legal petition in March by the Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility, claiming that more than 10 USDA scientists faced consequences or were being investigated when their work called into question the health and safety of ag chemicals and when their work conflicted with agribusiness interests. The legal petition was issued shortly after the International Agency for Research on Cancer (division of the World Health Organization) released new classifications for five pesticides including identification of glyphosate as probably carcinogenic to humans.

FEDERAL RESERVE BANK

The Kansas City Federal Reserve Bank reports that ag lending was up for the first quarter 2015. Economists examined first quarter lending trends provided in the national Survey of Terms of Bank Lending to Farmers. The report revealed that total volume of non-real estate farm loans in February was \$8.1 billion more than for February 2014. Increased lending for operating expenses and livestock purchases were identified as the primary reasons for the increase. Current operating loan volume grew for the third consecutive year following several quarters of depressed crop prices. Demand is expected to increase as market prices continue a downward trend due to the possibility of another record harvest. Economists also stated that input costs are expected to decline less than cash crop receipts, thus increasing loan demand. In addition, fixed interest rate loans increased substantially in first quarter 2015. Interest rates on non-real estate farm loans increased slightly in first quarter 2015 after steady declines since 2007. This slight increase may have prompted farmers/ranchers to lock-in the current low rates.

FARM BILL

Leaders of the Senate and House Ag committees clearly stated that they will not re-open the 2014 Farm Bill as it was "contentious enough that nobody wants to risk what might happen should it be re-opened." Senate Ranking Member Stabenow commented that the committee had already exceeded sequestration cuts while crafting the 2014 Bill and that she is pleased with the work the USDA has done to make the process go smoothly.

FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION

The FAA approved the Section 333 petition for the 218 pound Yamaha RMAX UAS for aerial application, marking the largest (by

weight) UAS approval by the agency to date. The petition, filed by Yamaha, permits four gallon aircraft to spray crops and fertilizer in the national airspace system. The FAA also chose, for the first time, to allow users with as few qualifications as a sport pilot certificate (requiring 20 hours of flight time) and a driver's license to commercially spray pesticides.

ENVIRONMENTAL PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

A compromise between both parties to revise the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) cleared the Environmental Public Works Committee by a 3-1 margin in late April. The revisions allow the states to be co-enforcers of chemical regulations, modifying the factors when EPA designates a chemical as a "high priority," and changing the safety standard to be consistent with existing law while clarifying the term "unreasonable risk" to be consistent with the standard.

EPA

State Pollinator Plans: The EPA stated that it has dropped its effort to develop a plan of action for reviewing and approving state pollinator protection plans. EPA would still like to see states develop pollinator plans and have offered their input if requested. State pesticide officials were concerned that an EPA approval process could possibly discourage states from establishing new efforts to protect commercial honeybees and other managed pollinators from pesticide uses. Five states currently have pollinator protection plans established and another 30 states have similar initiatives under consideration.

Inert Pesticide Disclosures: Several environmental groups have dropped their appeal of a lower court's dismissal of a suit requesting the EPA to increase standards that would require the pesticide manufacturing industry to disclose inert ingredients in their manufactured products. The environmental groups stated they will continue with other options, including lobbying the EPA to create tighter guidelines. The court opinion stated the case was unjustified because the EPA already responded to the environmentalist's petitions on two separate occasions.

Applicator Training Standards: New proposed rules would require pesticide applicators to be subject to new training standards; the request for the new rules has been submitted to the White House Office of Management and Budget. EPA states revised certification requirements are to provide further safeguards to workers applying pesticides as well as to the public and the environment. EPA further stated that non-regulatory training and educational efforts undertaken in the past have not provided sufficient protection. The proposed rule, according to EPA, would improve training and awareness of certified applicators of restricted-use pesticides. In addition, EPA states the proposed rules would increase protection for non-certified applicators who work under the direct supervision of a certified applicator.

The U.S. Senate is expected to vote on the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) in June. The U.S. House of Representatives is expected to follow in a similar time frame with its own reform measure that could result in the President signing a law before the end of the year. The changes in the revision would allow states to be co-enforcers of chemical regulations, changing safety standards to be consistent with existing law, clarifying the term "unreasonable risk" and modifying factors when EPA designates a chemical as "high priority."

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WOTUS

A group composed of the leaders of the House Agricultural and Conservation Committee along with committee members of the House Conservation and Forestry Committee did not hold back on their comments after the May 27 release of WOTUS (Clean Water Rule). The group stated the new ruling further obscured the original intent of the Clean Water Act (CWA) by significantly increasing waters subject to federal jurisdiction. According to the Committee Leadership, input from states was ignored. The committee stated American farmers and ranchers concerns were not addressed. Agricultural commodity groups along with agricultural industry associations stated the final rule of WOTUS created burdensome and inconsistent standards that will place limitations on efficient production and does not provide for advancement of clean water goals.

The EPA has acknowledged that “science today does not establish that waters beyond those defined as “adjacent” to “significant” waters should be regulated”. Following the announcement, EPA and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers claimed the rule does not create any new permitting requirements and maintains all previous exemptions and exclusions. The EPA news release stated the following: “In an historic step for the protection of clean water, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers finalized the Clean Water Rule today to clearly protect from pollution and degradation the streams and wetlands that form the foundation of the nation’s water resources”. EPA claims that 117 million Americans obtain their drinking water from streams that lacked the clear protection of Clean Water Rules.

EPA and other agencies held more than 400 meetings across the USA and reviewed over one million public comments and listened, according to EPA, to perspectives from all sides. In addition, over 1,000 peer-reviewed and published scientific studies were considered. After extensive hearings, including those held

by the House Committee on Agriculture and Science, Space and Technology, several legislative attempts have made to eliminate the rule development and review process as serious concerns have been voiced by ag, manufacturing and construction industries. Legislative groups stated “EPA’s quick timetable for releasing a final rule (first proposed approximately twelve months ago) indicated that not all concerns had been properly addressed”. Legislators, however, were successful in withdrawing the WOTUS Interpretive Rule, which was released at the same time as the full WOTUS rule, but was an independent measure that took effect immediately last year.

The American College of Environmental Lawyers (attorneys in the environmental profession) expect the rule to end up in higher courts and project years of litigation and appellate reviews with and ultimately ending up in the Supreme Court.

Agricultural groups are reviewing the new rule for certainty that all farm/ranch concerns are being addressed. Some groups are advocating for a fully revised rule and a Senate version of the bill was to be submitted around June 5.

FDA

FDA is seeking additional funds to implement the Food Safety Modernization Act. The Produce Marketing Association (PMA) immediately expressed their opposition regarding any additional user, inspection or registration fees imposed by the federal government. FDA is seeking an additional \$109.5 million in new budget authority to assist the agency in implementing food safety regulations. PMA stated they understand the needs for new dollars but feel the revenue should come from the federal budget rather than relying on the food industry sector. Opposing views for sourcing have arisen from within the ag industry. The opposing view states that money for grower and industry education should have priority over FDA/state inspector training. Imposing user fees could help the industry to implement food safety regulations as well as educate grower groups. Having a stake such as this may help mitigate unnecessary regulations and added costs in the future, according to the opposing group.

Develop Your Leadership Skills through NAICC

With its mission statement, *To help ensure agricultural sustainability by facilitating the growth of new leaders within NAICC*, the NAICC Leadership Program (NAICCLP) is designed to develop aspiring leaders like you! The program has very clear objectives:

- Enhance leadership skills and personal development to promote NAICC and agriculture
- Encourage networking and rapport among agricultural professionals
- Prepare leaders to be an effective resource for policy-makers and enforcement agencies in relation to agriculture.

This exciting program consists of three modules that begin in January at the NAICC Annual Meeting, followed by a trip to Washington, DC with the Executive Board and attend the Crawfish Boil on the Hill. The program continues through the summer/fall with visits to other NAICC member’s facilities with participates “graduating” at the following annual meeting.

Three NAICC members will be selected for each leadership class with consideration given to geographic location and the person’s area

of knowledge/expertise. All applicants must be a NAICC member in good standing. Find the complete details on the program including participant responsibilities, criteria for selection/participation, and the application form at this link < <http://naicc.org/2015/05/naicc-leadership-program-2/>>. Deadline is September 1.

The NAICCLP is sponsored in part by the Foundation for Environmental Agriculture Education, FMC Corporation, and AMVAC Chemical Company. We are looking for additional corporate sponsors to sustain the program. Please contact Allison Jones for more information.

Want to participate in the program?

You have three options:

1. Sign up for the program
2. Host a participant at your office/facility.
3. Donate \$25-\$500 towards the scholarship fund for participants.

NAICC Partners with GAIAC

Global Alliance of Independent Agricultural Consultants

The Global Alliance of Independent Agricultural Consultants (GAIAC) is a worldwide association formally incorporated in 2012 by independent crop consultants and researchers from across the world including members of the AICC in the UK and the NAICC in North America.

The NAICC and the GAIAC reached an agreement that all AICC and NAICC members can be pre-approved as members of the GAIAC. Membership in the GAIAC will be free for AICC and NAICC members in 2015.

To activate your free membership, go to www.gaiac.org/membership. The Global Alliance of Independent Agricultural Consultants (GAIAC) aims to promote the exchange of information, technology, techniques and experiences on a global basis which allows members to offer timely and pertinent services from a global point of view. GAIAC also aims to promote independent consultants and researchers in countries which have poor independent structures. For example, the GAIAC has already provided detailed advice in the formation of a French independent crop consultant association.

Learn About Conservation Grants Program

The Conservation Innovation Grants Program drives innovation in natural resource conservation in conjunction with agricultural production, yielding benefits for farmers, ranchers, forest landowners and the American public. The USDA's Natural Resource Conservation Service awarded the first Conservation Innovation Grants in 2004. Since then, CIG awardees have worked with NRCS, farmers, ranchers and forest landowners to develop the next generation of conservation approaches and technologies.

In the ten years that NRCS has administered the program, CIG projects have addressed a diversity of natural resource concerns, such as helping develop and demonstrate more efficient ways to manage nutrients, reduce on-farm energy use, increase irrigation efficiency and accelerate development of water quality trading and greenhouse gas markets. Visit the Grants Program at <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/programs/financial/cig/> and see several examples of the impact that CIG projects have had on advancing technologies and approaches to natural resource conservation.

Richard L. Jensen, Ph.D. Memorial Scholarship Applications

Applications for Richard L. Jensen, Ph.D. Memorial Scholarships are available at <http://thefae.org/jensen-scholarship/>. We encourage you to share the application with your summer employees or college students working toward an Ag degree. Students working for NAICC members qualify for preferred status.

Three scholarships are provided by NAICC's Foundation for Environmental Agriculture Education (FEAE):

- One \$3,000 award is given to a deserving third-year student in Agriculture with a major in Crop Production or allied subject.
- Two \$1,500 awards are given to deserving college students in Agriculture.

Application deadline is November 1, 2015.

The mission of the Foundation for Environmental Agricultural Education is to catalyze innovative education and training for current and future professional crop management practitioners including researchers and crop consultants.

Welcome, NAICC Cooperative Members

Cooperative Members are not-for-profit associations that encourage and support the goals and activities of NAICC. We welcome the following new Coop members:

The National Agricultural Aviation Association. Founded in 1966, NAAA represents approximately 1,900 members in 46 states. NAAA supports the interests of small business owners and pilots licensed as professional commercial aerial applicators who use aircraft to enhance food, fiber and bio-fuel production, protect forestry and control health-threatening pests. Primary contact is

Andrew Moore, Executive Director, 1440 Duke Street, Alexandria, VA, 22314, admoore@agaviation.org.

National Potato Council. The National Potato Council is the advocate for the economic well-being of U.S. potato growers on federal legislative, regulatory, environmental and trade issues. Primary contact is Steve Holton, Director of Public and Corporate Relations, 1300 L Street NW, Washington D.C. 20005, steveh@potatocouncil.org.

QA Corner:

by Dr. Stu Mertz, PEAK Quality Consulting, Inc.

The NAICC Annual Meeting continues to be the premier place to network and obtain timely training information for GLP and GMO professionals. The QA Corner is your place for the highlights! Please visit <http://naicc.org/meetings/2015-annual-meeting/> for the program held January 19-24, as well as 13 presentations in PDF for the combined Researcher Track II and QA Track III. You will find them valuable in your training as a new or experienced field and laboratory GLP professional. Big thanks to all of the speakers who made their presentations available for all of NAICC membership. Mark Tumey, Encore Innovations, LLC, was the 2015 annual meeting program co-chair representing the QA membership. We appreciate and applaud the endless hours he invested in making this meeting a huge success.

This month, the QA Corner will focus attention on the goals and accomplishments of Applying GLP Fundamentals for Research and Quality Assurance Professionals, a training program held before the Annual Meeting. Training was available for everyone in the GLP arena from sponsors, analytical labs, field test sites and independent QA companies. The program had record attendance in 2015 with Basic module (51), Advanced module (48), and Field module (21).

Plan to attend the pre-meeting GLP training in 2016!! The Field Training Application module will be replaced with a Sampling module. The Advanced module will be a refresher GLP course. Basic will be similar to 2015 with some new content added. The Advanced and Basic were sold out in 2015, so register early. Look for more information in upcoming newsletters.

GLP PROFESSIONALS' TRAINING TESTIMONIALS

Dr. Stuart Falk joined NAICC as a field researcher and is the Owner/Principal Investigator at Falk Agricultural Research, LLC (FAR) in Marysville, OH. His wife, Kate, is the archivist and a member of the QAU. FAR conducts efficacy and GLP residue studies on corn, soybeans, wheat, alfalfa, vegetables, pomefruit, stonefruit, berries and turf in Ohio and Michigan.

Stuart: "This was my second annual meeting, having joined NAICC just prior to the 2014 meeting. I was looking forward to attending the pre-meeting GLP training module on "Field Techniques for GLP Professionals" to gain some hands-on training for my role as field applicator. I would absolutely recommend the module to those new to making field applications. For me, it reaffirmed my methodologies and gave me renewed confidence for the upcoming spray season. I found some of the training techniques used by the experienced applicators to be very useful and I will adopt some of these into my own practices. Finally, the formulas and worksheets provided will be useful reference for many years."

Kate: "I attended the 2015 Reno NAICC meetings to gain a better knowledge and understanding of what is expected of me as an archivist and QA. I found the seminars quite informative and would highly recommend said meetings to anyone interested in learning about the duties required for this field of work. The pre-meeting GLP training module was most helpful, especially the mock data sheet. The other QAs I met were helpful at the meetings, offering emails for further correspondence and mentoring if such need arises."

PRE-MEETING GLP PROFESSIONALS' TRAINING SUCCESS

The membership of NAICC gratefully acknowledges and thanks the immense contributions of the following volunteers who made the pre-meeting GLP training a huge success! The meeting has now become a regular event and adds significant drawing power for meeting attendance by researchers and their QAs. As you'll see below, we have a broad spectrum of skill sets and companies represented in the Principal Investigators and QAs who volunteer as leadership and trainers/facilitators.

A big hand clap thanks to Lisa Wheelock-Roney (Great Lakes Ag-Research Service, Inc.), chair of the 2015 Research/QA Education Outreach Committee (GLP Training committee). Also, a hearty THANKS to the management of the organizations listed, because they allow, encourage and support this volunteer effort.

Based on participant feedback, the format has evolved over time to best serve the educational needs of the regulated community. The following modules (goals and accomplishments) were offered in 2015:

Basic GLP Training was geared toward individuals with 0-3 years of experience using a fun, interactive overview of the GLPs. By Annette Leslie (DuPont Pioneer): Our goal was to reach anyone that may be experiencing the GLPs for the first time or has recently been moved into a more "intense" GLP environment and needs to go "back to the basics" of GLPs. We had hoped that this course would appeal to the many PIs that now run their own facility, a PI that has moved into a QA role, or a newly-hired QA that has never experienced a GLP environment. The course was designed to have interactive time with plenty of opportunities for asking questions and take-home material for future reference.

We accomplished exactly what we set out to do. We had fun answering questions from a crossword puzzle, finding data errors on a poorly documented worksheet, as well as learning about the history of the GLPs and why they are so important and what some of the challenges were in the industry early on that caused certain requirements to be prevalent. We touched on all aspects of the GLPs from roles and responsibilities to archiving.

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The education committee received positive feedback from those who attended. Members/trainers of the Basic module were Annette Leslie, DuPont Pioneer; Tracey Froggatt, Dow AgroSciences; and Angela Dawson, EPL-Bio Analytical.

Advanced GLP Training challenged GLP knowledge with real life scenarios to help participants think outside the box. By Mark Tumey (Encore Innovations, LLC): A portion of the Advanced GLP Training was devoted to review and discussion of unique GLP situations, where there may or may not be a clear black and white solution. Various scenarios were discussed at individual tables, led by a table moderator. Each table group then presented a scenario and solution, and discussion was opened up to the room. Some 20 scenarios were reviewed in approximately 2 1/2 hours.

The second portion of the Advanced training focused on GLP issues between field and lab. Cecil Dharmasri gave a presentation with time for discussion and Q&A. The discussion was led by Cecil, Kathy Richards, and Lance Sandvik.

Thank you to Mark for leading the general session, and to those who volunteered as table moderators: Deb Wallace, Bayer CropScience; Kathy Richards, California Agricultural Research, Inc.; Cecil Dharmasri, Bayer CropScience; Renee Daniel, Perspective Consulting, Inc.; Valen Straub, LABServices; and Lance Sandvik, Valent U.S.A. Corp.

Practical Field Workshop By Lisa Wheelock-Roney (Great Lakes Ag-Research Service, Inc.): Participants worked through a protocol, calculated application rates, and practiced making an application with a backpack sprayer. Application Module trainers and volunteers were Dan Ramsdell, TJ Brooks, Tim White and other staff of Crop Management Strategies, Inc. who also shipped

their spray equipment; Bryan Schmid, MOARK Agricultural Research, LLC; Paul Toll, Blue River Quality Solutions LLC; Deb Green, Advantage Quality Services; Lisa Wheelock-Roney, Great Lakes Ag-Research Service, Inc.; and Debra Keenan, Research 2000 (supplied CO2 cylinders).

DOW AGROSCIENCES SPONSORS QUALITY ASSURANCE NETWORKING LUNCHEON

The NAICC greatly appreciates the continuing support of Dow for this event with special thanks to the year-long contributions of Tracey Froggatt and Cathy Peacock. If you are interested in being or obtaining a mentor, please contact either Tracey (tfroggatt@dow.com) or Cathy (clpeacock@dow.com).

By Tracey Froggatt and Cathy Peacock: Since 2010 Dow AgroSciences has sponsored a Quality Assurance (QA) Networking and Mentoring luncheon, it has steadily grown in numbers. The purpose of the luncheon is to bring together QA professionals from all GLP disciplines, e.g., lab or field, in order to provide the opportunity to network. The luncheon enables newer QA's to identify a mentor who can be a source of information and support as they begin their work.

The 2015 luncheon was well-attended by approximately 50 QA professionals, who shared experiences amongst each other at their table. After lunch, the question was posed to all the attendees, "What do you wish you had known when you first began the role as a QA auditor?" The answers were collected and will be used as part of the 2016 training session.

Information and Technology Transfer Postharvest Specialist (#121089)

Washington State University (WSU) is seeking a full-time, 12-month, temporary, non-tenured track, faculty position located at the Washington State University IAREC in Prosser, WA. Required: M.S. or Ph.D. in Horticulture or related plant sciences discipline with a background in postharvest research and/or management of temperate fruit crops, especially apple, pear and sweet cherry and other stone fruit; ability to travel and work occasional weekend and/or evening hours; must have, or able to obtain at time for hire, a valid driver's license. Application screening begins July 13, 2015. For a full description of the position and to apply, please visit: <https://www.wsujobs.com/postings/18807>.

For questions about the position contact Dr. Desmond Layne, 509-663-8181 Ext 233, desmond.layne@wsu.edu. EEO/AA/ADA.



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