NAICC ANNUAL MEETING AND AG PRO EXPO

Registration is now open for the 2022 NAICC Annual Meeting and AG PRO EXPO. We will meet in-person at the Rosen Centre® Hotel in Orlando, FL January 24-28, 2022. Check out the Annual Meeting website for information regarding the premeeting workshops, Schedule at a Glance, and Registration information and everything Orlando has to offer. We will update the website with more information on the education program shortly.

NAICC cares about your safety and health in these challenging COVID times. Please check HEALTH & SAFETY for updates on what requirements and safeguards will be in place during the 2022 NAICC Annual Meeting & AG PRO EXPO. Attendees will be required to follow applicable CDC requirements, local authority requirements, any requirements of the host forum, and NAICC requirements. These requirements will be distributed prior to the date of the meeting. For more information go to the HEALTH & SAFETY tab on the meeting website.

HAPPENINGS ON THE HILL
By Rick Kesler, Governmental Affairs Liaison

EPA EVALUATES NEONICS

On a recent call of the Pesticide Policy Committee, of which NAICC is a member, Brian Anderson, EPA Office of Pesticide Policy outlined what goes into Endangered Species Act (ESA) Biological Evaluations (BE). This call specifically addressed BE’s for neonics. As part of a BE, there is a "Likely to Adversely Affect" (LAA) determination that can be made. This can be triggered by the likelihood that only one individual of a species might be adversely affected. This can also apply to habitat.

If an LAA determination is triggered, EPA can implement endangered species protection regulations through Endangered Species Bulletins which are considered an extension of the label and allows for location-specific protections. These specific locations will be called
Pesticide Use Limitation Areas (PULA) and a user can go online, choose a product, and click onto a PULA on a map and see what use restrictions there might be.

The draft BEs were released in August and the public has until October 25 to submit additional comments. According to Anderson, EPA is looking for very specific and data backed comments this go around. Anecdotal information can be submitted, but that it is hard for them to use that qualitatively. Click here to submit comments on EPA draft biological evaluations (BEs) for the registration review of clothianidin, imidacloprid and thiamethoxam.

**EPA ISSUES FINAL RULE TO REVOKE CHLORPYRIFOS TOLERANCES**

**RULE SUMMARY:** On April 29, 2021, the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit ordered EPA to issue a final rule concerning the chlorpyrifos tolerances by August 20, 2021. Based on the currently available data and taking into consideration the currently registered uses for chlorpyrifos, EPA is unable to conclude that the risk from aggregate exposure from the use of chlorpyrifos meets the safety standard of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FFDCA). Accordingly, EPA is revoking all tolerances for chlorpyrifos.

This final rule is effective October 29, 2021. The tolerances for all commodities expire on February 28, 2022. Written objections, requests for hearings, or requests for a stay identified by the docket identification (ID) number EPA-HQ-OPP-2021-0523 must be received on or before October 29, 2021.

Objections can be filed at: [https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2021-08-30/html/2021-18091.htm](https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2021-08-30/html/2021-18091.htm). Comments should be very specific objections and preferably backed up with data. Here are a couple of EPA's directions on submitting formal objections to the final rule:

*The objections submitted must specify the provisions of the regulation deemed objectionable and the grounds for the objection (40 CFR 178.25).*

*Although any person may file an objection, EPA will not consider any legal or factual issue presented in objections if that issue could reasonably have been raised earlier in the Agency’s review of chlorpyrifos relative to this petition.*

EPA's FAQ's can be found at: [https://www.epa.gov/ingredients-used-pesticide-products/frequent-questions-about-chlorpyrifos-2021-final-rule](https://www.epa.gov/ingredients-used-pesticide-products/frequent-questions-about-chlorpyrifos-2021-final-rule)

It appears that chlorpyrifos can be sold and applied and the resulting crop sold as long as there were tolerances in place at the time of the sale/use. Unfortunately, most of the applications would take place after the expected tolerance revocations. Also, EPA will review non-crop uses after they are finished with the food uses.

**BILL INTRODUCED TO EXPAND FARMER’S ACCESS TO PRECISION AGRICULTURE EQUIPMENT, CLIMATE-FRIENDLY TECHNOLOGIES**

WASHINGTON, D.C. – U.S. Senators Deb Fischer (R-Neb.) and Amy Klobuchar (D-Minn.), members of the Senate Agriculture committee, today introduced the Precision Agriculture
Loan (PAL) Act. The bipartisan legislation would create a program within the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to provide loan financing to farmers and ranchers interested in purchasing precision agriculture equipment. Precision agriculture is a wide range of new technologies in farming and ranching that can allow producers to reduce their environmental footprint, lower costs, and improve productivity.

The PAL Act would establish the Precision Agriculture Loan program within USDA’s Farm Service Agency. The program would offer low-cost and long-term loans to agriculture producers who want to adopt precision agriculture technologies but can’t afford to through traditional financing.

Click here for the complete article from the website of Senator Deb Fischer of Nebraska. Read a one-pager summarizing the PAL Act here. Read the full text of the PAL Act here.

EPA ADMINISTRATOR SAYS NEW WATER RULE TO PROVIDE CLARITY TO AMERICA’S FARMERS
This is in part an article from the Brownfield Ag News. Click here for the entire article.

The Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency says they’re working on a water rule that will stand the test of time.

EPA’s Michael Regan says the upcoming clean water rule will provide clarity and certainty for America’s farmers and ranchers. “Normal farming, silviculture, and ranching practices, as defined by the Clean Water Act Section 404, that could take place in a jurisdictional waterway or wetland, will not require a permit,” he says.

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NAICC LOSES TWO BELOVED MEMBERS

It is with great sadness that NAICC passes along the information that two of our members have passed. Nelson Prochaska (R&D Research Farm, Washington, LA) and Kathy Richards (Research Designed for Ag, Yuma AZ)

Nelson Prochaska: January 15, 1965 ~ September 2, 2021 (age 56) Obituary

Kathy Richards: Obituary

NAICC received a note and request from friends of Kathy: "Kathy leaves behind two very young grandchildren, her only child Maggie and her husband David. We would like to help the grandkids manage and know how awesome Kathy was as an individual. We are putting together a celebration of life in the form of a collection of memories of Kathy and how she affected others’ lives." Please send your thoughts to elissa.masson@gmail.com.
MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

The 2022 printed Membership Directory will be made available in January 2022. If you would like to be listed in the printed NAICC 2022 Directory, your NAICC membership must be paid by end of day November 15. Log into the Members Only section at NAICC.org or click RENEW MEMBERSHIP.

FEAE

Want to help make a difference while you shop in the Amazon app on your phone, at no extra cost to you? Simply follow the instructions below to select "Foundation For Environmental Agriculture Education" as your charity and activate AmazonSmile in the app. Amazon will donate a portion of your eligible mobile app purchases to us.

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3. Select "Foundation For Environmental Agriculture Education" as your charity
4. Follow the on-screen instructions to activate AmazonSmile in the mobile app

Buy and Sell Equipment on the NAICC Website

Have something to sell? Looking for a specific piece of equipment? Check out the NAICC Member Marketplace. Log in to Members Only portal on the NAICC website and scroll down to the NAICC Member Marketplace. Choose Items for Sale or Items Wanted. It is just that easy.

NAICC

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