Message

From: Dawson, Jeffrey [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=B7281288675C408D9667266072F0AE21-JEFFREY DAWSON]
Sent: 9/21/2020 7:49:35 PM
To: Wilbur, Donald [Wilbur.Donald@epa.gov]
Subject: RE: FYSA: PFAS detection in pesticide used for recent mosquito aerial spraying in Mass

snatching defeat from the jaws of victory…

Jeffrey L Dawson
Senior Scientist
Immediate Office of the Director
U.S. EPA/OCSPP/OPP
1200 Pennsylvania Ave NW (7501P)
Washington, DC. 20460
703-305-7329
Email: dawson.jeff@epa.gov
Deliveries: 1201 Constitution Ave NW, Washington, DC

From: Wilbur, Donald <Wilbur.Donald@epa.gov>
Sent: Monday, September 21, 2020 3:48 PM
To: Dawson, Jeffrey <Dawson.Jeff@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: FYSA: PFAS detection in pesticide used for recent mosquito aerial spraying in Mass

This just doesn't seem hard… no F in pesticides, and PFAS found in sample blanks.

****
Donald Wilbur
Deputy Director
Health Effects Division
Office of Pesticide Programs
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, MC 7509P, Washington DC 20460
☎ (703) 347-8894 | ✉ wilbur.donald@epa.gov

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From: Dawson, Jeffrey <Dawson.Jeff@epa.gov>
Sent: Monday, September 21, 2020 3:38 PM
To: Wilbur, Donald <Wilbur.Donald@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: FYSA: PFAS detection in pesticide used for recent mosquito aerial spraying in Mass

Let's start by checking the reliability of the reported values… before we create a panic… ugh

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From: Wilbur, Donald <Wilbur.Donald@epa.gov>
Sent: Monday, September 21, 2020 3:37 PM
To: Dawson, Jeffrey <Dawson.Jeff@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: FYSA: PFAS detection in pesticide used for recent mosquito aerial spraying in Mass

Nothing other than the obvious.

****
Donald Wilbur
Deputy Director
Health Effects Division
Office of Pesticide Programs
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
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From: Dawson, Jeffrey <Dawson.Jeff@epa.gov>
Sent: Monday, September 21, 2020 3:36 PM
To: Wilbur, Donald <Wilbur.Donald@epa.gov>
Subject: FW: FYSA: PFAS detection in pesticide used for recent mosquito aerial spraying in Mass

You know anything about reanalysis?

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Immediate Office of the Director
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1200 Pennsylvania Ave NW (7501P)
Washington, DC. 20460
703-305-7329
Email: dawson.jeff@epa.gov
Deliveries: 1201 Constitution Ave NW, Washington, DC

From: Layne, Arnold <Layne.Arnold@epa.gov>
Sent: Monday, September 21, 2020 3:34 PM
To: Siedschlag, Gregory <Siedschlag.Gregory@epa.gov>; Deegan, Dave <Deegan.Dave@epa.gov>; Barmakian, Nancy <Barmakian.Nancy@epa.gov>; Aubee, Catherine <Aubee.Catherine@epa.gov>
Cc: Messina, Edward <Messina.Edward@epa.gov>; Matuszko, Jan <Matuszko.Jan@epa.gov>; Goodis, Michael <Goodis.Michael@epa.gov>; Lowit, Anna <Lowit.Anna@epa.gov>; Keigwin, Richard <Keigwin.Richard@epa.gov>; Dawson, Jeffrey <Dawson.Jeff@epa.gov>; Vogel, Dana <Vogel.Dana@epa.gov>; Wilbur, Donald <Wilbur.Donald@epa.gov>; Dinkins, Darlene <Dinkins.Darlene@epa.gov>; Norcross, Jeffrey <Norcross.Jeffrey@epa.gov>; Gutro, Doug <Gutro.Doug@epa.gov>; Jennings, Susan <Jennings.Susan@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: FYSA: PFAS detection in pesticide used for recent mosquito aerial spraying in Mass

+Susan Jennings

From: Siedschlag, Gregory <Siedschlag.Gregory@epa.gov>
Sent: Monday, September 21, 2020 3:07 PM
To: Deegan, Dave <Deegan.Dave@epa.gov>; Barmakian, Nancy <Barmakian.Nancy@epa.gov>; Aubee, Catherine <Aubee.Catherine@epa.gov>
Cc: Messina, Edward <Messina.Edward@epa.gov>; Matuszko, Jan <Matuszko.Jan@epa.gov>; Goodis, Michael <Goodis.Michael@epa.gov>; Layne, Arnold <Layne.Arnold@epa.gov>; Lowit, Anna <Lowit.Anna@epa.gov>; Keigwin, Richard <Keigwin.Richard@epa.gov>; Dawson, Jeffrey <Dawson.Jeff@epa.gov>; Vogel, Dana <Vogel.Dana@epa.gov>; Wilbur, Donald <Wilbur.Donald@epa.gov>; Dinkins, Darlene <Dinkins.Darlene@epa.gov>; Norcross, Jeffrey <Norcross.Jeffrey@epa.gov>; Gutro, Doug <Gutro.Doug@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: FYSA: PFAS detection in pesticide used for recent mosquito aerial spraying in Mass

Hello,

A few comms folks here at HQ just met to discuss the desk statement, which is pretty far along now. We had a couple of follow-up questions:

When are we getting the results back from the reanalysis? It seems a lot hinges on that.
What do people know about this? Are the registrant, township, county, state, etc., aware of the situation? What do they know and how concerned are they?

Thanks,

Greg Siedschlag
Chief, Communication Services Branch
Office of Pesticide Programs
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Phone: (703) 603-9044
Cell: (571) 319-7949
https://www.epa.gov/pesticides
pronouns: he/him/his

From: Deegan, Dave <Deegan.Dave@epa.gov>
Sent: Friday, September 18, 2020 2:10 PM
To: Siedschlag, Gregory <Siedschlag.Gregory@epa.gov>; Barmakian, Nancy <Barmakian.Nancy@epa.gov>; Aubee, Catherine <Aubee.Catherine@epa.gov>; Keigwin, Richard <Keigwin.Richard@epa.gov>
Cc: Messina, Edward <Messina.Edward@epa.gov>; Matuszko, Jan <Matuszko.Jan@epa.gov>; Goodis, Michael <Goodis.Michael@epa.gov>; Layne, Arnold <Layne.Arnold@epa.gov>; Lowit, Anna <Lowit.Anna@epa.gov>; Dawson, Jeffrey <Dawson.Jeff@epa.gov>; Vogel, Dana <Vogel.Dana@epa.gov>; Wilbur, Donald <Wilbur.Donald@epa.gov>; Dinkins, Darlene <Dinkins.Darlene@epa.gov>; Norcross, Jeffrey <Norcross.Jeffrey@epa.gov>; Gutro, Doug <Gutro.Doug@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: FYSA: PFAS detection in pesticide used for recent mosquito aerial spraying in Mass

Hi Greg,

I just wanted to check if there's a draft desk statement yet. Our regional administrator is anxious to be able to weigh in to help craft a message, since we absolutely expect to get inquiries once this news breaks.

Thanks in advance!
Dave
~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Dave Deegan
U.S. EPA, New England Regional Office
Office of Public Affairs
phone: 617.918.1017 | mobile: 617.594.7068

From: Siedschlag, Gregory <Siedschlag.Gregory@epa.gov>
Sent: Thursday, September 17, 2020 11:36 AM
To: Deegan, Dave <Deegan.Dave@epa.gov>; Barmakian, Nancy <Barmakian.Nancy@epa.gov>; Aubee, Catherine <Aubee.Catherine@epa.gov>; Keigwin, Richard <Keigwin.Richard@epa.gov>
Cc: Messina, Edward <Messina.Edward@epa.gov>; Matuszko, Jan <Matuszko.Jan@epa.gov>; Goodis, Michael <Goodis.Michael@epa.gov>; Layne, Arnold <Layne.Arnold@epa.gov>; Lowit, Anna <Lowit.Anna@epa.gov>; Dawson, Jeffrey <Dawson.Jeff@epa.gov>; Vogel, Dana <Vogel.Dana@epa.gov>; Wilbur, Donald <Wilbur.Donald@epa.gov>; Dinkins, Darlene <Dinkins.Darlene@epa.gov>; Norcross, Jeffrey <Norcross.Jeffrey@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: FYSA: PFAS detection in pesticide used for recent mosquito aerial spraying in Mass

That makes sense. We'll draft something and share with you all once it's ready.

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Cell: (571) 319-7949
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From: Deegan, Dave <Deegan.Dave@epa.gov>
Sent: Thursday, September 17, 2020 11:23 AM
To: Siedschlag, Gregory <Siedschlag.Gregory@epa.gov>; Barmakian, Nancy <Barmakian.Nancy@epa.gov>; Aubee, Catherine <Aubee.Catherine@epa.gov>; Keigwin, Richard <Keigwin.Richard@epa.gov>
Cc: Messina, Edward <Messina.Edward@epa.gov>; Matuszko, Jan <Matuszko.Jan@epa.gov>; Goodis, Michael <Goodis.Michael@epa.gov>; Layne, Arnold <Layne.Arnold@epa.gov>; Lowit, Anna <Lowit.Anna@epa.gov>; Dawson, Jeffrey <Dawson.Jeff@epa.gov>; Vogel, Dana <Vogel.Dana@epa.gov>; Wilbur, Donald <Wilbur.Donald@epa.gov>; Dinkins, Darlene <Dinkins.Darlene@epa.gov>; Norcross, Jeffrey <Norcross.Jeffrey@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: FYSA: PFAS detection in pesticide used for recent mosquito aerial spraying in Mass

Hi Greg, I'm wondering if OPP can take the lead, or at least first draft for a desk statement, since OPP is the regulatory first line on this.

We are coordinating with our Massachusetts counterparts – Dept. of Environmental Protection and the Ag Agency – and will keep you guys appraised of anything else we learn today or ongoing.

My best guess is that once this reaches AA Dunn's and OPA's awareness, they will want communications to be well coordinated through HQ so I'm hoping to avoid a "too many quarterbacks" scenario.

Let me know if this makes sense to you also – we are definitely glad to help in every way we can.

Thanks!
Dave
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Dave Deegan
U.S. EPA, New England Regional Office
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phone: 617.918.1017 | mobile: 617.594.7068

From: Siedschlag, Gregory <Siedschlag.Gregory@epa.gov>
Sent: Thursday, September 17, 2020 10:34 AM
To: Barmakian, Nancy <Barmakian.Nancy@epa.gov>; Aubee, Catherine <Aubee.Catherine@epa.gov>; Keigwin, Richard <Keigwin.Richard@epa.gov>
Cc: Messina, Edward <Messina.Edward@epa.gov>; Matuszko, Jan <Matuszko.Jan@epa.gov>; Goodis, Michael <Goodis.Michael@epa.gov>; Layne, Arnold <Layne.Arnold@epa.gov>; Lowit, Anna <Lowit.Anna@epa.gov>; Dawson, Jeffrey <Dawson.Jeff@epa.gov>; Vogel, Dana <Vogel.Dana@epa.gov>; Wilbur, Donald <Wilbur.Donald@epa.gov>; Dinkins, Darlene <Dinkins.Darlene@epa.gov>; Norcross, Jeffrey <Norcross.Jeffrey@epa.gov>; Deegan, Dave <Deegan.Dave@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: FYSA: PFAS detection in pesticide used for recent mosquito aerial spraying in Mass

Excellent. If you could share with us when it's done we'd be grateful.

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pronouns: he/him/his

From: Barmakian, Nancy <Barmakian.Nancy@epa.gov>
Sent: Thursday, September 17, 2020 10:31 AM
To: Siedschlag, Gregory <Siedschlag.Gregory@epa.gov>; Aubee, Catherine <Aubee.Catherine@epa.gov>; Keigwin, Richard <Keigwin.Richard@epa.gov>
Cc: Messina, Edward <Messina.Edward@epa.gov>; Matuszko, Jan <Matuszko.Jan@epa.gov>; Goodis, Michael <Goodis.Michael@epa.gov>; Layne, Arnold <Layne.Arnold@epa.gov>; Lowit, Anna <Lowit.Anna@epa.gov>; Dawson, Jeffrey <Dawson.Jeff@epa.gov>; Vogel, Dana <Vogel.Dana@epa.gov>; Wilbur, Donald <Wilbur.Donald@epa.gov>; Dinkins, Darlene <Dinkins.Darlene@epa.gov>; Norcross, Jeffrey <Norcross.Jeffrey@epa.gov>; Deegan, Dave <Deegan.Dave@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: FYSA: PFAS detection in pesticide used for recent mosquito aerial spraying in Mass

Our RA just asked for a desk statement. Looping in Jeff Norcross and Dave Deegan from our office. Thank you.
Nancy

From: Siedschlag, Gregory <Siedschlag.Gregory@epa.gov>
Sent: Thursday, September 17, 2020 10:26 AM
To: Aubee, Catherine <Aubee.Catherine@epa.gov>; Keigwin, Richard <Keigwin.Richard@epa.gov>
Cc: Messina, Edward <Messina.Edward@epa.gov>; Barmakian, Nancy <Barmakian.Nancy@epa.gov>; Matuszko, Jan <Matuszko.Jan@epa.gov>; Goodis, Michael <Goodis.Michael@epa.gov>; Layne, Arnold <Layne.Arnold@epa.gov>; Lowit, Anna <Lowit.Anna@epa.gov>; Dawson, Jeffrey <Dawson.Jeff@epa.gov>; Vogel, Dana <Vogel.Dana@epa.gov>; Wilbur, Donald <Wilbur.Donald@epa.gov>; Dinkins, Darlene <Dinkins.Darlene@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: FYSA: PFAS detection in pesticide used for recent mosquito aerial spraying in Mass

Should we develop a desk statement? I could see us getting press questions about this.

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From: Aubee, Catherine <Aubee.Catherine@epa.gov>
Sent: Thursday, September 17, 2020 7:45 AM
To: Keigwin, Richard <Keigwin.Richard@epa.gov>
Cc: Messina, Edward <Messina.Edward@epa.gov>; Barmakian, Nancy <Barmakian.Nancy@epa.gov>; Matuszko, Jan <Matuszko.Jan@epa.gov>; Goodis, Michael <Goodis.Michael@epa.gov>; Layne, Arnold <Layne.Arnold@epa.gov>; Lowit, Anna <Lowit.Anna@epa.gov>; Dawson, Jeffrey <Dawson.Jeff@epa.gov>; Vogel, Dana <Vogel.Dana@epa.gov>; Wilbur, Donald <Wilbur.Donald@epa.gov>; Siedschlag, Gregory <Siedschlag.Gregory@epa.gov>; Dinkins, Darlene <Dinkins.Darlene@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: FYSA: PFAS detection in pesticide used for recent mosquito aerial spraying in Mass

Hi Rick,

Thanks for looping us in; that is correct. From the email chain it looks like they also detected a PFAS in the sample blanks which suggests (as noted) a contamination issue with the analytical equipment. But please do keep us informed.

Best,
Catherine
Associate Director
OPP Registration Division
US Environmental Protection Agency

On Sep 16, 2020, at 6:06 PM, Keigwin, Richard <Keigwin.Richard@epa.gov> wrote:

The Registration Division has looked into the issue of whether there are any PFAS active ingredients or inerts multiple times. I've cc'd Catherine Aubee who has the most up-to-date information but my understanding is that none of the currently-registered AIs and approved inerts are PFAS compounds.

Rick Keigwin
Acting Deputy Assistant Administrator for Management
Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Phone: 202-564-2910
Sent from my iPhone (Please excuse typos!)

On Sep 16, 2020, at 5:59 PM, Messina, Edward <Messina.Edward@epa.gov> wrote:

Jan or Dana,

I seem to recall a question coming up a while ago about whether there was any connection between PFAS and pesticides. Can someone help Nancy with this issue? Probably something I will want to highlight to Alex next week.

Ed

Ed Messina, Esq.
Acting Office Director
Office of Pesticide Programs
Office of Chemical Safety & Pollution Prevention
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Washington, D.C.
p: (703) 347-0209

From: Barmakian, Nancy <Barmakian.Nancy@epa.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, September 16, 2020 5:39 PM
To: Keigwin, Richard <Keigwin.Richard@epa.gov>; Messina, Edward <Messina.Edward@epa.gov>
Subject: FW: FYSA: PFAS detection in pesticide used for recent mosquito aerial spraying in Mass

I left you both a vm. Forwarding the email I sent to Dennis and Deb about potential PFAS in pesticide used in aerial spraying in MA. We don't have all of the details yet but are looking to see if you have heard of this issue anywhere else. Has anyone ever tested pesticides for PFAS? We don't know if it is a container issue, a piping issue or formulation issue. Karen McGuire has given the R5 ECAD a heads up as the company is in IL. We aren't asking them to do anything yet until we get more info from MA. Dennis is giving Alex a heads up and is also calling the commissioner to see if it is on his radar. We may not have much time as PEER took the original samples and was only waiting to go to press until MassDEP samples were complete (see details below).

We have a meeting scheduled with MDAR on Friday morning where we hope to get more detail about sampling and results. Thanks for any guidance you can provide.
Nancy

From: Barmakian, Nancy
Sent: Wednesday, September 16, 2020 11:55 AM
To: Deziel, Dennis <Deziel.Dennis@epa.gov>; Szaro, Deb <Szaro.Deb@epa.gov>
Cc: Moraff, Kenneth <Moraff.Ken@epa.gov>; McGuire, Karen <Mcguire.Karen@epa.gov>; Chow, James <chow.james@epa.gov>; Gutro, Doug <Gutro.Doug@epa.gov>; Lombardo, Ginny <Lombardo.Ginny@epa.gov>; Norcross, Jeffrey <Norcross.Jeffrey@epa.gov>; Carr, Stephanie <Carr.Stephanie@epa.gov>; Hayes, Sharon <Hayes.Sharon@epa.gov>
Subject: FYSA: PFAS detection in pesticide used for recent mosquito aerial spraying in Mass

Dennis and Deb,

Yesterday, Ken received a call from MassDEP about the detection of PFAS in the pesticide used in aerial spraying in MA. Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources (MDAR) made us aware of this issue on September 1 after PEER analyzed two samples of Anvil. MassDEP obtained their own samples for analysis at that time. See background below. Andrea Szylvian contacted MDAR this morning for an update. Mass received their sample results on Thursday, but did not contact EPA at that time because they were requested to first brief EOEA who was going to brief the governor. It is our understanding that the PFAS was detected in the actual pesticide formulation, so MDAR suggested arranging with Region 5 to go to manufacturer, Clark Mosquito in IL, to collect a formulation sample from the manufacturer directly. We will be coordinating with ECAD on next steps.

I just wanted you to be aware of the situation. More to come.

From: Carr, Stephanie <Carr.Stephanie@epa.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, September 01, 2020 4:31 PM
To: Norcross, Jeffrey <Norcross.Jeffrey@epa.gov>; Deegan, Dave <Deegan.Dave@epa.gov>; Gutro, Doug <Gutro.Doug@epa.gov>
Cc: Lombardo, Ginny <Lombardo.Ginny@epa.gov>; Barmakian, Nancy <Barmakian.Nancy@epa.gov>; Chow, James <chow.james@epa.gov>; Hayes, Sharon <Hayes.Sharon@epa.gov>; Wintrob, Paul <Wintrob.Paul@epa.gov>; Szylvian, Andrea M. <Szylvian.Andrea@epa.gov>; Tham, Kan <Tham.Kan@epa.gov>
Subject: FYSA: Info from MDAR re: PFAS detection in pesticide used for recent mosquito aerial spraying in Mass

Hello Doug, Jeff, and Dave –

We received a call from our Mass Dept. of Agricultural Resources counterpart, Taryn LaScola, today. Taryn alerted us that the environmental group PEER had two samples of Anvil, the pesticide used in the aerial spraying for mosquitos MDAR performed in August, analyzed for PFAS and found low level detections. PFAS were also detected in the sample blanks, indicating the detections could be associated with contamination in sample containers, analytical equipment, etc. Additional details are below.

Based on the information from MDAR, MassDEP is handling the follow-up on this, so you could direct inquiries from the public or press to MassDEP.

Please let me know if you have any questions.
Thank you, Stephanie

Issue:
Mosquito Aerial Applications of Anvil 10-10 ULV Southeastern MA to combat EEE

Product Used:
Anvil 10-10 ULV
EPA Reg: #1021-1688-8329 EPA Est: 8329-IL-01
Active Ingredients: Sumithrin
Piperonyl Butoxide
Adulticide

User: Clarke Mosquito Control is also registrant for product.

After 2019 use season for mosquito control, environmental NGOs were concerned about the application, based on the need, impacts, frequency of applications, and product applied.

In 2020 late winter/early spring, MDAR received inquiries about applications from environmental NGOs, citing the presence of PFAS in pesticides, to the Mass. Reclamation Board and the Mass. Department of Ag Resources Div. of Crop & Pest Services & state government.

Also in 2020, MA passed legislation to create a task force to review mosquito control in the Commonwealth.

MDAR contacted EPA R 1 in Feb 2020 requesting info as to the presence of PFAS in pesticides; EPA (Sharon Hayes) confirmed with HQ OPP (Sandra O'Neill) on April 13, 2020 that PFAS is not an ingredient in any currently registered FIFRA-registered products.

On Aug 10, 2020 an aerial mosquito application was made in Plymouth and parts of Bristol Counties in Massachusetts (see: https://www.mass.gov/guides/eee-in-massachusetts). Prior to the application, MDAR conducted an evaluation on the use of Anvil 10-10 ULV in response to env. groups concerns. To date, this application has been the only aerial application of the 2020 season.

MDAR also confirmed with Clarke Mosquito Control, Roselle, IL, the manufacturer of Anvil 10+10 UVL EPA Reg #1021-1688-8329, the product used for aerial spraying, that PFAS is not in the active or in the inert ingredients.

MDAR collected a sample of the product from the pesticide container before it was loaded into the plane for application, but did not analyze it for PFAS.

Last Friday, MDAR received a call from MassDEP (Anne Lowry and Mark Smith) informing them that Kayla Bennet of PEER had obtained two Anvil samples and had them analyzed for PFAS. Approximately 250 ppt and 450 ppt were detected in the samples. The control blank also came back positive, suggesting possible contamination of the sample.

MDAR said that the analytical lab is reputable and will run the sample again.

Kayla Bennet informed MassDEP that she is going to go public with the results (likely after the samples are re-run).

MassDEP are obtaining and running their own samples of Anvil 10-10 ULV.

MDAR has MassDEP handling any questions or statements on this issue. MADEP is not concerned about this from a risk perspective, but concerned about the accuracy of any information about this distributed in the press.

The MDAR state toxicologist reached out to Karen Larson, VP Product Innovation and Regulatory Affairs Clarke Mosquito Control which did not know of a source of PFAS, but is looking into whether it could be the product packaging or container lid. Any questions from EPA can be directed to:

Taryn LaScola, Director

Crop and Pest Services Division
Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources
251 Causeway Street
Boston, MA 02114
(617)626-1776