From:	Schulze, Chad
To:	Plewe, Bethany
Subject:	FW: 25-30 ag workers exposed
Date:	Tuesday, May 28, 2019 10:38:00 AM
Attachments:	Hazmat H-2019-00086.pdf

FYI – Worker Exposure in ID.

Sincerely,
Chad

Chad Schulze
Pesticide Enforcement Coordinator
Deputy Unit Diving Officer
Air & Land Enforcement Section
Enforcement & Compliance Assurance Division (ECAD)
EPA Region 10 (20-C04)
1200 6th Ave, Suite 155
Seattle, WA 98101
206-553-0505 (ph)
206-771-3058 (cell)
schulze.chad@epa.gov
https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-contacts/region-10-pesticide-program-and-contacts

EPA DIVE UNIT:
https://www.epa.gov/scientific-diving or https://www.epa.gov/diving

Like us on Facebook! http://www.facebook.com/EPADivers

From: Kevin Kostka <Kevin.Kostka@ISDA.IDAHO.GOV>
Sent: Monday, May 27, 2019 6:46 AM
To: Schulze, Chad <Schulze.Chad@epa.gov>; Helder, Dirk <Helder.Dirk@epa.gov>; Terada, Derrick <Terada.Derrick@epa.gov>
Subject: Fwd: 25-30 ag workers exposed

Not much new to report this morning. Some media outlets picked up the story, but there isn't much information out there yet since the cause is still unknown.

The attached state comm call logout outlines how things went down yesterday.

Kevin Kostka
Pesticide Compliance Program Manager
Idaho State Department of Agriculture
Division of Agricultural Resources

208-332-8608 | Fax: 208-334-3547
kevin.kostka@isda.idaho.gov

-------- Original message --------
From: Kevin Kostka <Kevin.Kostka@ISDA.IDAHO.GOV>
Date: 5/27/19 7:42 AM (GMT-07:00)
To: Chanel Tewalt <Chanel.Tewalt@ISDA.IDAHO.GOV>, Vic Mason <Vic.Mason@ISDA.IDAHO.GOV>
Cc: "Celia R. Gould" <Celia.Gould@ISDA.IDAHO.GOV>, Brian Oakey <Brian.Oakey@ISDA.IDAHO.GOV>, "Pamela L. Juker" <Pamela.Juker@ISDA.IDAHO.GOV>, Luis Urias <Luis.Urias@ISDA.IDAHO.GOV>
Subject: Re: 25-30 ag workers exposed

All,

Attached is the State Comm report as of 11:45 PM last night. No updates since.

Kevin Kostka
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-------- Original message --------
From: Kevin Kostka <Kevin.Kostka@ISDA.IDAHO.GOV>
Date: 5/26/19 11:05 PM (GMT-07:00)
To: Chanel Tewalt <Chanel.Tewalt@ISDA.IDAHO.GOV>, Vic Mason <Vic.Mason@ISDA.IDAHO.GOV>
Cc: "Celia R. Gould" <Celia.Gould@ISDA.IDAHO.GOV>, Brian Oakey <Brian.Oakey@ISDA.IDAHO.GOV>, "Pamela L. Juker" <Pamela.Juker@ISDA.IDAHO.GOV>, Luis Urias <Luis.Urias@ISDA.IDAHO.GOV>
Subject: Re: 25-30 ag workers exposed

All,

I spoke with Luis a little while ago, and he was headed back to Boise with the clothing samples that were collected from the workers.

Unfortunately, the interviews confirmed that there was not a consistent set of symptoms that each worker experienced, which can make determining the degree and type of exposure difficult. However, the workers did describe feeling the plane's spray contact them, and they did provide details related to how the pilot made the application. This will be useful as we continue investigating the incident.

When Luis left the hospital, all but one worker had gone home. The remaining worker was the initial person who came to the hospital. They described getting the spray I their mouth while others described it landing on their upper body or head.

On Tuesday morning, Luis and I will make plans on how to move forward with the investigation and I will discuss with the lab our options for analyzing the samples.

Lastly, a huge thank you to Luis and Vic for being in the field today!

Kevin Kostka
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Division of Agricultural Resources
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-------- Original message --------
From: Kevin Kostka <Kevin.Kostka@ISDA.IDAHO.GOV>
Date: 5/26/19 9:27 PM (GMT-07:00)
To: Chanel Tewalt <Chanel.Tewalt@ISDA.IDAHO.GOV>, Vic Mason <Vic.Mason@ISDA.IDAHO.GOV>
Cc: "Celia R. Gould" <Celia.Gould@ISDA.IDAHO.GOV>, Brian Oakey <Brian.Oakey@ISDA.IDAHO.GOV>, "Pamela L. Juker" <Pamela.Juker@ISDA.IDAHO.GOV>, Luis Urias <Luis.Urias@ISDA.IDAHO.GOV>
Subject: Re: 25-30 ag workers exposed

https://www.ktvb.com/article/news/local/22-people-decontaminated-by-hazmat-team-at-caldwell-hospital-after-farm-workers-were-exposed-to-unknown-substances/277-75b62acc-ee8d-48cd-913f-9aec782a63df

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-------- Original message --------
From: Chanel Tewalt <Chanel.Tewalt@ISDA.IDAHO.GOV>
Date: 5/26/19 9:17 PM (GMT-07:00)
To: Vic Mason <Vic.Mason@ISDA.IDAHO.GOV>
Cc: Kevin Kostka <Kevin.Kostka@ISDA.IDAHO.GOV>, "Celia R. Gould" <Celia.Gould@ISDA.IDAHO.GOV>, Brian Oakey <Brian.Oakey@ISDA.IDAHO.GOV>, "Pamela L. Juker" <Pamela.Juker@ISDA.IDAHO.GOV>, Luis Urias <Luis.Urias@ISDA.IDAHO.GOV>

Subject: Re: 25-30 ag workers exposed

Still no media inquiries. Thanks for the email and call updates.

On May 26, 2019, at 9:00 PM, Vic Mason <Vic.Mason@isda.idaho.gov> wrote:

> Thanks Kevin. Done with the interviews and Luis is collecting the clothing that was worn and will be taking it back to the department and locked in the freezer. The fire department was going to go back to the field and do some quick tests I asked them to contact me if they find anything and I haven't heard anything back from them yet. Media just showed up. I am going to wait. I told Luis if they stop him to call me and I'll go in and tell that we have an ongoing investigation going and we can't talk about it.
>
> Get Outlook for iOS
>
> On Sun, May 26, 2019 at 8:49 PM -0600, "Kevin Kostka" <Kevin.Kostka@ISDA.IDAHO.GOV> wrote:
>
> > All,
> >
> > Luis has interviewed 3 of 4 patients who ended up in the ICU. He is about to interview the fourth. The good news is patients are being sent home as their symptoms are improving quickly. The bad news is we still don't know the cause. We will continue to investigate what products the plane had previously applied and other possible sources of exposure. Running a screen sample on the workers' clothing may help, but will take a little more time.
> >
> > I should get an update from Luis about the interviews later tonight. Some direction may come from there, but I'm not sure there will be much more to follow up on immediately.
> >
> > Kevin Kostka
> > Pesticide Compliance Program Manager
> > Idaho State Department of Agriculture
> > Division of Agricultural Resources
> > 208-332-8608 | Fax: 208-334-3547
> > kevin.kostka@isda.idaho.gov
> >
> > -------- Original message --------
> > From: "Celia R. Gould" <Celia.Gould@ISDA.IDAHO.GOV>
> > Date: 5/26/19 8:20 PM (GMT-07:00)
> > To: Kevin Kostka <Kevin.Kostka@ISDA.IDAHO.GOV>
> > Cc: Chanel Tewalt <Chanel.Tewalt@ISDA.IDAHO.GOV>, Brian Oakey

<Brian.Oakey@ISDA.IDAHO.GOV>, Vic Mason <Vic.Mason@ISDA.IDAHO.GOV>, "Pamela L. Juker" <Pamela.Juker@ISDA.IDAHO.GOV>, Luis Urias <Luis.Urias@ISDA.IDAHO.GOV>
Subject: Re: 25-30 ag workers exposed

Thanks Kevin. Do you have anymore information now?

Sent from my iPad

On May 26, 2019, at 4:11 PM, Kevin Kostka <Kevin.Kostka@isda.idaho.gov> wrote:

> All,
>
> Earlier today, 25-30 ag feld workers we exposed to a pesticide application. The workers are showing varying degrees of symptoms. Some need medical treatment. Many of the exposed workers are coming into West Valley Hospital, which is now becoming overwhelmed due to the need to decon the workers and anyone who transported them.
>
> Luis and I are currently working on this situation as support to the first responders and hospital staff via State Comm. The next comm call is at 5 PM. Luis is headed in to the office to get his ISDA truck in case he is needed at the hospital or in the field.
>
> Luis and I spoke with the labor contractor, Roberto Corral, and we think the workers were in Obendorf hops when they were exposed to an application taking place on a neighboring onion field, which may also be Obendorfs. Luis and I also suspect it was an aerial application. None of the above is confirmed yet. Mr. Corral was not onsite when the incident took place. Hopefully, Mr. Corral will provide Luis with more information soon, including what products were applied.
>
> I will provide more details via email after the 5 PM comm call. In the meantime, I can be reached by cell at 208-860-9770 (call or text).
>
> Kevin Kostka
> Pesticide Compliance Program Manager
> Idaho State Department of Agriculture
> Division of Agricultural Resources
> 208-332-8608 | Fax: 208-334-3547
> kevin.kostka@isda.idaho.gov