

ESA Liaison to EPA (Office of Pesticide Programs-OPP)
4th Quarter Report to the Entomological Society
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The visit to EPA OPP representing ESA as Subject Matter Expert (SME) and Liaison during October 24-28 (2010) included a follow-up on initial introductions and meetings during the first trip (September 12-16). Personal meetings with four Branch Chiefs, Meredith Laws, Insecticide-Rodenticide Branch; Marion Johnson, Insecticide Branch-Registration; Arnet (Skee) Jones, Benefits and Economic Analysis; and Dan Rosenblatt, Risk Integration, Minor Use and Emergency Response continued with a focus on developing a formal perspective of how the liaison role could mesh with OPP activities/needs and opportunities for a closer interaction with ESA. To clearly document the Society's arrangements with US-EPA OPP in establishing the SME/Liaison position, a bullet point list was developed with P-IE Governing Council input outlining the ESA SME-EPA Liaison concept of work (See Attachment 1). The document in draft was reviewed and discussed for input with Branch Chiefs (Meredith Laws, Marion Johnson, Arnet (Skee) Jones, and Dan Rosenblatt). Recent personnel changes in the Registration Division (November) included Meredith Laws beginning a temporary assignment acting as Herbicide Branch Chief while Dan Kenny (Herbicide Branch Chief) began a 6-month assignment as Chief of the Technology Branch.

One substantial issue that was discovered in the initial visits involved the discovery that some OPP scientists with considerable entomology-related responsibilities are not ESA members and have not had ESA publication access. As plant pathologists, weed scientists, or even non-member biologists, enhancing professional opportunities for full ESA information access becomes important to their on-going EPA work responsibilities. Liaison activity presentations to each ESA section business meeting and extensive personal discussions with society officers during the annual meeting in San Diego helped highlight this need. The opportunity to provide access to these resources will generate a significant positive **outcome/impact** and substantially improve the scientific potential of these offices. Discussions with OPP Branch Chiefs aided in compiling the list of 13 scientists, granted ESA publication open access on January 18, 2011. It is anticipated that the liaison will review and update this open access listing annually in December, as EPA OPP individual responsibilities may change. This ESA action for EPA, in a quality and professional way, will greatly affect the people we serve and the discipline we represent.

SME visits during the 4th quarter provided input toward pesticide label development, society contacts, appropriate participation with working groups, and availability of additional technical information.

A list of significant meetings involving SME Liaison participation, discussion, and/or council during the fall quarter includes:

- Attendance at the FIFRA Scientific Advisory Panel Meeting on "Evaluation of Human Health Effects of Atrazine" (September 15, 2010).

Combined EPA-branch meetings directed by OPP Director Lois Rossi (Registration Division) included:

- Department of Defense/EPA Pesticide Registration work group (18 people including at least three branch chiefs) assisting World U.S. military insecticide (outside U.S.) needs. It is noted

that some pesticides labeled for the U.S. military (external to the continental U.S.) may not be labeled in the U.S.

- An extensive efficacy data review summarizing 317 (residential use) labels for bed bug control is one of the highest priority areas addressed by OPP, as most of the insecticides provide only short residual efficacy, with the exception of pyrethroids. Unfortunately, pyrethroid resistance is an issue of great concern.

Other meetings included:

- The pesticide resistance working group of the Benefits and Economics Analysis Section (several meetings). The ESA SME also facilitated a 1 ½ hour discussion to clarify entomological perspectives with insecticide resistance and practical aspects of pest management that might contrast with weed science and plant pathology. Two major areas of work involve (1) Mode of Action labeling which is already used extensively with insecticides, and few perceived problems in use, and (2) Management Approaches to enhance permanency of pesticides. A branch meeting additionally included termiticide efficacy.

Other activities during fall visits to OPP with the Insecticide-Rodenticide Branch included participation at weekly branch meetings, and an extensive discussion with the lead scientist on the brown marmorated stink bug (probably the second highest OPP priority insect management issue, behind bed bugs). Risk assessment discussions with the team leader on pesticide residues were also of interest (Risk Integration, Minor Use and Emergency Response Branch). Off-site meetings in D.C. involved attending resistance management presentations at the American Farm Bureau Federation building (Maryland Ave) and discussions with Crop Life personnel.

EPA leaders expressed appreciation and recognized participation in several meetings not only by ESA liaison, but also to Jill Schroeder from WSSA (weed science) and Frank Wong from APS (plant pathology). Harold Coble of the USDA Office of Pest Management Policy often provides collaborative interaction. During February and March visits to OPP, additional interactions with Jill Schroeder (WSSA liaison) and Frank Wong (APS liaison) will involve pesticide resistance management meetings and congressional interactions with the National Alliance of Independent Crop Consultants (NAICC).

Respectfully submitted,



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General Concept of Work Relationship for ESA Subject Matter Expert
and Liaison to US-EPA Office of Pesticide Programs

- Provide insight and perspective toward practical aspects of pesticide label development (especially insecticides and miticides).
- Assist EPA OPP Branch Chiefs' programs with information and contacts involving scientists in various ESA sections, practitioners and stakeholders as needs arise.
- Attend and participate in appropriate in-house meetings to provide entomological information to pesticide registration working groups and others meetings that will assist with labeling needs at various stages of development and registration.
- Facilitate OPP use of technical entomological information as needed to clarify scientific issues related to public understanding and stakeholder need.

In general, serve as an academic resource to assist EPA (OPP) in making informed decisions from objective and non-biased scientific information.

Impact goal of liaison position: to set forth a direction for scientific cooperation, initiate a relationship of knowledge and credibility with ESA as an objective resource, and to provide a network for access of critical information to EPA on a timely basis. The ESA-SME was developed for the purpose of serving EPA by providing access to a network of entomological expertise to improve and support the process of pesticide registration and regulation.



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