

# Pesticide Guide Available

## Western Pa. Fruit Growers

### Seminar Scheduled

**BEAVER FALLS (Beaver Co.)** — Extension offices in western Pennsylvania are cooperating to offer a two-day seminar for commercial fruit growers. The meeting will be held at the Holiday Inn in Beaver Falls, Pennsylvania (just off the Pennsylvania Turnpike at Exit 2) on March 7 and 8 and will include an industry trade show.

Registration will begin at 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 7 with the afternoon being devoted to tree fruit production. Penn State specialists and speakers from private industry will address such topics as "Problems and Opportunities in the Tree Fruit Indus-

try," "Reduced Residue Spray Programs," "Fungicides for Tree Fruit," and "Economics of Tree Fruit Production."

After a break for dinner, there will be an evening session where growers will have a chance to share problems and ideas with the Penn State specialists. These will be concurrent sessions for tree fruit and small fruit growers from 7:00 pm. to 9:00 p.m.

The tree fruit session will focus on the new Penn State Fruit Production Guide and using it to set up a spray schedule. The evening small-fruit session will focus on weed control in small fruit growing and addressing consumer concerns about pesticides.

The morning of March 8 will concentrate small fruit production with Penn State and Cornell University specialists speaking about insect and disease management as well as opportunities and cultural practices for small fruit farmers.

There will be up to six category credits available for the entire session to update Pennsylvania private pesticide applicator licenses. Because we have had many people tell us they need more core credits to renew pesticide licenses, there will also be a special pesticide update training session at 9:30 a.m. to noon on the morning of March 7, before the regular meeting begins. This session will be worth four core credits.

Fees for the sessions are: pesticide update session, morning March 7, \$5.00, afternoon fruit session, March 7, \$15.00, evening sessions, no charge, and morning small fruit session, March 8, \$10.00. For more information and registration forms, contact your county extension office in western Pennsylvania.

case study illustrates the prevention and consequences of groundwater contamination.

The guide includes an easy-to-follow explanation of environmental factors which affect the movement of pesticides to groundwater. Pesticide properties, soil properties, and site factors are explained, and the importance of each property or factor is compared with the others. The interrelationship of the most important environmental factors is described in a section, "Determining Leaching Potential."

The next section is on applicator practices and emphasizes the use of integrated pest management as a means to save on pesticide costs and reduce the chance for pesticide contamination. The importance of safe handling and application methods is stressed, including reading the label and the timing of application with respect to rainfall and irrigation events.

The importance of well protec-

tion is also emphasized. The guide is not intended to replace pesticide applicator training material and the reader is referred to these materials for more detail.

*Pesticides and Groundwater* discusses the health effects of drinking contaminated groundwater. The types of health effects, dose-response relationships, and EPA drinking water standards are reviewed to allow the reader to understand the risks of contamination.

The importance of water testing is also described. A review of a recent EPA report on pesticides in groundwater concludes the bulletin.

To obtain copies, contact your local extension office.

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