

**EPA WORKER PROTECTION STANDARD (WPS)
COUNTDOWN TO COMPLIANCE ...**

AUGUST
SEPTEMBER
(Continued from Page F32)

1. The product name, EPA registration number, and active ingredients for any product(s) to which the person may have been exposed;
2. Antidotes, first aid, statement of practical treatment and other medical or emergency information from the label;
3. Description of the way the pesticide was being used; and
4. Circumstances of the worker's/handler's exposure to the pesticide.

Pesticide Compliance Strategy for WPS

The EPA WPS was developed to provide protection to agricultural workers and pesticide handlers from exposure to pesticides. In Pennsylvania, the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture (PDA) is the enforcement agency. To aid growers in their efforts to comply with the WPS, PDA has provided outreach materials to all county extension offices free for distribution to growers. To insure compliance with WPS, PDA will use the following guideline to evaluate agricultural operations for WPS compliance.

A. Central Location/Pesticide Record Keeping Review

1. Application information - assure that all WPS requirements are present in pesticide records as follows:
 - a. Pesticide Brand or Product name.
 - b. Location and description of treated area.
 - c. Active ingredient.
 - d. Date of application and time completed.
 - e. Length of the re-entry interval.
2. Display of the central location color safety poster.
 - a. Color EPA WPS poster must be displayed.
 - b. Emergency information must be listed on the poster.
 - c. Telephone number of the regional office of PDA must be listed on the poster.
3. Accessibility of labels or MSDS sheets.
 - a. Keep labels available to meet worker and handler emergency medical needs.

B. Decontamination Inspection

1. For **workers** - inspect field or greenhouse areas where workers are present within 30 days of a treatment to insure:
 - a. Soap, water (1 gallon/worker) and single use towels are available for decontamination.
 - b. Decontamination site(s) is not in an area subject to spray drift or residues.
 - c. Decontamination site is within 1/4 mile of the workers?

2. For **handlers** - inspect mixing, loading and application areas and equipment to insure handler decontamination requirements are met, including:
 - a. Soap, towels, water (3 gallons per handler), clean coveralls and whole body wash are available.
 - b. Proper storage, cleanliness, completeness, and condition of PPE. Decontamination sites and PPE storage area should be located in an area free from drift and pesticide residues.

C. Field Inspection

Observe workers and handlers in field to insure compliance with the following WPS requirements:

1. Posting - WPS signs are in place where posting is required by the pesticide label. Insure that no signs are up longer than 72 hours after the REI expires.
2. Oral notification - were workers notified orally of all pesticide applications if required by WPS?
3. Field work
 - a. Assure no early entry work is done within the REI except as allowed by WPS.
 - b. Insure all PPE is being used by mixing and loading or application handlers.
 - c. Evaluate heat stress potential to determine the possibility of problems.
 - d. For toxicity CAT. I & II products insure that contact is made with applicator every two hours during application as required by WPS.

D. Training Records

1. Review worker training records to insure all workers were properly trained under WPS.
2. Inquire of grower as to which WPS materials were used for training.
3. Ask to see these training materials.
4. Inspect items 1-3 (above) for handler records also
5. Record the name of the WPS trainer for subsequent verification.

E. Post Inspection Conference

1. Explain the strengths and shortcomings within the operation related to WPS.
2. When warranted offer suggestions orally on how the establishment can reach full compliance.
3. Provide available outreach materials to the grower.
4. Explain any follow-up action related to the inspection.
 - a. Indicate a need for re-inspection if violations are determined.
 - b. Present a written report of the findings to the grower.
5. Ask the grower if he has any concerns or questions on WPS for his establishment

"Countdown To Compliance" is a cooperative educational effort of the PA Department of Agriculture, Penn State Office of Pesticide Education, Penn State Cooperative Extension Service, PA Farm Bureau, PA Farmers Union, PA State Grange, PA Vegetable Growers Assoc., PA Christmas Tree Growers Assoc., Adams County Fruit Growers Assoc., PA Nurserymen's Assoc., PA Farmer Magazine, and Lancaster Farming Newspaper. Copies are available by contacting PA Farm Bureau, Governmental Relations Division at 717-761-2740.

Soybean Checkoff Funds To Purchase Equipment

NEWARK, Del. — The Delaware Soybean Board recently awarded the College of Agricultural Sciences Research and Education Center at the University of Delaware a check for \$43,500.

These funds, part of the 1994 National Soybean Checkoff program, will be used to purchase equipment for soybean research at the center. A small portion of the funds will be reserved to publish the Soy Newsletter, which is dis-

tributed to growers.

"The purchase of this equipment is an excellent example of how the checkoff program will benefit soybean growers," said Jay Windsor, acting director of the center. "The new equipment will enhance our research capability and data collection, thereby helping solve production problems faced by growers today."

The following equipment will be purchased and ready for use in

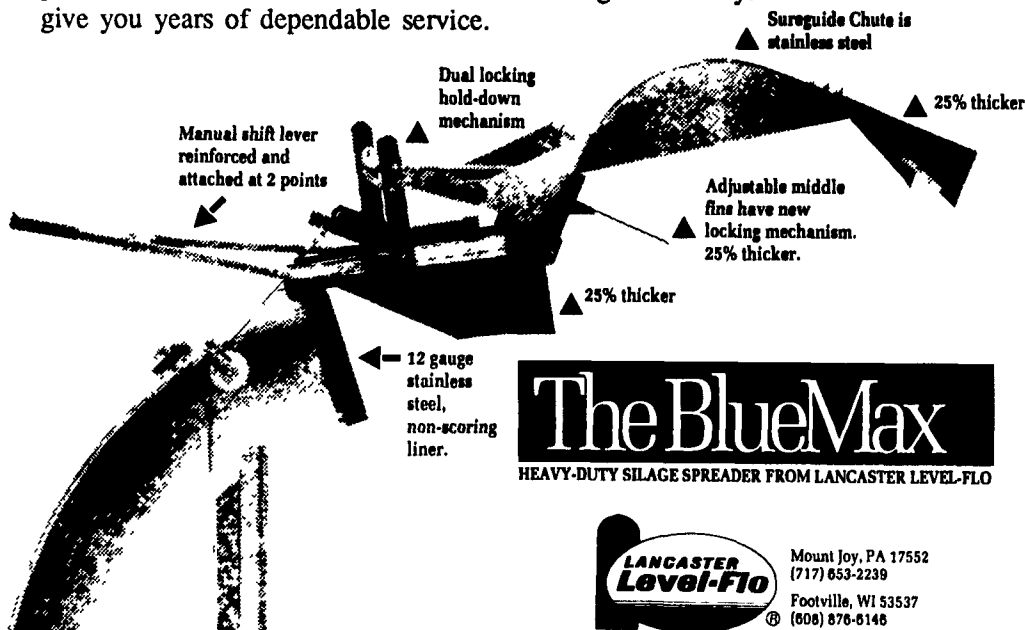
spring of 1995:

- Airblast sprayer for applying insecticides to research plots
- Broadcast herbicide sprayer
- Grain drill seed monitor to monitor seed populations
- Combine weigh-bucket system to accurately collect soybean research plot samples during harvest and
- Lateral irrigation system that will replace hand-move irrigation system.

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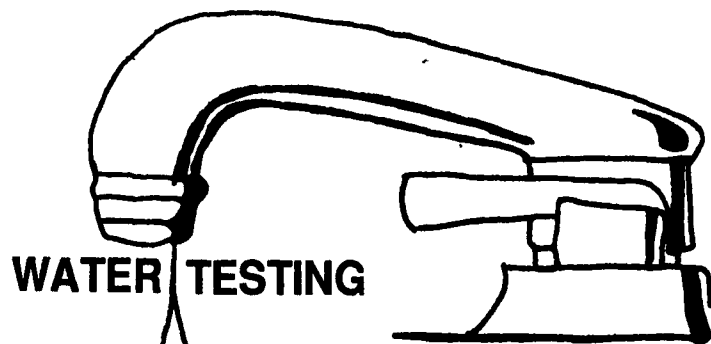


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