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TO: Growers
FR: Jack Peterson, Associate Director, ESD
DT: December 5, 2007
RE: Unusable Pesticide Disposal Program



I am pleased to inform you of an opportunity for disposing of agricultural pesticides that are currently not used and you see no possibility of using in the future. Being included in a community we regulate, you may understandably be hesitant to participate in such a program; however, it is important for personal safety and environmental reasons, to register the unusable pesticides you currently hold for disposal. I personally encourage you to participate in this program by providing us with the needed information as soon as possible.

I am sure you will appreciate that the amount of funding for this program is limited, and since at this time it is impossible to determine how many growers will respond or the amount of pesticide for disposal is involved, we must accept participants on a first come first serve basis. For those who are accepted, you will be mailed additional program information. For those we are unable to accept, your name and address will be filed by the Department for possible future similar opportunities. We will inform you that you did not get accepted as well. Our goal is to run another program next year; however, this is all dependent on adequate funding being available. Don't forget to tell your legislator thank you for approving funding for this program and thank the registrants who are funding the program through their product registration fees.

Some important points to remember:

- You must pre-register to participate.
- Only pre-registered disposable pesticide stock will be accepted at the time of collection.
- This program only includes unusable agricultural pesticides – no other materials will be accepted.
- Even if you do not believe you have any unusable pesticides, we encourage you to check outbuildings and similar locations to verify the presence of pesticides you may not currently be aware of.
- We also recommend checking with your pesticide seller, since in some situations, as a service to their customers they store partial containers.
- Finally, you are receiving the registration form two weeks in advance of sellers and commercial applicators – so if you want to participate make sure and **get your forms in quickly**.

For your convenience, we have included additional program information. Please don't hesitate to contact me at 602-542-3575 or at jpeterston@azda.gov should you have questions or concerns.

Unusable Pesticide Disposal Information

What this is

This is a collection program for the collection of agricultural pesticides from growers and applicators that have pesticides that require disposal due to age, contamination or cancellation.

What this isn't

This is not a program for the collection of household hazardous waste, empty containers or other products that are not agricultural pesticides.

Registration and getting Others Involved

We are initially notifying only growers. Two weeks later, we will be notifying custom applicators and sellers. We also have sent a letter to PCAs alerting them to this program to garner their help in encouraging participation and alerting folks of materials they know of that may have been forgotten.

Is this going to get me into trouble?

No, you will only get into trouble if you do something contrary to the law such as: dumping your pesticides, storing them in an unsafe area or in an unsafe manner. Arizona has adopted a universal waste rule which in lay man terms means there is nothing wrong with having unusable pesticides. They are not considered a waste until brought into a collection program and then declared as such.

Cost

This program is free to participants. However, there is a limited amount of funding for this program. Therefore, not everyone may be able to participate. In the event that you are not chosen to participate, you will be notified and we will get you into the next collection event (if funding is available).

When and Where

We are anticipating a collection event in March or April in central Arizona. This also will depend on the registrations received as this is a statewide collection.

What if I cannot make it to the collection?

Participants may work together to transport the unusable pesticides to the collection site. The person delivering to the collection site will need to have the embossed forms provided for all the accepted growers for whom they are delivering.

What if I find more pesticides after I have registered?

Notify the department immediately so we can check with the contractor to see if there is any way the additional unusable pesticides can be accepted or not.

Are there pesticides that are problematic for acceptance into the program?

Yes, those pesticides which contain dioxin such as 2,4,5-T, Silvex, Dinoseb, pentachlorophenol. It is yet unknown if we are going to be able to find a way of disposing of these materials. If you register one of these materials, we will keep in contact with you. This is also why it is important to put thought into figuring out what pesticides you have.

How will the program work?

1. Through this registration process, we are determining the amount and types of pesticides that need to be gathered and disposed. This will take approximately 1.5 month.
2. We will submit the bulk amount listing of materials to contractors who will then bid. This will take up to 2 months.
3. Upon receiving the bids, we will approve one and then determine how much material and who will be accepted into the program.
4. We will notify everyone of their acceptance or of our inability to collect their waste pesticides. (Plastic bags will be sent out as requested for over packing.)
5. Those accepted will be notified of the collection location, the date and a 2 hour time slot for arrival at the collection site (to help avoid lines), how to safely transport the unusable pesticides, what information must be brought to the collection and any other necessary information.

Name: _____



Pesticide Name	EPA or USDA Reg #	Container Type and Size	Number of Containers	Dry		Approximate Amount	Over-pack Needed	Additional Comments
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