

## Private Pesticide Applicator Certification, March 3 and 16

Federal and state law states a private pesticide applicator must be certified and licensed to buy, use or supervise the use of, **restricted-use** pesticides to produce an agricultural commodity on property they own or rent or on an employer's property if the applicator is an employee of a farmer. No certification is needed if one will only be using general-use pesticides.

Four Private Applicator training sessions have been held previously but two additional sessions will be held in March. These are scheduled for Thursday, March 3 from 8:30 -11:30 a.m. and Wednesday, March 16 from 1:30 - 4:30 p.m.

There is a \$15 fee collected at the training session. When the Nebraska Department of Agriculture receives the application from the training session, private applicators will be billed \$25 for a license fee. This fee covers the three-year license period. (TD)



## Pesticide Disposal Collection, March 16

The Nebraska Department of Agriculture, in cooperation with University of Nebraska Extension, the Environmental Trust Fund, the Nebraska Agri-Business Association and the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality, will be holding a pesticide disposal collection day on Wednesday, March 16 at the Farmers Cooperative Company fertilizer plant on North 148 Street, Waverly. Anyone with outdated or unwanted pesticides may bring them to the site from 8 a.m. until noon.

Pesticides should be brought in their original containers with label intact if possible, but pesticides which no longer have readable labels will be accepted. No pre-registration is required. There is no charge for up to 1,000 pounds of product from individuals or firms. A small fee will be assessed for the amount over 1,000 pounds. Once received, the pesticides will be sorted and packaged for shipment to a certified incinerator for disposal.

Remember to protect yourself and your surroundings when handling waste pesticides. You may need to wear personal protective equipment or, as a minimum, unlined neoprene or nitrile gloves. If the pesticide container has been damaged, pack it in another container that will hold the product if the first container should rupture while being transported. Use a container that can be left at the collection site if it becomes contaminated.

- Three main categories of pesticides will be accepted:
- Unused, unneeded, old or damaged pesticides (includes insecticides, herbicides, fungicides, rodenticides and fumigants).
  - Pesticides of all types (agricultural crops, livestock, homes, lawns, gardens, structural, commercial), including those in aerosol **containers**.
  - Farmer-supplied electrical transformers containing PCB's from renovated irrigation systems.

Since different wastes need to be handled and disposed of differently, products that fit in one of the categories above are the only ones accepted. Products NOT accepted include:

- Pesticide products in pressurized **cylinders**
- Waste oil or oil filters
- Antifreeze
- Paints, varnishes and thinners
- Cleaners and solvents

The Waverly site is one of only about 20 sites across Nebraska selected for this pesticide collection program in 2005. Don't miss the opportunity to dispose of unwanted pesticides! (TD)



## Glyphosate, Rose by any Other Name ...

Tom Dorn  
Extension Educator

Monsanto chemical company first developed the non-selective systemic herbicide, with the chemical name N-(phosphonomethyl) glycine otherwise known as the isopropylamine salt form of glyphosate in the 1970s and marketed it as Roundup. Eventually, the patent ran out on glyphosate and other chemical manufacturers began manufacturing it. I recently did a search and was able to identify 59 brand names of glyphosate labeled for agricultural crops, sold by 16 different companies. This did not include brands sold primarily for lawn and garden use and did not include products containing a second herbicide in combination with glyphosate.

Most glyphosate on the market today is still in the form of the isopropylamine salt. Moreover, most manufacturers sell a formulation that contains the isopropylamine salt with three pounds acid equivalent per gallon, the same amount of acid equivalent found in Roundup Original. There are a

few brands of glyphosate that differ in their acid equivalent content. Always read the product label when shopping for the best buy.

Other formulations of glyphosate have been developed as well. Monsanto produces an ammonium salt of glyphosate (Roundup Ultra-Dry) which has 65 percent acid equivalent by weight. Monsanto also produces a monopotassium salt of glyphosate (Roundup Original Max, Roundup Ultra Max, Roundup Weather Max and RT Master II) all contain 4.5 pounds acid equivalent per gallon.

Syngenta produces a diammonium salt of glyphosate found in Touchdown and a monopotassium salt of glyphosate found in Touchdown HiTech. These contain three pounds and 4.17 pounds acid equivalent, respectively.

Nufarm Americas sells a mixture containing 2.7 pounds acid equivalent isopropylamine salt plus 0.3 pounds acid



equivalent monoammonium salt of glyphosate (Credit Duo and Credit Duo Extra).

Do all brands of glyphosate that contain the same acid equivalent have the same efficacy against weeds?

The answer would be a qualified yes. If the label directions regarding additives are followed,

equal performance can be expected. While the acid equivalent is the same, the so-called inert ingredients are not the same in many cases. Inert ingredients do not have herbicidal properties by themselves, a portion are the carriers and a portion are additives included to enhance the efficacy of the active ingredient. Many generic brands of glyphosate lack the additives found in more expensive brands. So one should know what additives you may need to add to the spray tank to enhance the effectiveness of products lacking those products and consider this cost along with the cost of the glyphosate. Read product labels for additive recommendation or talk to your chemical supplier. (TD)

## “Native Grasses and Wildflowers” Rural Living Clinic, March 10

University of Nebraska Cooperative Extension is presenting “Acreage Insights - Rural Living Clinics” to help acreage owners manage their rural living environment.

Upcoming workshops (listed with Lincoln dates) are:

- **Create a Prairie With Native Grasses and Wildflowers** — Thursday, March 10, 7–9 p.m.
- **Acreage Landscape Management** — Thursday, April 14, 7–9 p.m.

In Lincoln, clinics will be held at the Lancaster Extension Education Center, 444 Cherrycreek Road. The workshops will also be offered in Omaha and Fremont.



Wildflowers in an acreage landscape create a natural, informal appearance and provide a changing palette of colors throughout the growing season. Native grasses reduce soil erosion and enhance wildlife habitat. At “Create a Prairie with Native Grasses and Wildflowers,” learn how to incorporate a wildflower

planting, the necessary steps in establishment and how to maintain the planting in years to come.

Preregistration is \$10 per person and must be received three working days before the program. Late registration is \$15 per person. Note: if a minimum number of registrations are not received, clinics will be

cancelled and preregistered participants will receive a full refund.

For more information or for a registration form, call the extension office at 441-7180 for a brochure or go online at [lancaster.unl.edu/hort/Programs/AcreageInsightsClinics.htm](http://lancaster.unl.edu/hort/Programs/AcreageInsightsClinics.htm).

## “Fertilizing Cropland With Biosolids” Workshop, March 3

An Educational Workshop about Lincoln's Biosolids Land Application Program

All interested persons are invited to attend a free biosolids workshop on Thursday, March 3 from 3:30 to 8:30 p.m. Preregistration is required — call Karen Wedding at 441-7180 by March 1.

Meet at 3:30 p.m. at the Lancaster Extension Education Center, 444 Cherrycreek Road, Lincoln. The group will then tour the Theresa Street Wastewater Facility and return to the extension center for dinner and educational program.

Participants will:

- Tour the Theresa Street Wastewater Facility and learn how wastewater is processed and made safe for application.
- Learn how regulations determine application rates and locations.
- Learn how GPS and GIS technology is used in Lincoln's Biosolids Program.
- Learn how biosolids improves soil tilth, especially on poor or eroded soil.
- Learn how biosolids usually increases crop yields for several years after just one application.

