



**ENTOMOLOGICAL  
SOCIETY OF AMERICA**  
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## **EPA Announcements of Interest to ESA Members**

### **Registration review of insecticides**

#### **EPA Reaches Agreement on Early Mitigation Measures Initiative for Diazinon**

- This insecticide is adopted in fruit and crop production, orchards, outdoor nurseries, and cattle ear tags and is currently under registration review. This process was started ahead of the normal registration review process due to the updated occupational risk assessment.
- The registrant companies have agreed to adopt several mitigation measures and can be accessed at <https://www.epa.gov/pesticides/epa-reaches-agreement-early-mitigation-measures-initiative-organophosphate-pesticide>
- The process will be open for comments and is expected to be concluded by the fiscal year of 2026.

#### **EPA Takes Next Step in the Endangered Species Act Review of Three Neonicotinoids**

- New analysis is in the process to be released identifying the risk of the neonicotinoids clothianidin, imidacloprid, and thiamethoxam to endangered or threatened species.
- Information about the final biological evaluation for clothianidin can be accessed at <https://www.epa.gov/endangered-species/final-national-level-listed-species-biological-evaluation-clothianidin>
- Information about the final biological evaluation for imidacloprid can be accessed at <https://www.epa.gov/endangered-species/final-national-level-listed-species-biological-evaluation-imidacloprid>
- Information about the final biological evaluation for thiamethoxam can be accessed at <https://www.epa.gov/endangered-species/final-national-level-listed-species-biological-evaluation-thiamethoxam>.
- Additional mitigation measures are expected to be released later this year and have them finalized in 2024.

## Open For Public Comments on The Draft Guidance to Improve the Efficiency of Pesticide Application

- The draft guidance applies to new conventional pesticides and biopesticides that are intended for outdoor use; and existing conventional pesticides and biopesticides that are intended for outdoor use that are being reevaluated under registration review.
- The document does not create new requirements for applicants but contributes by addressing potential effects on endangered species and can be accessed at <https://www.epa.gov/pesticides/epa-opens-public-comment-draft-guidance-pesticide-application-submissions-require>

## EPA Publish Maps to Help Pesticide Users Better Understand Risks to Endangered Species

- In recognition of Endangered Species Day, EPA published a group of storymaps to raise awareness about the protection of listed or threatened species from pesticides. The species identified in the Vulnerable Species Pilot can be accessed on the interactive page at <https://storymaps.arcgis.com/collections/896d140363174c9d8ee78e4c471bd7fd>

## EPA approves emergency exemption for Wolbachia mosquitoes to protect endangered birds in Hawaii.

- Wolbachia mosquitoes is used to control the invasive mosquito *Culex quinquefasciatus* which is a major spreader of avian malaria and contributes to the endangered bird species decline in the state.
- *Culex quinquefasciatus* males, called “DQB males”, are infected with the bacteria *Wolbachia pipientis*. The released male mosquitos mate with wild females, which produce eggs that do not survive and result in the reduction of the mosquito population.
- The EPA’s risk assessment concluded there was no risk to human health and ecological impact and received support from several state and federal agencies, and stakeholders, among others. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service was also informally consulted and is in agreement with the EPA risk assessment evaluation. The exception is limited to areas of Hawaii and valid for one year and more information can be accessed at <https://www.regulations.gov/docket/EPA-HQ-OPP-2022-0896/document>.

## EPA Public Meeting of the Pesticide Program Dialogue Committee (PPDC)

- On May 31-June 1, 2023, PPDC provided feedback to EPA regarding regulation in pesticides, policy, and program issues. The topics included: topics raised for discussion in the last meeting in May 2022; updates from the workgroups such as “Emerging Agricultural Technologies”, “Pesticide Resistance Management”, and “Emerging Viral Pathogens Workgroup”.
- The PPDC includes representatives from environmental groups, pesticide manufacturers, trade associations, academia, and federal and state agencies. More information about the PPDC work can be found at <https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-advisory-committees-and-regulatory-partners/pesticide-program-dialogue-committee-ppdc>.

## Upcoming/Future Activities

### Register for EPA's Webinar on Bilingual Pesticide Labels

- EPA will be hosting a public webinar on Tuesday, June 15, 2023, from 5 to 7 pm EST to receive feedback about the approach to having pesticide labels in Spanish. The idea is to have the key health and health safety sections on pesticide containers or on a link to translation using scannable technology or other electronic methods. The translation requirement is expected for December 2025 to December 2030 depending on the type of the product and toxicity category.
- The webinar will be held in English, Spanish, and American sign language interpretation services, and registration to attend it is available at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/bilingual-pesticide-labeling-national-webinar-tickets-628666547567>