Maryland Pesticide Advisory Committee

A scientific advisory committee on all aspects of pesticides appointed by the Secretary of Agriculture

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- Committee was established by Executive Order (01.01.2003.49) signed by Governor Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr. on November 17, 2003.
- Mission: To advise the Maryland Department of Agriculture, based on sound science, on the proper use, management and control of pesticides with particular emphasis on employing integrated pest management techniques.

Duties and Responsibilities

- Making recommendations to the Secretary for changes in law or regulation to improve pesticide management in the State.
- Providing advice to the Secretary on issues concerning the registration, sales, use, storage and disposal of pesticides, the certification and training of pesticide applicators, the licensing of pest control businesses and the protection of farmworkers, endangered species and water resources.
- Providing advice to other State agencies and local governments concerning their responsibilities in pesticide management and protection of human health, natural resources and the environment.
- Serving in an advisory capacity to the Secretary, Department Officials, and other State agencies on pesticide related matters.

Membership - Comprised of fifteen members.

- Seven are appointed by the Secretary of Agriculture, after consultation with the Governor's Office, representing public health, the environmental community, general public, pesticide industry, local government, pest control industry and the agricultural community.
- One is a member of the Maryland Agricultural Commission, appointed by the Secretary of Agriculture.
- One is appointed by the Senate President
- One is appointed by the House Speaker
- One by the Chancellor of the University System of Maryland.
- Four serve *ex officio* representing the Secretaries of Agriculture, of Natural Resources, of the Environment, and of Health and Mental Hygiene.

- Meetings: Bimonthly at 10:00 a.m. on the fourth Wednesday, beginning in January of each year at MDA.
- Public participation encouraged at each meeting.
- Agendas and Minutes: Agendas and the minutes of all meetings are available to the public.
- Reporting: The Secretary of Agriculture is required to report annually to the Governor on the activities of the Committee. Annual reports available to public upon request to MDA.

Accomplishments

- Consultations on most of the major pesticide programs in the State of Maryland
- Reviewed/Commented on MDA pesticide regulatory actions
- Stormwater Management Areas (Workshop)
- Biomonitoring Workshop
- Reviewed pesticide monitoring programs and reports

Initiatives

- Encourage Integrated Pest Management
 - IPM in School Program
- Open Marsh Water Management
- Blanket Toxic Materials Permit