

WASHINGTON

Washington State May Join California in Requiring a New Spray Adjuvant Registration

The Washington State Department of Agriculture (WSDA) issued a memorandum to companies who register spray adjuvants in Washington State on March 17, 2017. The notification went largely unnoticed since the desire for a “more accurate labeling of spray adjuvants” exists only in California and now may also be required in Washington State. Here is a [link](#) to the WSDA notification.

Washington State currently requires the top three (in order of percentage) Principal Functioning Agents (PFA) to be listed by chemical name on the label. They are not considered confidential because they are required to be on the label.

The percentage of each are not required which offers some protection of the products formulation. The CIASA ingredients are not required to be listed but a common chemical name or approved synonym is. WSDA wants a more specific chemical name as opposed to a common name which may not be well accepted by the customer (farmers) who may struggle with remembering a longer, less frequently used name and its pronunciation. There is also the issue of fitting these longer names onto the label in a large enough font to read.

Far West has been contacted by members and those within the industry who have some concerns that they wish to address. Not all inclusive but some are as follows:

- Registration labels that meet the needs of California and now Washington State will also need to be used in the remaining states and the manufacturer’s wish to avoid unnecessary confusion.
- Adjuvants and the chemistry have improved dramatically over recent years so many now are much more sophisticated with many different combinations of various functions. Spray drift, emulsifiers, droplet size, conditioners, penetrates are to name a few. WSDA wants more details related to the chemistry of the products registered such as the CIASA number but the formulation is sometime proprietary in nature so there is a reluctance to share such information unless confidentiality assurances can be made.

- Unless an industry friendly registration criteria is agreed to, users within Washington State run the risk of not having the full availability of adjuvants available elsewhere and therefore are unable to take advantage of new technologies and developments within these products and are disadvantaged compared to other states.
- Listing the principle functioning agents and the top three percent content by chemical name seem to be acceptable but the devil is truly in the details and there is a legitimate concern that privacy will be compromised.

Most would agree that the general contents of products registered for use in Washington State would be needed but the concern appears to be to what degree? If a salsa recipe states that it contains a pepper, should the name of the pepper be required? Should the Genesis/species be required?

Consistency, clarity and compliance within states needs to be provided, but how to get this done by WSDA’s self-imposed deadline of December, 2019 could be problematic and of course, the associated cost to make changes to labels is an important consideration.

In addition to conversations with members and partners, FWAA has been in communications with the Council of Producers and Distributors of Agrotechnology (CPDA) who have also expressed concern. As a result, CPDA and FWAA have jointly signed onto a letter to WSDA asking that the response time be extended to allow industry more time to provide input. You can view the letter through this [link](#).

- Jim Fitzgerald

Exhibitor booths are going fast, don’t delay and miss out on a great spot!

Going, going, gone.. Our booth spaces are going fast, our December conference has sold out half of the available spots, and our January booths are going just as fast. This is a great opportunity to get your company’s products in front of people and make those new connections!

Call Errin at 509-465-5055 or errin@fwa.org and get your exhibitor packet and booth reserved.

5-Year Risk Management Plan (RMP) Due

Fail to plan and you plan to fail, especially when it comes to risk management plan. A risk management plan should be updated every year in order to follow the changing laws, rules and regulations of DOT, OSHA, FMSCA, Homeland security and EPA. The first step to effectively complying with any regulation is to properly understand the requirements and what applies to your firm specifically. The rules set forth by the EPA are some of the most difficult to understand, especially for Ag retailers who sell hazardous material.

Far West has partnered with the Asmark institute in helping our members develop risk management plans. If you're interested in being a part of the Asmark program and developing an effective risk management plan, call the FWAA office at 509-465-5055 for a free consultation.

- Mark Swearingen

AGCO Develops Training Course for Experienced Applicators

The Asmark program recently developed a new training course specifically for experienced applicators to help meet the demands of the ever-changing market place. The course will cover the following topics:

- Reducing or eliminating off-target applications due to spray drift
- Tank additives
- Proper cleanout techniques
- Recordkeeping requirement
- How to read and understand labels
- Protecting yourself during emergencies
- Safety protocols during transportation of chemicals
- Assessing and choosing a drift management plan

The two-day class is open to anyone involved with crop production including producers and professional applicators and will be taught by Tony Kornder, who has over 20 years of experience as an applicator and received operator of the year award from AGCO. The course will be taught at the Asmark institute in Bloomington, IL. The course will be available in 11 sessions from early November through first week of March.

For more information [click here](#).

- Mark Swearingen

**Sponsorships available for
December and January conferences**

Contact Errin at admin@fwaa.org or
(509) 465-5055 for more details

**It's just good business...
BECOME A MEMBER TODAY!**

2018 Winter Conference Sponsors



**MONTANA SULPHUR
& CHEMICAL COMPANY**



2019 Winter Conference Sponsors



**MONTANA SULPHUR
& CHEMICAL COMPANY**