RISE Workshop: April 3, 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Label Workshop: Sharing Industry and Agency Perspectives on Pesticide Submission Workflows

*This space-limited workshop is open to all EPA staff and invited RISE and CropLife America members. Please contact Stephanie Binns if you are interested in participating or would like more information.*

Both product registrants and EPA staff contribute to the product registration process, but we often lack clarity about what happens on either side of a submission. This workshop is a working session that will focus on submission workflows from both EPA and registrant perspectives. Attendees will be expected to participate in the conversation and come ready to seek mutual understanding and identify potential solutions to common challenges.

General Session 1: April 4, 8:00 – 10:00 a.m.

The Role of Regulation in Product Innovation and Sustainability

This year’s Regulatory Conference begins with a technology-focused conversation about pesticide innovation, sustainability and the role of regulation. Industry leaders will discuss developments in cutting-edge pest and plant health solutions along with the technologies enabling sustainable outcomes throughout the agricultural and specialty pesticide value chains. Speakers will also discuss the role of regulation in product innovation and sustainability.

CropLife America and RISE (Responsible Industry for a Sound Environment) member company leaders will discuss these topics in individual remarks, panel discussion and audience Q and A. This session will be moderated by CropLife America President and CEO, Chris Novak.

Series I: April 4, 10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Good Epidemiology Practices for Pesticide Exposure Assessment: The Time Has Come

Health and regulatory agencies have increasingly relied on epidemiological data for evaluating potential health risks from exposure to pesticides. Speakers in this session will use case studies to demonstrate and discuss the impact of inadequate exposure characterization on regulatory decision-making. They will also present best practices for pesticide exposure assessment in epidemiological studies – specifically, a newly developed set of standards for exposure characterization. Improving pesticide exposure assessment in epidemiological studies will allow for more scientifically supported regulatory decision-making.
Registration Review: To 2022 and Beyond

With the deadline of 2022 quickly approaching, EPA staff will discuss challenges and opportunities in reaching the 2022 milestone and plans for the next round of reevaluations. Pesticide Re-Evaluation Division (PRD) staff will share information on how label mitigation for compounds in registration review is coordinated between PRD and the Registration Division (RD).

Science Policy Activities for Endangered Species Risk Assessment

Now that EPA and the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) have completed a portion of the organophosphate case studies and have delivered the biological evaluations and a biological opinion, there are a number of science/policy initiatives underway to address identified technical issues. This session will address two of these issues with presentations from industry, government, and academic speakers.

Series II: April 4, 1:15 – 2:45 p.m.

EPA Labels Live! Pesticide Labels from the Lab to Your Neighborhood

The EPA-stamped label underpins the life of a pesticide product from its development in the lab, to its registration with regulatory authorities, to its application by consumers and professionals and everything in between. Join us for our fourth annual EPA Labels Live! session designed for EPA and government agency staff (participation is open to all conference attendees). This year’s session continues the story of the specialty pesticide product lifecycle and features new content on aquatic applications, the state registration process, and different application types. Participants will gain a better understanding of how registrants design products and labeling with end users in mind and will learn what it takes to move products from development to safe and effective application.

Exposure-based Toxicity Testing for Human Health Risk Assessment

Speakers in this session will discuss approaches to toxicity testing requirements that are based on human exposure potential. Topics will include the use of alternative dose estimates, tiered exposure approaches, and other strategies for tailoring testing needs to critical endpoints and target populations.

Perspectives on MRLs and International Trade

International trade in agricultural commodities is an ever-more important consideration in farm-level decisions regarding crop protection. International harmonization of MRLs has its ups and downs. Government officials and agricultural commodity representatives will offer their perspectives on status and opportunities for progress.
Expert Panel: Linking Endpoints to Protection Goals for Endangered Species Risk Assessment

In FIFRA and ESA risk assessments, there is now a disconnect between endpoints and protection goals in terms of biological levels and spatial/temporal scales. The challenge is to develop effects endpoints that are relevant to established protection goals. This session will explore the development of specific protection goals applicable to both FIFRA and ESA from a scientific, regulatory, and legal perspective. The session will also discuss effect endpoints that are most relevant to specific protection goals.

Series III: April 4, 3:00 – 4:30 p.m.

Water, Water, Everywhere: Methods to Estimate Concentrations of Pesticides in Drinking Water and Their Impact on Dietary Risk Assessment

Description: This session will provide a brief introduction to current methods used by EPA to estimate the concentrations of pesticides in drinking water and alternative options to improve upon these estimates. In addition, it will provide a discussion of the impact of drinking water inputs on the risk assessment of dietary exposure to pesticides.

Social Media Success: How Influencers Create Buzz

Do you wonder what social media platform is the best for your message? Do you puzzle over why some messages are more effective than others? Join a panel of social media influencers to find out why they focus on specific platforms, how they identify and connect to their audiences (Gen Z, Millennials, Moms, other), what makes content engaging, and how they measure their success.

MRL Challenges for the Food and Beverage Industry

The nutritious and flavorful foods and beverages we enjoy in the United States include ingredients from all over the world. The reliable sourcing of such ingredients presents some special challenges from the crop protection perspective.

Electronic Label Submission: Current Work and Plans for the Future

EPA is reportedly nearing its implementation of a fully electronic label submission system (formerly known as SmartLabel) that would revolutionize the registration process. But what does this system look like, and what should registrants expect as EPA gets closer to finalizing the system? Speakers in this session will delve into the practical realities of EPA’s electronic system and will provide multiple perspectives on the system’s functionalities, benefits, and potential obstacles to implementation.
General Session 2: April 5, 8:00 – 9:30 a.m.

EPA Office of Pesticide Programs: Today, Tomorrow, and Beyond

**Description:** U.S. EPA Office of Pesticide Programs leaders join the conference to discuss current and future agency priorities. Invited speaker Rick Keigwin, Director, U.S. EPA Office of Pesticide Programs, begins our program and will be joined by invited speaker Mike Goodis, Director, Registration Division, and other agency division leadership. EPA leaders will provide an overview of their division’s priorities and answer audience questions. This session will be moderated by RISE President, Aaron Hobbs.

Series IV: April 5, 9:45 – 11:00 a.m.

How to Weave Scientific Information into Persuasive Narratives

When engaging on (science) policy content, it is easy to lapse into listing various statistics or determined facts that support the argument. However, lists are not memorable. Factoids need to be woven into narrative structures to be made memorable. This talk will show how to make a scientific discovery into a memorable anecdote that can then persuasively underscore a present/future policy need.

When Will the Alternative Become the New Standard? Integrating and Accepting Predictive Toxicology Methods for Carcinogenicity Assessment as a Replacement to the Rodent Cancer Bioassay

The traditional approach for agrochemical human health assessments has been hazard identification through animal-intensive guideline toxicity studies. Within the last decade, considerable advances have been made in predictive toxicology tools that can be used in toxicity assessments while reducing animal use. As refinements to these alternate approaches continue, significant opportunity exists to incorporate these new tools into standard toxicity testing programs and risk assessments. This session will provide an overview of EPA and industry initiatives for *in silico* and *in vitro* toxicological tools for assessing systemic toxicity and carcinogenicity and the future impact on the requirement of the rodent cancer bioassay.

Innovation in Product Formulation

Inert ingredients (or co-formulants) fill a multitude of functions in a pesticide formulation. Choices for these functions give the formulator options and flexibility. Limited choices can lead to market crises and can inhibit innovation.

A wide range of voluntary actions exist that pesticide registrants could undertake during a consultation that may increase species numbers, enhance habitats, or provide other benefits to listed species. These actions may reduce or eliminate adverse or uncertain effects, compensate for them, or improve the species’ status, potentially leading to a simplified consultation. This session will include an explanation and discussion of the ESA concept of conservation measures, including avoidance, minimization, and compensatory mitigation. The role of research in informing conservation measures will be covered, and representatives from industry, NGOs, and agencies will describe examples of these concepts and discuss what approaches could be adapted for pesticides. (This session is the first part of a two-session series.)

Series V: April 5, 11:15 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Product Stewardship for Pollinators: Practices and Collaborations Among Stakeholders

Both pollinators and pesticides are critical to our food supply. In this session, stakeholders such as federal and state regulators, pesticide safety educators, trade association representative, and registrants will outline key strategies to ensure that pesticides are used properly and pollinators and other wildlife are protected.

Efficiencies in the Regulation of Product Chemistry

Several opportunities exist to enhance the efficiency of product chemistry regulation, through self-certification, streamlining of requirements, and automation of procedures.


A wide range of voluntary actions exist that pesticide registrants could undertake during a consultation that may increase species numbers, enhance habitats, or provide other benefits to listed species. These actions may reduce or eliminate adverse or uncertain effects, compensate for them, or improve the species’ status, potentially leading to a simplified consultation. This session will include an explanation and discussion of the ESA concept of conservation measures, including avoidance, minimization, and compensatory mitigation. The role of research in informing conservation measures will be covered, and representatives from industry, NGOs, and agencies will describe examples of these concepts and discuss what approaches could be adapted for pesticides. (This session is the second part of a two-session series.)