

Schlein, Paul B

From: C. Drake <mountainme@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 29, 2013 8:18 PM
To: AF-Pesticides Internet
Subject: Mosquito spray

Concerning the CDC and mosquito spraying-

I would like the Maine BPC to know that I oppose the enactment of widespread spraying for mosquito in Maine. The effects of pesticides broadcast in this way are unknown, their effects on other wildlife, such as birds and bats, which consume these insects, are likely to be detrimental.

You can never get rid of mosquito in Maine, spraying is not the answer. It just needlessly adds more toxic contaminants to water, wildlife, food systems and our environment.

-Cynthia Drake
Dover-Foxcroft, Maine

Schlein, Paul B

From: Jennings, Henry
Sent: Wednesday, February 06, 2013 8:55 AM
To: Bills, Anne; Schlein, Paul B
Subject: FW: The proposed amended rules

From: Bonnie & Joe Moger [mailto:bmoger@maine.rr.com]
Sent: Tuesday, February 05, 2013 8:36 PM
To: Jennings, Henry
Subject: The proposed amended rules

Mr. Jennings,

I am against the Maine Board of Pesticides Control proposed amendments of existing rules dealing with Chapters 20, 22, 51 to allow for public-health, and mosquito-control programs. I am concerned about health issues for my family and also the negative consequences it would pose for my honeybee if aerial pesticide spraying is allowed.

*Bonnie Moger
293 Pride Street
Westbrook, ME 04092*

Schlein, Paul B

From: Jennings, Henry
Sent: Wednesday, February 06, 2013 8:57 AM
To: Bills, Anne; Schlein, Paul B
Subject: FW: Vector-borne disease spraying Amendment

-----Original Message-----

From: LEH InMaine [mailto:ps-stillwaters@juno.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 06, 2013 8:28 AM
To: Jennings, Henry
Subject: Vector-borne disease spraying Amendment

Dear Mr. Jennings,

I will not be able to attend the 8:30 meeting in Augusta on March 1 so I am writing to OPPOSE the Amendments to Chapter 20, 22, and 51.

- 1) Being a beekeeper here in Kittery, I am concerned for the health of my hives and others.
- 2) Having a brother who has been diagnosed with leukemia due to pesticides/fertilizers exposures, I feel this is unsafe for others especially those with compromised immune systems.
- 3) I have been an avid birder for 3 decades and know the detriment to many species due to pesticides and other widespread applications of chemicals.
- 4) We need to be aware of the runoff of these chemicals, which poison the watershed and waterways.

Education and common sense are key to a safer community. Money spent towards establishing habitats that increase populations of natural mosquito predators such as birds, dragonflies, and bats. Control domestic and feral cats who kill billions of mosquito eating birds and small mammals. Combat manmade 'pools' of standing water such as gutters, tires, plant pots, and kiddie pools, to name a few.

Chemicals such as pesticides and fertilizers are a big money making business -- good for our economy? Ha! Didn't we learn anything from Rachel Carson's research and efforts over half a century ago? An ancient Chinese folktale tells of the farmers who killed the birds eating their crops only to have an insect invasion that was far worse.

We should be going ahead not behind in our efforts to clean up our Earth.

Thank you.

Lois Higgins
9 Lyndon Way
Kittery, ME

Schlein, Paul B

From: Lawrence Peiffer <lpeiffer@bonnyeagle.org>
Sent: Tuesday, February 05, 2013 6:38 PM
To: Schlein, Paul B
Subject: Re: Notice of Maine Board of Pesticides Control Rulemaking on Public-Health, Mosquito-Control Programs

Hi Paul,

I'd like to thank you for this updated information. However, as a Beekeeper, I would most certainly be concerned with what results the spray used would have on all of my hives of honey bees.

I thank you very much again,
Larry Peiffer
MSBA Vice President
Master Beekeeper

On Tue, Feb 5, 2013 at 3:48 PM, Schlein, Paul B <Paul.B.Schlein@maine.gov> wrote:

The Maine Board of Pesticides Control is proposing the following amendments to its existing pesticide rules to allow for public-health, mosquito-control programs:

► **Chapter 20—Special Provisions:** The amended rule would relax the need for individual property owner authorization when the Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention (Maine CDC) recommends pesticide spraying due to vector-borne disease threats, such as West Nile Virus (WNV) or Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE).

► **Chapter 22—Standards for Outdoor Application of Pesticides by Powered Equipment in Order to Minimize Off-Target Deposition:** The amended rule would exempt government-sponsored, wide-area, vector-control programs from the entire chapter.

► **Chapter 51—Notice of Aerial Pesticide Application:** The amended rule would exempt government-sponsored, wide-area, vector-control programs from the entire chapter.

***Explanation:** Surveillance data from the last decade show that mosquito-borne viruses are on the increase in Maine. The first confirmed human case of WNV was documented in 2012. Due to the threat of a disease outbreak, the Maine CDC may recommend wide-area, mosquito-control programs in targeted areas of the state in coming years. These programs would be very difficult to conduct under current state law, since Chapter 20 requires authorization from individual land owners, Chapter 22 imposes operational standards that would be impractical for wide-area programs conducted in residential areas, and Chapter 51 requires notice to be sent to all*

landowners within 500 feet of the target area.

The proposed amendments would facilitate government-sponsored, wide-area, vector-control programs without the need to obtain consent from each individual landowner. Instead, property owners could request to be excluded from ground-based spraying and be provided advance notice for aerial-control programs. In addition, certain sensitive sites would be excluded from aerial programs. Government-sponsored, aerial-vector-control programs would also be exempted from the requirements of Chapter 22, the Board's drift rule, and Chapter 51, the Board's rule about notice for aerial spraying, since public notification would be required for such programs under Chapter 20.

COPIES OF PROPOSED AMENDED RULES

The proposed amended rules may be viewed at thinkfirstspraylast.org/laws/rulemaking.htm, or copies may be obtained from the Board of Pesticides Control office (see *contact information below*).

THERE ARE TWO OPPORTUNITIES TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PROCESS

► COMMENT AT THE PUBLIC HEARING

Date: Friday, March 1, 2013

Time: 8:30 AM

Location: Room 319, Deering Building, 90 Blossom Lane, Augusta

► SUBMIT COMMENTS IN WRITING

Contact: Henry S. Jennings, Director

Maine Board of Pesticides Control

28 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333-0028

Telephone: 207-287-2731

E-mail: henry.jennings@maine.gov

Website: www.thinkfirstspraylast.org/laws/rulemaking.htm

► DEADLINE FOR COMMENTS 5:00 PM, Friday, March 15, 2013

Paul Schlein

Public Education Specialist

Maine Board of Pesticides Control

28 State House Station

Augusta ME 04333-0028

207-287-7533 Phone

207-287-7548 Fax

<http://www.thinkfirstspraylast.org>

<http://www.yardscaping.org>

<http://www.gotpests.org>

The information transmitted herein is intended only for the person or entity to which it is addressed and may contain confidential material. Any review, retransmission, dissemination or other use of, or taking of any action in reliance upon, this information by persons or entities other than the intended recipient is prohibited. If you received this in error, please contact the sender and delete the e-mail and any attachments from any computer.

MSAD #6 - Bonny Eagle Schools
Buxton - Hollis - Limington - Standish - Frye Island, Maine
Helping all students to reach their full potential

Schlein, Paul B

From: Jennings, Henry
Sent: Wednesday, February 06, 2013 10:38 AM
To: Bills, Anne; Schlein, Paul B
Subject: FW: Notice of Maine Board of Pesticides Control Rulemaking on Public-Health, Mosquito-Control Programs
Attachments: The Maine Board of Pesticides Control is proposing the follow changes.docx

From: Michael Simone [mailto:msimone@mosquitoterminators.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 06, 2013 9:57 AM
To: Jennings, Henry
Subject: Notice of Maine Board of Pesticides Control Rulemaking on Public-Health, Mosquito-Control Programs

Please let me know if you have trouble opening the file. Thank you

--

Mosquito Terminators

Michael Simone

Po Box 127

Epping NH 03042

PH# 888-889-9944

Fax# 603-734-4284

www.sonh.mosquitoterminators.com

The Maine Board of Pesticides Control is proposing the following amendments to its existing pesticide rules to allow for public-health, mosquito-control programs:

My name is Michael Simone I am the owner Mosquito Terminators. It is my feeling that if the state feels it is necessary to take extra measures to insure the safety of the residents of Maine in the event of the evidence of EEE or other vector borne diseases the same exceptions should be extended to any legitimate licensed Mosquito control company operating the areas that are being targeted by the state.

As you know we are providing mosquito control on a residential and commercial level and some Mosquito control companies are contracted by municipalities. Being covered under the same changes would be a benefit to everyone involved and ultimately help solve that immediate threat of vector bourn diseases.

Schlein, Paul B

From: Jennings, Henry
Sent: Wednesday, February 06, 2013 8:56 AM
To: Bills, Anne; Schlein, Paul B
Subject: FW: regarding aerial pesticide spraying

From: Laurie Thompson [mailto:lbeethompson@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 06, 2013 8:13 AM
To: Jennings, Henry
Subject: regarding aerial pesticide spraying

Dear Sir--I am absolutely OPPOSED to any general spraying for any reason--I am a beekeeper and a gardener--(you may have heard or read that bees are critical to our own survival) --ANY aerial spraying WOULD KILL my bees and poison the land for who knows how long--it's crucial that you vote AGAINST any general spraying and/or lack of notification to landowners !!!

Thank you for your immediate attention,
Laurie C Thompson--Dayton

Schlein, Paul B

From: Jennings, Henry
Sent: Monday, February 11, 2013 8:22 AM
To: Bills, Anne; Schlein, Paul B
Subject: FW: no mosquito spraying

From: Laura Livingston [mailto:lauralivingston@live.com]
Sent: Saturday, February 09, 2013 2:42 PM
To: Jennings, Henry
Subject: no mosquito spraying

I don't want mosquito spraying.

Schlein, Paul B

From: Jennings, Henry
Sent: Monday, February 11, 2013 8:21 AM
To: Bills, Anne; Schlein, Paul B
Subject: FW: mosquito control amendments

From: Bob [mailto:allveg@midmaine.com]
Sent: Saturday, February 09, 2013 2:33 PM
To: Jennings, Henry
Subject: mosquito control amendments

Henry S. Jennings
Director, Maine Board of Pesticides Control
28 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333-0028

Dear Director Jennings:

I understand the Maine Board of Pesticides Control is proposing amendments to its existing pesticide rules to allow for public-health, mosquito-control programs. I will not be able to attend the public hearing scheduled for Friday, March 1, 2013 in Augusta so am writing you instead. For the relatively few who will be spared mosquito-borne illness by a widespread, pesticide-based mosquito-control program, relatively many will be exposed to pesticides and their adjuvants, in their local environment. They may suffer more harm than those who benefited.

We do not know all the risks from this exposure but we know that most pesticides have negative health effects on humans, even at low doses. That is why they are usually licensed only to be applied very carefully and only to discrete areas. I am a physician, and my oath says 'first, do no harm'. I think this oath is applicable here. Unless there is good evidence that the risks are outweighed by the benefits, I oppose the use of widespread pesticide spraying for mosquito control.

Bob Lodato
80 Lawry Rd.
Charleston, ME 04422

Schlein, Paul B

From: Jennings, Henry
Sent: Wednesday, February 13, 2013 4:33 PM
To: Bills, Anne; Schlein, Paul B
Subject: FW: mosquito spraying

From: Sarah Oliver [mailto:sarah.a.oliver@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 13, 2013 4:27 PM
To: Jennings, Henry
Subject: mosquito spraying

Hi,

As a new organic farmer, I'm concerned about the changes to the mosquito spraying rules. If my crops come into contact with prohibited substances, I can't sell them as organic, which would put me out of business. Please include organic farms as zones excluded from spraying.

Thank you,
Sarah Oliver
Even Keel Farm
Pemaquid, ME

Schlein, Paul B

From: Jennings, Henry
Sent: Thursday, February 14, 2013 9:45 AM
To: Bills, Anne; Schlein, Paul B
Subject: FW: Mosquito Spray/Organic Farms

From: Karen Bolduc [mailto:southauburnorganicfarm@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 14, 2013 9:38 AM
To: Jennings, Henry
Subject: Mosquito Spray/Organic Farms

Dear Mr. Jennings,

In reference to the current proposed legislation to relax pesticide application regulations to allow for un-consenting landowners to be sprayed with mosquito killing pesticides or other pesticides in a public health emergency, I would like to stress to you that it is critical organic farms are excluded from spray zones. These sprays are prohibited in organic agriculture, and for good reason. Spraying with prohibited substances will significantly impact the livelihood and health of organic farms. We urge the the Department to work closely with MOFGA and producers to ensure that excluded areas are accurate and up-to-date in order to avoid accidental contamination. This is a very important issue and we must be careful to balance the health of Maine's robust organic agriculture sector which produces some of the finest and highest quality produce in Maine - with the public health. I would certainly not consent to this on my organic farmland willingly.

Thank You

Karen Bolduc
South Auburn Organic Farm
Auburn, Maine 04210
207 415 8380

Schlein, Paul B

From: Jennings, Henry
Sent: Thursday, February 14, 2013 8:12 AM
To: Bills, Anne; Schlein, Paul B
Subject: FW: Mosquito Pesticide

-----Original Message-----

From: H+J Lassen [mailto:intervale.lassen@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 14, 2013 6:30 AM
To: Jennings, Henry
Subject: Mosquito Pesticide

Dear Mr. Jennings,

As an organic farm we would like to be on the exclusion list for the mosquito pesticide spraying list. If you need further information from us please let us know.

Yours,
Hugh Lassen

--

Intervale Farm
Organic Maine Wild Blueberries
www.intervaleblueberryfarm.com
199 North Main St.
Cherryfield, ME 04622
(207) 546-2589

Schlein, Paul B

From: Jennings, Henry
Sent: Thursday, February 14, 2013 10:48 AM
To: Bills, Anne; Schlein, Paul B
Subject: FW: exclusion zones for mosquito control

From: Jordan Pike [mailto:jordan_pike@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 14, 2013 10:04 AM
To: Jennings, Henry
Subject: exclusion zones for mosquito control

Hello Mr. Jennings,

I want to notify the BPC of two exclusion zones within the town of Lebanon, Maine where I own and operate a Certified Organic vegetable farm. I lease land in town, as well as own. I am a commercial grower, and farming is my only income. I employ up to three people every season. I am also a licensed bee keeper, and have apiaries at both location.

I have 40 Acres at:
89 Richardson Drive
Lebanon, Maine 04027

and 7 Acres at:
475 West Lebanon Road
Lebanon, Maine 04027

Please feel free to contact me with any questions, and please send me an email or a letter confirming that the two locations above are listed with the BPC as Exclusion Zones from mosquito control programs. Also, please note that the under municipal ordinance, the use of pesticides for non agricultural purposes is prohibited within the town of Lebanon, Maine. (see CMP v. Town Of Lebanon 1986).

Thank you,
Jordan Pike
www.TwoToadFarm.com
Lebanon, Maine
207-252-1103

Schlein, Paul B

From: Jennings, Henry
Sent: Tuesday, February 19, 2013 10:27 AM
To: Bills, Anne; Schlein, Paul B
Subject: FW: Mosquito Spraying

-----Original Message-----

From: Lauren Comstock [mailto:klcomstock@aol.com]
Sent: Friday, February 15, 2013 8:30 PM
To: Jennings, Henry
Subject: Mosquito Spraying

NO WAY NO SPRAY THANK-YOU VERY MUCH!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

If you must spray, consider Cedarcide or a garlic based solution! Both very effective down south.

You can also use a funnel and bucket to trap them without using chemicals.

Russell Libbey is a perfect example why we don't need to be exposed to more chemicals!!!!

PLEASE THINK OUTSIDE THE BOX!!!

Thank you,
Lauren Comstock

Sent from my iPhone

Schlein, Paul B

From: Jennings, Henry
Sent: Tuesday, February 19, 2013 10:37 AM
To: Bills, Anne; Schlein, Paul B
Subject: FW: Comments on the proposed amendments to the pesticide rules

From: Randy Shoe [mailto:shoebo@comcast.net]
Sent: Friday, February 15, 2013 8:45 PM
To: Jennings, Henry
Cc: Lawrence Peiffer
Subject: Comments on the proposed amendments to the pesticide rules

Mr Jennings,

I am completely against each rule proposed. I am a beekeeper and blatant spraying could injure or even kill my bee hives. I just started last fall and will be registering my beehives (4 in all this spring) with the state of Maine.

Chapter 20 comments: I do not agree with relaxing the requirement for the property owner authorization before spraying. If I want my home or property sprayed, then I will call you and give you permission.

Chapter 22 comments: Exempting government-sponsored, wide-area, vector-control programs would allow the government to do whatever they wanted with pesticides and spraying. The government should be setting the standard for care and not be exempt from anything.

Chapter 51 comments: Aerial pesticide application may contain harmful chemicals that can do damage or even kill a beehive. If you are familiar with Colony Collapse Disorder (CCD) then you understand that our honeybees in the US are in serious decline and this disorder is caused by some of the chemicals in pesticides, lawn care products and gardening products. Exempting the government from this entire chapter would facilitate aerial spraying basically anywhere you wanted and that could be catastrophic to the honeybee population.

I am against all three of these proposed rules.

Randy Shoe
25 Hornes Mill Road
Berwick, ME 030901

Schlein, Paul B

From: Jennings, Henry
Sent: Tuesday, February 19, 2013 10:43 AM
To: Bills, Anne; Schlein, Paul B
Subject: FW: widespread spraying for mosquito control

From: Deb & Bruce Brown [mailto:flyingturtlefarm@gmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 17, 2013 3:50 PM
To: Jennings, Henry
Subject: widespread spraying for mosquito control

I am opposed to the widespread spraying for mosquito control.
There are other ways to reduce mosquito populations and protect individuals from disease. This would be a way to truly enhance public health instead of harming people, wildlife, etc.

Pesticides are toxic and are building up in our bodies and our environment, causing long term health and environmental issues, which weaken and make us more susceptible to more diseases. A viscous cycle.

You have the power to implement safer and healthier ways, the question is....do you want to?

Deborah Brown
Jefferson

Schlein, Paul B

From: Jennings, Henry
Sent: Tuesday, February 19, 2013 10:38 AM
To: Bills, Anne; Schlein, Paul B
Subject: FW: gov. sponsored spray programs

From: Wayne Marquis [mailto:marquisfarms@hotmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 17, 2013 2:18 PM
To: Jennings, Henry
Subject: gov. sponsored spray programs

I am expressing the need that organic farms be excluded from gov. sponsored spray programs.

Wayne Marquis-

Wayne Marquis

Marquis Farms
254 Marquis Road
Van Buren, ME 04785
(207) 868-3467
marquisfarms@hotmail.com

Schlein, Paul B

From: Jennings, Henry
Sent: Monday, February 25, 2013 7:57 AM
To: Bills, Anne; Schlein, Paul B
Subject: FW: Aerial spraying for mosquitos

From: Eileen Patrick [mailto:eileen34@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, February 22, 2013 8:55 PM
To: Jennings, Henry
Subject: Aerial spraying for mosquitos

Hello Mr Jennings,

If you could take a moment to read my thoughts on aerial spraying before the hearing, I would greatly appreciate it.

There is never a good reason to spray neurotoxic chemicals indiscriminately. Below is a good link explaining some of the reasons why this is a horrible and ineffective idea that is much more dangerous than the West Nile Virus.

<http://www.environmentalhealth.ca/spring03false.html>

Thank you for taking your time to read.

Please do not allow this to happen.

Eileen Patrick



Eight Reasons Why Spraying Pesticides is Not the Solution to West Nile Virus

by Rebecca Watson
UPdate Spring 2003

How much of a risk is West Nile Virus (WNV)? To some extent, only time will tell. But public health experts stress that there is no cause for fear and panic, or for panic driven "solutions." In fact, the so-called "solution" of spraying pesticides to kill mosquitoes will actually lead to bigger problems. Here are eight compelling reasons why spraying pesticides is not the answer to WNV.

1. Least Effective Measure

The US Center for Disease Control and other experts say that spraying or fogging is the least effective means for slowing the spread of WNV carrying mosquitoes. For fogging to have maximum effect, a mosquito has to be flying. Estimates are that fogging kills only about 10% of adult mosquitoes. The federal-provincial task force on WNV admits there is little evidence for the efficacy of insecticide spraying. Adult mosquitoes live only about two weeks, with new larvae hatching constantly. This means that spraying cannot be a one shot operation, but needs to be repeated frequently if chosen as a means of control .

2. Predators Harmed, Mosquitoes Thrive

Aerial spraying or fogging is more harmful to mosquito predators than to mosquitoes. Since predators are farther up the food chain, they will take in higher amounts of pesticide. By decreasing mosquito predator populations, aerial spraying actually leads to increases in mosquito populations. Data from a study in New York State published in the *Journal for Mosquito Control* found that after 11 years of insecticide spraying, the mosquito population had increased 15 times. Pesticide exposure also results in immune suppression in birds, which serve as the hosts for WNV. Birds exposed to organophosphate pesticides tend to suffer immune suppression (as do mammals, amphibians and other animals.) This makes them less able to fight off viral and bacterial infections, the very opposite of what is needed. Once infected with WNV, birds are more likely to develop symptoms and to remain ill longer than if they had not been exposed. Thus, pesticide spraying leads to more frequent and longer infections and higher viral loads in birds, making it more likely they will spread the disease to mosquitoes. This increases the possibility of mosquitoes transmitting the virus to humans and other mammals.

3. Super Mosquitoes, Sicker Mosquitoes

For some reason, as yet unknown, mosquitoes exposed to pesticides are more

likely to have WNV in their salivary glands and develop a damaged gut lining which becomes more porous, allowing WNV to pass through. Over a decade of insecticide spraying to control encephalitis in Florida has not been effective, and mosquitoes are now 15 times more likely to pass on the disease. Mosquitoes, which have short life spans, go through many generations in a single year. The mosquitoes which are exposed to pesticides and survive are more likely to develop resistance to them.

So

aerial spraying contributes to the development of "super mosquitoes" which can only be killed by using higher amounts or different types of pesticides.

4. Immediate Human Health Effects

Immediate health effects on humans from exposure to sprayed pesticides are

considerable. A letter from 26 prominent physicians and scientists in Quebec released last summer states, "Indiscriminate spraying of pesticides, especially in heavily populated urban areas, is far more dangerous to human health and the natural environment than a relatively small risk of West Nile Virus.... Ironically, such spraying is especially dangerous to those with impaired immunity for whose 'protection' such spraying is mainly being done. ..Those individuals who are most vulnerable in this chemical action against mosquitoes include children, pregnant women, the elderly, chemically sensitive and immuno-suppressed individuals, such as patients with AIDS and cancer, and people suffering with asthma and other allergies." Organophosphates are the most common class of pesticides used in mosquito control sprays. According to the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), they are "efficiently absorbed by inhalation, ingestion and skin penetration" and were "the class of pesticides most often implicated in symptomatic illnesses among people in 1996."

5. Long Term Health Effects

Pesticides used in mosquito control can contribute to immune suppression in humans. A report from the World Resources Institute notes, "Impairment of the immune system by chemical pesticides can lead to allergies, auto immune disorders such as lupus, and cancer. It may also lead to infections to which one may be normally resistant." People with weakened immune systems are the most vulnerable to WNV. Thus, in the long term, aerial spraying may actually increase the number of people who become seriously ill from WNV. And immune system suppression has serious implications for other diseases as well, including SARS.

Malathion, Naled and Resmethrin are pesticides commonly used in mosquito control. Malathion, an organophosphate, is neurotoxic. It is the most common pesticide used in aerial spraying. In studies on rats, pesticides were shown to impair the blood-brain barrier. In humans, the more serious effects of WNV occur when the virus crosses the blood-brain barrier. Malathion, like all members of the organophosphate family, disrupts nervous system function. Besides causing headaches, nausea

and diarrhea, it has been linked to gene damage causing attention deficit hyperactive disorder (ADHD). Other health hazards identified in laboratory studies include damaged sperm, altered immune function, increased incidence of breast tumors, and increased risk of non-Hodgkin's lymphoma. Naled is another organophosphate which disrupts nervous system function, also causing headaches, nausea and diarrhea. Naled is most toxic when exposure occurs by inhalation. Lab tests connected exposure to Naled's breakdown product, dichlorvos, to aggressiveness and deterioration of memory and learning. Dichlorvos is also classified as a carcinogen, and interferes with prenatal brain development.

Resmethrin is considered by the World Health Organization as a "neuropoison." Its effects on the human nervous system are similar to its effects in insects. Lab studies on rats showed that Resmethrin interfered with reproduction, increasing numbers of stillborns even at the lowest exposure tested.

6. Long Term Environmental Effects

Most of the pesticides presently used for mosquito control do not selectively target mosquitoes. Malathion, Naled and Resmethrin kill all insects. This includes hundreds of beneficial insect species that pollinate crops and keep pests under control. Malathion is known to contaminate water, and is classified as highly toxic to most species of fish. In 1999, 90% of adult lobsters in Long Island Sound were killed by malathion used on land. Fish kills in the thousands have been reported following mosquito spraying. Since some species of fish feed on mosquito larvae, this is

doubly counterproductive. Other organisms that feed on mosquito larva are also killed. Bird populations are also threatened. According to New York State wildlife

pathologist Ward Stone, more of the birds sent to his unit for examination in 2000 died from pesticides than from WNV. Among the more frequent causes of bird death were broad band insecticides from the organophosphate category such as Dursban, diazinon and ethylparathion. Organophosphates used in mosquito control add harmful volatile organic compounds (VOCs) to the atmosphere, and are precursors of ozone (smog) forming chemicals. This means they are contributors to global warming.

7. Keep Risk in Perspective

While the image of a new killer virus from the tropics is scary and makes for good media material, public health experts at all levels are attempting to help people put WNV in perspective. West Nile Virus is less dangerous than the flu. Only 1% of mosquitoes carry the WNV, even in places where WNV has been common for years. Because of our climate, the virus is not expected to overwinter, but would likely be reintroduced each year through bird migration. Less than 1% of people bitten by infected mosquitoes will have any symptoms, and most of those will be equivalent to a one day flu or headache. Studies in New York when WNV was most widespread found thousands of people who tested positive for WNV but had never experienced any symptoms of illness. People bitten by infected mosquitoes, even those who experience no symptoms, will develop a lifetime immunity to the

disease. In Africa and Europe, the virus occurs in cycles, with typically three years of human infections in late summer, with the majority of infections in the first year of a cycle. Then the virus fades into the background, and may not reappear for many years. In Africa, WNV is a childhood disease; adults have developed immunity.

8. Taking a Long-term Approach

WNV may be one of a number of tropical diseases which will spread to our geo- graphic area with global warming. Instead of panic and sensationalism, we need a rational, long term problem-solving approach which is healthy for humans and the environment. Reducing mosquito breeding sites (standing water), known as source control, is the most effective mosquito control method. Since adult mosquitoes seldom travel more than 1 kilometer, source control in a neighborhood can be extremely effective and quite non-toxic. Experts stress the value of source controls such as mechanical flushing of sewer catch basins, and introduction of dragonfly larvae in nearby ponds and lakes. These methods have been practiced with great success in Wells, Maine for 26 years. Maintaining healthy mosquito predator populations is an important part of a mosquito control strategy. Eliminating mosquito larvae, through predators and biological means and if absolutely necessary via pesticides, is far more effective than trying to kill adult mosquitoes. And ultimately, the most effective defense against WNV is a healthy ecosystem and a healthy immune system in humans, birds and other species.

#

Rebecca Watson is a writer with a special interest in environmental health.

Schlein, Paul B

From: Jennings, Henry
Sent: Monday, February 25, 2013 7:56 AM
To: Bills, Anne; Schlein, Paul B
Subject: FW: Regarding pesticide spraying for mosquitoes

From: Julia Friese [mailto:juliafriese@yahoo.com]
Sent: Friday, February 22, 2013 7:10 PM
To: Jennings, Henry
Subject: Regarding pesticide spraying for mosquitoes

Dear Mr. Jennings,

I am writing to voice that my husband and I DO NOT SUPPORT ammendments to relax or alter current rules regarding pesticide spraying for mosquitoes. We work very hard to maintain a pesticide-free home, yard, and garden...and this is an especially important topic for us right now as I am trying to become pregnant. We understand the risks for West Nile Virus are increasing, but we hope that alternative, less toxic solutions might be explored before pesticide spraying is executed.

Thank you for your time and attention,

Julia and Benjamin Pierce
1311 Cross Hill Road
Vassalboro, ME 04989

Schlein, Paul B

From: Jennings, Henry
Sent: Wednesday, February 27, 2013 9:15 AM
To: Bills, Anne; Schlein, Paul B
Subject: FW: Toxins

From: Fish, Gary
Sent: Wednesday, February 27, 2013 9:14 AM
To: Jennings, Henry
Subject: FW: Toxins

From: Joe Ciarrocca [mailto:juniperedge@zwi.net]
Sent: Saturday, February 23, 2013 5:02 AM
To: Fish, Gary
Subject: Toxins

February 23

Hi Gary,

So...what kind of spray will be used to control populations...of mosquitos ? How far will airborne toxins blow with the wind ?

What effect will these toxins have on Everything? Who is sponsoring this? Who will these toxins be purchased from ?

What chemical corporations is Augusta in bed with ?

Proposed Rules Could Allow Widespread Spraying for Mosquito Control in Maine

The Maine Board of Pesticides Control is proposing amendments to its existing pesticide rules to allow for public-health, mosquito-control programs. [Proposed amendments.](#)

It is very important to let the BPC what you think about government sponsored spray programs that could take place in your community! [More Information.](#)

A public hearing is scheduled for Friday, March 1, 2013, at 8:30 a.m., Room 319, Deering Building, 90 Blossom Lane, Augusta. Written comments may be submitted by 5 p.m. on Friday, March 15, 2013, to Henry S. Jennings, Director, Maine Board of Pesticides Control, 28 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333-0028, henry.jennings@maine.gov

Schlein, Paul B

From: Jennings, Henry
Sent: Tuesday, February 26, 2013 8:10 AM
To: Bills, Anne; Schlein, Paul B
Subject: FW: Proposed spraying for mosquitos in Maine

From: Monika Riney [mailto:monikariney@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, February 25, 2013 2:02 PM
To: Jennings, Henry
Subject: Proposed spraying for mosquitos in Maine

Mr. Jennings

I am adamantly opposed to the spraying of pesticides for mosquito control!
I am a beekeeper and an organic gardener and very concerned about the impact such spraying will have throughout the state.

Monika Riney
Wildermirth Farm
204 Case Road
Winthrop, Maine 04364
207-395-8183

--

It is only with the heart that one can see rightly: what is essential is invisible to the eye.

Schlein, Paul B

From: Jennings, Henry
Sent: Thursday, February 28, 2013 3:36 PM
To: Bills, Anne; Schlein, Paul B
Subject: FW: Public comment regarding pesticide spraying

From: Amy Burke [mailto:a_mkeith@hotmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 28, 2013 2:19 PM
To: Jennings, Henry
Subject: Public comment regarding pesticide spraying

Dear Mr. Jennings,

I am disheartened to hear about the proposal to allow for broad spraying of pesticides for mosquito control. I would like to express concern about the impact these programs would have on Maine's organic farmers and gardeners and sensitive populations. While there is a concern regarding WNV and EEE, it is still a relatively rare occurrence that can be dealt with by individuals' choosing to apply bugspray, rather than widespread spraying over the entire population. I firmly believe that we should be trying to reduce the chemicals we release into our environment, not increase them.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Amy Burke
York, ME

Schlein, Paul B

From: Jennings, Henry
Sent: Thursday, February 28, 2013 12:38 PM
To: Bills, Anne; Schlein, Paul B
Subject: FW: Pesticides for mosquito-control

-----Original Message-----

From: Angela D [mailto:angela7978@gmx.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 28, 2013 11:45 AM
To: Jennings, Henry
Subject: Pesticides for mosquito-control

I am opposed to this new measure and would like my opinion to be considered during the public hearing.

Thank you,
Angela Domenichelli
Belfast, ME

Schlein, Paul B

From: Jennings, Henry
Sent: Thursday, February 28, 2013 12:38 PM
To: Bills, Anne; Schlein, Paul B
Subject: FW: mosquito spraying

From: Alice Elliott [mailto:aelliott@colby.edu]
Sent: Thursday, February 28, 2013 11:45 AM
To: Jennings, Henry
Subject: mosquito spraying

Dear Mr. Jennings,

Please register my comment that I am adamantly opposed to any widespread spraying for mosquito control. We do not adequately understand the long term health and environmental risks from widespread spraying; indeed, we have still not recovered completely from the era of widespread application of DDT for mosquito control. I firmly believe there are many adequate measures that can be taken on a personal level to provide protection from mosquito bites and mosquito-borne illness, and that education of the populace about those measures should be the primary action in prevention.

Sincerely,
Alice Elliott
14 Beech Street
Richmond, Maine

Schlein, Paul B

From: Jennings, Henry
Sent: Thursday, February 28, 2013 3:59 PM
To: Bills, Anne; Schlein, Paul B
Subject: FW: Spraying for mosquitoes

From: MLrapelye@aol.com [mailto:MLrapelye@aol.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 28, 2013 2:35 PM
To: Jennings, Henry
Subject: Spraying for mosquitoes

It is my feeling that whatever methods of mosquito control are used should only be organic! I agree that the mosquito problem is severe and unwanted, but we should not add to the problem by using toxic chemicals that will have serious negative consequences. Bacillus Thuringis has been found to be extremely effective as mosquito control and to my knowledge has no negative consequences.

Sincerely,
Mary Linda Rapelye
Lyric Meadow Farm
Boothbay, Maine 04537

Schlein, Paul B

From: Jennings, Henry
Sent: Thursday, February 28, 2013 3:37 PM
To: Bills, Anne; Schlein, Paul B
Subject: FW: pesticide use

From: k_twidwell@yahoo.com [mailto:k_twidwell@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 28, 2013 2:19 PM
To: Jennings, Henry
Subject: pesticide use

Hello, I am a citizen of Greene, Maieen and wanted to write concerning widespread pesticide use in Maine for mosquitoes. This is very upsetting and concerning that I do not have a choice of being exposed to these nasty chemicals. They will waft into our lakes, streams and eventually our drinking water like in India (and already in the US). They will cover the beautiful parks that our toddlers roll around in. They will be inhaled by the communities that live near the spraying. And plainly citizens will not be notified to buy N95 masks and wear them to avoid exposure. Pesiticides are known to cause birth defects and cancer. Are our pregnant women shielded from such disgusting practices? Is there money in place to pay our hospitals for the cancer bills they will be footing? Our Maine mental health services buffered for the children with behavioral and MR from being toxified?

Please let us choose to individually spray pesticides. You can buy a bottle at the department store if you want to spray pesticides.

Thank you.

Karen Twidwell

Schlein, Paul B

From: Jennings, Henry
Sent: Tuesday, March 05, 2013 8:46 AM
To: Bills, Anne; Schlein, Paul B
Subject: FW: no mosquito spraying

-----Original Message-----

From: Roberta R Bailey [mailto:roberta@fedcoseeds.com]
Sent: Monday, March 04, 2013 1:45 PM
To: Jennings, Henry
Subject: no mosquito spraying

Roberta Bailey
Fedco Seeds
Seven Tree Farm
207-249-9829

Hello, I think that the health risks from a widespread spraying program will be far greater than the benefits. I am opposed to such measures. Please oppose this measure. Roberta Bailey Vassalboro Maine

Schlein, Paul B

From: Jennings, Henry
Sent: Monday, March 04, 2013 12:25 PM
To: Bills, Anne; Schlein, Paul B
Subject: FW: Mosquito Control in Maine

From: Renata Christen [mailto:circle.northeast@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, March 04, 2013 12:06 PM
To: Jennings, Henry
Subject: Re: Mosquito Control in Maine

Dear Mr. Jennings,

I am writing to you as a Waldo County small scale organic farmer who does not agree with the needless administration of "preventative" measures for mosquito control in Maine.

Please reconsider allowing the [proposed amendments](#) from coming into effect, as the negative, long-term consequences of such rulings far outweigh any immediate fix they may serve; for people, the environment, and our meager soils. I don't want this happening in my backyard or my community.

Thank you,

Renata Christen

Schlein, Paul B

From: Jennings, Henry
Sent: Tuesday, March 05, 2013 8:54 AM
To: Bills, Anne; Schlein, Paul B
Subject: FW: state sponsored mosquito spraying

-----Original Message-----

From: Karen Gleeson [mailto:karenglee@earthlink.net]
Sent: Monday, March 04, 2013 7:22 PM
To: Jennings, Henry
Subject: state sponsored mosquito spraying

Dear Mr. Jennings:

I am writing to oppose widespread mosquito spraying in our community. I have experienced this kind of spraying in New York City, some years ago, and basically, we were all being exposed to unnecessary poison under the auspices of preventing West Nile Virus.

In a large urban population, it may be necessary as many areas of standing water are unregulated and unmonitored. In Maine, however, most areas are either privately owned or under state control, and can be regulated to assist disease prevention. And, from my understanding of epidemiology (I have a MS in Health as well as in Education) the weakest mosquitos are killed off by mass spraying, leaving the smaller percentage of resistant mosquitos to reproduce and fill the environmental niches of the general population. Therefore, spraying only increases the resistant strains of pests, which (in turn) requires yet stronger and more toxic materials to use for control. Look up Rachel Carson's work which resulted in the banning of DDT for a sample of how bad it can get when we go into an increasingly strong spiral of insecticides.

Additionally, I have a small garden which I am trying to maintain as an organic garden. Some of my fruit trees and bushes would be affected by mass spraying, and this would render them non-organic immediately and for some years to come. And I am not trying to sell my produce. Others are doing so, and I am one who tries to buy locally but buys organic produce over non-organic. In the past year, I know that the apple crops were strongly affected by the unseasonable rains. This had the result that, in my local food cooperative (Belfast Co-op) one had to choose between non-organically grown local apples and organic apples from away. Mass spraying would only exacerbate this problem, and prevent all the local producers from being able to grow their crops in the healthiest manner, and sell it as the organic produce that many will pay extra for. As many of the local producers are working toward organic product, this would set them back years and be a serious blow to our agricultural economy in Maine.

I know there are many other less toxic alternatives to spraying which can be used for pest management, some more toxic than others, but none which have such a broad effect as spraying. If it became necessary, I would be in favor of legislation that mandates pest control inspections on the ground. But only if there is some major disease-related reason for these measures. Mosquitos in Maine are not carrying serious diseases normally, and a few bites in the spring and summer are normally no more than a nuisance.

Thank you for your consideration of my views.

Karen Gleeson
88 Hart Road
Northport, ME 04849-3419

Schlein, Paul B

From: Jennings, Henry
Sent: Tuesday, March 05, 2013 8:48 AM
To: Bills, Anne; Schlein, Paul B
Subject: FW: mosquito

From: Nancy Hathaway [mailto:hathaway.n@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, March 04, 2013 2:32 PM
To: Jennings, Henry
Subject: mosquito

Hello.

I appreciate that the state is concerned about mosquitos.

When I lived in Cambridge, MA a major spraying was done and I found it toxic and left town.

Please look into alternatives to spraying such as dragonflies! Yep, dragonflies. When put into ponds and standing water they eat mosquitos.

Please try this before spraying poison on our land and children.

If for some reason, the state does spray, I ask to be informed ahead of time so that I can cover my garden, close my windows and leave the state! I would guess that lawsuits might occurred as a result of spraying.

Best,

Nancy Hathaway
Surry, Maine
Surry Conservation Commission

--

Nancy Hathaway
207-400-0494 mobile
Center for Studying Mindfulness
PO Box 506, Blue Hill, Maine 04614
www.NancyHathaway.com

"A 'No' uttered from the deepest conviction is better than a 'Yes' merely uttered to please, or worse, to avoid trouble." Mohandas Gandhi

I enjoy hearing from you and attempt to reply to emails within 24 hours Monday through Friday.

Schlein, Paul B

From: Jennings, Henry
Sent: Tuesday, March 05, 2013 8:57 AM
To: Bills, Anne; Schlein, Paul B
Subject: FW: Mcosquito spraying

From: Scott Lamb [mailto:scottlamb1954@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, March 04, 2013 9:14 PM
To: Jennings, Henry
Subject: Mcosquito spraying

My sister & I own some land in Appleton and as a boy I spent several idyllic summers fishing/canoeing The Allagash - I would rather wear bug repellent than see more chemicals dumped into our environment.

Thanks, Scott Lamb

Schlein, Paul B

From: Jennings, Henry
Sent: Tuesday, March 05, 2013 8:51 AM
To: Bills, Anne; Schlein, Paul B
Subject: FW: Wide Spread Spraying for Mosquito Control

From: Jessica Leigh Ludders [mailto:jlludders@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, March 04, 2013 5:21 PM
To: Jennings, Henry
Subject: Wide Spread Spraying for Mosquito Control

Mr. Jennings,

I live on an organic dairy farm in central Maine. Mosquitoes are part of life. The harder you work, the less they bother you. We would not like for any wide spread spraying of pesticides to occur anywhere in Maine. It's critical that we think about how our actions to make life more comfortable influence and harm our environment. Please don't do this.

Thank you for your time.

Jessica Ludders
Charleston, ME

Schlein, Paul B

From: Jennings, Henry
Sent: Tuesday, March 05, 2013 8:56 AM
To: Bills, Anne; Schlein, Paul B
Subject: FW: No to amending mosquito-control programs.

From: McBride Family [mailto:the3mcbrides@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, March 04, 2013 8:36 PM
To: Jennings, Henry
Subject: No to amending mosquito-control programs.

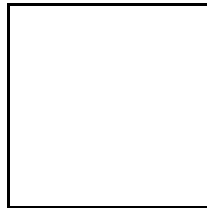
Please do NOT amend the existing pesticide rules to allow public-health, mosquito-control programs.

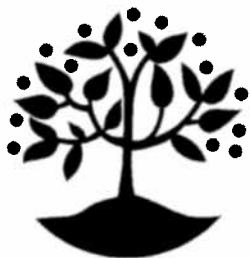
Instead initiate community awareness programs regarding standing water and how people can protect themselves against mosquito-spread diseases.

The wide-spread use of pesticides will long-term negative effects, not to mention immediate ones such as asthma attacks caused by mosquito spray.

Thank you,

Chris, Steph, and Cooper McBride





*Maine Organic Farmers
and Gardeners Association
Common Ground Country Fair*

March 1, 2013

Henry Jennings, Director
Maine Board of Pesticides Control
State House Station 28
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear Mr. Jennings and Members of the Board,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments about the rulemaking you have undertaken to address the threat of arboviral diseases in the state. I appreciate the difficult decisions that you'll be faced with in the coming months.

For over 40 years MOFGA has been committed to helping farmers and gardeners grow organic products. We now have members in over 7,000 households around the state. Previous correspondence with this Board has highlighted the skepticism that we have in regards to the efficacy of widespread spraying programs that these rule changes seek to allow. Our preference, as well as that of many of our members, would be that the Board focus efforts on educating the public on how to protect themselves from arboviral diseases as opposed to undertaking rulemaking to allow for spraying.

Having said that, we do have comments specific to the proposed rule changes. Primarily, we have concerns that private citizens be able to "opt out" of having their property sprayed for any reason. While we are especially concerned about the threat to organic farms, beekeepers, children and chemically sensitive individuals, there is also great concern for all citizens of the state who do not wish to have their property sprayed without prior consent. We would like the rule to allow any citizen, for any reason, to have their property included in the exclusion zones that would be defined in either Board rule or policy. We understand this is an option for ground-based spray programs in the proposed rule, but we believe it should be applicable no matter what the method of pesticide application.

Additionally, the proposed rules nullify valuable sections intended to protect the public and bring some order to spraying programs. We see no reason why government sponsored spray programs should be exempted from common-sense aspects of Chapter 22 that include positive identification of the target site, site-specific application checklists, and monitoring of wind speeds just to name a few. In a similar vein, government sponsored spray programs should not be exempted from Section VI in Chapter 51, which ensures prior notice to the Board and the Maine Poison Control Center regarding aerial spraying. This section lays out clear parameters that applicators must follow and helps mitigate the risk of unintentional applications to sensitive areas. These rules are in place for a purpose. Government sponsored spray programs

294 Crosby Brook Road, P. O. Box 170, Unity, Maine 04988 • Phone: (207) 568-4142
Fax: (207) 568-4141 • Email: mofga@mofga.org • Web: www.mofga.org

shouldn't be exempt from rules that others have to follow, particularly when the rules focus on providing basic information that should be readily available.

We appreciate the work the Board is undertaking in cooperation with MOFGA to exclude certified organic farms from spraying programs. This will allow these small businesses to continue to thrive and positively contribute to a growing sector of the agricultural community in the state. It is imperative that the Board allocates some resources to making sure that the mapping MOFGA is undertaking is not done fruitlessly and that no properties are unintentionally sprayed. We would like the Board not only to include certified organic farms among the exclusion zones to be identified in policy, but have foolproof systems in place for transferring maps to spray operators who will be responsible for making sure those areas are excluded. To date, this piece of the process has been loosely defined and is unsettling for those whose livelihoods are at risk. We recommend the Board draft their policy and make it available for public input as soon as possible.

Finally, in discussions at the Board level over the past few months it has become apparent that the State of Maine is woefully underfunded in regards to mosquito surveillance and data collection. We see this as a weak point in good decision-making. Further, this data collection is a critical step in determining if these spray programs are needed. Without baseline data, determining the efficacy of programs will be impossible. We believe the Board should see increased mosquito surveillance and mapping exclusion zones as two very worthy projects in critical need of funding and support at this time.

Thank you for your time and consideration on these difficult issues.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Katy Green', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Katy Green
Organic Transitions Coordinator

Schlein, Paul B

From: Jennings, Henry
Sent: Tuesday, March 05, 2013 8:49 AM
To: Bills, Anne; Schlein, Paul B
Subject: FW: mosquito spraying.....

From: dayle tognoni [mailto:dayle_tognoni@hotmail.com]
Sent: Monday, March 04, 2013 3:35 PM
To: Jennings, Henry
Subject: mosquito spraying.....

"Chapter 22 imposes operational standards that would be impractical for wide-area programs conducted in residential areas. "

Impractical or not the people involved and affected by the spraying deserve to have a say in their exposure. I do not agree with relaxing the laws for pesticide spraying.

Thank you.
Dayle Ward
Appleton, ME

Schlein, Paul B

From: Jennings, Henry
Sent: Tuesday, March 05, 2013 8:48 AM
To: Bills, Anne; Schlein, Paul B
Subject: FW: Concerns on the proposed Rules on Widespread Spraying of Mosquito Control in Maine

From: Jason Weymouth [mailto:jasonw5846@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, March 04, 2013 1:52 PM
To: Jennings, Henry; Wells, Mari
Subject: Concerns on the proposed Rules on Widespread Spraying of Mosquito Control in Maine

Director of Maine Board of Pesticide Control

Dear Henry Jennings,

I'm writing you this letter in opposition to the proposed rule change to the current pesticide law under review by the Maine Legislature.

Rule changes to the current pesticide application law noted in Chapter 20, 23, and 51 would greatly increase off target contamination and unintended target extermination of other insects in and or around the target area and reduce landowner awareness of these treatments.

As a former exterminator, I'm well aware of this type of arial application and find it to be the most harmful method of pest control. No amount of arial spraying will ever be 100% effective in reducing the Mosquito population in Maine or reduce the risk of West Nile Virus, but what is clear is the CDC's over reaction to (1) case of West Nile in 2012. I hardly think that (1) case of West Nile justifies a change in the current application notification law. As you know, this type of application is not only harmful to the environment by effecting lakes, and streams, but is most devastating to non-intended targets such as other common insects and even the Honey Bee. My concern is not only for the environment and land owners right to know, but also for the hundreds of organic farmers and the thousands of Bee Keepers across Maine. There would be a significant economic impact if those Bee Keepers lost their hives due to spray drift or even if the bees foraged in the target areas treated. Farmers could also pay the price with reduced crop pollination and decreased yield. The current law is there to provide Land owners with the right to know, it's a safeguard a check and balance to reduce the potential for abuse and miss management. The right to know also informs the applicator of the potential to do harm because of an unforeseen condition, i.e. the Hobbyist Bee Keeper or a small Organic Farmer growing crops in the proposed spray area. No government or government sponsored organization should act outside the basic right to know. This law is there for the protection of the Majority.

Reducing the conducive conditions that allow Mosquito breeding would go a long way in pest control and identifying areas where these conditions are across the State could help identify natural ways of Mosquito control.

Thank you for your time,

Jason Weymouth
70 Collinsbrook Rd
Brunswick, ME
207-330-5508

Schlein, Paul B

From: Jennings, Henry
Sent: Wednesday, March 06, 2013 8:03 AM
To: Bills, Anne; Schlein, Paul B
Subject: FW: Change in notification law for Arial Pesticide Application in Maine

From: T Allen [mailto:tallen2007@hotmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 05, 2013 7:45 PM
To: Jennings, Henry
Subject: Change in notification law for Arial Pesticide Application in Maine

Dear Henry Jennings,

As an organic farmer and beekeeper I fully agree with statement provided by Jason Weymouth **in opposition** to the proposed rule change to the current pesticide law under review by the Maine Legislature!

Sincerely,

Tracey L Allen
113 Ash Swamp Rd
Scarborough, ME 04074
207-510-1924

***Rule changes to the current pesticide application law noted in Chapter 20, 23, and 51 would greatly increase off target contamination and unintended target extermination of other insects in and or around the target area and reduce landowner awareness of these treatments. ***

*

*

*As a former exterminator, I'm well aware of this type of arial application and find it to be the most harmful method of pest control. No amount of arial spraying will ever be 100% effective in reducing the Mosquito population in Maine or reduce the risk of West Nile Virus, but what is clear is the CDC's over reaction to (1) case of West Nile in 2012. I hardly think that (1) case of West Nile justifies a change in the current application notification law. As you know, this type of application is not only harmful to the environment by effecting lakes, and streams, but is most devastating to non-intended targets such as other common insects and even the Honey Bee. My concern is not only for the environment and land owners right to know, but also for the hundreds of organic farmers and the thousands of Bee Keepers across Maine. There would be a significant economic impact if those Bee Keepers lost their hives due to spray drift or even if the bees foraged in the target areas treated. Farmers could also pay the price with reduced crop pollination and decreased yield. The current law is there to provide Land owners with the right to know, it's a safeguard a check and balance to reduce the potential for abuse and miss

management. The right to know also informs the applicator of the potential to do harm because of an unforeseen condition, i.e. the Hobbyist Bee Keeper or a small Organic Farmer growing crops in the proposed spray area. No government or government sponsored organization should act outside the basic right to know. This law is there for the protection of the Majority.*

*

*

Reducing the conducive conditions that allow Mosquito breeding would go a long way in pest control and identifying areas where these conditions are across the State could help identify natural ways of Mosquito control.

*

*

Thank you for your time,

*

*

Jason Weymouth

70 Collinsbrook Rd

Brunswick, ME

207-330-5508]

Schlein, Paul B

From: Jennings, Henry
Sent: Tuesday, March 05, 2013 2:26 PM
To: Bills, Anne; Schlein, Paul B
Subject: FW: Proposal for mosquito-control programs

-----Original Message-----

From: calligrapher@downeast.net [mailto:calligrapher@downeast.net]
Sent: Tuesday, March 05, 2013 2:13 PM
To: Jennings, Henry
Subject: Proposal for mosquito-control programs

Henry S. Jennings, Director
Maine Board of Pesticides Control

Dear Mr. Jennings,

Please share this letter with the BPC.

It has come to my attention that proposed rules could allow widespread spraying for Mosquito Control in Maine.

I assume the intention is to provide reassurance to people who are concerned about the effects of mosquito-borne illnesses, therefore it is a public-health issue.

I'm very concerned about the short-sightedness of using pesticides as a way to protect public health.

As a person who takes my health very seriously, as well as the health of other beings on this planet (including human, as well as other sentient and non-sentient beings) I think widespread pesticide use is dangerous to all of us.

I personally take other measures to insure my health and well being, and these measures, as far as I know, are not harmful to others.

These measures have also instilled a greater resilience in me to "natural threats" (for lack of a better word,) such as bacteria and viruses. I am one of the healthiest people that I know, with a very strong immune system. It is my wish that others felt as well as I do.

Part of my "measures" includes avoiding chemicals, such as pesticides, as best as I can. I feel sad when I think of the millions of beings unwittingly exposed to toxic pesticides (and even if the EPA says they aren't toxic to humans, they still are toxic to other beings. And what if we really are all connected?)

I know this must be a difficult decision for you to make, and your information about what is truly safe and in the best interests of public health and well being may be limited. So, I encourage you to explore this thoroughly, and take your time. Please keep in mind the philosophy of Native Americans, to look forward seven generations and try to imagine the consequences of our actions.

Who are the healthiest people that you know? Can you connect with them? Even if their lifestyles are different from yours? Can you look into alternative health practices that strengthen the immune system and release fear?

Could we collectively come up with better options than widespread spraying? I hope you are willing to accept this challenge.

I grew up in Miami Florida, with pesticide spraying.
I still got mosquito bites.

With great appreciation and admiration for the service you provide by being on the BPC,

Lelania Avila
P.O. Box 1127
Northeast Harbor, Maine 04662
calligrapher@downeast.net

Schlein, Paul B

From: Jennings, Henry
Sent: Wednesday, March 06, 2013 8:03 AM
To: Bills, Anne; Schlein, Paul B
Subject: FW: Arianspraying??

-----Original Message-----

From: Deb Bedard [mailto:deb_bedard@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 05, 2013 6:22 PM
To: Jennings, Henry
Subject: Arianspraying??

What is this ? 1950? come on mr. Jennings there are much better and more effective means.
Please registermy vehement opposition tothis proposal!

Deb Bedard

Schlein, Paul B

From: Jennings, Henry
Sent: Tuesday, March 05, 2013 4:29 PM
To: Bills, Anne; Schlein, Paul B
Subject: FW: re Aerial Spraying

From: Bernadette Burks [mailto:monarchfive@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 05, 2013 4:28 PM
To: Jennings, Henry
Subject: re Aerial Spraying

Dear Mr. Jennings,

May I say that, as beekeepers, my husband and I are deeply concerned about the devastating impact of widespread aerial spraying in Maine. The bee population, which is at the cornerstone of our world-wide food supply, continues to be greatly reduced by other chemicals in the environment. Lawn pesticides in particular have been identified as lethal to an ever-declining bee population. As a result, many of us make the choice to use only organic options. Aerial spraying without notice will prevent Maine bee keepers from taking steps to protect their hives and will result in more widespread death.

Please consider this urgent issue when making decisions regarding this change in the law. If it is deemed necessary to authorize aerial spraying, giving proper notice to citizens will allow us to protect ourselves, our children, our pets and our livestock from being affected by these toxins.

Sincerely,

B. Burks
Kennebunk

Schlein, Paul B

From: Jennings, Henry
Sent: Tuesday, March 05, 2013 3:51 PM
To: Bills, Anne; Schlein, Paul B
Subject: FW: Opposed to changes to pesticide spraying programs

From: Jeanne Christie [mailto:jeanne.christie@aswm.org]
Sent: Tuesday, March 05, 2013 3:32 PM
To: Jennings, Henry
Subject: Opposed to changes to pesticide spraying programs

Dear Sir:

I am opposed to the changes to the pesticide spraying laws that would allow spaying without landowner permission and without landowner notification. (<http://www.maine.gov/agriculture/pesticides/laws/rulemaking.htm>) First, I don't want our property sprayed. We've spend years building up beneficial insect populations just so we don't need pesticides. We do not use any pesticides on our property. We try to grow healthy, organic food. I don't want our food poisoned with pesticides. I do not want our dog to walk through grass that has been sprayed and then cleaning his feet and ingest pesticides. I think that the dangers and risks to human health from spraying pesticides exceed the benefits. People with compromised immune systems can be adversely affected. Exposure to pesticides through the respiratory tract is the worst possible way to be exposed. Unlike exposure through the digestive tract of even on the skin, respiratory systems have very limited ability to clean up any dangerous chemicals that enter the lungs.

A number of years ago I became very ill and was eventually sent to infectious disease specialists. I was convinced I had West Nile. The doctors chuckled and told me I should want to get West Nile virus because I had a healthy immune system and would quickly recover and build up resistance in case of future exposure. For West Nile virus it is generally people with compromised immune systems that are most vulnerable to the disease. This is the same population that is most vulnerable to exposure to pesticides through their respiratory tract. Without prior notification about where pesticides are going to be sprayed, these populations would have no ability to minimize their exposure. Also, it is only a limited subset of the mosquito species in the U.S. that carry West Nile Virus. It benefits no one to kill mosquito populations that don't carry the disease in the first place.

At that time I was so ill, I did have Lyme disease which is a much more pervasive health threat and I also do not advocate spraying to control the tick populations.

Finally, I used to work for EPA and know enough about the often questionable pesticide approval process to be deeply concerned about any exposure to pesticides. For example the human and animal health impacts due to exposure to atrazine are well documented. It has been banned in Europe for over a decade. Its benefits are minimal at best and it is still used throughout much of the U.S. Broad application of pesticides is not a healthy solution. Individuals should have the right to keep pesticides from being sprayed on their land and should also have the right to avoid exposure by knowing where pesticides are scheduled to be sprayed.

Thank you,
Jeanne Christie
(207) 310-8708 cell

PETE SEEGER
"The People Are Scratching"

Come fill up your glasses and set yourselves down.
I'll tell you a story of somebody's town.
It isn't too near and it's not far away.
It's not a place where I'd want to stay.
Now the people are scratching all over the street
Because the rabbits had nothing to eat.
The winter came in with a cold icy blast.
It killed off the flowers and killed off the grass.
The rabbits were starving because of the freeze.
They started eating the bark off the trees.
Now the people are scratching all over the street
Because the rabbits had nothing to eat.
The farmers said, "This sort of thing just won't do.
Our trees will be dead when the rabbits get through.
We'll have to poison the rabbits, it's clear;
Or we'll have no crops to harvest next year."
Now the people are scratching all over the street
Because the rabbits had nothing to eat.
So they brought the poison and spread it around.
And soon dead rabbits began to be found.
Dogs ate the rabbits and the farmers just said,
"We'll poison those rabbits 'til the last dog is dead."
Now the people are scratching all over the street
Because the rabbits had nothing to eat.
Up in the sky there were meat-eating fowls.
The dead rabbits poisoned the hawks and the owls.
Thousands of field mice the hawks used to chase
Were multiplying all over the place.
Now the people are scratching all over the street
Because the rabbits had nothing to eat.
The fields and the meadows were barren and brown.
The mice got hungry and moved into town.
The city folks took the farmer's advice
And all of them started to poison the mice.
Now the people are scratching all over the street
Because the rabbits had nothing to eat.
There were dead mice in all the apartments and flats.
The cats ate the mice and the mice killed the cats.
The smell was awful and I'm glad to say
I wasn't the man hired to haul them away.
Now the people are scratching all over the street
Because the rabbits had nothing to eat.
All through the country and all through the town
There wasn't a dog or cat to be found.
The fleas asked each other, "Where can we stay?"
They've been on the people from then 'til this day.

Now the people are scratching all over the street
Because the rabbits had nothing to eat.
All you small creatures that live in this land
Stay clear of the man with the poisonous hand!
A few bales of hay might keep you alive
But he'll pay more to kill you than let you survive.
Now the people are scratching all over the street
Because the rabbits had nothing to eat.

Schlein, Paul B

From: Jennings, Henry
Sent: Tuesday, March 05, 2013 2:22 PM
To: Bills, Anne; Schlein, Paul B
Subject: FW: Proposed Amendment, Chapter 20, Pesticide Controls

-----Original Message-----

From: Alexander Forsythe [mailto:al4sythe@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 05, 2013 12:47 PM
To: Jennings, Henry
Subject: Proposed Amendment, Chapter 20, Pesticide Controls

Dear Henry S. Jennings, Director, Maine Board of Pesticide Controls,

I am writing to express my concerns in regard to the proposed relaxation of provisions requiring individual landowner authorization of pesticide application, according to "Chapter 20: Special Provisions" of Maine State pesticide laws.

My concerns pertain to the ability of property owners to opt out of aerial pesticide application in the proposed guidelines. As with ground based pesticide application, property owners should have the right to determine what potentially harmful chemicals are being introduced to their property, their homes, and in the case of well owners, their drinking water. This, like the rise of West Nile Virus (WNV) and Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE), is a serious public health issue. While property owners should be able to protect themselves from the risks of deadly disease, so should they have the right to carefully weigh the risks and benefits of pesticide application and make important decisions regarding the application of pesticides to their property.

To this end, greater transparency regarding the specific chemicals used in this application could go a long way toward helping property owners make this decision one way or another.

Thank you for your time, and for opening a forum in which to discuss these concerns.

Sincerely,

Alexander L. Forsythe
157 Toothaker Rd.,
Richmond, ME, 04357

Schlein, Paul B

From: Jennings, Henry
Sent: Tuesday, March 05, 2013 4:46 PM
To: Bills, Anne; Schlein, Paul B
Subject: FW: the proposed rule change to the current pesticide application law

From: Victor C. Gideon [mailto:vgideon@gideongroup.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 05, 2013 4:39 PM
To: Jennings, Henry
Subject: the proposed rule change to the current pesticide application law

Dear Mr. Jennings:

I'm writing to oppose the proposed rule change to the current pesticide application law under review by the Maine Legislature to allow widespread spraying for mosquito control in Maine without notification. Rule changes to the current pesticide application law noted in Chapters 20, 23, and 51 would greatly increase off-target contamination and unintended extermination of other insects in and around the target area and reduce landowner awareness of these treatments. One case of West Nile Virus does not justify a change in the current application notification law. Aerial pesticide application is not only harmful to the environment; it is also particularly devastating to unintended targets such as honeybees. Thousands of organic farmers and beekeepers across Maine would be adversely affected. There would be a significant economic impact if beekeepers lost their hives due to spray drift or bees foraging in the target areas treated. Farmers would also suffer reduced crop pollination and decreased yield. The current law provides land-owners with the right to know as a safeguard to reduce the potential for abuse and mis-management. Rather than loosening pesticide application regulations, we should be making them more restrictive. Rather than serving the chemical industry under the guise of "health protection," we should be safeguarding the long-term well-being of our planet and our people. Pesticide use should be as narrowly restricted as possible; regulation and prohibition should be as broad as possible.

Victor C. Gideon
Raymond, ME 04071
207.655.2585
vcg@maine.rr.com

Schlein, Paul B

From: Jennings, Henry
Sent: Tuesday, March 05, 2013 12:35 PM
To: Bills, Anne; Schlein, Paul B
Subject: FW: aerial spraying

From: William Gilbert [mailto:wkgilb21@aol.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 05, 2013 12:33 PM
To: Jennings, Henry
Subject: aerial spraying

As a beekeeper I am opposed to the pending law change to allow aerial spraying without notification
William Gilbert Eliot ME

Schlein, Paul B

From: Jennings, Henry
Sent: Wednesday, March 06, 2013 8:14 AM
To: Bills, Anne; Schlein, Paul B
Subject: FW: mosquito control

From: Nancy Hathaway [mailto:hathaway.n@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 05, 2013 8:12 PM
To: Jennings, Henry
Subject: mosquito control

Hello.

Yes, Mosquitos can be overwhelming. I appreciate your interest in doing something to get rid of them; however...

When I lived in Cambridge, MA a spraying for mosquitos was done, but I found it to be toxic.

I suggest that alternatives be used before we poison our land, and our children. A suggestion: Dragonflies in small ponds or standing water eat mosquitos

If for some reason, the state does spray, I request a notice ahead of time so I can close windows, cover my gardens, and leave the state.

I see a lawsuit if residents are not told ahead of time.

Thank you
Nancy Hathaway
Surry, Maine

--

Nancy Hathaway
[207-400-0494](tel:207-400-0494) mobile
Center for Studying Mindfulness
PO Box 506, Blue Hill, Maine 04614
www.NancyHathaway.com

"A 'No' uttered from the deepest conviction is better than a 'Yes' merely uttered to please, or worse, to avoid trouble." Mohandas Gandhi

I enjoy hearing from you and attempt to reply to emails within 24 hours Monday through Friday.

MAR 10 2013

3/5/13

Dear Henry,

It seems to me that we already have too many pesticides in our environment. Teach people to wear less perfume & more bug repellants. There's already too many foxes in our lakes, streams & fish.

Thanks, Scott Lamb
Maine ex-pat,
currently living
in West, N.C.

Scott Lamb

I subscribe to the MOFGA Website, maybe you should also.

You don't support GMO's, I hope?

Vitality Fresh
Fast Food

PAN

OCA

Scott Lamb

Vegetarian Chef

Imaginative
Dependable
Organic

Cell: 239.404.0149
E-mail: scottlamb1954@yahoo.com

Schlein, Paul B

From: Jennings, Henry
Sent: Tuesday, March 05, 2013 4:28 PM
To: Bills, Anne; Schlein, Paul B
Subject: FW: Aerial Spraying

-----Original Message-----

From: Pete Leavitt [mailto:leavittandsons@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 05, 2013 4:15 PM
To: Jennings, Henry
Subject: Aerial Spraying

Please Don't Spray Without Our Say!

Thanks,

Pete Leavitt
Beekeeper

Schlein, Paul B

From: Jennings, Henry
Sent: Tuesday, March 05, 2013 2:23 PM
To: Bills, Anne; Schlein, Paul B
Subject: FW: notification law

-----Original Message-----

From: Susan McCloskey [mailto:smccloskey@maine.rr.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 05, 2013 1:51 PM
To: Jennings, Henry
Subject: notification law

Mr. Jennings, please keep the notification law in effect. Beekeepers need to know.

Thanks--

Susan McCloskey

Schlein, Paul B

From: Jennings, Henry
Sent: Tuesday, March 05, 2013 3:52 PM
To: Bills, Anne; Schlein, Paul B
Subject: FW: Ariel Pesticide Applications

-----Original Message-----

From: Richard Sullivan [mailto:rsullivan1@maine.rr.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 05, 2013 3:36 PM
To: Jennings, Henry
Subject: Ariel Pesticide Applications

Dear Mr. Jennings,

I strongly oppose the application of ariel pesticides. It's expensive, harmful to the health of people, animals and insects. It compromises agricultural crops. There are better ways to approach mosquito control.

Louise Sullivan
Farmer and Beekeeper
Cape Elizabeth, Maine

Schlein, Paul B

From: Jennings, Henry
Sent: Tuesday, March 05, 2013 11:06 AM
To: Bills, Anne; Schlein, Paul B
Subject: FW: Mosquito Spraying

-----Original Message-----

From: Sonya Theriault [mailto:summitspringsfarm@fairpoint.net]
Sent: Tuesday, March 05, 2013 11:01 AM
To: Jennings, Henry
Subject: Mosquito Spraying

Dear Mr. Jennings,

I am opposed to the proposed amendments to the pesticide rules allowing spraying without the need for landowner consent. As an parent of two young children and an organic farmer this is especially disturbing to me.

Thank you,

Sonya Theriault
Summit Springs Farm
222 Summit Spring Rd
Poland, ME 04274
207-998-2196
summitspringsfarm@fairpoint.net
<http://summitspringsfarm.net>
Find us on Facebook too!

Schlein, Paul B

From: Jennings, Henry
Sent: Wednesday, March 06, 2013 9:03 AM
To: Bills, Anne; Schlein, Paul B
Subject: FW: Relax pesticide rules

-----Original Message-----

From: Sandra Crowell [mailto:sandycharlie@fairpoint.net]
Sent: Wednesday, March 06, 2013 8:47 AM
To: Jennings, Henry
Subject: Relax pesticide rules

Dear Mr. Jennings,

Please do what you can to keep this from happening. I am a beekeeper and an organic gardener, and this would do so much harm to my bees and me. We've been down this road so many times before. Wide spectrum killing sprays aren't the way to go. The spray upsets the balance of insects and everybody else down the food chain. Birds die, animals die, we get sick. How many cancers do we need to see the folly of our ways??

Sandy Crowell
352 Raymond Hill Rd
Raymond, ME 04071

Schlein, Paul B

From: Jennings, Henry
Sent: Wednesday, March 06, 2013 10:47 AM
To: Bills, Anne; Schlein, Paul B
Subject: FW: Amendment of individual notification for aerial spraying, Chapters 20, 22 & 51

From: Louise Poppema [mailto:PRRRS@maine.rr.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 06, 2013 9:08 AM
To: Jennings, Henry
Subject: Amendment of individual notification for aerial spraying, Chapters 20, 22 & 51

I am writing to oppose these amendments. As a person with an interest in bees and beekeeping and as a landowner, I want to be informed when there is an application of pesticide.

Louise Poppema
279 Range Road
Cumberland, ME

Schlein, Paul B

From: Jennings, Henry
Sent: Wednesday, March 06, 2013 9:02 AM
To: Bills, Anne; Schlein, Paul B
Subject: FW: Rule changes to the current pesticide application

From: sealevelas@gmail.com [mailto:sealevelas@gmail.com] **On Behalf Of** Karen Thurlow-Kimball
Sent: Wednesday, March 06, 2013 8:32 AM
To: Jennings, Henry
Subject: Rule changes to the current pesticide application

Dear Mr. Jennings,

I'm writing you this letter in opposition to the proposed rule change to the current pesticide law under review by the Maine Legislature.

Rule changes to the current pesticide application law noted in Chapter 20, 23, and 51 would greatly increase off target contamination and unintended target extermination of other insects in and or around the target area and reduce landowner awareness of these treatments.

As you know, this type of application is not only harmful to the environment by effecting lakes, and streams, but is most devastating to non-intended targets such as other common insects and even the Honey Bee. My concern also is for the hundreds of organic farmers and the thousands of Bee Keepers across Maine. There would be a significant economic impact if those Bee Keepers lost their hives due to spray drift or even if the bees foraged in the target areas treated. Farmers could also pay the price with reduced crop pollination and decreased yield. The current law is there to provide Land owners with the right to know, it's a safeguard a check and balance to reduce the potential for abuse and miss management. The right to know also informs the applicator of the potential to do harm because of an unforeseen condition, i.e. the Hobbyist Bee Keeper or a small Organic Farmer growing crops in the proposed spray area. No government or government sponsored organization should act outside the basic right to know. This law is there for the protection of the Majority.

It would like to see the state come up with a more natural way of Mosquito control.

Thank you for your time,

Karen Thurlow-Kimball

<http://www.brownsbeefarm.com/>

Schlein, Paul B

From: Jennings, Henry
Sent: Thursday, March 07, 2013 3:06 PM
To: Bills, Anne; Schlein, Paul B
Subject: FW: Notice of Agency Rule-making Proposal

From: Ronald Geer [mailto:rngeer@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 07, 2013 9:30 AM
To: Jennings, Henry
Subject: Notice of Agency Rule-making Proposal

CHAPTER NUMBER AND TITLE: Board of Pesticides Control Rules:

Amendments to Chapter 20—Special Provisions

Amendments to Chapter 22—Standards for Outdoor Application of Pesticides by Powered Equipment in Order to Minimize Off-Target Deposition

Amendments to Chapter 51—Notice of Aerial Pesticide Application

While public health issues are important to address, so are the health issues pertaining to natural and human-managed pollinators. There is no doubt that mosquitoes are a nuisance, and potential disease carriers, but aerial spraying in a blanket, ground-covering approach is too broad a brush to use in mosquito control.

Let us take managed honeybees for example. A honeybee will forage as far as 5 miles or more to collect pollen and nectar for the hive. That means that any spraying should not take place within a 5 mile radius of the hive. Taken collectively, the identification of the coordinates of every managed hive and its "circle of safety" near the spray area will add complexity to the use of aerial equipment. It may even obviate it. The identification of the spray area in relation to managed hives is crucial. It would seem an overwhelming task to find all the hives, near the spray area, and turn off the equipment within 5 miles of each hive.

Next is the issue of wild pollinators. Insecticides are indiscriminate, killing all it contacts or all who ingest it. The list of wild pollinators is long and varied. They are all important to the health of the flora and fauna in the ecosystem. They are at risk with aerial spraying.

Unless there is an insecticide that is toxic solely to mosquitoes, aerial spraying should be limited to specific fields and crops that can be identified from the air and for only those fields that require aerial spraying to avoid imminent crop losses. The potential damage to the environment from insecticides is too great.

Yes, I am a beekeeper. I have a stake in this issue.

Thank you for your time and attention,

--

Ron Geer

Essential Valuation, LLC

14 Depot Street, Suite 201
Kennebunk, ME 04043

207-604-7889 Office
207-776-5618 Mobile
rgeer@essentialvaluation.com

Schlein, Paul B

From: Jennings, Henry
Sent: Monday, March 11, 2013 8:04 AM
To: Bills, Anne; Schlein, Paul B
Subject: FW: an opinion.

From: D W [<mailto:scooterweeks@yahoo.com>]

Sent: Friday, March 08, 2013 8:36 PM

To: Jennings, Henry

Subject: an opinion.

Hello Henry Jennings,

I am a Maine resident and was just notified of Maine considering spraying pesticides for mosquitos.

I strongly disagree and here are my reasons:

- 1) Any sensitive child, with allergies, autism, sensories etc. etc. will become severely effected with symptoms ranging from dillusions to severe gi pain to rashes.
- 2) Mosquitoes have always been. I understand they may carry diseases but I see the pesticide as causing more damage than any mosquito ever has for thousands of years.
- 3) The spray will travel to our gardens which in turn will be absorbed by our food while it is growing. This is severe since my family and I grow organically.
- 4) The spray will travel to lawns and kids toys, this links with #1 and how our kids can become effected.

Thank You for your time in this matter.

Godbless

Schlein, Paul B

From: Jennings, Henry
Sent: Monday, March 11, 2013 8:13 AM
To: Bills, Anne; Schlein, Paul B
Subject: FW: Spraying for Mosquito Control

-----Original Message-----

From: Mandala Farm [<mailto:info@mandalafarm.com>]
Sent: Friday, March 08, 2013 1:21 PM
To: Jennings, Henry
Subject: Spraying for Mosquito Control

Mr Jennings,

I would like to submit my comments concerning the amendments that would allow for widespread spraying for mosquitos in Maine.

We own and operate a 100 acre organic farm in Hancock County. If our farm was sprayed out=r produce would not be considered organic for three years. This would be a blow for us economically. We have grown our business around being organic and need to protect our opportunity to remain organic.

I realize that organic farms could be exempt from being sprayed, but it is still a concern to me to have a widespread pesticide application to our state. I think there are alternative ways to approach these diseases and question if the number of cases of these diseases really warrants an actin as extreme as widespread spraying. We are a horse powered farm and currently have 16 horses here. We are concerned about EEE and WNV but do not condone widespread spraying as an answer to these diseases.

Being sprayed without consent infringes on an individuals rights to choose to live without using these chemicals in their yards or gardens and may do so but would not be exempted because they are not a commercial enterprise. Please consider these people when making your decision.

Thank You,

Sara Faull
Mandala Farm
46 Youngs Farm Rd
Gouldsboro, ME

March 11, 2013

MAR 13 2013

Henry Jennings, Director
Maine Board of Pesticides Control
State House Station 28
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear Mr. Jennings and members of the Board,

I appreciate this opportunity for public input in the rule making process responding to the threat of arboviral diseases in Maine.

My name is Eli Berry and I am a logger and grow Native trees and plants on my grandfather's land in Washington, Maine. I am concerned by the changes I see in the woods and I like tick and mosquito borne diseases as little as anyone. And while I spend a good deal of my life at work and at play in a high-risk environment for exposure to these potential threats, I see a far greater threat from widespread treatments like chemical spraying.

As a member of MOFGA's Board of Directors, I appreciate the co-operation you have shown regarding the development of process to exclude and protect the organic farms and related small businesses that choose to opt out of a spraying program. I am not clear, however, how the Board intends to address the following concerns.

-Who is eligible to opt out? Plenty of individuals will find compelling arguments to limit their exposure to chemical sprays with legitimate reasons. Many could make compelling legal arguments why exposure would damage their health and livelihoods. Who decides and how would that decision be reached?

-If, as I believe is only fair, any citizen could choose to opt out, how would that effect the costs of exclusion mapping alone, never mind the costs of implementation of a spraying program?

-How is the mapping of exclusion zones budgeted for?

- What systems exist to insure spray operators are provided with precise maps of exclusion zones?

-Aware that no spray program could avoid all risks of drift, overspray, and other unintended consequences, what process of resolution is in place? Is funding allocated to reimburse and settle for damages?

-If municipalities are empowered to sponsor spraying programs would they then be accountable for damages incurred by such a program?

-Should a government run spraying program be exempt from basic safeguards and prior notification requirements mandated for commercial spraying programs?

We should not, and cannot, ignore the changing nature of risk in our environment. More resources must be made available to gather baseline data on arbovirus diseases and their vectors. The efficacy of any control program is limited without strong baseline data and good metrics. Without a good measurement of the

problem, there can be no good solution. Without precise application of that solution, the risks will only grow.

The public has a role in public health. We can protect ourselves without spraying. Our money and collective health could be far better served by the widespread adoption of personal protections than by trying to get insecticide into each and every piece of stagnant water in the state. An informed and educated populace, involved in the monitoring and maintenance of their own health and that of their environment, may be the most powerful tool at our disposal.

Thank you for the opportunity for comment.

Sincerely,

Eli Berry

MAR 12 2013

Dear, Henry S. Jennings,

Hello My name is Cora I am Seven years old
I live in Bowdoin Maine,

Please dont do the mosquito control pro-grams.

I understand that mosquito's can make us sick. BUT if we dont take care of our environment we will have big problems.

If you Kill the mosquito's you will also Kill the good bugs and we dont want That!

the good Bug's are helpful
and we need them!

Sincerely

Cora M. Stoesser Casard

March 12, 2013

Henry Jennings
BPC Director
Maine Board of Pesticides Control
28 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333-0028

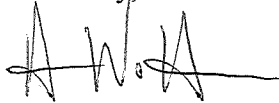
Dear Mr. Jennings:

I am writing on the proposed amendments to existing pesticide rules to allow for “public-health, mosquito-control programs.” I do not agree with amending the rules to exempt government-sponsored, wide area, vector-control programs. I live in a rural area surrounded by forest land. I grow vegetables organically and we raise our own animals for dairy and meat. As a landowner doing the best I can to live as self-sufficiently and sustainably as I can, I resent not having a say if there is going to wide-area spraying.

We cannot control every aspect of our lives, including mosquitoes. In Africa, after decades of battling mosquitoes and chance of malaria with the spraying of pesticides, they have found that the best way to prevent malaria is to simply provide mosquito nets. Education to the public would go further than spraying pesticides that we truly do not know the ramifications of on the public, wildlife, crops and our ecosystem.

As a property owner, of course I want to be notified if such a spray program is going to take place and also to have a say whether my property is to be included in the program. Please include this letter as a vote against amending existing pesticide rules for mosquito-control programs.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Angela Wotton', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Angela Wotton
Hammond, ME

Schlein, Paul B

From: Jennings, Henry
Sent: Wednesday, March 13, 2013 12:08 PM
To: Bills, Anne; Schlein, Paul B
Subject: FW: pesticide spraying

From: Malismermaid@aol.com [<mailto:Malismermaid@aol.com>]

Sent: Wednesday, March 13, 2013 11:42 AM

To: Jennings, Henry

Subject: pesticide spraying

Dear Mr.Jennings, I am a cancer survivor who is strongly against spraying programs.The cancer rates in Maine are the highest in New England. As a former science teacher, I am very familiar with statistics and facts. The risks of widespread spraying outweigh the need. It has even impacted the lobster population between Long Island and Connecticut. Please consider the rights of individual landowners who wish to protect their family and property. Thank you. Sincerely, Suzanne Malis

Schlein, Paul B

From: Jennings, Henry
Sent: Wednesday, March 13, 2013 2:34 PM
To: Bills, Anne; Schlein, Paul B
Subject: FW: mosquito spraying by air/ comments on chapters 20, 22, and 51

From: jody spear [mailto:lacewing41@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 13, 2013 2:09 PM
To: Jennings, Henry
Cc: jdill@umext.maine.edu; rsherm_2000@yahoo.com; NoonforMaine@gmail.com; pskentz5@hotmail.com; craighickman@rocketmail.com; representativebrianjones@gmail.com; saucierforpi@gmail.com; dacray@msn.com; lindonfarm@sacoriver.net; russellblack@juno.com; jtimberlake_us@yahoo.com; Irving, Natasha
Subject: mosquito spraying by air/ comments on chapters 20, 22, and 51

To members of the pesticide-control board:

re: chapter 20

The requirement for permission to spray by air over individual properties -- the opt-out choice -- must be retained in this rule, regardless of any perceived "emergency." As David Bell and Jon Olsen, in addition to the organic-farming constituency, have testified, the economic costs -- of produce being contaminated by mosquito-spraying residues and rejected in the marketplace -- are unacceptable.

Please read the PEER press release of Sept. 11, 2012 (to which I refer in my BDN op-ed of March 13, forwarded separately) and examine the scientific studies Kyla Bennett cites. Aerial spraying for mosquito control -- demonstrably ineffective -- is a barbaric practice. Maine CDC must be educated about sensible, practical ways to CONTROL mosquitoes in their larval stage -- control that the board should be prepared to undertake, beginning now.

Weasel words like "reasonable effort" (C.2) and "to the extent feasible (C.3) are not worthy of the pesticide-control board.

The "sensitive sites" referred to in C.3 -- defined in Chap. 22, Sec. 3 -- would not be protected if Chap. 22 were amended as proposed, and discarding those protections is unacceptable. The "Explanation" section of the summary you provide states: "Certain sensitive sites would be excluded from aerial programs," but nowhere is it specified what these sensitive sites are. It is not appropriate for the ACF commissioner to be given discretion to designate which Sec. 3 requirements would be waived *in the interests of public health*.

What is meant by "within the intended target site" (B.1)? What radius do you have in mind for ground-based applications? No radius is specified in C.1 (applicable to aerial spraying) either -- nor is the length of advance notice (3 days, as in B.1?) specified.

There should not be any aerial spraying of mosquitoes, but nothing in Chap. 20 serves to replace the 500-foot

requirement of Chap. 51, as you imply in the "Explanation."

re: Chapter 22

The amended rule defines "emergency" as one involving natural-resource loss and/or economic loss. Unaccountably, "public-health emergency" -- the putative reason for amending the rule -- has been deleted. Nevertheless, the prospect of economic loss (not to mention natural-resource loss) from mosquito-spray residues should be a primary concern here. The case made by the Farm Bureau and Blueberry Commission lobbyists is supportive of MOFGA's position, and they constitute a large and powerful sector of the agricultural community. The lobstering lobby should be objecting too: mosquito pesticides (malathion, methoprene, and resmethrin) have been detected in Long Island Sound lobsters, doubtless contributing to their serious decline.

No emergency could possibly justify disregarding the aerial-spraying standards (such as they are) that require (A) positive identification of the target site, (B) mapping to show sensitive areas (occupied or not) and such details as school-bus routes, (C) a checklist to be followed to assure exacting conformity to protocol, (D) observance of buffer zones for SALOs, and (E) observance of wind speeds.

Again, I find the weasel words -- "good-faith efforts" (A.V) and "reasonable efforts" (B) -- to be offensive.

I note that avoidance of off-target drift is covered in Sec. 4, which would **not** be waived in this amended rule; therefore, the directive to "minimize off-target drift" is pointless.

There are weasel words in Sec. 4 too, but if it remains in force, the 1% rule and other strictures (including pesticide residues in violation of EPA tolerances) would have to apply.

re: Chapter 51

Here there are several provisions that should not be waived in a perceived "emergency." In addition to requiring notification within 500 feet of any target area, the rule should stipulate that all notices sent out state the following: what pesticides are being used, why and when, label warnings with postings to the pesticide-control board and Poison Control Center, among other requirements.

The notification provisions of Chap. 20 in no way replace those for Chap. 51, as suggested in the "Explanation" section of your summary. Aerial spraying of mosquitoes is not, in any case, defensible policy. A report posted on the Beyond Pesticides web site warns: "...[B]y the time human illness [arbovirus] is detected, it's a month too late to start spraying pesticides in the area where that person was [believed to have been] exposed."

The point I make in my op-ed about destruction of natural predators increasing mosquito populations is the subject of a paper by John J. Howard and Joanne Oliver: "The Impact of Naled [Dibrom 14] on Mosquito Vectors of Eastern Equine Encephalitis Virus," *Journal of the American Mosquito Control Association* 13, no. 4 (1997).

Additional resources can be provided to you by Kyla Bennett and by Jay Feldman's Beyond Pesticides staff. I urge you to heed *that* science, inspired by the work of Rachel Carson.

I'm sure you know about the tragic incident of bird poisoning from aerial pesticide spraying in 1958 that served as the genesis for *Silent Spring*. The description given of it by Olga Huckins provoked Carson to devote the last few years of her life to research that she hoped would reverse the mass exterminations causing so much harm to

ecosystems. Recently I found a letter she wrote to a fellow biologist (Clarence Cottam, a pioneer in researching harmful effects of DDT and other poisons used by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, where he and Carson had worked together). Describing a paper titled "Potentiation of the Toxicity of Malathion by Triorthotolyl Phosphate [TOTP, a plasticizer]," Carson summarized the authors' findings that "we must now consider not merely potentiation of one insecticide by another but the possible potentiation by drugs, food additives, and all other chemical agents to which we are commonly exposed." (From Paul Brooks, *Rachel Carson: The Writer at Work*, p. 254). That was in 1959. As Russ Libby said in his last letter to the board (October 18, 2012) on the subject: "...[T]he perceived benefits of toxic spraying do not outweigh the harmful, widespread, and long-term repercussions....Prior learning opportunities should not be set aside."

Schlein, Paul B

From: Jennings, Henry
Sent: Wednesday, March 13, 2013 2:35 PM
To: Bills, Anne; Schlein, Paul B
Subject: FW: include with testimony: BDN op-ed: Let Maine farmers opt out of pesticide spraying

From: jody spear [mailto:lacewing41@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 13, 2013 2:15 PM
To: Jennings, Henry
Cc: jdill@umext.maine.edu; rsherm_2000@yahoo.com; NoonforMaine@gmail.com; pskentz5@hotmail.com; craighickman@rocketmail.com; representativebrianjones@gmail.com; saucierforpi@gmail.com; dacray@msn.com; lindonfarm@sacoriver.net; russellblack@juno.com; jtimberlake_us@yahoo.com; Irving, Natasha
Subject: include with testimony: BDN op-ed: Let Maine farmers opt out of pesticide spraying

Let Maine farmers opt out of pesticide spraying

Posted on March 12, 2013 (1:55 pm) In [Bangor Daily News Contributors, Opinion](#)

Last fall the national whistle-blower organization Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility warned that aerial spraying for mosquito control is futile.

Specifically, the group challenged claims made by Massachusetts officials that the state's July pesticide blitz in 21 communities against eastern equine encephalitis had reduced vector populations by 60 percent. PEER's New England director, Kyla Bennett, a biologist and former Environmental Protection Agency attorney, explained in a September 2012 press release why pesticides dropped from aircraft fail to hit their targets reliably and why, even with repeated deadly applications, spraying adult mosquitoes cannot possibly curb their life cycles. Larvae keep growing, and resistance develops with every spraying.

In Maine we ignore these warnings at our peril. The chemicals used to kill mosquitoes are devastating to birds, fish, bees and other beneficial insects, as well as to livestock, domestic animals and humans. Cancer, neurological disorders, endocrine disruption and respiratory damage head the list of illnesses known to be caused by these compounds.

Considering the environmental and social costs, we should always aim to reduce risk factors rather than increase them.

Nonetheless, efforts are under way in Augusta to amend existing pesticide rules, invalidating hard-won protections for organic farms, bodies of water and other "sensitive areas likely to be occupied" in the event that authorities declare a public health threat from mosquito-borne disease.

State Agriculture Department officials call the present standards "impractical for wide-area programs conducted in residential areas" and propose to deny residents the choice to opt out of "emergency" aerial-spraying bombardment.

The ground truth is that far more illness has been reported from pesticide poisoning than from exposure to West Nile virus and eastern equine encephalitis in places [where aerial spraying has taken place](#).

Moreover, because mosquito-killing chemicals destroy natural predators such as dragonflies, they can have the unintended consequence of increasing the number of mosquitoes.

On a parallel track with the aforementioned rule changes under consideration by the Maine pesticide control board is a deceptive bill, LD 292, that would establish certain key provisions in state law. It would cancel out, in particular, the requirement to obtain permission from individual landowners before “emergency” aerial spraying is carried out and authorize the health and human services commissioner to declare mosquito-borne disease a public health threat.

Some of the directives of LD 292 would be commendable if they were spelled out in detail as meaningful pest management. Mosquito surveillance and monitoring, for example, and elimination of breeding sites with safe larvicides such as Bti are ways to avoid spraying by air. But like most pest management claims today, they are merely window dressing in a draft bill that would effectively undermine precautionary standards.

Many other steps are recommended before resorting to poisons broadcast indiscriminately from the air. Communities in some parts of the country have added mosquito-feeding fish in ornamental ponds and marshes. Others have put copepods (shrimplike crustaceans) in swamps, roadside ditches and small pools to eat mosquito larvae. Individual action can be taken also through the use of safe repellents (not DEET), long pants and sleeves, and large fans, along with citronella candles, to deter mosquitoes from backyard activities.

In Maine, a central fact to keep in mind is that mosquitoes cannot function below 50 degrees. Typically, according to the state epidemiologist, mosquitoes with West Nile virus have been found in September, close to the time hard frosts can be expected, after which disease vectors pose no threat.

One of the last things Russ Libby, the revered Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association leader, did in the weeks before his death in December was to write to the pesticide control board, imploring them to avoid the greater harm posed by aerial mosquito spraying.

“The health of citizens in the spray area,” he wrote, “should not be compromised for ineffective spraying programs. ... Occupants and owners of Maine properties must be allowed to ... [designate] no-spray zones around their [land, with the help of GIS-based technology].”

We would do great honor to the memory of Libby by sending letters now (by March 14) to the pesticide control board and to elected officials, especially those on the Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry Committee and sponsors of LD 292. Urge that Chapters 20, 22, and 51 not be amended as proposed by the pesticide control board and that LD 292 ought not to pass in its current form.

It is imperative to preserve the right of organic farmers and others to use larvicides selectively and to opt out of wide-area “government-sponsored” spraying by aircraft.

There are economic implications to be considered as well as concerns for public health. Even lobbyists for commercial growers who ordinarily insist on using every chemical available to kill weeds and insects on their crops are speaking up at hearings, worried that residues from mosquito pesticides will make produce unsalable to the growing market for safe food. There are economic implications to be considered, as well as concerns for public health.

Jody Spear is an editor and writer living in Harborside, in Hancock County. She is a regular observer of the Maine Board of Pesticides Control.

Article taken from Bangor Daily News - <http://bangordailynews.com>

URL to article: <http://bangordailynews.com/2013/03/12/opinion/let-maine-farmers-opt-out-of-pesticide-spraying/>

Schlein, Paul B

From: Jennings, Henry
Sent: Thursday, March 14, 2013 11:24 AM
To: Bills, Anne; Schlein, Paul B
Subject: FW: Mosquito Spraying

From: Jennifer Bouchard [<mailto:jenmary@gmail.com>]
Sent: Thursday, March 14, 2013 11:21 AM
To: Jennings, Henry
Subject: Mosquito Spraying

Mr. Jennings,

I am writing to express my opinion on the proposed changes to Chapters 20, 22, and 51 of the regulations for the Board of Pesticide control. I do not support relaxing the requirement to contact or obtain permission from individual landowners regarding the application of pesticides- ground or aerial applications. The public and landowners have a definite right to be informed regarding pesticide application on their own land, and I would go further to say they have a right to control whether such applications take place at all.

In my past, I managed an organic orchard so I do understand the battle we wage with insects in order to carve out our own place; however, I believe focus should always be on reducing reliance on these substances. There are other ways for us to get along with nature that don't involve poisoning ourselves and ecosystems.

Thank you,

Jennifer Bouchard

Schlein, Paul B

From: Jennings, Henry
Sent: Friday, March 15, 2013 8:32 AM
To: Bills, Anne; Schlein, Paul B
Subject: FW: Spraying statewide

From: Blackcatdotcom@aol.com [<mailto:Blackcatdotcom@aol.com>]

Sent: Thursday, March 14, 2013 2:55 PM

To: Jennings, Henry

Subject: Spraying statewide

Mr. Jennings,

I can't quite believe what I'm hearing! You are actually thinking of aerial spraying? Does the name Rachael Carson ring a bell? How about cancer? That must ring a bell.

The way to avoid West Nile Virus and EEE is to protect oneself with repellents and proper clothing! How easy is that?

Parents have to take responsibility for their children and spray them with bug repellent just as they protect them from being run over by a car. Do we have to legislate everything?

Please, please think about what you are doing to an entire population of human beings in the State of Maine, adults and children, and the creatures that support us. Do you know what aerial spraying will do to the bees who are already stressed? How about our public water supply? How about our wonderful wildlife?

Please, please think about what you are doing and the repercussions of aerial spraying!

Thank you,

Jane G Cutter

Homeowner

Scarborough

Schlein, Paul B

From: Jennings, Henry
Sent: Friday, March 15, 2013 8:47 AM
To: Bills, Anne; Schlein, Paul B
Subject: FW: Mosquito spraying

From: Karen D'Andrea [<mailto:karen@mainenonprofithelp.com>]

Sent: Thursday, March 14, 2013 1:53 PM

To: Jennings, Henry

Subject: Mosquito spraying

I am submitting my comments regarding the rule changes for spraying mosquitoes in Maine.

I write today to urge the board to not change the rule with regard to the spraying of private property. I live right on the edge of the Scarborough Marsh. I know a thing or two about having mosquitoes around. Spraying pesticides and hoping to kill a few mosquitoes who may be carrying the virus is dangerous. These pesticides may be far more dangerous than the disease itself and property owners should have the right to protect themselves and their property from these chemicals. There are far better ways to control mosquitoes which have not been tried including natural methods like promoting the increase of bat and certain bird populations. Public education should be focused on clearing out standing water from backyards (old tires, kids pools, etc...), encouraging people to limit outdoor activity just after dusk, encouraging the wearing of long sleeves and pants in areas where there are mosquitoes and especially after dark, using safe repellents, and even dragonfly larva. Pesticide spraying may be the easy way out but it should be the very last resort once all else has been tried and failed. It's dangerous to our pets, to ourselves and especially to developing children.

Thank you.

Karen A D'Andrea
[Gaia Nonprofit Management & Consulting](#)
[Facebook](#)
207.831.9568
Scarborough, Maine

Schlein, Paul B

From: Jennings, Henry
Sent: Friday, March 15, 2013 8:36 AM
To: Bills, Anne; Schlein, Paul B
Subject: FW: aerial spraying

From: Stephen W. Kress [<mailto:swk3@cornell.edu>]
Sent: Thursday, March 14, 2013 4:47 PM
To: Jennings, Henry
Subject: aerial spraying

Dear Mr. Jennings:

The National Audubon Society requests that aerial spraying not be done over the its properties on Stratton and Bluff Islands Cumberland Co., Maine or the watershed of Scarborough. We are protecting federally endangered Roseate Terns (about half of the Maine population) and State endangered Least Terns (also half of the Maine population) on these islands and pesticides sprayed in this area add further risk to these species as well as more than 200 other species of birds which feed on insects, other invertebrates and fish in these waters and adjacent lands.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Stephen W. Kress, Ph.D.
Director, Seabird Restoration Program
National Audubon Society
159 Sapsucker Woods Road
Ithaca, NY 14850 USA
(607) 257-7308 ext 12
www.projectpuffin.org

Schlein, Paul B

From: kmichka@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, March 14, 2013 2:04 AM
To: Jennings, Henry
Subject: LD 292

I am writing the Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry Committee and Bill sponsor to urge that LD 292 Chapters 20, 22, and 51 not be amended as proposed and that LD 292 ought not to pass in its current form.

As a child reared in the '60s in the southern part of this country, I remember the mosquito fog trucks rolling past us as we watched them from bikes just yards away. The negative effects of those "precautionary" sprayings still run rampant in our medical disease history today.

As part of medical testing for symptoms I was experiencing several years ago, I underwent personal genome identification for a specific set of markers relevant to a woman's health. A surprise result came back that I was one of a small percentage of the general population who is simply missing a certain gene...the one that helps the body detoxify carcinogen exposure. It is important to me that I am able to control pesticide (and herbicide) application in my immediate environment as much as possible. I was one of the Spray Registry members, until it was effectively dismantled.

Many other natural forms of prevention are available, and the direction and scope of LD292 is not far-reaching enough to prevent hazardous spraying to humans, animals, and valuable organic crops in Maine.

Please go back to the drawing board, and come up with a better solution than to just be able to declare an emergency and spray without citizens being able to opt out.

Kay Michka
Lexington TWP, ME

Schlein, Paul B

From: Jennings, Henry
Sent: Friday, March 15, 2013 8:39 AM
To: Bills, Anne; Schlein, Paul B
Subject: FW: Pesticide spraying

From: Louise [<mailto:windmill@tdstelme.net>]
Sent: Thursday, March 14, 2013 10:31 PM
To: Jennings, Henry
Subject: Pesticide spraying

Dear Mr. Jennings, I would hope that you will not push for widespread pesticide spraying. Only tonight we hear news about our beautiful Monarch butterflies dying off quite probably due to pesticides and we know that our Bee population is endangered. There has to be a better way for pest control! Pesticides are dangerous
!!! Respectfully, Louise Nomani, Norridgewock, Me.

Schlein, Paul B

From: Jennings, Henry
Sent: Thursday, March 14, 2013 11:11 AM
To: Bills, Anne; Schlein, Paul B
Subject: FW: Maine Pesticide Control

From: Kimberly Gay [<mailto:kiaga89@live.com>]
Sent: Thursday, March 14, 2013 11:08 AM
To: Jennings, Henry
Subject: Maine Pesticide Control

Dear sir,

I am writing this to you in reference to the proposed ammendments that would relax the law that requires authorization from individual land owners, in order to allow government-sponsored, wide-area, vector-control programs without the need to obtain consent from each landowner. While I am relieved that property owners can opt out of ground-based spraying, I am concerned about the potential of aerial spraying over my property, as well as other properties who are trying to raise their own crops and animals, as well as their families. I do not believe in the wide spread use of pesticides; I am sure you are aware that there are definitely risks associated with aerial vector control. In my view, I am not sure those risks outweigh any potential benefit that it would create. According to the Maine Department of Agriculture and the Maine IPM Council, they encourage the use of pesticides only as a last resort; seeing as we have had one case of West Nile in Maine, are we truly resorting to a "last resort measure" already?

While I am certainly not an expert on politics or agriculture, I do have enough knowledge to understand that my choice as a property owner is at stake. Yes, I will be "warned" of an aerial spray, but what then are my options? Cover my entire property to protect against the pesticides? I cannot protect any of the other insects that will be affected, such as bees (which are already threatened in the entire country due to the enormous amount of pesticide use) or flowers, which then will affect bats and likely increase the mosquito population, as natural vector control is replaced with synthetic methods. Beyond this, what about organic farmers, who do not use any type of pesticides? What are their options if you take away the right to say no?

This is the United States of America - as a member of our state government and given your position in it, I understand it is your duty to protect the people. I can understand the concern about WNV and other illnesses carried by mosquitos, but perhaps someone should listen to the people who are saying "No, we don't want this" - the safety of organic farming could potentially be at stake, as well as the safety of other life forms that will be affected by an aerial spray which uses broad-spectrum pesticides. There are numerous studies that have shown pesticides are doing more harm than good to the ecosystem; if you haven't already, I would recommend that you research those studies to make an informed decision about how "beneficial" pesticide use is.

I urge you to consider not ammending the law in place; my right to choose what is best for my family, my land, and the animals/insects on my land, should not be removed due to a perceived threat, which has not even materialized (one case is hardly a cause to change a law to allow wide-spread spraying).

Thank you,

Kimberly Pepin

Schlein, Paul B

From: Jennings, Henry
Sent: Friday, March 15, 2013 8:35 AM
To: Bills, Anne; Schlein, Paul B
Subject: FW: Wide spread area spraying without landowners permission

From: Sandy Robbins [<mailto:sandy-robbins@comcast.net>]
Sent: Thursday, March 14, 2013 4:06 PM
To: Jennings, Henry
Subject: Wide spread area spraying without landowners permission

I'm urging you not to change the rules regarding the spraying of airborne pesticides. The chances of harming the health of children, adults, animals and beneficial insects would be far greater than the chances of people dying from insect born disease if this were allowed to happen. The people of Maine have a large stake in this decision.

Sincerely ,
Sandy Robbins

Schlein, Paul B

From: Jennings, Henry
Sent: Friday, March 15, 2013 8:37 AM
To: Bills, Anne; Schlein, Paul B
Subject: FW: aerial spraying for insects to prevent West Nile Virus and EEE

From: billy [<mailto:billy@billysweetchimneysweep.com>]
Sent: Thursday, March 14, 2013 7:57 PM
To: Jennings, Henry
Cc: citizensforagreenscarborough@gmail.com; Kendra Haskell; Greg Bokor; Sue Foley Ferguson; Marcella Sweet; Tracy Haskell; Larry Sweet; Lenny Sweet; Beverly Haskell
Subject: aerial spraying for insects to prevent West Nile Virus and EEE

Dear Mr. Jennings,

With all due respect for the concern for the spread of the West Nile Virus and EEE, I consider the hazard of aerial spraying to be a more immediate and threatening hazard to myself, my family, and my community.

To prevent to *possibility* I may be stung by a virulent mosquito, you propose the *certainty* that I be poisoned by aerial spraying.

The existing regulations are hardly too much to ask for. That is why the regulations exist.

If and when the powers that be decide that spraying is required to delay or stop the spread of the West Nile Virus or EEE, then the regulations already in place are barely adequate requirements for our health and safety.

With the existing regulations, those of us who consider aerial spraying to be a very real threat can take action to protect ourselves, since the existing regulations require you to inform us.

If you relax these requirements, how are we to even know we need to take safe-guards and actions to protect ourselves?

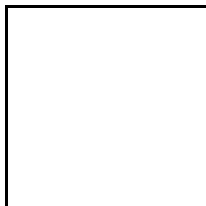
That is why the regulations exist in the first place.

These regulations are in place to regulate this very action.

We do not want aerial spraying to happen at all. At the very least, you are required to inform us. Any relaxation of existing standards is an immediate threat to me and my family and my community.

Countless examples of humanity's solutions to threats turn out to be even greater threats than the original problem.

Does not Rachel Carson's Silent Spring apply here?



How about Albert Einstein:

Please, if it is in your power to do so, I ask you to reconsider this rule change.

You threaten us with the very solution you wish to provide.

Surely you can reconsider.

Sincerely,

William Sweet

Schlein, Paul B

From: Jennings, Henry
Sent: Friday, March 15, 2013 8:41 AM
To: Bills, Anne; Schlein, Paul B
Subject: FW: Spraying,

-----Original Message-----

From: Lenny Sweet [<mailto:covite63@gmail.com>] On Behalf Of Arlene Sweet
Sent: Friday, March 15, 2013 12:59 AM
To: Jennings, Henry
Subject: Spraying,

Please consider your action to spray for these insects that "may" carry disease while giving us more problems with the spray.

I am almost 83 years old, one of Maine's citizens who like children and immune compromised people suffer more from such sprays than younger people.

Please do more research into this problem before passing more laws without due thought.

After all how many times in our past have sprays etc been used then later more lethal problems cropped up. Sprays like DDT and Alar.

Thank you, Mrs. Arlene Sweet

Schlein, Paul B

From: Jennings, Henry
Sent: Friday, March 15, 2013 8:38 AM
To: Bills, Anne; Schlein, Paul B
Subject: FW: Amendments to Aerial spraying for insects to prevent West Nile Virus and EEE

From: Marcella Sweet [<mailto:marcellasweet@roadrunner.com>]
Sent: Thursday, March 14, 2013 9:18 PM
To: Jennings, Henry
Cc: William Sweet
Subject: Amendments to Aerial spraying for insects to prevent West Nile Virus and EEE

Mr. Jennings:

With all due respect for the concern for the spread of the West Nile Virus and EEE, I am fully in agreement with my brother, William Sweet, and wish to repeat his sentiments, not only on behalf of human life, but more urgently to countless small life forms other than WNV & EEE.

I consider the hazard of aerial spraying to be a more immediate and threatening hazard to not only myself, my family, and my community, but just as importantly and perhaps more immediately to populations of small life forms such as the economically crucial pollinating insects.

To prevent to **possibility** we may be stung by a virulent mosquito, you propose the **certainty** that everything else in its pathway be poisoned by aerial spraying. Frankly, I consider this an infringement of my rights as a lakeside property owner and taxpayer in the State of Maine.

The existing regulations are hardly too much to ask for. That is why the regulations exist.

If and when the powers that be decide that spraying is required to delay or stop the spread of the West Nile Virus or EEE, then the regulations already in place are barely adequate requirements for our health and safety.

With the existing regulations, those of us who consider aerial spraying to be a very real threat can take action to protect ourselves, since the existing regulations require you to inform us.

If you relax these requirements, how are we to even know we need to take safeguards and actions to protect ourselves?

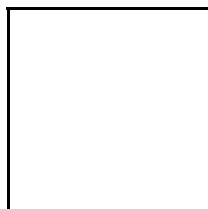
That is why the regulations exist in the first place: ie, these regulations are in place to regulate this very action.

We do not want aerial spraying to happen at all. At the very least, you are required to inform us. Any relaxation of existing standards is an immediate threat to me, my community, and the wider ecosystem.

Countless examples of humanity's solutions to threats turn out to be even greater threats than the original problem.

Does not Rachel Carson's 'Silent Spring' apply here?

How about Albert Einstein:



Please, if it is in your power to do so, I ask you to reconsider this rule change.

This amendment threatens us with the very solution it purports to provide.

Surely you can reconsider.

Sincerely,

Marcella Sweet-Demetriou
34 Many Oaks Ln
Windham, ME 04062

Schlein, Paul B

From: Jennings, Henry
Sent: Thursday, March 14, 2013 11:08 AM
To: Bills, Anne; Schlein, Paul B
Subject: FW: vote against proposed amendments to existing pesticide rules

From: Nanette Tanner [<mailto:nanettetanner@yahoo.com>]
Sent: Thursday, March 14, 2013 11:06 AM
To: Jennings, Henry
Subject: vote against proposed amendments to existing pesticide rules

Hello Henry,

I am writing to let you know I am against amendments to the existing pesticide rules to allow for public-health, mosquito-control programs.

I am including a link from Maine Environmental Policy Institute that supports this view hopefully you will find the article interesting and informative:

<http://www.meepi.org/wnv/overkill.htm>

Thank you for your taking comments on this issue and for helping to take care of our great State of Maine.

Kind regards,

Nanette Tanner
5 Sprague Way
Scarborough, Maine 04074

Schlein, Paul B

From: Jennings, Henry
Sent: Thursday, March 14, 2013 12:29 PM
To: Bills, Anne; Schlein, Paul B
Subject: FW: MOSQUITO SPRAYING

From: Eddie Woodin [<mailto:eddie@woodinco.com>]
Sent: Thursday, March 14, 2013 12:23 PM
To: Jennings, Henry
Cc: eddie@woodinco.com
Subject: MOSQUITO SPRAYING

Greetings Henry Jennings,

I have been meaning to Communicate with you, as I am involved in many Green efforts and one of the Citizens for a Green Scarborough Group.....We won the Pesticide/Herbicide Victory on Municipal Properties, and now are interested in the School Bill in Augusta, and we are working with Maine Audubon and with National Audubon on Green issues.....

I am 65, and lived through the DDT thing in W.Concord, Mass. in the 1950's and 60's....I think Polio was the thing back then.....They Sprayed our Pond, our streets and killed so many living things....The Screech owls, the Baltimore Orioles, and Pond birds were affected by Spraying....

I am a Philanthropist, and work with many Nature Groups, including the Center for Wildlife....In the past few years there has been a noticeable Drop-off in populations of Insect eating Birds and Bats...Swallows, Flycatchers, Kingbirds, etc.....These Birds are already stretched, and Insecticides will further reduce the Food source, and the stability of the Populations....

I am opposed to Broad powers of Spraying, at the expense of input from Landowners.....I recognize West Nile, or EEE can develop in small areas, and should be treated....but widespread Spraying will do great damage....Massachusetts has employed Helicopters, Spray trucks, etc.....and it is Decimating insect life....Most Insects are good and serve an Ecosystem purpose.....

Further, it's amazing to me that we have this Potential Global spraying authority for Several or No cases per year.....And yet thousands of people die every year from Heart, Cancer, Auto, Alcoholism, Obesity, etc.....I am Spiritual and Value Life, but wide spread spraying to prevent a Handful of illnesses is excessive....Given the damage to the Environment.....

Please Amend this Bill so as to issue Authority on a Site specific, limited basis...Thank you for your Time and consideration...

Eddie Woodin
280 Gannett Drive
S. Portland, ME. 04106
207 775 2437

Schlein, Paul B

From: Jennings, Henry
Sent: Friday, March 15, 2013 8:49 AM
To: Bills, Anne; Schlein, Paul B
Subject: FW: Amendments to Allow Aerial Spraying

From: Marla Zando [<mailto:mkzando@maine.rr.com>]
Sent: Thursday, March 14, 2013 11:30 AM
To: Jennings, Henry
Subject: Amendments to Allow Aerial Spraying

Mr. Jennings,

I do not support the Board of Pesticide Control's proposed amendments to Chapter 20, Chapter 22, and Chapter 51 to allow for public-health, mosquito-control programs in the form of aerial spraying without landowner consent. I believe the aerial spraying of insecticides without landowner consent is not necessary and could potentially negatively affect public health, public drinking water supplies, critical and endangered species, critical habitat, and cause the death of beneficial insects and other wildlife. It is not right nor acceptable to spray people's land without their consent. For organic farmers whose land is their livelihood, these amendments threaten their businesses, as well as the health of their children, crops, livestock, and pets. There are other non-toxic ways to deal with vector-borne illnesses, including providing habitat and bird and bat boxes for insectivorous bird species and bats. I would like to see the BPC and the Maine State Government support other forms of vector-borne illness control.

As a Maine citizen and taxpayer, I ask that the Board of Pesticide Control NOT make the proposed amendments to Chapter 20, Chapter 22, and Chapter 51 to allow for aerial spraying of insecticides without landowner consent. Thank you.

Marla Zando
Scarborough, Maine

Schlein, Paul B

From: Jennings, Henry
Sent: Friday, March 15, 2013 10:29 AM
To: Bills, Anne; Schlein, Paul B
Subject: FW: aerial spraying

From: Helen Balgooyen [<mailto:hwbalgoo@colby.edu>]
Sent: Friday, March 15, 2013 10:24 AM
To: Jennings, Henry
Subject: aerial spraying

Please do NOT relax rules about aerial spraying to prevent WNV or EEE. These diseases are so little threat to people and the potential for damage to beneficial insects is so huge - particularly our very threatened honey bees - to say nothing of the critters, such as bats, that feed on insects. We need much tighter regulations, not relaxed regulations re any pesticide applications.

Yours truly,
Helen Balgooyen
Norridgewock ME

Schlein, Paul B

From: Jennings, Henry
Sent: Friday, March 15, 2013 1:29 PM
To: Bills, Anne; Schlein, Paul B
Subject: FW: Aerial Pesticide Spraying without consent

From: Marla Bottesch [<mailto:snowbook2@adelphia.net>]
Sent: Friday, March 15, 2013 1:07 PM
To: Jennings, Henry
Subject: Aerial Pesticide Spraying without consent

I, for one, am not at all happy about living in a State where my government proposes to spray me, my land, my water supply, my animals, my children with pesticide whether I consent or not. Pesticides raining down from the skies, drifting over organic gardens, watersheds, wildlife, humans is NOT the way to treat anything. Where do these ideas come from? The pesticide companies, the drug companies, the chemical companies. And now the medical establishment. The rules are in place because pesticides are BAD for the environment, BAD for people, BAD for wildlife. We are killing the bees and the bees keep us alive. Everything is connected. The bees, in particular, do not need to be pesticided. Please, do not do this. Consult with the CDC and find another way to control the vector.

**Marla Bottesch
P.O.Box 458
Norridgewock, ME 04957**

++++
++++

- **Chapter 20—Special Provisions** [[PDF](#) or [Word](#)]: The amended rule would relax the need for individual property owner authorization when the Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention (Maine CDC) recommends pesticide spraying due to vector-borne disease threats, such as West Nile Virus (WNV) or Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE).
- **Chapter 22—Standards for Outdoor Application of Pesticides by Powered Equipment in Order to Minimize Off-Target Deposition** [[PDF](#) or [Word](#)]: The amended rule would exempt wide-area, vector control programs from the entire chapter.
- **Chapter 51—Notice of Aerial Pesticide Application** [[PDF](#) or [Word](#)]: The amended rule would exempt government-sponsored, wide-area, vector-control programs from the entire chapter.

Amend
--
Snowbound Books
P.O.Box 458
Norridgewock, ME 04957
U.S.A.

Schlein, Paul B

From: Jennings, Henry
Sent: Friday, March 15, 2013 9:53 AM
To: Bills, Anne; Schlein, Paul B
Subject: FW: Proposed relaxed aerial spraying rules for insects to prevent West Nile Virus and EEE

From: Derek Davis [<mailto:derekdavis@yahoo.com>]
Sent: Friday, March 15, 2013 9:45 AM
To: Jennings, Henry
Subject: Proposed relaxed aerial spraying rules for insects to prevent West Nile Virus and EEE

Hello Mr. Jennings,

I am a Scarborough resident that strongly feels that the state should not pass the proposed changes to aerial spraying rules. We have a short summers that we want to be able to enjoy without the fears of what we and our children might be exposed to when we go outside. We have a right to know if and when spraying is being done. Don't pass the proposed changes please.

Thank You,
Derek Davis
Scarborough, ME

Schlein, Paul B

From: Jennings, Henry
Sent: Friday, March 15, 2013 1:26 PM
To: Bills, Anne; Schlein, Paul B
Subject: FW: mosquito spray rule

From: Terri Eddy [<mailto:teddy@maine.rr.com>]

Sent: Friday, March 15, 2013 1:04 PM

To: Jennings, Henry

Subject: mosquito spray rule

Dear Mr. Jennings~

I am a citizen in Scarborough, Maine – home to Maine’s largest saltwater marsh and The Rachel Carson Wildlife Sanctuary. Rachel Carson, as you know, is considered the mother of our nation’s anti-pesticide movement. She would be shocked and horrified to hear that in this day and age, we are still resorting to such outdated solutions, as blanket spraying – a thoughtless technique that in addition to protecting humans from West Nile and EEE, also disrupts countless other human bodily systems, puts our children at risk for countless more, and absolutely devastates wildlife, aquatic creatures, beneficial insects such as pollinators, water quality....every single living creature.

I believe it is against the right of people to forcibly have toxics sprayed over their homes, without their desire; I assume it would not hold up in a court of law. Instead why can’t individuals simply be educated to take individual responsibility, and spray their own bodies or properties if they wish. This is our individual right to decide.

I am not a religious person, but for those that are, it stuns me that people who honor God, could consider dumping such toxics all over God’s creations in such an callous and ignorant fashion. I am not saying ignorant in a bad way, but ignorant as in the idea that humans simply do not see the bigger inter-connected picture; when human fear is involved, humans are blinded to their deep oneness with all creation; and react poorly and too hastily to fear - what they do to the environment, they end up, in the end, doing to themselves. There is no way that human have designed a pesticide that targets only mosquitos, and not in some way, impacts all other living things....we are simply not that capable, and never will be....plus we all share most of the same DNA. Beyond that, mosquitos are an essential part of the chain of life, particularly in the marsh and woods, where many live.

It certainly runs counter to the “think first, spray last” idea. Where is the balanced, holistic, scientific thinking of actions vs consequences? It was noted that Maine’s first case of WNV was found in 2012; and this is our reaction to it? One case prompts such a disproportionate response? What of the millions of American that die each day from other illnesses? What further unnecessary harm will humans inflict on our planet in the name of fear?

Finally, I do not feel this issue has had enough press and the public is not aware of these drastic rule change possibilities. I urge you to consider extending your deadline for comment and publicizing more.

Thank you kindly for your consideration,
Terri Eddy
Scarborough, ME

Schlein, Paul B

From: Jennings, Henry
Sent: Friday, March 15, 2013 9:52 AM
To: Bills, Anne; Schlein, Paul B
Subject: FW: Aerial Spraying
Attachments: PesticideLtr.doc

From: Suzanne Foley-Ferguson [<mailto:PInusStrobus@maine.rr.com>]
Sent: Friday, March 15, 2013 9:37 AM
To: Jennings, Henry
Subject: Aerial Spraying

I have attached a letter for you to distribute to those that are making a decision on this proposed rule. I have also cut and pasted it below. Thank you.

Suzanne Foley-Ferguson
331 Black Point Road
Scarborough, ME 04074
207-883-1162
PInusStrobus@maine.rr.com

March 15, 2013

Dear Mr. Jennings and Members of the Board of Pesticide Control,

(please pass this on to anyone with decision making powers)

Please do not vote to relax any of the existing standards for aerial spraying of pesticides. While I appreciate some people's concern that West Nile Virus and/ or EEE may spread, we are not in imminent danger. These concerns remind me of H1N1 a couple years back when we were told by the Maine CDC (on radio and television, no less) that it was going to be a huge epidemic and everyone should get vaccinated immediately. It was not a huge epidemic. More people died of the regular flu that year.

These issues are complicated, but their "urgency" is not always about science. As I'm sure you are quite aware, politics and money play a dangerous part. The Maine CDC is not an organization that should be allowed to determine whether a threat is imminent and take action that could affect thousands of people for years to come without notifying people. They do not have the capacity to take on this responsibility.

I was a landscaper when I was in my late 20's, working pulling weeds in a private neighborhood, when I saw, heard, and felt a fog like substance spread over me and the yard I was working in. A substance was swishing out of a hose on a passing truck. They were spraying for mosquitos. They were spraying me. Without notice.

When I attempted to get pregnant and have children during the next few years, I could not. My husband and I spent the next seven years and thousands of dollars on fertility treatments. In all, I had four miscarriages.

I can't link that day directly with why I could not hold on to a baby, but I can pinpoint times in my life that I believe that I was put in harmful situations without my consent; times when my health was put at risk by other individuals; instances when my life could be changed forever.

And that day, as a landscaper was one of them.

I now know that scientists have linked pesticides with fertility. Pesticides are designed to shut down an insects neurological system. It's not surprising then that pesticides are also linked with human neurological diseases, birth defects, liver damage, and a host of other human health problems. Spraying these toxic chemicals that are KNOWN to harm human health, in an effort to stop the spread of something that MIGHT harm human health, is counterproductive to public health policy.

Furthermore, poisoning the population, including children, the elderly, the ill, the compromised with aerial spraying is irresponsible. I should be able to protect myself and my family. Strict notification laws should remain in effect.

Spraying could cause a health crisis that is far greater than the spread of either of the diseases you are trying to prevent. Please remember that when you vote no to aerial spraying and to eliminating notification requirements.

Sincerely,

Suzanne A. Foley-Ferguson

Schlein, Paul B

From: Jennings, Henry
Sent: Friday, March 15, 2013 4:01 PM
To: Bills, Anne; Schlein, Paul B
Subject: FW: Aerial spraying of pesticides

-----Original Message-----

From: James [<mailto:jmacmaho@maine.rr.com>]
Sent: Friday, March 15, 2013 3:42 PM
To: Jennings, Henry
Subject: Aerial spraying of pesticides

Dear Friends in Augusta: As a Pediatrician, I have some strong feelings about the chemicals young children and fetuses become exposed to through no fault of their own. As the nervous system develops it is affected by more chemicals than we know about, and many of the chemicals in our food and air that we do know about have significant effects on the developing nervous system. We are also aware of the diseases carried by insects and understand the pressures to control them. Educating the public about personal protection is apparently more effective and certainly safer than exposing people and non-dangerous animals to poisons on a large scale, and spraying large areas is only going to put more people at risk of long term issues. Please take into consideration the potential damage that insecticide use presents and do all you can to prevent what may sound like an easy fix. The story of DDT for mosquito control and lead for smooth running of car engines should serve as warning enough. Be responsible. Thank you for your consideration ,
James R. MacMahon, M.D., Scarborough

Sent from my iPad

Schlein, Paul B

From: Jennings, Henry
Sent: Friday, March 15, 2013 3:42 PM
To: Bills, Anne; Schlein, Paul B
Subject: FW: Spraying for WNV control

From: james maier [<mailto:jhmaiermd@gmail.com>]
Sent: Friday, March 15, 2013 3:41 PM
To: Jennings, Henry
Cc: Karen D'Andrea; Susan Wilder
Subject: Spraying for WNV control

Dear Mr. Jennings and members of the Pesticide Control Board,

I'm writing to oppose any planned spraying of pesticides in the Scarborough Marsh. I'm a physician and member of the Maine Medical Association's Public Health Committee who has lived on Black Pt. Rd. adjacent to the marsh for nearly 40 years, and recall an unfortunate era when helicopters spraying DDT passed close to my house. Throughout that time I've spent many days walking the marsh, primarily as a duck hunter, and have always been impressed with the complexity of this vital coastal ecosystem.

What evidence I've read tells me that effectiveness of spraying is questionable, that the nature of WNV infection is far less deadly than public misconception suggests, but that the toxicity of widespread spraying may cause harm to a broad spectrum of local wildlife from invertebrates at the bottom of the food chain to birds and other mammals. I'm a grandfather of 7 and don't want to see these or other children unnecessarily exposed to toxic chemicals whose potential adverse effects haven't been adequately researched, despite disingenuous claims of manufacturers to the contrary

A better approach to controlling this disease involves public education about the minimal actual risks, steps to take to avoid mosquito bites, and ramped up monitoring to determine more specifically which areas of the state are WNV hot spots, rather than relying on the shotgun approach of widespread spraying.

Sincerely, James H. Maier, M.D. Scarborough 883-5420



MAINE
Lobstermen's Association, Inc.
21 Western Avenue, Suite 1 • Kennebunk, ME 04043
Phone: 207-967-4555 • Fax: 866-407-3770
www.maine lobstermen.org

Henry S Jennings, Director
Maine Board of Pesticides Control
28 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333

March 15, 2013

Dear Mr. Jennings:

The Maine Lobstermen's Association (MLA) is submitting these comments in strong opposition to the Maine Board of Pesticides Control proposed amendments to Chapters 20, 22 and 51. The MLA is Maine's oldest and largest fishing industry organization whose mission is to advocate for responsible resource management and prosperity for Maine's commercial lobstermen.

The Maine lobster industry is the state's most valuable fishery and is the economic engine for our coastal communities. In 2012, a record 126 million pounds of lobster were landed in Maine, valued at nearly \$339 million – contributing and estimated \$1 billion to Maine's economy.

The proposed amendments to existing pesticide rules raise serious concerns. While the MLA takes very seriously the public health concerns posed by vector-borne disease threats, we wholly disagree with the approach proposed through these amended rules. MLA has been tracking the issue of vector borne diseases for many years, and participated in the state's West Nile Virus Working Group. MLA also participated in the Environmental Risk Advisory Committee (ERAC) which developed best practices for brown tail moth control.

MLA has many concerns about the implementation of programs to control adult mosquito populations, and we are particularly concerned with spray programs. Since lobster and mosquitoes are both arthropods, many chemicals designed to kill mosquitoes will also have lethal affects on lobster. And trace amounts are known to have sub-lethal affects on lobster, the cumulative effects of which are not understood.

The story of the lobster die-off in Long Island Sound is well known, and its economic consequences were dire. Research on the causes of the Long Island Sound die-off indicated a perfect storm of factors which implicated a combination of environmental conditions driven by high water temperatures and disease. Though pesticides were not directly implicated in the die-off, laboratory studies discussed in the 2006 report demonstrated both lethal and sub-lethal effects of pesticides on lobster. In 2012, Connecticut state agencies found traces of pesticides in lobster following reports of weak and dying lobster, in large part due to advances in technologies able to detect these pesticides (see attached article, *Landings*).

Through our participation in the West Nile Virus Working Group, the MLA learned that the use of adulticides for mosquito control are not recommended. Though they may have short-term benefits in controlling adult mosquitoes, they are not effective in controlling mosquito populations. The MLA opposes this approach to mosquito control, and adamantly opposes weakening the state's pesticide rules to allow for its widespread implementation.

In the event that vector-borne disease becomes a public health issue for the state of Maine, the MLA strongly urges the Board of Pesticide control to conduct public education aimed at educating Mainers on prevention efforts such as eliminating breeding sites, encouraging natural predators, eliminating resting habitats and usual personal protection to prevent bites (see attached educational brochure from 2001).

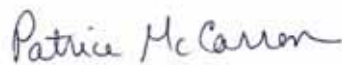
If education is not enough to eliminate the public health risk of vector borne disease, and additional mosquito control is necessary, the MLA strongly urges BPC to implement a strategy to utilize mosquito control methods such as larvicides which have the least potential impact on lobster and other marine species. The MLA understands the *Bacillus thuringiensis israelensis* (Bti) could be a viable alternative.

The MLA is adamantly opposed to any regulatory changes that would eliminate the property owner's right to be excluded from aerial spray programs. We are very concerned about the potential for drift and non-target application of pesticides in and around the shoreline could negatively affect the lobster population, even if sensitive sites are excluded from aerial programs. Further, exempting a government sponsored, wide-area vector control program from the Board's drift rule is extremely concerning and could put the lobster fishery at risk.

The MLA strongly urges the Board of Pesticide Control and the Center for Disease Control to rethink its strategy to protect public health from the threat of vector-born disease. Weakening the state's rules to allow a wide-area mosquito control program, known to be ineffective in controlling mosquito populations, is irresponsible and should not be supported. Instead, we urge the state to consider adopting rules to allow use of safer and more effective mosquito control products, such as Bti's.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Patrice McCarron".

Patrice McCarron
Director


[about us](#)
[programs](#)
[support](#)
[mla website](#)
[contact us](#)
[news](#)

LANDINGS

News & Views from Maine's Lobstering Community

DOWNLOAD

[March 2013](#)
[February 2013](#)
[January 2013](#)
[Past issues](#)

CATEGORIES

[COMMUNITY VOICES](#)
[MANAGEMENT](#)
[MISCELLANEOUS](#)
[PEOPLE](#)
[SCIENCE](#)

ARCHIVES

[March 2013](#)
[February 2013](#)
[January 2013](#)
[December 2012](#)
[November 2012](#)
[October 2012](#)
[September 2012](#)
[August 2012](#)
[July 2012](#)
[June 2012](#)
[May 2012](#)
[April 2012](#)
[March 2012](#)
[February 2012](#)
[January 2012](#)
[December 2011](#)
[November 2011](#)
[October 2011](#)
[September 2011](#)
[August 2011](#)
[July 2011](#)
[June 2011](#)
[May 2011](#)
[April 2011](#)

TRACES OF PESTICIDES FOUND IN LONG ISLAND SOUND LOBSTERS

By [Sarah Paquette](#)

First published in the MLA Newsletter, September, 2012.

Lobstermen fishing in Long Island Sound (LIS) began to notice an increase in sickly looking and quickly-dying lobsters back in 1999 culminating in a wide scale die-off. The studies that followed found that lobsters were suffering from stress due to the increased water temperatures and a host of poor environmental conditions and presence of parasites in the lobsters' tissue. The lobsters were also tested for pesticides to determine if spraying for mosquitoes in the area had a hand in the die-off. The results showed no signs of pesticides. A final report on Long Island Sound lobsters was prepared by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Connecticut Sea Grant, University of Connecticut, and the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection and published in 2006. Now, eight years later, Long Island Sound lobsters have been tested again for pesticides after reports of dead and weak lobsters reached the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) last fall. The results showed trace amounts of pesticides in the lobsters' tissues



Map courtesy of Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection.

"We were really surprised to find these [pesticides] in the lobsters' tissues at all," explained Bill Hyatt, the bureau chief of the Bureau of Natural Resources in Connecticut of the preliminary results from a 2011 study. Advances in technology have allowed scientists to test for concentrations of three mosquito control agents (malathion, methoprene, and resmethrin) at one-tenth of the concentrations able to be detected in previous studies. "The analytic lab now, compared to a decade ago, is more advanced," Hyatt said. "[The results were] unexpected, especially after last year when there was very little pesticide used. Mosquito larvae are now controlled with a virus, not a pesticide, and when methoprene was used last year it was sprayed in an area away from the shoreline," he said.

Mosquitoes and lobsters may not appear to have much in common, but both are from the phylum *arthropoda*, a group of animals classified by their hard exoskeletons, segmented bodies, and jointed appendages. Since both "bugs" come from the same phylum, their systems are very similar. So, it's not hard to imagine that a chemical designed to kill a mosquito could have damaging effects on lobsters as well.

The 2006 study, however, found no signs of pesticides in lobsters and concluded that pesticides were not the reason for the die-off. The same conclusion was reached in this, more recent study. "We don't know the percentage of lobsters found with trace amounts of pesticides, but we don't think the pesticides are the reason for the die-off in 1999 or 2011" Hyatt said. He said the design for sampling more lobsters is still being developed but that so far, the small amounts of pesticides found in lobsters were found in tissues where such chemicals would be expected to accumulate naturally. "We saw it in the tomalley. But it's not expected to affect the meat," said Hyatt. The state of Connecticut has a standing health advisory against consuming tomalley, instituted long before this study.

"Last year there was very little spraying taking place. Resmethrin is used on adult [mosquitoes], but very little is used and it breaks down quickly," explained Hyatt. Resmethrin, malathion, and methoprene are all pesticides that have been used to control mosquito populations in Connecticut, New York, and more recently in Massachusetts to reduce the threat of mosquito-borne pathogens such as West Nile virus and Eastern equine encephalitis (EEE). Hyatt said that all of Connecticut saw an outbreak of West Nile virus in the summer and fall of 1999, but only eastern Connecticut was affected by EEE. Unfortunately the illness was discovered in Massachusetts this July.

Mosquitoes sampled this summer in York County, Maine, were found to be carrying West Nile virus in August. The *Kennebec Journal* quoted state epidemiologist Dr. Stephen Sears stating that there is no plan for pesticide spraying in the state, but if a decision to spray is made, it will be done so on the local level. "The Maine

- March 2011
- February 2011
- January 2011
- December 2010
- November 2010
- October 2010
- September 2010
- August 2010
- July 2010
- June 2010
- May 2010
- April 2010
- March 2010
- February 2010
- January 2010
- November 2009
- October 2009
- September 2009

Lobstermen's Association (MLA) has closely monitored the use of pesticides in coastal communities and worked to educate state and municipal officials on the potential harm to lobsters resulting from spraying to control mosquito populations," explained Patrice McCarron, director of the MLA. The MLA was successful in getting legislation passed to regulate aerial spraying for brown tail moth along the shoreline.

"Lobstermen in the [Long Island Sound] area have been concerned [about the effects of pesticide spraying] for some time. But there has been no evidence to [suggest lobsters ingested the pesticides] until recently. There is no evidence that pesticides have caused the problem," Hyatt said. A comprehensive Sound-wide screening of lobsters for pesticides will be designed and implemented within the coming months. Hyatt estimated that results would be available by the end of 2013, but he warned that it may take longer if this study leads to additional studies on Long Island Sound lobsters.

109 September 2012

Category: [Science](#)

◀ [Guest Column: Update from the Lobster Council of Canada](#)

[So you want to know: How did the DMR get started?](#) ▶

[About Us](#)
[Staff](#)
[The Board](#)

[Programs](#)
[Education](#)
[Community Support](#)
[Research](#)

[Support](#)
[Claws for a Cause](#)
[Shop](#)
[Donate](#)

[News](#)
[Read Landings](#)
[About Landings](#)
[Submission guidelines](#)
[Advertising](#)

CONTACT US

Maine Lobstermen's Community Alliance
 21 Western Ave # 1
 Kennebunk, ME 04043
 207-967-6221
info@mainelobstermen.org

Mosquito Control to Protect You and Maine's Environment

Should I be afraid of mosquitoes? If I get bitten, will I get sick? What should I do?

Mosquito control is becoming an increasingly important issue for Maine. With the arrival of diseases such as West Nile Virus (WNV) to the East Coast, simply tolerating mosquitoes may not be enough. Fortunately, there are simple steps that you can take to stay healthy without posing unnecessary risk to Maine's precious natural resources.

A healthy coast is a lifeline of Maine's economy. Maine's commercial fisheries generate 26,000 year-round jobs and contribute over \$773 million to the economy (2000). Maine's coast also supports a vibrant tourism industry of beach goers, recreational fishermen and others who seek to enjoy the beauty and pristine nature of our coast. When considering a mosquito control program, it is important to balance the benefits and risks of various methods. Pesticide use could pose serious risk to people and our coastal resources.

Fortunately in Maine, our risk of exposure to mosquito-borne disease is quite low because only a few of Maine's mosquito species are known carriers. Our short summer season further limits our exposure to mosquitoes and illness.

What Can I do?

Your most effective protection is to control mosquito populations around your home and reduce your risk of being bitten. Many common mosquitoes like those that carry WNV do not travel far from their breeding areas. The steps you take to eliminate breeding sites in your own neighborhood will benefit you directly. Reduce local mosquito populations and your risk of mosquito-borne disease by following three simple steps:

1. Eliminate Standing Water -- Don't Let Mosquitoes Breed in Your Neighborhood



Remove old tires, tin cans, plastic containers, or other water-holding containers; make sure roof gutters drain properly; clean and chlorinate swimming pools and hot tubs; drain water from pool covers and old boat hulls; change the water in birdbaths once a week; empty water collected in children's toys; and turn over plastic wading pools and wheelbarrows when not in use.

2. Reduce the Number of Mosquitoes



Encourage natural predators such as dragonflies, bats, birds, frogs and fish to thrive in your neighborhood because they feed on adult mosquitoes and mosquito larvae. Eliminate mosquito-resting sites by removing dense brush and keeping grassy or overgrown areas mowed. Chemical products may pose a risk to natural predators.

3. Don't Get Bitten



Make sure that doors and windows have tight-fitting screens without tears or holes. Wear protective clothing such as long pants, long sleeved shirts and socks when outside during the evening or early morning hours and consider the use of an insect repellent.

Think First, Spray Last

Experts agree when it comes to pesticides. The Maine Board of Pesticides Control recommends that you "think first, spray last" and the Center for Disease Control recommends the use of pesticides **only as a last resort**. While pesticides can be used as part of a mosquito control program, they also kill other things including predators, which naturally consume lots of mosquitoes.

In fact, mosquitoes live no more than one year and develop resistance to pesticides faster than most of their predators. Cicero Swamp in New York State was sprayed to control mosquitoes over a period of 11 years and instead of declining, the mosquito population multiplied fifteen-fold.

The use of chemicals poses some unique dilemmas. To kill adult mosquitoes, a chemical spray must hit them directly. These **sprays may be as little as 30% effective** especially where tree cover, tall grass, weeds or brush protect them from contact with the spray. Generally more than one application is needed because adults hatch at different times during the summer. Each application is one more opportunity to expose marine and aquatic organisms to chemicals. Even when applied without error, there are unanticipated risks. An unexpected thundershower can wash newly applied chemicals down ditches and streams into salt marshes and other important coastal habitats.



Marine species such as lobsters and crabs are closely related to insects -- they are all arthropods -- and are susceptible to many of the same chemicals that are used to attack mosquitoes. Juvenile lobsters are very sensitive and are at a high risk because they live in salt marshes and shallow areas along the coast. Runoff from rain showers flows through these areas threatening marine life with the chemicals that are washed away.

In Maine, pesticide use is regulated by the Board of Pesticides Control and Department of Environmental Protection. Pesticides pose such a risk to aquatic species that it is illegal to apply them to any water body, including salt marsh and wetland areas, without a permit. Towns may elect to spray with approved pesticides if they make a proper notification to the Board of Pesticide Control, use a licensed applicator, and spray according to label instructions determined by EPA. Towns most often apply pesticides to control nuisance mosquitoes, control brush and maintain playing fields.



Another important risk is from homeowners who simply don't want mosquitoes around. Though well-intentioned, people are usually not adequately informed and often misuse chemicals. The most common mistake is not following the instructions on the label and applying a little bit extra to make sure all of the mosquitoes are dead. This is against the law and counter productive. The doses indicated on the label are carefully calculated. More pesticide does not mean a better kill and often results in diminished effectiveness.

So before you spray, weigh the real risks and consequences, intended and unintended.

For more information, contact:

Maine Board of Pesticides Control
www.state.me.us/agriculture/pesticides
(207) 287-2731

Maine Bureau of Health
www.state.me.us/dhs/boh
(207) 287-8016

Maine Department of Environmental Protection
www.state.me.us/dep
(207) 287-7688

Maine Department of Marine Resources
www.state.me.us/dmr
(207) 624-6550 or (207) 633-9500

Produced and distributed by:

Maine Dept. of Marine Resources
www.state.me.us/dmr
(207) 633-9500

Maine Lobstermen's Association
www.mainelobstermen.org
(207) 351-1676

Maine Lobster Promotion Council
www.mainelobsterpromo.com
(207) 947-2966



Schlein, Paul B

From: Jennings, Henry
Sent: Friday, March 15, 2013 5:04 PM
To: Bills, Anne; Schlein, Paul B
Subject: FW: Aerial spraying - NO!

-----Original Message-----

From: Laurie McCammon [<mailto:lauriemccammon@gmail.com>]
Sent: Friday, March 15, 2013 5:00 PM
To: Jennings, Henry
Subject: Aerial spraying - NO!

Dear Mr. Jennings,

I am writing to register my strong opposition and grave concern about a proposal to commence aerial spraying of mosquito control chemicals in the state of Maine. As a lifelong resident, property owner, and mother of a child with multiple life-threatening allergies, I implore our legislators to consider the health risks both known and not yet known of introducing toxic chemicals into our air and properties without our consent. I am highly suspicious of manmade chemicals and their hidden and long term health risks. We cannot be sure that a product deemed "safe" actually is so. For example, did you know that half of the drugs that come to market are pulled within 5 years because they are deemed too dangerous? The FDA is ineffective, underfunded and suffering revolving door staffing patterns. Given the huge profits in the chemical industry, these companies would rather sell their product now and get sued later because it is still highly profitable to do so. Can you really be sure what is being sprayed is safe and that its effects are specific only to mosquitos? I certainly can't. and what about damage to other species of insect and birds? A report on the news this week blamed the disappearance of 72% of the monarch butterfly population on pesticides. I am also deeply concerned about bees which are already suffering chemical stress. We cannot live without pollinators.

No, when in doubt, I urge you to err on the side of citizen choice and freedom from intrusion. Let the citizens protect themselves from mosquito-borne illness by means of their choice which are readily available and affordable, whether DEET, natural alternatives, mosquito netting and bug repellent clothing. Spraying is unwarranted, an unnecessary expense for a cash-strapped state and is highly intrusive on those who are chemical sensitive or who care for the delicate interconnections of the natural ecosystem of our beautiful state.

Respectfully submitted,
Mrs. Laurie McCammon, MSAEd
3 Pintail Point Drive
Scarborough, Maine 04074

Schlein, Paul B

From: Jennings, Henry
Sent: Friday, March 15, 2013 10:08 AM
To: Bills, Anne; Schlein, Paul B
Subject: FW: Stratton and Bluff Islands

From: Scully, David [<mailto:dscully@coatue.com>]
Sent: Friday, March 15, 2013 9:57 AM
To: Jennings, Henry
Cc: Lucy LaCasse; 'Stephen W. Kress'; csmith@verrilldana.com
Subject: Stratton and Bluff Islands

Dear Mr. Jennings,

The Prouts Neck Audubon Society requests that aerial spraying not be done over Stratton and Bluff Islands off the coast of Scarborough, Maine or over the Scarborough Marsh watershed. National Audubon has identified 32 priority bird species that are under threat in the Atlantic FlyWay. Nearly all of them migrate through the Scarborough watershed. Stratton Island has the largest diversity of nesting waterbirds of any island in Maine. We have identified more than 240 species of birds on the island including the federally endangered Roseate Tern. Stratton Island hosts over half the Roseate Tern population in Maine. Widespread aerial spraying of pesticides to control West Nile Virus or EEE will put all the bird species in the Scarborough eco-system at risk while also threatening our children, public water supplies and other wildlife. We oppose the rule change your agency is considering to allow government agencies to conduct aerial spraying of pesticides without landowner consent.

Respectfully submitted,

David B. Scully
President
Prouts Neck Audubon Society
499 Black Point Road
Scarborough, ME 04074

This message is solely for the use of the intended recipient. If you have received this message in error, you should notify the sender by reply e-mail and immediately delete the message and all copies of it from your system and destroy any hard copies or printouts.

The information contained in this message and any attachment is confidential, proprietary and may be privileged and protected from disclosure, and any mistransmission does not alter or waive the protections afforded such information. Unauthorized review, use, dissemination, printing, copying, disclosure or publication of all or any part of the contained information is prohibited without the express written consent of the sender. The sender does not endorse or guarantee the accuracy and completeness of the contained information, and neither the recipient nor any other person is entitled to rely on such information. The sender has assumed no obligation to correct or supplement the contained information. Some or all of the contained information constitutes opinion and may be based on unconfirmed communications. This is not an offer, recommendation or solicitation to buy or sell securities.

Messages sent to and from Coatue may be monitored. The sender of this email is associated with an entity that trades in securities. As a result, the sender does not wish to receive any material, non-public information regarding a public company or information provided in violation of any duty or obligation or any U.S. or non-U.S. securities laws.

Schlein, Paul B

From: Jennings, Henry
Sent: Friday, March 15, 2013 4:02 PM
To: Bills, Anne; Schlein, Paul B
Subject: FW: Rule numbers 2013-P016, 2013-P017 and 2013-P018 Comments

-----Original Message-----

From: Adam Tomash [<mailto:avantgardens@me.com>]
Sent: Friday, March 15, 2013 3:45 PM
To: Jennings, Henry
Subject: Rule numbers 2013-P016, 2013-P017 and 2013-P018 Comments

Here we are again. when i first moved to Maine in the 70's it was the spruce bud worm and paper company interests. Now we want to BLANKET THE LAND WITH POISONS AGAIN. it doesn't make sense.

If you want to target mosquitos with vector specific toxins like Bt that is one thing but to use non-specific poisons that not only reduce populations of target vectors but also decimates populations of the very organisms that help to keep the vectors under control is quite a different thing. it is not a well thought out approach to do that. only spray where the vectors breed and then only with vector specific toxins that are non-persistent.

be sure you have some good cost-benefit analyses to back up your requests for this madness. included in these analyses should be long range human health impacts. i would trade a few human deaths from Nile for thousands of later deaths from cancer and other health problems.

adam tomash
751 High St.
west gardiner maine 04345
207-582-5248

Sent from my iPad



Wild Blueberry Commission OF MAINE

5784 York Complex, Suite 52, Orono, Maine 04469-5784

TEL: 207-581-1475

FAX: 207-581-3499

March 15, 2013

Dr. John Jemison, Jr., Chair
Maine Board of Pesticides Control
28 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333

RE: Chapter 20 and Chapter 22 Rulemaking

Dear Dr. Jemison and Board Members:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide written comments regarding the proposed rule changes in Chapter 20 and 22. The Wild Blueberry Commission of Maine works on behalf of Maine's 575 wild blueberry growers. We appreciate the Board and staff working proactively to develop a control system for vectors such as flying insects that also considers other concerns.

Our core concern with the potential of widespread flying insect vector control is the potential for wide area applications to result in a residue on fruit. Our concern is for both organic growers and Integrated Crop Management (ICM) growers is the potential for fruit being unacceptable in the market place. In the case of organic, the National Organic Program standards in section 205.672 has requirements when a prohibited substance (such as a synthetic pesticide) is "applied to a certified operation". The NOP regulations state if an application is applied to a certified operation, certification is not lost provided: "(a) Any harvested crop or plant part to be harvested that has contact with a prohibited substance applied as the result of a Federal or State emergency pest or disease treatment program cannot be sold, labeled, or represented as organically produced;". If there is contact with a prohibited substance the organic value of the crop is lost. If the decision of the Board is to have an opt out option for organic and other growers lands, in the case of organic, how big of an exclusion zone is necessary to ensure "contact with a prohibited substance applied" has not occurred? It does not appear Chapter 20 section 6. C. 2. and section 6. C. 3. protects organically certified crops or ICM growers.

In the case of ICM growers, we understand there is likely little risk ICM produced berries not meeting US tolerances, however our customers predetermine which pest control materials can be used. Acceptable materials differ by markets. We need to be assured any applications close to managed fields will not result in any detectable residues on maturing fruit for any material unacceptable to the market place. This concern could be

managed by defining commercial wild blueberry fields with maturing fruit as sensitive areas to be avoided or ensuring an opt out option and protection from deposition.

We reviewed the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, September 2012, “Cranberry Sampling for Sumithrin in Southeastern Massachusetts” study provided by staff. Due to the design of the study and result obtained, it cannot be determined if this one compound, sumithrin, would be detectable or not on ground based plants the morning after a nighttime application for mosquito control. Based on what we know today, we need to assume there could be residues on maturing fruit the morning after a wide area application for vector control. If this fruit was harvested, processed and testing revealed a residue for a material not approved by a customer, the berries would be unmarketable.

Managed wild blueberry fields either under organic or other ICM management should be considered sensitive areas in relation to wide area vector control treatments or a clear, enforceable opt out option for both ground and aerial applications should be an option.

Following are some specific comments on the proposed rules.

Chapter 20: SPECIAL PROVISIONS

Chapter 20, section 6 B. 2. will provide an opt out option for ground application providing written notice to landowners is received in time. We appreciate this option.

Chapter 20, section 6. C. 2. Is more problematic as the ground based opt out is only a “reasonable effort”. A stronger requirement to provide an opt out option for commercial fruit fields (ICM managed and organic managed) with maturing fruit is needed.

Chapter 20, section 6 C. 3. addressing aerial application provides inadequate protection to wild blueberry fields as it states “takes affirmative steps, to the extent feasible, to avoid applications to sensitive sites as identified by Board policy”. Protection for fruits that could be exposed to applications are necessary. The Board is proposing a level of protection to sensitive areas. One approach is for wild blueberry fields with maturing fruit to be considered sensitive areas in this rule. Then rules needs to be strengthened to ensure wild blueberry fields identified as sensitive areas will be protected from residues.

An alternative approach to Chapter 20 protections for ICM growers could be for the Board to sponsor research investigating the degradation of control materials that may be used in Maine for wide area disease vector control. The results of this work would be to develop degradation curves for residual from a sunny and dry weather period and a wet and rainy period to determine if non detectable residue level can be achieve through short field degradation periods. If ground applications of control materials made directly to mature low bush blueberries at rates equal to and greater than vector control rates results in no detectable residues, then ICM growers could be fairly well assured vector control applications made to the air column would be of minimal product quality risk.

Organic growers will still protection from contact with a prohibited substance or compensation for lost value.

Chapter 22. STANDARDS FOR OUTDOOR APPLICATION OF PESTICIDES BY POWERED EQUIPMENT IN ORDER TO MINIMIZE OFF-TARGET DEPOSITION

Four-five years ago we heard from the Board and staff that standards for outdoor applications were inadequate, that some applicators were not doing a good job, and this chapter needed extensive revision. The Board took up revisions to this rule regarding the standards for outdoor applications. A lot of work was put into revising this section by all. The effort resulted in defining criteria for a professional application. Pest control applications contracted or made by the Department of Transportation and other agencies need to meet State rules. Our general comment and perspective is the standards in Chapter 22 should apply to all applicators and application types.

Generally, all well done, professional applications should meet the same standards where ever they are made, ICM farms, organic farms, and public health applications. However, we understand that wide area, public health applications for practical reasons cannot meet some of the standards in Chapter 22. The Board should carefully review the standards and exempt public health applications from specific requirements that do not make sense. Additionally, there may be applications standards specific to public health applications that should be added. In short, this Chapter should be reviewed and reconsidered.

Our first question is how will sensitive areas discussed in Chapter 20 be protected if the Board just exempts applications from Chapter 22 which requires protection for sensitive areas? We request that the Board affords maturing wild blueberry fields protection as sensitive areas, and that protection is assured.

As proposed, the Board recommends a complete exemption from Chapter 22, “provided that reasonable efforts are made to avoid spraying non-target areas”. What defines a “reasonable effort” to avoid spraying non-target areas? Why would the standards for a vector control application initiated by government be significantly different from other applications?

Specific Comments on Chapter 22 Rules, Section 2. Standards of Conduct for Pesticide Applications

Since it appears most of the requirements of this section could and should apply to vector control treatments we will only note here sections that appear problematic. Our recommendation is that the majority of this section remain applicable and that vector control treatments be exempt from specific requirements that do not work. Sections suggested for modification or removal include:

C. Identifying and Recording Sensitive Areas

This section should remain for wide area vector control applications; however, the definition of sensitive areas needs to be revised for these types of applications. For example, structures occupied could be excluded, but certain

types of food crops with above ground exposed, edible portion such as wild blueberries should be defined as sensitive areas. The Board may want to consider adding outdoor gathering areas used in the evening such as ball fields and outdoor concert venues as sensitive areas to be avoided during specific times.

D. Presence of Humans, Animal

The first sentence in this section should apply. The second sentence appears impractical for wide area vector control applications.

Specific Suggested Changes regarding Chapter 22 Rules, Section 3. Standards for Aerial Application of Pesticides

B. Site Plan Requirements

We are assuming there is a need for this section. For example, refer to Chapter 20, Section 6. C. 3. If aerial applications are being made and sensitive sites are to be avoided, even if only to the extent feasible, then sensitive areas should be included in a site plan. The one exception to this section would be I. (iii) sensitive areas likely to be occupied.

C. Site Specific Application Checklist

It appears most sections would still apply to a well done vector control application. The sections that may not apply or may need modification include II., V., and VIII.

Note: The Board may want to consider special requirements for wide area applications that avoid applications within a specific distance (ground and aerial) to outdoor public gatherings such as evening sporting events, concerts, fairs, festivals, etc. These areas could be treated in the middle of the night after events are done for the day.

D. Buffer Zones for any Sensitive Area Likely to Be Occupied.

This section could be modified for wide area treatment such as focusing on areas of public gatherings.

E. Wind Speed for Aerial Applications

Wind speed conditions for aerial, wide area vector control applications should be defined. This would help protect “opt out” and “sensitive areas”.

Section 4. General Standards for Off-Target Pesticide Discharges and Residue

Section B. Standards for Unconsented, Off -Target Drift of Pesticides

Most parts of section B appear that they should apply to wide area vector control applications. However, some sections may need to be exempted or modified such as section III (iii).

Summary

There must be standards in Chapters 20 and 22 such that sensitive areas and/or opt out areas can be effectively established to protect organic and ICM managed wild blueberry fields with maturing fruit. An alternative that could be investigated for ICM growers is to determine if there is a potential for residue detection and the length of time necessary to degrade any potential residues for control materials that may be used in Maine. The majority of the provisions in Chapter 22 are still applicable standards for a professionally managed wide area insect vector control applications and should be retained.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



David K. Bell
Executive Director

CC: Wild Blueberry Commission
Wild Blueberry Advisory Committee

Schlein, Paul B

From: Jennings, Henry
Sent: Friday, March 15, 2013 12:53 PM
To: Bills, Anne; Schlein, Paul B
Subject: FW: aerial spraying

From: Art & Sallie Wilder [<mailto:awilder@tdstelme.net>]
Sent: Friday, March 15, 2013 12:35 PM
To: Jennings, Henry
Subject: aerial spraying

Please do NOT relax rules about aerial spraying to prevent WNV or EEE. These diseases are so little threat to people and the potential for damage to beneficial insects is so huge - particularly our very threatened honey bees - to say nothing of the critters, such as bats, that feed on insects. **We need much tighter regulations, not relaxed regulations re any pesticide applications.**

Thank you

Sara Wilder
Norridgewock