

# NATIONAL WORKING PARTY ON PESTICIDE APPLICATIONS

## Chair's Quarterly Report

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January 2015

The NWPPA is working to bring a national, coordinated technical approach to spray drift issues which I believe that has been acknowledged and recognised by stakeholders.

*Our vision is that the regulatory system is science based and recognises the use of drift reduction technologies, better education and practice to enable the use of smaller, practical buffer zones.*

### APVMA Spray Drift Policy Update

The APVMA are continuing their project to review the regulatory framework for the management of spray drift and are collaborating closely with the NWPPA, particularly in the area of recognising drift reduction technologies. An update was provided to the Executive of the NWPPA during its last meeting on 24 November 2014 and an extensive public consultation process will commence mid-April 2015. Please contact the APVMA Spray Drift Project Manager, Dave Rumbold, should you wish to discuss the project. Dave can be contacted by email: [david.rumbold@apvma.gov.au](mailto:david.rumbold@apvma.gov.au) or phone: 02 6210 4744.

### Work of the Technical Working Group

The Technical Working Group (TWG) was established under the NWPPA to provide technical advice to the NWPPA Executive Committee and develop a science-based hypothesis that could (1) enable and facilitate operational and practical use of downwind no-spray buffers, where appropriate, and (2) provide mechanisms for the Australian regulatory system to recognise and support industry best management practices and the adoption of drift reduction technologies (DRTs) with potential reductions in the size of the otherwise generic no-spray buffer zones.

The TWG has been meeting regularly during 2013/14 and has provided a series of reports to the

Executive. The latest report (No.4) delivered in December 2014, provides a summary of methods and regulatory procedures considered by the TWG and puts forward a hypothesis for determining the effectiveness of ground application DRTs developed for use in broad-acre agriculture. It also presents possible mechanisms for the determination of the effectiveness of DRTs in horticulture and enhancements to current methods used to assess the aerial application of pesticides. Further information will become available in early 2015.

### The DRT Database Study

As part of a suite of research initiatives endorsed by the NWPPA, a database of potential DRTs (nozzles, formulations and adjuvants) has been compiled by the University of Queensland.

The three year study funded by the GRDC has two principal aims, namely to:

- (1) Develop a database accommodating nozzles, formulations and adjuvants that will support the use of DRTs for the application of pesticides using ground boom sprayers and the development of spray decision-support tools for applicators such as Smart Phone Droplet Size Calculator 'Apps'.
- (2) Develop wind tunnel deposition curves through the measurement of flux profiles that can be used to establish the effectiveness of DRTs in reducing spray drift potential.

To date, droplet size spectra measurements have been made for approximately 600 different nozzle formulation and pressure combinations. Each measurement was replicated three times giving a total of approximately 1800 individual measurements. The database also holds an additional 265 unique measurements from an earlier GRDC-funded project and these data will also be combined into the droplet size calculators that are being developed. Over the past two years, UQ has conducted a number of commercial



studies. Examples from this database of completed measurements for ground application are shown below.

The NWPPA has endorsed a process whereby stakeholders can choose and add additional DRT (nozzle/product combinations) as extra treatments into this current project.

Please contact the secretariat ([nwoods@phau.com.au](mailto:nwoods@phau.com.au)) if you would like to take up this opportunity before the scheduled completion of the project in June 2015.

Tank mix		Pressures (bar)	Nozzles
<b>Roundup 4%</b>	CT	1.0, 2.0, 3.0, 4.0, 5.0	Hypro 12002, XR 11002, AIXR 11002, TTI 11002, Turbodrop 11002, XR 110015, AIXt 110015, TTI 110015, TT 110015, Turbodrop 110015, Hypro 12004, XR 11004, AIXR 11004, Turbodrop 11004, TT 11004, TTI 11004
<b>Roundup 2%</b>	CT	1.0, 2.0, 3.0, 4.0, 5.0	Hypro 12002, XR 11002, AIXR 11002, TTI 11002, Turbodrop 11002, XR 110015, AIXR 110015, TTI 110015, TT 110015, Turbodrop 110015, Hypro 12004, XR 11004, AIXR 11004, Turbodrop 11004, TT 11004, TTI 11004
<b>2,4-D Surpass</b>		2.76	Hypro 12002, AIXR 11002, TT 11002, XR11002
<b>2,4-D 300</b>	Amine	2.76	Hypro 12002, AIXR 11002, TT 11002, XR11002
<b>Amicide 625</b>		2.76	Hypro 12002, AIXR 11002, TT 11002, XR11002
<b>Roundup Attack (3%)</b>		1.5, 2.0, 2.5, 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5, 5.0, 5.5	AIXR 11002, AIXR 11003, AIXR 11004, XR 11002, XR 11003, XR 11004
<b>Amicide (1%)</b>	625	1.5, 2.0, 2.5, 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5, 5.0, 5.5	AIXR 11002, AIXR 11003, AIXR 11004, XR 11002, XR 11003, XR 11004, ULD 12004, ULD 12003, Guardian Air 11004, Guardian Air 11003, XRC 11003, AI 110015, TT 110015, AIXR 110015, TTI 110015, XR 110015
<b>Amicide (2%)</b>	625	2.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5, 5.0	Guardian Air 11004, AIXR 11004, TDXL 11004, ULD 12004, AIXR 11003, Guardian air 1003 XR 11003, ULD 12003, AI 11003, AIXR 110015, TT 110015
<b>Roundup Attack (2%)</b>		2.0, 3.0, 4.0, 5.0	Turbodrop 110015, ABJ 110015, MiniDrift 110015, AIXR 110015, AI 110015, Hardi LD 110015, TTI 110015
<b>Spray.Seed (2%)</b>		2.0, 3.0, 4.0, 5.0	AIXR 110015, AIXR 11002, AIXR 11003, TT 110015, TT 11002, TT 11003, AI 110015, AI 11002, AI 11003, Airmix 110015, Airmix 11002, Airmix 11003, ABJ 110015, ABJ 11002, ABJ 11003



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### NWPPA Executive Committee Meeting

The NWPPA Executive Committee met in Canberra on Thursday 24 November 2014. The Executive Committee discussed the APVMA Spray Drift Policy Review with the APVMA's review officer, Dave Rumbold. It is expected that extensive public consultations will begin in mid-April.

The Executive Committee also received a report from its Technical Working Group which is discussed above. The Executive Committee also agreed to the release of its summary of the Education and Training study prepared by Associate Professor John Kent. This summary is now available on our website. The Executive Committee also agreed to the public launch of the NWPPA [www.nwppa.net.au](http://www.nwppa.net.au)

### NWPPA Website

The National Working Party on Pesticide Applications (NWPPA) has officially launched a website [www.nwppa.net.au](http://www.nwppa.net.au) to publicise its work on technologies to reduce spray drift. The website outlines the work of the NWPPA and the outcomes of the research program that is at the heart of the working parties' vision.

The research program includes surveys of current practices, assessment of drift reducing technologies (DRTs), education and training, management of surface temperature inversions, DRTs for aerial applications, and improving spray coverage in horticultural and viticultural applications of pesticides.

Updates about Executive Committee meetings and presentations from the annual meetings that report on progress on the research program are available on the site.

Farmers, applicators and others interested in spray drift issues are encouraged to use the website.

### Next Meeting

Planning is currently underway for the next annual meeting of the NWPPA to provide all interested stakeholders with an update on all current projects. It is likely to be held in Canberra week of 18 May 2015 and will coincide with the launch in Canberra of the spray drift consultation paper by the APVMA. We look forward to providing further details of this meeting shortly.

### NWPPA Executive Committee

Gavan Cattanach	Independent Chair
Gerard Barbell	Nufarm
Jolyon Burnett	Australian Macadamia Society
Ross Giles	HVP Plantations
Melanie Gengos	Farmoz
Keith Hayes	Australian Grape & Wine Authority
Phil Hurst	AAAA
Alastair James	CropLife Australia
Matt Kealley	Canegrowers
Pete Mailler	Grain Producers of Australia
Joe Murrell	Australian Groundsprayers Assn
Jodie Pedrana	Horticulture Innovation Australia
Trevor Ranford	Pistachio Growers' Association Inc.
Colin Sharpe	Dow Agrosience
Michael Schaefer	AusChem Training
Ken Young	GRDC

For further information on any of the initiatives reported in this newsletter please contact:

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