

CURRENT STATUS OF PESTICIDES*

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ABSTRACT

All pesticides must now have either a negligible residue tolerance or a regular residue tolerance. Negligible residue tolerances were established for residues of DDT, DDE or TDE in milk several years ago. Several pesticides have also recently been granted tolerances for their residues in milk.

Regulation of pesticides is changing rapidly. All pesticide registration is now regulated by the Environmental Protection Agency. Registration of new pesticides has become more stringent and the new agency has cancelled registration of some pesticides (DDT and 2, 4, 5-T) and asked for extensive review of other persistent pesticides. There is a proposed revision of pesticide regulations which if passed would bring sweeping changes to pesticide regulations.

Florida has also added new regulations. In 1970, the Restricted Pesticide Law and in 1971 the Persistent Pesticide Law. The Restricted Law makes it necessary to have a permit to sell, purchase, use, store and dispose of certain "restricted" pesticides. The Persistent Law further restrict the use of the persistent insecticides. Proposed legislations currently being considered would ban persistent pesticides and establish a Custom Application Law in Florida.

In view of recent registration cancellations, the dairyman has been fortunate in not losing any critical materials. Rotenone is no longer registered for use on dairy animals. Methoxychlor is recommended in place of rotenone for use in grub control on lactating animals. To avoid grubs it is suggested young stock be treated with a systemic grub insecticide.

Horn flies continue to be a major problem. Dust bags have proven highly successful for horn fly control. Place a dust bag containing a recommended insecticide in an alley leaving the milk room or milking parlor.

If mosquitoes, deer flies or horse flies have been a problem for dairy animals on pasture it is suggested a ULV aerial application of malathion or naled (Dibrom) be used.

Consult the Insecticide Use Guide for Dairy Farms, External Parasites of Livestocks, or the Insect Control Guide for latest insecticide recommendations. Continue to keep aware of problems areas, read and adhere to pesticide labels, and in producing grain and forage use only those materials cleared for use on dairy farms.

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