



Texas Ag Line

Official Publication of the Texas Ag Industries Association ★ 145 West Travis La Grange, Texas 78945 979-968-5602

Summer Meeting Almost Here

August 4-6

August fourth is only a few weeks away so book your rooms for Tuesday, August 4 and Wednesday, August 5 as the La Quinta Inn in Marble Falls prepares to host the Texas Ag Industries Summer Meeting. Call 830-798-2020 and tell them you are with TAIA. All rooms at La Quinta face Lake Marble Falls and Lake LBJ is just up the road with marinas that offer all types of watercraft rentals. Marble Falls is a unique small town offering specialty shops, great restaurants, wineries and museums in the area.

TAIA will welcome everyone with a reception on Tuesday evening from starting at 5:30 Wednesday will bring an early start to the day with meetings beginning at 8 AM. Throughout the day Wednesday, committees will work to plan the year and set the goals for TAIA. All members are welcome to join committees and help decide what you would like your association to do for you and agriculture. That evening Tommy Brandenberger will prepare a steak meal at Lakeside Pavilion which TAIA has booked. We have also rented a pool for a private party and are planning a boat outing. On Thursday morning the board meeting begins at 8:30 and everyone is welcome to attend and participate.

Come to Marble Falls for the Summer Meeting to get the most from your association by helping prepare for 2010 and finalize 2009. Those who participate actively in all TAIA has to offer realize the importance of Texas Ag Industries to its members and all of agriculture. Join us to work hard and to have a great time with your family before summer ends!

Thank you to all the sponsors!

See the list of Summer Meeting Sponsors on page 6.

EPA Pesticide Container and Containment Rule

New federal guidelines are coming out in August, and it is critical for everyone to comprehend these rules and understand what segments of the industry must follow them on a daily basis. EPA is implementing a new rule known as the Pesticide Container and Containment (PCC) Rule. The revisions are found in 40 CFR Parts 152, 156 and 165.

Entities that will be affected are registrants and agricultural refillers, distributors, retailers, commercial applicators and custom blenders.

The containment rules go into effect in August 2009. The Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) will administer EPA's regulations and will focus on compliance assistance and education during the first year.

The rule is divided into two main parts, containers and containment.

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Texas Ag Industries Association

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CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

TAIA Members:

This article comes to you from my new office in Denver, Colorado. June and July have been hectic with moving the family, selling our home, and transferring the business operations. I will continue to be an active TAIA Chairman of the Board because I know the importance of Texas Ag Industries to Agriculture in Texas and throughout the country.

Our membership has reached 442 which is the highest it has been in recent years near the time of a Summer Meeting. Remember our goal is 500, and we need to keep pushing to reach that goal in 2009 so our voice can continue to resound loudly to those in the legislature. Join us at the summer meeting in Marble Falls August 4th-6th for family, fellowship, and, of course, work. Plans for the regional meetings are underway and the annual meeting in January is set at the Crowne Plaza in Addison.

If you have items to be addressed at the Summer Meeting, let me know (303) 296-3006 or contact any board member or Donnie. Don't miss the great steaks, beautiful views, and water activities. Let's reach 500 and accomplish amazing goals for our industry. We need your input. My plans are to be there to enjoy the sunshine. Who knows; Denver may already have snow.

Chairman,

Scott Johnson

President's Comments

I hope you have booked your hotel room and made plans to attend the Summer Meeting in Marble Falls. We have again convinced Tommy Brandenberger to bar-be-que some great steaks at the Lakeside Pavilion overlooking Lake Marble Falls. For you West Texas folks who thought the heat and humidity was overwhelming, the pavilion is air-conditioned. Wednesday is a full day of association business but that evening should be a fun time for all. If you have never attended or it has been some time since you have been to a Summer Meeting this is the meeting that sets the stage and goals for our next year. Please consider being a part of this important meeting and join us for the Tuesday evening reception.

Another legislative session has come and gone, and TAIA was able to get a fertilizer preemption bill passed. This bill does not allow cities, counties, subdivision, or local government entities to write laws more restrictive than the state law. Other legislation that passed of importance to our members is HB 4765 which temporarily raised the state's franchise tax base on gross margins from \$300,000 to \$1,000,000 for tax years 2009 and 2010. HB 3144 further clarifies the agriculture sales tax exemptions including agricultural aircraft.

On the national scene we are seeing attempts to make changes to the EPA Clean Water Act. In January the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals ruled that permits are required for pesticide applications both biological and chemical that leave a residue in water when such applications are made in or over, including near waters. The Sixth Circuit Court made a second ruling in June allowing EPA two years to put a program in place for issuing permits. There is hope that we could see legislation that would overturn the court's ruling. There is also legislation being proposed to remove the word navigable from the Clean Water Act which make all water bodies under the control of EPA. It is very important that you contact your U.S. Congressmen to let them know what this would do to agriculture.

Check out all the TAIA events on the back of the newsletter. We hope to see you at the Summer Meeting!

Thank you.

Donnie Dippel

TAIA Would Like to Welcome New Members

Individual Members

Dave Hermann / Helena Chemical
Jake Niederer & Brady Alexander /
Koch Nitrogen

Allied Members

ECS Forage & Turf / Damon Ferguson
Heartland Tank Services /
Kasey Kromer
Vertical Software / Patrick Gilroy

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Frank Edwards

Heartland Tank Services, Inc. Becomes New Member

Heartland Tank Services, Inc. provides all the services for building field erected steel storage tanks for liquids, secondary containment tank liners, coatings, API 653 inspections, cleaning, and more. We strive to provide the highest quality of work available anywhere.

Our headquarters is Denver, Colorado and we have a division office in San Marcos, Texas. Heartland's field crews are based out of Oklahoma and travel from coast to coast. We have completed projects from 300,000 gallons to several million. The personnel at Heartland Tank Services, Inc. bring decades of experience to the industry and we look forward to helping you with your next project.

We build field erected liquid storage tanks

Custom designed internal tank liners

API 653 tank inspections

Internal and external tank coatings

Visit our website at www.heartlandtankservices.com for more information.

Vertical Software Joins TAIA

Patrick Gilroy of Vertical Software based in Bartonville, Illinois, would like to introduce the AgPoint system, an easy to use software designed to efficiently integrate shipments to invoicing.

ScalePoint Integrates your shipping scales to back office invoicing. Use ScalePoint to electronically capture both gross and tare weights, tag the shipment with a customer name and field, record the truck, tank or vehicle identity, and print a scale ticket. ScalePoint is perfect for tracking bulk shipments to invoices without additional data entry. With ScalePoint you will never lose track of a shipment again.

MixPoint integrates your feed and fertilizer mixing operations to invoice. MixPoint increases your profit margins by reducing inventory shrink. MixPoint captures actual product movement into feed and fertilizer mixers by integrating with your mixing scales. MixPoint reduces labor by tracking the movement of product from the mixer directly to an invoice without additional data entry.

BlendPoint During the heat of the fertilizer season it is important that you use a tool you can trust to provide the right solutions quickly and easily. BlendPoint provides the tools you can trust to get it done fast and accurately and it fully integrates with invoicing! Least cost blending integrates with AgPoint's bookings and prepayments. BlendPoint calculates least cost blends based on soil test results, nutrient requirements and the cost of your inventory.

The AgPoint system integrates transactions generated at your shipping scales to invoices, product bookings and prepayments

Track Pre-Payments	Prints "Spray Sheets"	Payroll With Direct Deposit
Track Product Bookings	Tenant Landlord Split Billing by Product Line	Accounts Payable with Purchase Orders
Least Cost Blending	Automatically Prints MSDS	General Ledger
Integrated Mixing Scales	Tracks "Restricted Use" License	Accounts Receivables
Integrated Shipping Scales	Fully Integrated Professional Accounting	Check Reconciliation
Field/Farm Tracking		Perpetual Inventory

For complete information, a free quote or on-site demonstration on Vertical Software and its services contact them by phone: 309-633-0700 , through e-mail: sales@verticalsoftware.net or on the Web. www.VerticalSoftware.net.

The goals of the container requirements are to:

- o Minimize human exposure during container handling, which includes storage, transportation and removing the pesticide from the container for use (by pouring, pumping, etc.);
- o Facilitate container disposal and recycling by ensuring containers will “come clean” if they are properly emptied and rinsed and by ensuring pesticide users have instructions for properly cleaning containers; and
- o Encourage the use of refillable containers, where possible, to minimize the amount of waste that is produced.

The purpose of the containment requirements are to:

- o Protect the environment from large releases due to container failures at bulk storage sites; and
- o Protect the environment from the smaller, but more frequent, spills and leaks associated with transferring pesticides during refilling and dispensing operations. If you are subject to the federal pesticide containment requirements, you must comply if you handle agricultural pesticides and you are a:
 - o Retailer who repackages;
 - o Commercial applicator; or
 - o Custom blender.

The size of the secondary containment unit determines if the business is covered by these regulations.

- Tanks with capacities of 500 gallons (liquids) or 4,000 pounds (dry) or greater and that are stationary (fixed or in place e” 30 days) must be in secondary containment.
- Tanks for liquids must be anchored or elevated to prevent flotation.
- Containment units protected from precipitation or constructed before Nov. 2006 must have a capacity of 100% OR a capacity of 110% if not protected from precipitation and built after Nov. 2006.

Additional information can be found on TDA’s Web site at [www. TexasAgriculture.gov](http://www.TexasAgriculture.gov) from either the pesticide applicator or pesticide dealer pages.

Other sources include:

EPA Container and Containment page <http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/regulating/containers.htm>

At a glance, chart showing who must comply http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/regulating/regulations_at_a_glance.htm

FAQ <http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/regulating/containerquestions.htm>

NEWS FROM THE INDUSTRY

Sean Wells Accepts Sales Representative Position With APF

Sean Wells has recently accepted a sales representative position with American Plant Food. He will be selling bulk and bagged mixed fertilizers out of the Fort Worth, TX plant. Before joining APF, Sean worked for Intrepid Potash selling both potash and Intrepid Trio. He can be reached at 214-277-3944 or by email seanewells@aol.com.

Compliance Plus Opens New Office in San Antonio

Compliance Plus celebrates its eighteen years in business with the opening of their newest office in San Antonio to provide compliance services to the South Texas area.

Our new office will be able to provide the same quality services to agricultural business as they have been providing to companies in West Texas and the Texas Panhandle. In addition to providing assistance with EPA, DOT, OSHA and TCEQ *Compliance Plus* will now offer engineering certification for EPA Spill Prevention and Counter Control plans. OSHA 10-hour and 30-hour training certification for both General Industry and Construction can be provided at a customer’s location. First Aid training and Defensive Driver training programs will also be offered. Contact manager Steve Walkup at 210-421-4588 or e-mail at stevewalkup@yahoo.com

Unique Chemistry of RADIANT[™] SC Insecticide Fits IRM Programs

Mode of action offers broad-spectrum control of vegetable pests

INDIANAPOLIS June 2, 2009 Proper Insecticide Resistance Management (IRM) is vital to control damaging pests and preserve the effectiveness of insecticides in vegetable crops. Growers seeking insecticide options for IRM should consider RADIANT SC insecticide. Its novel chemistry makes RADIANT a valuable partner in any IRM program.

Continued on next page

The active ingredient in RADIANT, spinetoram, is classified as a Group 5 insecticide by the Insecticide Resistance Action Committee (IRAC). The unique chemistry of RADIANT makes it an excellent option in a rotation as it is the only Group 5 insecticide used in conventional vegetable crops.

γRADIANT features a unique mode of action that makes it ideal for an IRM program, says Dr. Tom Kuhar, associate professor of entomology at Virginia Tech University. RADIANT is a model insecticide to use in a rotation.

The goal of successful IRM is to prevent or delay the evolution of resistance to insecticides. Resistance occurs when a pest population adapts to a specific insecticide, usually due to overuse or misuse of the compound. The key to managing resistance is rotating products with different modes of action and limiting the number of applications of any one class of chemistry.

Other insecticides labeled for vegetables share the same mode of action with other products. For example, Assail, Actara and Provado all belong to the Group 4A class of insecticides; Coragen and Synapse are Group 28 insecticides; and Movento and Oberon are both Group 23 insecticides.

The innovative chemistry of RADIANT makes it an excellent option in a rotation with other products on the market, says Tony Weiss, field scientist for Dow AgroSciences. When used properly, RADIANT offers growers another tool for insecticide spray programs.

RADIANT SC insecticide offers vegetable growers a fast knockdown of a broad spectrum of pests, including loopers, armyworms, thrips, leafminers and diamondback moth. It controls multiple insect growth stages and provides residual control while maintaining populations of most beneficial insects through a targeted Integrated Pest Management (IPM) approach. RADIANT is active against all vegetable pests that have shown to develop resistance, Kuhar says. It is an excellent control material for thrips and caterpillar pests, making it ideal not only in an IRM program but for IPM as well.

Weiss recommends not making more than two consecutive applications of Group 5 insecticides. If more applications are required, rotate to another class of effective insecticide for at least one application. INTREPID 2F insecticide, which contains the active ingredient methoxyfenozide, makes an ideal rotational partner with RADIANT when controlling caterpillar pests. As a Group 18 insecticide, INTREPID 2F offers the different mode of action necessary to avoid resistance.

INTREPID 2F is the perfect fit in an insecticide rotation with RADIANT, Weiss says. Not only is there no other material like it in the vegetable marketplace, but INTREPID 2F also is the premier worm control product.

Weiss reminds growers to always read and follow label directions and to consult the label before purchase to determine the class of insecticide.

DowAgroSciences LLC, based in Indianapolis, Indiana, USA, is a top-tier agricultural company that combines the power of science and technology with the Human Element to constantly improve what is essential to human progress.

DowAgroSciences provides innovative technologies for crop protection, pest and vegetation management, seeds, traits, and agricultural biotechnology to serve the world's growing population. Global sales for DowAgroSciences, a wholly owned subsidiary of The Dow Chemical Company, are \$4.5 billion. Learn more at www.dowagro.com.

Premier Ag Wins 2009 Environmental Respect Award

WILLOUGHBY, Ohio (May 19, 2009) – Five top farm supply retail businesses and one vegetation management and forestry applicator have been selected as Environmental Respect Award regional winners in the United States for 2009. The winners are (alphabetized by state):

Northeast Rural Services	Vinita, Oklahoma	Vegetation Management & Forestry Applicator
Crop Production Services	Clay, Kentucky	U.S. Farm Supply Retailer
The McGregor Company	Nezperce, Idaho	U.S. Farm Supply Retailer
Wabash Valley Service	Browns, Illinois	U.S. Farm Supply Retailer
Crop Production Services	Albertson, North Carolina	U.S. Farm Supply Retailer
Premier Ag, LLC	Dalhart, Texas	U.S. Farm Supply Retailer

The Environmental Respect Awards, sponsored by DuPont Crop Protection and *CropLife*[®] magazine, are the agricultural industry's highest recognition for environmental stewardship among U.S. agricultural retailers and vegetation management applicators, those who serve farmers, ranchers and vegetation management customers with weed and pest control, the nutrients, and agronomic information critical to effective crop production.

"We honor these businesses because they are ensuring the safety and health of tomorrow's communities – both rural and urban – through sustainable practices," said Jim Collins, vice president and general manager of DuPont Crop Protection.

These businesses were selected by a panel of industry experts and won the award based on excellence in site design, in-plant storage and handling procedures, proper application and leadership in safety and stewardship among customers and employees. Each regional winner will receive the Environmental Respect Award at special ceremony in Washington, D.C. in July where the national winner will be named.

Scholarship Winners Announced

Texas Ag Industries has again awarded four 1,500 dollar Gary Fitzgerald Scholarships to deserving candidates from one of the largest groups of applicants in the past several years. Congratulations to all the applicants who have accomplished so much in their educational careers and personal lives and will continue to be assets to any endeavors they pursue.

Katelyn Duecker is the daughter of Jimmy and Emily Duecker and will attend Texas A & M University with a major in agricultural leadership and then attend law school specializing in tax law.

Erin Gabrysch is the daughter of Lee and Donna Gabrysch. Erin plans to pursue a career in pharmacy at the University of Houston.

Megan Hlavinka, the daughter of Jason and Linda Hlavinka, will attend Texas A & M University in the fall majoring in business.

Breana Kristek, daughter of Randal and Patricia Kristek, is currently a student at Texas State University, with a double major in Digital Photography Imaging and Studio Arts.

Again, congratulations to these students, and to all eligible candidates, please remember to apply or reapply by April 1st of each year. The scholarship committee members are always impressed by the quality of applicants applying for the Gary Fitzgerald Scholarship.

Texas Ag Industries also thanks all those who sponsor and participate in scholarship activities allowing TAIA to continue giving four generous scholarships honoring Gary Fitzgerald. Scholarship Raffle sponsors included: Bayer CropScience, Crop Production Services, DuPont Ag Products, Helena Chemical Company, Mosaic Company, PotashCorp, Syngenta, Texas Liquid Fertilizer, and Wilbur-Ellis Company.



Katelyn Duecker



Erin Gabrysch



Megan Hlavinka



Breana Kristek

Summer Meeting Sponsors

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TAIA MEMBERS

Have you sent in your
2009 Membership Dues?

Calendar of Events

August 4 - 5, 2009
CCA Exam Training
Lubbock & La Grange

August 4 - 6, 2009
TAIA Summer Meeting
Marble Falls

August 7, 2009
CCA Exam
La Grange

September 15
Lubbock Regional Meeting

September 29
Rio Grande Valley Regional Meeting
Edinburg

October 13
Salado Regional Meeting

October 20
El Campo Regional Meeting

November 5
Dumas Regional Meeting

December 2 & 3, 2009
Plant Protection Conference
College Station

January 19 - 21, 2010
TAIA Annual Conference
Addison