

2018 Workshop on Innovation and Regulation in Agriculture

December 3-5, 2018

Topic: Incorporating the Benefits of Vegetative Filter Strips into Risk Assessment and Risk Management of Pesticides

Co-organized by NC State Center of Excellence for Regulatory Science in Agriculture (CERSA) and Bayer. Co-sponsored by Syngenta, BASF, Stone Environmental, and AGRO Division of American Chemical Society

Location: Raleigh Marriott Crabtree Valley, 4500 Marriott Dr., Raleigh, NC 27612
Session Also Available On-Line via Zoom Meeting

December 3, 2018, Morning Plenary Session
8:00AM—12:30PM, Open to the public

Program

8:00 AM—Opening Remarks

Rick Keigwin, Director, US EPA-Office of Pesticide Programs
Iain Kelly, Director, Bayer, North American Regulatory Policy and Issues Management

8:20 AM—NC State's New Center of Excellence: Advancing Regulatory Science in Agriculture. Danesha Seth Carley, Director, CERSA, NC State

8:30 AM—Regulatory perspective: opportunities and challenges in considering vegetative filter strips in pesticide risk assessments. Kevin Costello and Nelson Thurman, US EPA-OPP

9:00 AM—VFS Effectiveness to Mitigate Pesticides in Runoff. Bob Lerch, USDA-ARS

9:30 AM—VFS Effectiveness to Mitigate Pesticides: Mechanistic Analysis with VFSMOD. Rafa Muñoz-Carpena, Univ. of Florida

10:00 AM—Conservation Effectiveness Assessment Project (CEAP), Benefits of conservation practices for water quality. Michael White, USDA-ARS

10:20 AM—Break

10:40 AM—USDA Conservation Programs Relevant to Pesticide Runoff Mitigation. Lindsay Haines, USDA-NRCS

11:00 AM—Factors Influencing Grower Decisions to Implement Conservation Practices. Nick Goeser, Craigson Group

11:30 AM—Registrant Perspective: Seeking a Path Forward to Incorporate VFS in Pesticide Risk Assessment. Jane Tang, Bayer

12:00 AM—Panel Discussion. Moderated by Susanne Kjemtrup, Phyta BioTech Consulting

12:30 PM—End of Morning Session

Description of the Workshop

Vegetative filter strips (VFS) are widely used by producers to mitigate runoff and erosion from production areas. VFS effectiveness for mitigating nutrient runoff and soil erosion is well-established. A growing body of literature has shown that VFS are also effective at mitigating pesticide runoff. Currently the contribution of VFS is not considered in the standard pesticide exposure assessment scenarios utilized by US EPA.

This workshop is designed to bring together experts to explore the state-of-the-knowledge with respect to function, benefits, modelling tools to simulate VFS at a field and watershed scale. Availability of data on the use and management of VFS in conservation programs will also be explored. Furthermore, information on the economic and agronomic realities of using VFS under different cropping practices will be examined.

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Goals of the Workshop

The overall goals of the workshop are to develop a set of multi-stakeholder consensus recommendations, which will:

- Provide a path forward towards incorporating the use of VFS in risk assessment and risk management of pesticides;
- Lead to improved cooperation and collaboration among stakeholders to leverage available data and information regarding the design, effectiveness, and implementation of VFS and other runoff mitigation measures for various crops and regions; and,
- Support the development of strategies to increase producer engagement and adoption of VFS and other runoff mitigation measures to protect soil and water resources.

Expected Outcomes

- Determine the geographic areas where VFS are used, and, leveraging the existing knowledge base, identify the important environmental, economic and agronomic factors supporting vegetative filter strip use for pesticide mitigation;
- Examine existing conservation programs for opportunities to increase implementation of VFS. Review and update existing design standards for VFS and identify other BMPs for pesticide mitigation in areas where VFS are not practical or are less effective;
- Develop a value case which can be disseminated to producers to increase the proper use of VFS and other pesticide runoff mitigation to protect soil and water resources; and,
- Develop a framework to incorporate VFS mitigation in regulatory risk assessment and management of pesticides.

Program Planning Committee

Jane Tang, Bayer (chair), Members: Kevin Costello, US EPA; Garey Fox, NC State; Nick Goeser, Craigson Group; Lindsay Haines, USDA-NRCS; Bob Lerch, USDA-ARS; Rafa Muñoz-Carpena, Univ. Florida; Patricia Rice, BASF; Nelson Thurman, US EPA; Clint Truman, Syngenta; Yongping Yuan, US EPA

Organizing Committee

Laura McConnell, Bayer;
Danesha Seth Carley, NC State

