### I'm From The Government & I'm Here To Help

#### JOSHUA WILEY GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE PESTICIDE REGULATORY PROGRAM MANAGER

# Top 10 Way To **Not** Be In Compliance In Georgia



#### Number 5:

• Believing that PPE is optional.



Number 4: Misapply Pesticides around Children

#### Number 3:

• Thinking the Department will never inspect my disposal protocol!



#### Number 2:

• Use Termidor inside at a Healthcare facility

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	SUNRISE NURSING HOME	NO. 9524	P. 17/20
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	Name Suprise 1	Vursing Hume	
	Address: 2709 S.	Mailo St	
	Moultrie 6	A 31768	
	Admin: Leigh Bre	ed lave	
Biotech	Phone # _229-985-71		6- 1677
		# of beds	2.P
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#### Number 1:

• Dressing Like Billy the Exterminator





#### Consolidation

#### • 2012

- The Pesticide section merged with the feed, seed, fertilizer and grain programs
- This new section was renamed "Agriculture Inputs".
- Lots of Growing pains



#### Who Needs a License?

 An individual must obtain the appropriate type of pesticide applicator license in order to purchase, use, or supervise the use of a restricted use pesticide, or any general use or restricted use pesticide when providing pesticide applications for a fee.

#### Starting a Business

- How to obtain a commercial license
  - In order to obtain a commercial applicator license, you must pass the general standards examination and as well as at least one major category examination i.e. Category 41 (mosquito)
- How to open a business
  - A Pesticide Contractor's license is required for any individual or company to engage in the business of contracting for the application of any type of general use or restricted use pesticide to the lands of another within this state. This license is required for each business (company branch office) location, and each business (company branch office) must maintain in full time employment during all periods of operation at least one certified commercial pesticide applicator.
  - The fee for the Contractor's license is \$55 per year, and this license must be renewed each year.



#### The Category 31 – 41 Switch

- Prior to 2003 there was not a commercial license category that covered the commercial control of Mosquitoes.
- Category 31 Public Health covers the control of mosquitoes. But the category has always been a "government employee only" license.
- The spread of West Nile Virus in Georgia, led to the creation of Category 41 Mosquito Control but it was never officially added to the Rules of the Georgia Pesticide Use and Application Act.
- Commercial mosquito control operators were allowed to treat for mosquitos under Category 31.
- This exception was granted until the category 41 license was added to the GDA rules and regulations for commercial pesticide applicators in July of 2012.

#### **Commercial Mosquito Compliance**

- 1 Full time licensed pesticide applicator in Category 41 per business location.
- Contractor's License

### Unique Cases



#### Unique Cases

#### Tip of the Iceberg

• While driving down the road a Department inspector observes a pile of pesticide jugs on the property of a local farmer.





### Tip of the Iceberg

- Due to the volume of pesticide containers the department calls in the complaint to EPD
- EPD and GDA cooperate in a joint investigation into alleged disposal violations.
- During the investigation it was confirmed that disposal issues had occurred





#### Tip of the Iceberg

• But wait there's more...













### Tip of the Iceberg

- Disposal violations found in case
- Penalty
  - GDA
    - \$1,000
  - EPD
    - HAZMAT called for cleanup. Applicator to pay cost.



- Originated from an EPA policy enacted in January 1996
- "Encouraging regulated entities to voluntarily discover, and disclose and correct violations of environmental requirements. Incentives include eliminating or substantially reducing the gravity component of civil penalties and not recommended for criminal prosecution where specific condition are met, to those who voluntarily self- disclose and promptly correct violations." – EPA
  - Translation: Bring us your problems (voluntarily) and you can bypass major regulatory action.

#### • How to self-report:

- Companies must review account service tickets in question.
- If problems are found they contact the Department immediately.
- Schedule an appointment to with an enforcement manager and disclose the findings.
- No limit on self-reporting.\*



• To date about 80% of our industry has selfreported for school treatments.

 Only about 5% of our industry has self-reported on Commercial Kitchens, Healthcare facilities, and WDO.

 No one from the "green industry" has self-reported



### Questions?

