

MINUTES OF THE GEORGIA STRUCTURAL PEST CONTROL COMMISSION MEETING

November 12, 2014

- A. The Georgia Structural Pest Control Commission convened at 9:30 a.m. in Room 146 of the Tifton Lab Complex Building on November 12, 2014. The following commission members were present: Chris Gorecki, Chair, Derrick Lastinger, Vice-chair, Laurie Padgett, Dr. Brian Forschler and Bodine Sinyard.
- B. Also in attendance were representatives with the Georgia Department of Agriculture, GPCA and CPCO representatives, registrants, WSBTV reporters and other members of the pest management industry.
- C. Motion was made by Bodine Sinyard to approve the minutes of the October meeting. Laurie Padgett seconded the motion and motion passed.
- D. The Commission approved company license applications (see Attachment 2).
- E. Dr. Beverly, Laboratory Division Director greeted and welcomed everyone to the GDA Laboratory Tifton Campus.
- F. Mr. Lastinger provided the Department update; he discussed the Georgia Clean Day currently taking place in Quitman. He also announced the 2015 meeting schedule including Public Notice 14-16 which is now posted on the Commission website.
- G. Dr. Forschler provided the UGA update. He noted details for the January Commission meeting hosted by the UGA Entomology Department. He discussed the recent research conducted by his students on the residential mosquito treatment which finished their first season. He also provided an update on the *Formosan* termite infestation suppression project in Hinesville.
- H. Dr. Forschler mentioned that a rebuttal was submitted to the editor of the *American Entomologist* in response to their article regarding regulation of pesticides. The editor acknowledged receiving the Commission's rebuttal and agreed to start a review and response process. Dr. Forschler proposed issuing a model contract for Georgia schools to utilize when contracting IPM services. Mr. Lastinger added that this would be a great resource for schools and PMP's since GDA often receives requests for this information. He also mentioned that there might be an opportunity to work with the Georgia Grown farm to school program to start a dialog with schools that are interested in School IPM programs and resources.
- I. Mr. Lastinger and Dr. Forschler discussed the revised Employee Registration Manual and exam. The revised exam should be completed for the testing center by December 1st. In preparation of finalizing the exam, the program would like to provide a practice exam. This practice exam will be available on December 15th, 16th and December 17th. GDA will monitor the exam results and make modifications as needed. Revised registration and certification exams are expected to be in place for all exams starting in January 2015.
- J. Dr. Phillip Roberts, University of Georgia extension entomologist, provided information on the UGA pollinator mission statement. UGA plans to meet next week with Mr. Mike Evans,

Director of the Plant Protection Section, to discuss a pollinator protection plan for the State of Georgia. Dr. Roberts stressed the importance of communication and education to the public and the industry surrounding pollinator protection. In the document/statement that the University of Georgia is putting together, there are discussions on maintaining healthy bee colonies and ways to reduce the exposure of pollinators to pesticides.

- K. Mr. Lastinger provided the 2014 new rules timeline update. He noted the progress continues to move further along on implementation of the new exam questions. In addition to the exams, notices have been sent out to all licensees regarding the publication of the new Employee Registration manual including the new guidance documents that were approved by the Commission last month. The documents have been posted on the website. Implementation continues to be on schedule with the compliance date of January 1, 2015. Accordingly another important date to note is March 1st 2015, which is the deadline for all registered employee training for renewal of registrations. Registered Employees who have taken the exam after September 30, 2014 are exempt from getting the required training hours for renewal.
- L. Mr. Gorecki discussed the recently drafted Wood Destroying Fungus and Wood Boring Beetle guidance documents. The documents continue to state what the minimum treatment requirements are in addition to the ventilation standard changes. Motion was made by Mr. Sinyard to accept the two documents. Dr. Forschler seconded the motion and motion passed. The new guidance will be posted on the website and the pest control associations were asked to assist with outreach on getting this information to their membership. GDA was asked to look at the website statistics for the Commission webpage and report back.
- M. Mr. Lastinger reported on further clarification of the interpretation of “conditioned air” in Section R408.3 of the IRC building code for unvented crawl spaces. After reaching out to the Department of Community Affairs and Southface technical services, GDA learned that the most common practice for providing conditioned air in new construction is with HVAC ductwork with 2 cfm/100 s.f. A variation to providing conditioned air is with a dedicated dehumidifier supplying at least 2 cfm/100 s.f. The dehumidifier must be plumbed to automatically drain the captured condensate away either by gravity, to a sump pump, or to the air conditioner’s condensate pump.
- N. Mr. Gorecki provided the update regarding NPMA’s efforts on rodenticides. He noted that there was a petition in New York wanting to change second generation rodenticides to restricted use pesticides. However, there is a mandate in New York’s regulation listed by the Commissioner that does not allow restricted use pesticides to be used if there is a viable alternative. Local associations and NPPMA were heavily involved in providing input on the issue.
- O. In an effort to raise awareness, Mr. Lastinger discussed the GDA Self-reporting Enforcement Response Policy for the pest control industry. The goal of the policy is to enhance compliance with regulations by encouraging the industry to self-audit and self-discover violations by self-reporting this information to the Department. According to Mr. Burton, there is a decline in the number of reports.

There are three steps to self-reporting:

1. Discovery: self-audit by reviewing records such as service records, inspection records, pesticide labels and contracts.
 2. Correction Prevention: take immediate corrective action and prevention action.
 3. Report: Contact GDA and schedule a self-reporting compliance meeting.
1. M. Meeting adjourned at 11:07 AM.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1	Agenda
Attachment 2	New Company Licenses
Attachment 3	Approved Recertification Courses
Attachment 4	Approved Instructors

Chris Gorecki, Chairman

Commissioner Gary W. Black, Secretary

Agenda

November 12, 2014

Open - Chairman Gorecki

Welcome – Dr. Reuben Beverly

Old Business

Minutes

New Business

- a. New Company Applications
- b. UGA Urban Entomology Program Update – Dr. Forschler
- c. Georgia Department of Agriculture – Georgia Clean Day
- d. UGA Pollinator Protection Statement – Professor Phillip Roberts
- e. 2014 New Rules Compliance Timeline Update
- f. Draft guidance on wood decay fungus and wood boring beetles
- g. Unvented crawlspaces and *conditioned air* option
- h. Revised Employee Registration Manual
- i. NPMA update – Rick Bell
- j. Public Notice 14-16: 2015 Meetings
- k. SPS 13-15 Self-Reporting Policy
- l. Certification Examination Application Review

Adjournment

Attachment 2

**THE GEORGIA
STRUCTURAL PEST CONTROL COMMISSION MEETING
November 12th, 2014**

Company License Applications & Company Name Change Requests

The Commission approved the following applications:

- ORTHO PEST SOLUTIONS- COBB COUNTY (SUB-OFFICE)
- ORTHO PEST SOLUTIONS-HENRY COUNTY (SUB-OFFICE)
- FORMULA GREEN, LLC.-HALL COUNTY
- LIBERTY PEST MANAGEMENT-LAMAR COUNTY
- PROTECTOR PEST SOLUTIONS-FORSYTH
- A-ONE PEST PROFESSIONALS-PENDING NAME CHANGE