

# PPDC Incidents Work Group

## Meeting Minutes

October 20, 2015

1. How EPA uses incident data

Melissa Panger gave a presentation on how the EPA Office of Pesticide Products currently make use of pesticide incident data.

2. Overview Of OPP's Incidents Workgroup (Melisa Panger)

Melissa and Rich lead a discussion of the long-term goals of the incident project, and how the current task of defining the data elements for incident reporting fit into the long-term plan.

3. It was noted that there is considerable reporting of human health pesticide incidents to entities other than the EPA. For example, in many states pesticide incidents involving humans are reported to the state health department.

4. The team began a line-to-line review of the draft list of incident data elements for human health incidents. The comments provided are captured in the table in the attachment.

5. It was noted that team has not provided a ranking of the importance of each data element (1-3) as requested in the charge. It was decided that the workgroup members would do this exercise on their own as homework for the elements that were discussed in this meeting. Please email your rankings for the discussed elements to Rich and Melissa. The results will then be compiled and discussed at the next meeting.

Participants:

<b>Name</b> (* indicates Workgroup Member)	<b>Affiliation</b>
David Schultz	Bloomberg BNA
Doug Hanks*	National Potato Council
John Peckham*	AAPCO
Nichelle Harriott*	Beyond Pesticides
Cheryl Cleveland*	BASF
Shanna Recore	EPA/OPP/HED
Jackie Mosby	EPA/OPP/FEAD
Geoff Calvert*	CDC/NIOSH
Chris Forth	NALP
Margaret Jones	EPA/Region 5
Cynthia Palmer*	American Bird Conservancy
Beth Law*	Consumer Specialty Products Assn.
Nick Mastrota	EPA/OPP/EFED
Virginia Ruiz*	Farmworker Justice
Ana Rivera Lupianez	EPA/OPP/FEAD
Bob Miller	EPA/OPP/ITRMD
Scott Schentz	SAS
Valentin Sanchez*	Oregon Law Center
Jeannie Economos*	Farmworker Assn. of Florida
Lacey Babnik*	Wild Care
Ray McAllister*	CropLifeAmerica
Robyn Gilden*	U. of Maryland School of Nursing
Donald Taylor* (representative for)	Agricultural Retailers Assn.
David Beaudreau	DC Legislative and Regulatory Services

# Proposed Data Elements for Pesticide Incidents

## Comments from PPDC

### Human Health Elements

October 20, 2015

#### I. Human Health Incidents

Subgroup	Data Element	Description	Comments
<b>Contact Information</b>	Submitter Name	Name and title of the individual submitting the incident report to the EPA.	Some incident reporters would like to allow anonymous reporting as some (e.g. farm workers) may not feel comfortable providing their name. This would mean making this field optional, or allowing submitter to identify themselves by entering a general title (e.g., "farm worker") when they don't want to give their name.
	Submitter Organization	For 6(a)(2) reporting, the name of the registrant submitting the incident report. For other reporting, name of the entity (e.g., government agency, nonprofit organization, or academic institution) that is submitting the incident report to the EPA. If it is a private citizen, enter "private citizen."	OK
	Submitter Category	Category of the entity submitting the report. ("Registrant" for 6(a)(2) reports)	OK
	Submitter Address	Address of the individual reporting the incident to the Registrant or Registrant Agent.	For all contact information fields: You need to be very cautious about collecting names of individuals. CDC does not collect names and contact information of individuals (PII) because of privacy concerns. Note, however, that contact information from a person's professional office, or from an NGO's office, is OK.
	Submitter Phone Number	Phone number of the individual reporting the incident to the Registrant or Registrant Agent.	See above.

Subgroup	Data Element	Description	Comments
	Submitter Email	Email of the individual reporting the incident to the Registrant or Registrant Agent.	See above.
	Report Date	Date that the incident report was prepared.	<p>Will not be captured electronically? Submission date is automatic. Report may be prepared some time before it is submitted, so report date may be different than submission date.</p> <p>Make sure that you do not record duplicate records for the same incident.</p>
	Contact Name	Contact information for a person, other than the submitter, who may be contacted for obtaining further information on the incident. This may be the complainant, a physician, a veterinarian, or a wildlife biologist.	<p>1. You need to be very cautious about collecting names of individuals. CDC does not collect names and contact information of individuals (PPI) because of privacy concerns.</p> <p>2. You may want to not capture PPI of contacts in this database, but instead rely on the submitter to hold that information. The user would then contact the submitter if when they need this private contact information.</p> <p>3. You may want to restrict this to public information, such as contact information for the office of a physician's practice.</p>
<b>Incident Data</b>	Incident Type	Human.	OK
	Reporter's Case Number	Non-OPP case number from submitter for the incident (if exists).	OK
	Incident Location	The location where the pesticide exposure is believed to have occurred. Location fields will include Town/City, County/Province, State, and Country.	Location data may pose a problem because of privacy concerns. For CDC cases, some incident reporters are unwilling to provide location information any more specific than the state level.
	GPS Coordinates	Latitude and longitude coordinate of the incident location.	<p>1. Make optional. May have major privacy concerns for human incidents.</p> <p>2. May not be important for human incidents as for ecological incidents.</p>

Subgroup	Data Element	Description	Comments
			3. May want to keep this out of the database for humans and rely on the submitter to keep this information, if it is needed.
	Exposure Date (Start)	Date of the exposure, or if more than one day, the start date of the exposure.	1. State reports usually don't include exposure date, only the incident date. 2. CDC records exposure date as well as incident date. It is important since health effects may occur well after exposure.
	Exposure Date (End)	End date range of the exposure.	OK
	Incident Date (Start)	Date of the observed adverse effects, or if more than one day, the start date of the observed adverse effects.	OK
	Incident Date (End)	End date of the observed adverse effects.	End date may not be applicable to human health incidents. The date when people no longer suffer adverse effects is generally unknown.
	Date Comment	Use to provide information about the timing of the incident when exact dates are not known. (Example: "Early April"). May also be used for comments concerning the start and end dates.	OK
	Incident Awareness Date	Date when the registrant, or registrant agent, became aware of the incident. Not applicable to non-6(a)(2) incident reporting.	OK
	Notification (Yes/No)	Indicates if the incident was reported to a government agency other than the EPA, such as a state government office.	OK, but you may also want to know if it was reported to a nongovernment organization (NGO), such as the Poison Control Center. May want to modify the description to include notification to NGOs
	Notification (Text Field)	Identifies the federal, state, or regional government office (other than EPA) that was notified of this incident.	1. The database should capture the date of notification and the case number as well. 2. Should include reporting to NGOs, such as the poison control center, as well as government agencies. 3. It would be important to know if an incident was reported to a health department.

Subgroup	Data Element	Description	Comments
			4. You may want to expand this to include notification to the pesticide registrant as well.
	Part of a Study?	Indicates if the incident part of a larger study? An example is ongoing worker exposure studies.	<p>1. Seems unlikely that you would get many of these incidents.</p> <p>2. Does not seem like critical information.</p> <p>3. If one answers “yes”, then you probably would want to prompt a text field to enter a description of the study.</p> <p><u>EPA proposed deleting this field if there are not abjections.</u></p>
	Status (New or Update)	Indicates if the report is for a new incident or an update to a previously submitted incident.	OK
<b>Number Affected</b>	Number Affected	The number of persons having the adverse effect. Enter the exact number.	It was noted that a relational database structure is needed. Much of the following fields are for a single individual. Therefore if there is more than one person affected, you would need a one-to-many relationship to capture the health data for each individual affected.
<b>Pesticide Information</b>	EPA Registration No.	EPA Product Registration Number. Include the 1-6 digit manufacturer number and the 1-5 digit product identification number. Separate the two numbers with a hyphen. Distributor's number, if applicable, is entered separately.	<p>1. The product name may be more available than the EPA Reg. No. Needs to be optional since some reporters will not know the Reg. No.</p> <p>2. Recording the Reg. No. is preferred. Product names can be ambiguous; different products sometimes have the same name.</p> <p>3. The Reg No. is preferred because incident reporters do not always report the full, precise product name.</p> <p>4. It is important to know the exact label of the product used because different labels may have different labels use instructions. Also labels for the same product can change over time. Collecting the Batch Number could enable the exact label to be identified.</p> <p>5. Farm workers would find it easier to record the Reg. No. than the product name. They can get</p>

Subgroup	Data Element	Description	Comments
			the Reg. No. from the pesticide use records.
	Batch Number	The batch number that is printed on the label of the product that was applied in the incident. Record for each product associated with the incident.	Recommended as an optional field since the batch number would identify the date of the product, and therefore could be used to identify the exact version of the label on the product applied.
	Canadian Reg. No.	Canadian product registration number (for Canadian incidents only)	OK
	Product Name	Product name. Should include the complete trade name, including codes describing the formulation, and any description of pesticide type. Example: "Propazine 80W Herbicide"	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Is very critical to identify the product when known.</li> <li>2. The database will need relational structure to allow more than one product to be entered.</li> <li>3. You may want to instruct people to enter the pesticide type when the exact product is unknown (e.g, "herbicide" or "rodenticide.")</li> </ol> Alternatively, you may want to have a separate field for pesticide type.
	Product Formulation	Formulation type of the product as purchased.	OK
	Formulation as Applied	Formulation type of the product when it was applied (e.g. diluted solution, granule, dust, etc.)	OK
	Active Ingredient	Common name of the active ingredient to which the affected person or other organism was exposed.	Will want to make the input system auto-populate or give default values when possible. For example, once you enter the product, the active ingredients should populated automatically.
	Active Ingredient Comment	Information on the identity of the active ingredient when the specific ingredient cannot be identified or is not on the drop-down list. Enter the ingredient name if known but is not on the list. If the ingredient identity is unknown, enter the known or suspected chemical class or classes (e.g., "carbamate" or "anticoagulant rodenticide") or enter "unknown."	OK
	Toxicity category	Signal word (Danger, Warning, or Caution) for acute oral toxicity class of the active ingredient.	Suggested added field. Should be obtained from a look-up table based on the ingredient ID. We can capture the signal word and the toxicity classification

Subgroup	Data Element	Description	Comments
			together as there is a one-to-one relationship. Note however that toxicity category IV has no signal word on the label.
	Restricted Use Product	Indicates if the product is a restricted use product	OK
<b>Application Information</b>	Application Site Category	General category of application site (Agricultural, Residential, Commercial, etc.)	<p>1. It was suggested that we add "Golf Course" and "Right-of-way". These value, however, would be more appropriate for the vocabulary of the "Use Site" field (see below). "Municipal" or "Governmental" could be added to cover publically owned right-of-ways, as well as other publically owned sites such as schools and parks.</p> <p>2. It was proposed to add "Labor Camp." However, this describes the incident cite rather than the application site, and therefore would be a value for the "Incident Site" field (see below).</p>
	<b>Worker Protection Standard</b>	Does the person affected fall under the worker protection standard (yes/no)	Suggested new field. You can enter a default value of "No" if <i>Application Site Category</i> is not "Agricultural."
	Application Site	Description of the site where the pesticide product was applied. If it is an agricultural site, identify the crop. If an accidental exposure, enter the site of the exposure. If applied to an animal, enter "Animal treatment".	
	Application Method	Description of method used to apply the pesticide. Examples include aerial spraying, ground spraying, granular application, and bait placement.	<p>1. Recommend being more specific on this to include the general type of equipment used (e.g. boom sprayer, backpack sprayer, etc.)</p> <p>2. We may want to use Smart Label fields for this. They have has one field for general method type and a second field for more specific type.</p>
	<b>Application method specific</b>	Description of the specific type of method used to apply the pesticide, indicating the general type of equipment used.	Suggested added field.
	Application Rate	Rate of the application of product, if known. Enter value and units.	<p>1. Add "as applied" to definition.</p> <p>2. Note that this is sometimes not applicable, for example with spills</p>



Subgroup	Data Element	Description	Comments
			or pesticide loading exposure. Modify the definition accordingly.
	Misuse	Yes/No/Uncertain. Indicates if the manner the product was used was in violation of the label.	
	Misuse Comment	For misuse cases, comment on evidence indicating misuse of the product.	
	Applicator Certification	Yes/No. Indicates if product was applied by, or under the supervision of, a certified applicator.	
<b>Incident Description</b>	Incident Description	Description of what happened, including a general description of the suspected pesticide exposure and the adverse effects/symptoms observed. Also may include other important details not captured by the other data fields.	
	Incident Site	Description of the site where the person or organism was exposed to the pesticide, or if unknown, enter where symptoms, mortality, or other adverse effects were observed.	
	Route of Exposure	Primary the route of exposure of individuals affected (e.g., oral, dermal, inhalation, or ocular)	
	Exposure Pathway	The route of transport of the pesticide from the site of application to the affected organism (e.g., spray drift, run-off, volatilization, secondary exposure).	
<b>Lab Report</b>	Lab Report Title	Title or description of the laboratory report(s) that the submitter attaches or encloses with the incident report submitted to the EPA.	
	Lab Report Number	Report number for the laboratory report.	
<b>Demographic Information</b>	Case ID	ID used in the incident report to identify individuals affected. If none are given, sequential numbers will be assigned.	
	Age	The age of the individual exposed. Enter number and unit, or a general description (e.g., young adult)	
	Sex	The sex of the individual exposed.	
	Occupation	If the incident was occupationally related, state the occupation of the individual involved.	

Subgroup	Data Element	Description	Comments
	Suicide/homicide	Yes/No. Indicate if the incident was the result of a suicide or homicide.	
	Pregnancy Status	Pregnancy status of individual exposed.	
<b>Exposure</b>	Exposure Activity	Description of how the product was being used at the time of the reported incident, or what the exposed individual was doing when the exposure occurred.	
	Circumstances of Exposure	Description of the event that caused the pesticide exposure.	
	Exposure to Concentrate	Yes/No. "Yes" indicates the product is sold in a concentrated form and the incident involves exposure to the concentrate prior to dilution.	
	Protective equipment (Yes/No)	Indicates if any personal protective equipment (PPE) was used by the affected person(s) at the time of the incident.	
	Protective equipment	Description of the type of personal protective equipment (PPE) and protective clothing that was used or worn by the affected person(s) at the time of the incident.	
	Workdays lost	Number of workdays lost due to the incident, if known.	
	Time to Symptoms	Indicate how long after the incident occurred that the first signs and symptoms were noted.	
<b>Adverse Effects</b>	Medical Care	The type of medical care or consultation sought. Examples include none, clinic, hospital emergency department, private physician, PCC (Poison Control Center), hospital inpatient.	
	Symptom Type	Classification of the type of symptom(s) observed. May select more than one.	
	Symptoms Comment	Optional field to provide a more detailed description of the symptoms that correspond to the symptom type.	
	Case Outcome	Characterization of the current status or final outcome of adverse effects.	
<b>Lab Results</b>	Lab Test Results	Results of laboratory tests, such as blood test or urine analysis.	
<b>Residential (non-ag)</b>	Indoor or Outdoor	Indicates if the product was used indoors or outdoors	

Subgroup	Data Element	Description	Comments
EPA Fields	PC Code	PC Code(s) of the active ingredient(s) to which the affected person or other organism was exposed.	
	Certainty	EPA's conclusion on the certainty that the ingredient caused or contributed significantly to causing the observed adverse effects. Entered for each ingredient.	
	Certainty Discussion	A brief discussion of the evidence supporting the certainty level that EPA assigned to the ingredient.	
	Legality	EPA's categorization on the legality of the pesticide use. Legality categories are "Registered Use," "Suspected Misuse," "Known Misuse," and "Malicious Intent." ["Malicious Intent" used for intentional targeting of affected person or non-target organism.]	
	Exposure-Severity Code	Code that indicates the type of incident and the severity level of the incident.	