August 15, 2024

TO: See Distribution List

FROM: Brenda Foos   *Original Signed By:*
            Director, Monitoring Programs Division (MPD)   *Brenda Foos 8/15/2024*

SUBJECT: Program Plan, October 2024 through September 2025 – Pesticide Data
            Program

This Program Plan serves as the current Statement of Work for Fiscal Year 2025, the period October 2024 through September 2025, for each of the States participating in the Pesticide Data Program (PDP). Aspects of this Plan have been coordinated with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the PDP participating States for their continuing collaboration with PDP and dedication to the program. We look forward to working with each of you on the activities described in this Program Plan.

I. ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATES

A.   Summary Status:

Printed copies of the 2022 PDP Annual Summary have been distributed. The draft 2023 PDP Annual Summary is undergoing internal review and will be posted to the PDP website following Departmental clearance. All PDP data for 2024 are due to MPD by March 30, 2025.

B.   Cooperative Agreements/Financial:

The current FY ends on September 30, 2024. States should ensure all expenses have been obligated on or prior to the end of the 2024 cooperative agreements on December 31, 2024; however, any changes to the cooperative agreement funding levels must be made prior to September 30, 2024.

FY25 funding will be provided to the states via new cooperative agreements when it is received by MPD.

C.   PDP Federal/State Meeting:

The next PDP Federal/State meeting will be hosted by the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development in the late spring of 2025. Attendees will include PDP Administrative Managers, Sampling Managers, Technical Program Managers, and Quality Assurance Officers, as well as representatives from the host State, USDA, EPA, FDA, and invited guest speakers.

D.   Advisory Committees:

Sampling Advisory Group: Members of the Sampling Advisory Group (SAG) are Nathan Chambers (Washington), Ashley Fitzwater (California), and Chris Schiralli (New York). Nathan Chambers serves as the Presiding Member of the SAG.

Technical Advisory Group: Members of the Technical Advisory Group (TAG) are Sarva Balachandra (California), Jason Kong (Ohio), and Karen Taylor (New York). Sarva Balachandra serves as the Presiding Member of the TAG.

E.   PDP Fiscal Year 2025 Proficiency Testing Program: The PDP FY2025 Proficiency Testing (PT) program schedule is currently under development and will be posted on the PDP SharePoint site when completed. Refer to SOPs PDP-ADMIN and PDP-QC for PT program requirements, reporting procedures, acceptability criteria, and requirements for potential follow-up actions.

F.   Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs):

SOP to be Released December 1, 2024

- PDP-LABOP: Sample Processing

SOP to be Released March 1, 2025

- PDP-DATA: Data and Instrumentation

SOP to be Released June 1, 2025

- PDP-ADMIN: Administrative Procedures for the Pesticide Data Program

SOP to be Released September 1, 2025

- PDP-QC: Chemical Compounds, PDP Commodity Grouping, Method Validation and Quality Control

G.   Electronic Transfer of Data

Remote Data Entry (RDE) Version Upgrades:

The latest version of the local/distributed RDE tool used by PDP laboratories is Build 6, which was released in May 2022. Build 6 included modifications to speed up the display of data on the Maintain Samples screen and to fix an identified glitch with the Export Data to Excel function. Labs should continue to report identified glitches and suggested enhancements to the MPD staff for inclusion in a future RDE build.

A new, modernized RDE e-SIF application was rolled-out in April 2024 to replace the one that had been used by State sample collectors since 2003. A version upgrade (v1.0.6) was rolled-out in June 2024 to add requested features and fix identified glitches. The software works on multiple platforms, i.e., smartphones, tablets, and laptops running Apple iOS, Android, and Windows operating systems, and allows photos to be captured of product packaging. The application allows offline data entry but requires multifactor authentication using a login.gov account when transmitting SIF data or downloading updates to look-up tables. The States moved quickly, some within days, to get login.gov accounts established, to get the application installed, and to start using the application for collected samples. All States reached 100% usage of the new application by the end of July 2024. States should report identified glitches and suggested enhancements to the MPD staff for inclusion in a future e-SIF application upgrade.

H.   Presumptive Tolerance Violation Reporting

Data for Presumptive Tolerance Violations (PTVs) are communicated to FDA and EPA monthly. FDA uses the PTV reports in choosing commodities that require more focused sampling initiatives. EPA uses the data for dietary risk assessments and pesticide registration review decisions. MPD also provides the data to USDA's Office of Pest Management Policy (OPMP) for communication to grower groups, the Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) to assist in facilitating the export of domestic commodities, and the National Organic Program (NOP) to inform them of any potential PTVs detected on claimed organic samples. PDP States may request a copy of the monthly PTV report by contacting MPD.

An updated tolerance table was emailed in March 2024 containing tolerances for all commodities in the program at this time, including those that entered the program in April 2024. The table shows tolerances (and FDA action levels for organochlorines) for pesticides on all current PDP commodities. With over 700 pesticides and metabolites, there is information for over 10,000 pesticide/commodity pairings. This table includes permanent, interim, regional, and section 18 emergency tolerances as stated in the electronic Code of Federal Regulations (eCFR). Blank spaces in the table indicate that no tolerance is established or referenced in the eCFR, part 40, section 180. Updated tolerance tables will be provided when the FY2025 commodities begin sampling.

II. PROGRAM SAMPLING AND TESTING UPDATES

Sampling Changes and Rotations: Shipping charts are distributed quarterly to Sampling Managers by MPD. The draft shipping charts for the 4th quarter of calendar year 2024 and the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd quarters of calendar year 2025 will follow this document. Final shipping dates and fact sheets will be issued under separate cover.

Sampling and Testing Deletions

Almond collection ends September 30, 2024. This ends multi-residue testing of almonds by the Washington (WA1) laboratory.

Canned pumpkin collection ends December 31, 2024. This ends multi-residue testing of canned pumpkin by the New York (NY1) laboratory.

Blackberry collection ends June 30, 2025. This ends multi-residue testing of blackberries by the Washington (WA1) laboratory.

Apple collection ends June 30, 2025. This ends multi-residue testing of apples by the Florida (FL1) laboratory.

Sampling and Testing Additions

Salmon will be added October 1, 2024. Salmon will remain in the program for one year. All samples will be shipped to the Washington (WA1) Laboratory for multi-residue testing.

Strawberries will be added January 1, 2025. Strawberries will remain in the program for two years. All samples will be shipped to the New York (NY1) Laboratory for multi-residue testing.

Oats will be added July 1, 2025. Oats will remain in the program for one year. All samples will be shipped to the Washington (WA1) Laboratory for multi-residue testing.

Spinach will be added July 1, 2025. Spinach will remain in the program for two years. All samples will be shipped to the Florida (FL1) Laboratory for multi-residue testing.

For all incoming commodities, refer to the current commodity fact sheet for sampling selection, packaging, and shipping guidance. Commodity specific requirements regarding analytes of interest have been listed in the memorandum communicated to the laboratory.

Sampling and Testing Continuations

Avocadoes, cherry tomatoes, cucumbers, leaf lettuce, head lettuce, onions, oranges, pineapple, sweet corn, and tomatillos continue to be sampled.

PDP Sampling Commodity Counts

October 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024 = 14 commodities
- Remove almonds
- Add salmon

January 1, 2025 through March 31, 2025 = 14 commodities
- Remove canned pumpkin
- Add strawberries

April 1, 2025 through June 30, 2025 = 14 commodities
- No additions or deletions

July 1, 2025 through September 30, 2025 = 14 commodities
- Remove apples and blackberries
- Add spinach and oats

III.   Website for PDP Information:

For additional Pesticide Data Program information check out our website:

http://www.ams.usda.gov/pdp

State collaborators may request access to the PDP SharePoint site. Please contact MPD for more information.