

Crack & Crevice



OREGON PEST CONTROL ASSOCIATION

December 2023 Issue

President's Message: Happy Holidays!!

Thank you for electing me to be your OPCA President for 2023 and 2024. My main goal will be to increase our membership. I took several days before the Salishan meeting in September to call past attendees. I was able to get six companies to sign up out of the 25 I called and many also renewed their membership.



Rennie Kubik at Pest World, 2023

Another goal I have is to find ways to generate more funds. Our manufacturing representatives are getting less funds to support association meetings. I will be talking with these reps to see what they can do to help us—product for a raffle, for example. OPCA mem-

Continued on page 2

OPCA Virtual Seminar Is January 13

Oregon Pest Control Association (OPCA) announces its upcoming virtual seminar series, where industry experts will unravel the secrets of tackling various pests that dwell in the Beaver State and beyond. This will take place on ZOOM on January 13, 2024, from 8:30 am - 12:50 pm.

The speakers for the virtual seminar include **Sylvia Kenmuir**, BASF - Timber! Tackling Termites in The Beaver State. **Scott Harris**, Central Gardens – Fleas. **Andrew Fischer**, Neogen – Cockroaches. **Samantha Dilday**, Washington State University - Odorous House Ant: A temperate ant species in the Pacific Northwest. Secure your spot today by registering on our website opca.org.

We understand the importance of professional development, which is why OPCA is diligently applying for Continuing Education (CE) Credits for this seminar. Anticipated credits include ODA: 4 (anticipated), WSDA: 4 (anticipated), OCHI: 4.

Sponsors are invited to register a "virtual exhibit booth" to showcase their products and services. For a virtual sponsorship the cost is \$200. Sponsors will receive a few minutes on ZOOM to update attendees on their company, along with a prominent listing featuring their logo and contact information.

Don't miss this opportunity to get some certification credits! Mark your calendars, register, and join us on January 13th for a virtual seminar experience like no other!

REGISTER: OPCA Winter Virtual Seminar
www.opca.org

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Moves to Newport
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Quick Calendar

OPCA Board Meetings
All are the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 7:30 am on ZOOM

OPCA Virtual Winter Seminar
January 13, 2024
Webinar

Pacific NW Pest Mgmt Conference
February 22-24, 2024
Best Western Hood River Inn

High Desert Seminar
June 1, 2024
Eagle Crest Resort, Redmond, OR

Fall Beach Seminar
September 14, 2024
Embarcadero Resort, Newport, OR

Ant ID Seminar Slated for April 6 at Chemeketa Community College in Salem

OPCA will hold its ANT ID seminar again in 2024. Mark your calendar for Saturday, April 6. The lab at Chemeketa Community College is rather small and there are a limited number of stations. So, there's only room for 24 people.



Dr. Laurel Hansen teaches the ANT ID seminar for OPCA.

This is a very interesting class taught by a world expert on the subject.

This is a hands-on workshop with preserved specimens, identification keys, and dissection microscopes. Each participant will work with a reference collection that can be added to their personal/company collection at the close of the workshop.

Identification of ants found in the Pacific Northwest include:

Carpenter ants
Moisture ants
Pharaoh ants
Thief ants
Little black ants
Thatching ants
Odorous house ants
Ghost ants
Velvety tree ants
Argentine ants
Ponerine ants
Aphaenogaster
Slave-making ants

Don't delay in registering once the link is available on the OPCA website.

ANT ID SEMINAR April 6, 2024

President's Message, Cont. from page 1

bers have suggested a fund-raising golf tournament, or trap shooting! Let me know if you have ideas!

I would challenge each of you to reach out to a non-member colleague and get them to join the OPCA, or to renew their lapsed membership.

We are going to need more funding for lobbying, so we can keep all the rodenticide tools we need for public safety. We also know the IP3 group and others will be trying to get their agendas passed in the future.

I do have some free time. If you know a PCO group that is not a member or is not attending the planned training meetings. I would like to make a personal call to each. Let me know who a potential OPCA



With the Pest Control Operators Association president Mike Butler and his wife at Pest World in Honolulu.

member might be.

Robert, Harvey, and I all attended Pest World in Honolulu. This was a very good meeting. We learned the Little Fire Ant (as small as a pin a head) could live in the Pacific Northwest. This is very concerning because this ant is so small and does not have another ant to suppress it.

My last goal is to be more active with Oregonians for Food and Shelter, the organization that lobbies for our industry in Oregon. I will be looking at NPMA's Legislative Days in Washington, DC this spring. Our Summer meeting will be going back to Eagle Crest. So please put this on your calendar May 31 and June 1. Again, thank you for the opportunity to be your president.

Happy Holidays!

Rennie Kubik, OPCA President

OPCA Scholarship In College? Get \$1,000!

Have a family member enrolled in college who could use financial help? Apply for the **OPCA scholarship**. Your college student could get **\$1,000**. Applications require a letter of recommendation from an OPCA member and a statement about how the funds will be helpful.

There is no requirement for major of study—they don't have to be enrolled in pest control related classes. **Steps:**

1. Download the form from the website.
2. Get a letter of recommendation from a current OPCA member.
3. Turn in the application to exec@opca.org or mail to OPCA, PO Box 2244, Salem, OR 97308.

Applications are reviewed by the scholarship committee and a decision will be made in May. Apply no later than **April 30th!**

Get the form off the OPCA website:
www.opca.org/



OPCA Membership Report

OPCA member renewals as of December 12, 2023

- Active members: 51 (of 59 renewed)
- Allied members: 15 (of 24 renewed)
- Associate: 1

Membership Application: Know of any companies that should be members? www.opca.org/join.

Lapsed Membership Policy: OPCA's policy is member companies that have lapsed for one full year must **re-apply** for membership in OPCA.

Dues Paid by Corporate Offices: If your corporate office is in another state and pays your dues, let us know!

OPCA's Dues Year: July 1—June 30. Once a member pays, we will notify the national association of the status.

New Members: OPCA Companies applying for OPCA membership are posted for the members to comment for 15 days. Then, the OPCA board votes to accept their membership.

Joint State Members: Active Members pay their NPMA dues at the same time as OPCA dues. Those dues are sent in to NPMA once a month.



Below photos courtesy of Jeffrey McGovern, The Resource Shop



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Sign up for our emails, offering free samples & full product information:
specialoffers@jfoakes.com

Save the Date:

OPCA Winter Seminar

January 13, 2024

Individuals and classrooms can be accommodated

Virtual via webinar



Embarcadero Resort in Newport Selected for 2024 Fall Beach Seminar



OPCA will head to the Embarcadero Resort for the Fall Beach Seminar in 2024. The resort is walking distance to the old waterfront. Also, people can rent boats and crab pots right from the pier.

Friday night the welcome reception will be held. The education seminar will be on Saturday. Up to 7 hours of education are being planned.

Newport also has many fun family activities including the



Oregon Coast Aquarium, whale watching, and kayak tours in the bay.

OPCA will be seeking a person to be the chair of the annual deep sea fishing trip. We will also be looking for someone to chair the golf tournament. If you regularly attend either of these activities and you want to make them super fun, let us know!

Mark your calendars for September 13-14, 2024!

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Southern Oregon Seminar—Rogue Community College, White City, OR



Southern Oregon Seminar It's a Wrap!

Attendees had a good time seeing everyone on November 17, 2023, for our Southern Oregon Seminar. The event took place at Rogue Community College – Table Rock Campus in White City.

This location provided a very nice meeting room. There was a tasty lunch catered by Casa Amiga where attendees enjoyed quality Mexican food.

Speakers included **Nick Grisafe**, Syngenta - Spiders; **Lars Hanson**, BASF - Ants! Management Solutions; **Jon Paulsen**, Vesperis - Stinging Insects; **Kelly Vance**, Beneficial Insectary - Fundamentals of Biological Pest Control; **Erik Van Der Sluys**, Beneficial Insectary - Getting the Most Out of Chemical and Biological Applications; and **Edward Horvath**, Three Rivers Mosquito and Vector Control - Mosquito Control.

See you next year!



Tel: (610) 849 1723



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for the Fall!**

Rats will soon be heading back to the comfort of safe buildings with plentiful food... make sure you are stocked up with Brigand and Monark baits ahead of the surge!

www.PelGar.co.uk/USA

Monark SB contains difenacoum 0.005% w/w
Brigand SB and WB contain bromadiolone 0.005% w/w
EPA reg No. 87235-1, 87235-2 and 87235-4



Oregonians for Food and Shelter

Excerpts from the OFS Online newsletter

EPA Releases Draft Biological Evaluation of 11 Rodenticides' Effects on Endangered Species

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is releasing a draft Biological Evaluation (BE) that includes EPA's draft effects determinations for federally listed and proposed threatened and endangered ("listed") species and critical habitats for 11 rodenticide active ingredients. The draft BE (once finalized) will serve as the Agency's Rodenticide Strategy as outlined in EPA's Endangered Species Act Workplan to guide how the Agency addresses mitigation for rodenticides going forward and will be available for public comment for 60 days. Each year, rodents cause significant damage to property, crops, and food supplies across the United States. They may also spread diseases, posing a serious risk to public health. Rodenticides are used in residential, agricultural, and non-agricultural settings to control a variety of pests including house mice, Norway rats, roof rats, moles, voles, pocket gophers, prairie dogs, ground squirrels, feral hogs, and mongooses.

The 11 rodenticides evaluated in the draft BE are:

- chlorophacinone,
- diphacinone and its sodium salt,
- warfarin and its sodium salt,
- brodifacoum,
- bromadiolone,
- difenacoum,
- difethialone,
- bromethalin,
- cholecalciferol,
- strychnine,
- and zinc phosphide

EPA released a draft human health and ecological risk assessment on these rodenticides in 2020, which was followed by a public comment period during which EPA received valuable feedback. In November 2022, EPA proposed measures for multiple rodenticides—including the requirements of tamper-resistant bait boxes and rodent carcass collection—based on the assessment that addressed protections for specific listed species and critical habitat as part of a pilot program and has received valuable feedback on those measures as well. more...

Regulatory Update

Last week, OFS convened the last of four meetings between members of Marion County Farm Bureau and staff from the Pesticide Program at Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA). Marion County members initially brought up a variety of concerns around the pesticide investigation process and asked for better protections for applicators when dealing with chronic complainers. Based on these meetings over the last year and a half, ODA has made several important changes to their process, including:

In cases of no violation, adding clarifying language to the Letter of Advisement and Case Closing Letter to clearly indicate that no evidence of a violation of law or rule was substantiated;

Adding a self-attestation to the complaint form to ensure that any complainant must formally attest that the information they're providing is true and accurate to the best of their knowledge; and

Development of a resource checklist for applicators to go over before an application; this is particularly useful as part of ODA's "Use Observation" program where applicators can have an investigator present for an application as one way to protect against chronic complainers and concerned neighbors.

Environmental Quality Commission Confirms Appointment of Shannon Davis as DEQ Deputy Director

The Environmental Quality Commission today confirmed Shannon Davis' appointment as Deputy Director of the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality. The commission's vote was unanimous.

"Today's vote was an easy decision," Commission Chair Kathleen George said. "Shannon Davis' experience and dedication to the work and the people who carry it out every day will make for an even stronger DEQ."

Davis has served as interim deputy director since May, following Leah Feldon's promotion to director. Davis has been with the agency since 2017, first as manager of the Materials Management Program and then as Eastern Region Administrator. "DEQ's work is critical to protecting public health and the important natural and cultural resources of our state," Davis said. "I look forward to supporting the dedicated and intelligent work of DEQ staff."



Save the Date:

**OPCA High
Desert Seminar**

June 1, 2024

**Eagle Crest Resort
Redmond, OR**

EPA Approves Additional Use of Biopesticide to Help Suppress Mosquito Populations that Spread Diseases

On Dec. 5, 2023, EPA approved an amendment to expand use of the mosquito control product ZAP Males®, a biopesticide that can suppress invasive local populations of *Aedes albopictus* or Asian Tiger Mosquitoes, which can spread numerous diseases of significant human health concern, including dengue, Zika, and chikungunya. Novel, non-chemical pesticides to control mosquitoes are critical for public health, particularly in overburdened

OFS News... *Cont. from page 6*

and vulnerable communities. This amendment allows use of the product in all U.S. states and territories. Previously, the product's use had been limited to the states of California, Connecticut, Delaware, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Massachusetts, Maine, Maryland, Missouri, New Hampshire, New Jersey, Nevada, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Vermont, West Virginia, and the District of Columbia. ZAP Males® are live male mosquitoes that are infected with a particular strain of the Wolbachia bacterium, which are common, naturally occurring bacteria found in many insect species. Male mosquitoes do not bite people. Instead, infected males mate with females from the wild population, and the Wolbachia strain of bacteria ensures that no viable offspring are produced. Thus, this method can be used to suppress wild *Aedes albopictus* mosquito populations.

Aedes albopictus mosquitoes are an invasive species in the U.S. that is rapidly expanding its range. These mosquitoes can carry diseases such as dengue, Zika, and chikungunya; therefore, their control is important to public health, including in densely populated areas that often contain overburdened and vulnerable communities. Because climate change is further expected to increase the range of mosquitoes in the U.S., the use of chemical pesticides is similarly expected to increase. As *Aedes albopictus* mosquito breeding habitats are primarily associated with humans, urban areas are disproportionately affected by their presence. Thus, these communities could be at higher risk for exposure to *Aedes albopictus* mosquitoes and potentially greater risk for both disease transmission and chemical pesticide exposure from mosquito control efforts. The use of Zap Males® mosquitoes has the potential to reduce the use of chemical pesticides used in mosquito control, while simultaneously reducing populations of mosquitoes that spread disease in the first place.

Waste Pesticide Collection Events Scheduled

Oregon Department of Agriculture is hosting a free pesticide collection event for agricultural applicators and landowners. The event information is below. Please help us spread the word by forwarding this information to anyone you feel would benefit in participating. Pre-registration is required and these events fill up quickly so early registration is recommended.

January 27, 2024: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Valley Agronomics LLC. 14000 OR-99W, McMinnville. For information, see the event brochure. To participate, fill out and send in the event application at least two weeks in advance.

March 2024: We are in solidifying plans for a collection event in Umatilla County in March 2024. Information should be available on the ODA website shortly.

ODA-accredited Trainings for Pesticide Credits:

To search ODA-accredited CE trainings, go to:
<http://oda.direct/PestRecertClasses>.

The OSU Pesticide Safety Education Program is offering live webinars this training season:



Oregon
Department
of Agriculture

From the OPCA Executive Director

Greetings from the OPCA office! The Sothern Oregon Seminar was held in a new location this year, Rogue Community College, White City Campus. This is somewhat significant because OPCA may need to have more meetings in these kinds of venues.

Since COVID, hotels have dramatically increased their prices and reduced the "perks" they provided for booking meeting and conventions. They no longer discount room rent. Audio visual costs have been raised and food costs are through the roof. Also, many hotels have become much less forgiving on "room attrition" policies. That is, hotels require a minimum number of rooms to be sold, and if they aren't, or people cancel, OPCA has to pay for them.



Harvey Gail, Exec. Director

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So, we will most likely have meetings in these locations in the future. The next one is the Ant ID seminar which will be on April 6 at Chemeketa Community College.

As always, for *Crack and Crevice*, we have interest from members in providing articles and pictures. Send pictures to exec@opca.org as a jpeg file. But, be sure to provide a detailed caption. If you have anything else to offer, contact me at exec@opca.org.

Board meetings are open to anyone to attend. All of our minutes and financial reports are available on the website as a page under the "about" tab. If you have any questions, email exec@opca.org or call our office 503-363-4345.

Have a great holiday week!



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