

CASE SUMMARY

Case #2011/1147

Complainant: Mark Pilkinton
15975 Preswick Lane
Granger, IN 46530
574-243-9914

Applicator: Brian Lattimer
Lattimer Lawn Care
51363 CR 3
Elkhart, IN 46154-8879
574-262-5051

Certified Applicator
Licensed Business

1. On July 6, 2011, I, Agent Joe Becovitz of the Office of Indiana State Chemist (OISC), performed an investigation at the Pilkinton residence in response to a claim of injury/damage to non-target trees and shrubs possibly resulting from exposure to the herbicide Imprelis. I observed the following during my on-site investigation:
 - a) The new growth on pine trees was twisted and browned. A viburnum had cupped and curled leaves (see Figures 1 thru 3).
2. I photographed the site documenting the symptoms I observed:



Figure 1



Figure 2



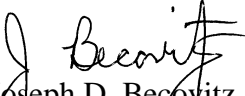
Figure 3

3. I collected the following vegetation samples from visibly impacted non-target vegetation, as described in paragraph #1, for examination by the Plant & Pest Diagnostic Lab (PPDL) at Purdue:
 - a) White pine
 - b) Viburnum

The report from the PPDL for the samples submitted indicates, *“The samples (and pictures) submitted show symptoms that are associated with injury caused by synthetic auxin (growth regulator type) herbicides. Typical symptoms caused by these herbicides can include epinasty (twisting and curving) of the leaves or needles, shoot and shoot tip:*


leaf cupping which can be upward or downward, and in extreme cases, new leaves can be irregular in size and shape (usually smaller than normal) and have abnormal leaf margins. No disease was found on the samples."

4. According to the application information collected from the applicator, Imprelis Herbicide (EPA Reg. No. 352-793) was applied on May 8, 2011, at the rate of 2.8 oz /acre using ride-on type, ground application equipment.


Joseph D. Becovitz
Pesticide Investigator

Date: October 5, 2011

Disposition: No violation of the Indiana Pesticide Use and Application Law was documented against the pesticide applicator. Effective September 15, 2011, the Indiana registration for Imprelis Herbicide, EPA Reg. #352-793, was cancelled because it was determined by OISC that the product is "misbranded" (it bears label directions that are inadequate to prevent unreasonable adverse effects to non-target vegetation).


George N. Saxton
Compliance Officer

Final Date: October 26, 2011