

CASE SUMMARY

Case #2011/1216

Complainant: John Carnick
Trinity School
107 South Greenlawn
South Bend, IN 46617
574-276-9470

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

Certified Applicator
Licensed Business

1. On July 13, 2011, I, Agent Joe Becovitz of the Office of Indiana State Chemist (OISC), performed an investigation at the Trinity School 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 Norway spruce trees was twisted and browned. A large Norway spruce tree was severely defoliated (see Figures 1 and 2).
 - b) The new growth on blue spruce trees was twisted and browned (see Figures 3 and 4).
2. I photographed the site documenting the symptoms I observed:



Figure 1



Figure 2



Figure 3

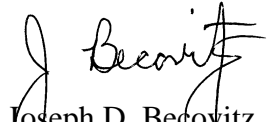


Figure 4

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) Norway spruce
 - b) Blue spruce

The report from the PPDL for the samples submitted indicates, *"There was no evidence of significant mite or insect injury or disease on the sample submitted. 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."*


4. According to the application information collected from the applicator, Imprelis Herbicide (EPA Reg. No. 352-793) was applied on May 11, 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