

CASE SUMMARY

Case #2011/1159

Complainant: David Cummings
11819 Pennsylvania Street
Carmel, IN 46032
317-810-3869

Applicator: Jeff Fairfield
Hittle Landscaping
17778 Sun Park Drive
Westfield, IN 46074
317-896-5697

Certified Applicator
Licensed Business

1. On July 21, 2011, I, Agent Scott Farris of the Office of Indiana State Chemist (OISC), performed an investigation at the complainant's property in response to a claim of injury/damage to non-target trees possibly resulting from exposure to the herbicide Imprelis. I observed the following during my on-site investigation:
 - a) Browning of yews (see figure #1).
 - b) Spruce trees showing dieback (see figure #2)
2. I took the following photos depicting injured/damaged vegetation:



Figure #1



Figure #2

3. I collected the following vegetation samples from visibly impacted non-target vegetation as described in paragraph #1 for examination by the Purdue Plant Pest Diagnostic Laboratory (PPDL):
 - a) Spruce
 - b) Yew
4. According to a report from the PPDL, *"There was no evidence of significant insect injury or disease on the yew and spruce samples submitted. There was evidence of spider mite feeding damage (strippling) observed on the older, inner, needles of the spruce sample. Browning of needles and tip dieback on the yew and spruce and yellowing of yew foliage*

were observed. The spruce and yew samples submitted did not exhibit the typical distortion of needles that is often found to be associated with symptoms caused by a synthetic auxinic (growth regulator type) herbicide. Yellowing and dieback of yew (Taxus) can be caused by root rot/root stress. Dieback on the spruce could be caused by a number of different factors."

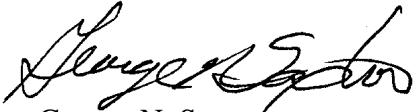
5. According to the application information collected from the applicator Imprelis Herbicide (EPA Reg. No. 352-793) was applied on May 23, 2011, at the rate of 4.5oz /acre using Z sprayer equipment; no application was made to the soil within the drip line of any of the trees or ornamentals; no application was made directly to any exposed roots of any trees or ornamentals.



Scott M Farris
Pesticide Investigator

Date: September 9, 2011

Disposition: No violation of the Indiana Pesticide Use and Application Law was documented at this time.



George N. Saxton
Compliance Officer

Final Date: September 16, 2011