

CASE SUMMARY

Case #2011/1215

Complainant: Berta Cottom
332 Hominy Ct.
Terre Haute, IN 47803
812-236-8492

Applicator: Jonathan Pettus
Bowmans Pro Turf
75121 N. Murphy Rd.
Brazil, IN 47834-9118
812-448-1852

Certified Applicator
Licensed Business

1. On July 11, 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 resulting from exposure to the herbicide Imprelis. I observed the following during my on-site investigation:
 - a) Tops of spruce trees were curled (see figure #1).
 - b) Needles "balled up" and brown on tips of candles (see figure #2).
 - c) Yellowing of Honey Locust (see figure #3 & #4).
2. I took the following photos depicting injured/damaged vegetation:



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 Purdue Plant Pest Diagnostic Laboratory (PPDL):
 - a) Spruce
 - b) Honey Locust
4. According to a report from the PPDL, *"No infectious disease or insect pest found to be associated with the symptoms observed on the samples submitted (dieback and distortion on the spruce sample; distortion and 'fringing' on leaf tips of honey locust). The sample and images submitted show symptoms that are typically found to be 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."*
5. According to the application information collected from the applicator Imprelis Herbicide (EPA Reg. No. 352-793) was applied on April 14th, 2011, at the rate of 4.0oz /acre using Z ground spray 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 21, 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 14, 2011