

CASE SUMMARY

Case #2011/1275

Complainant: Katie Vanevenhoven
1100 E. Brentwood Lane
Clinton, IN 47842
765-832-3926

Applicator: Tom Bekkering
Tommy Boys Lawncare
631 Blackmon St.
Clinton, IN 47842
812-208-7626

Certified Applicator
Licensed Business

1. On July 22, 2011, I, Agent Kevin Neal 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 and shrubs possibly resulting from exposure to the herbicide Imprelis. A Notice of Inspection was issued to Katie Vanevenhoven. I observed the following during my on-site investigation:
 - a) Tops of trees were curled (see figure 1)
 - b) Brown and curling on tips of candles (see figure 2)
 - c) Yellowing brown tips of Arborvitae (see figure 3)
2. I took the following photos depicting injured/damaged vegetation:



Figure One



Figure Two

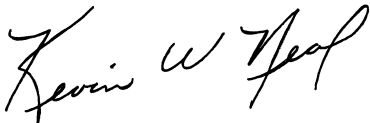


Figure Three

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) White Pine
 - b) Arborvitae
4. According to a report from the PPDL, *"There was no evidence of significant mite or insect injury or disease on the spruce sample submitted. The sample of white pine and arborvitae (and pictures) 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. When injury results in new shoot dieback in conifers there will be no regrowth this season, and with certain species, such as Norway spruce, the entire tree can die.”

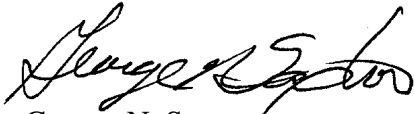
5. According to the application information collected from the applicator Imprelis Herbicide (EPA Reg. No. 352-793) was applied on March 24 and May 10, 2011 at the rate of 4.3 oz/acre using ride on Z-sprayer.



Kevin W. Neal
Pesticide Investigator

Date: September 19, 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: September 26, 2011