

CASE SUMMARY

Case #2011/1321

Complainant: Linda Whiteman
16000 S. Laura Lane
Clinton, IN 47842
765-832-2294

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

Certified Applicator
Licensed Business

1. On July 28, 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) Pine trees showing browning and dieback (see figures #1).
 - b) Spruce Trees showing browning of tips of candles (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) Pine
 - b) Spruce
4. According to a report from the PPDL, *"There was no evidence of significant mite or insect injury or disease on the samples submitted. The samples and picture 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. Spruce bud scale (physokermespiceae) was found in the buds of this spruce sample. It is not contributing significantly to the dieback and other symptoms present"

5. According to the application information collected from the applicator, Imprelis Herbicide (EPA Reg. No. 352-793) was applied on May 16, 2011, at the rate of 4.3oz /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 15, 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 21, 2011