

CASE SUMMARY

Case #2011/1334

Complainant: Chad Miller
7330 W. CR250N
Shipshewana, IN 46565

Applicator: Chad Miller
Precision Turf Care
7330 W. CR250N
Shipshewana, IN 46565
260-499-0132

Certified Applicator
Licensed Business

1. On August 23, 2011, I, Agent Andy Roth of the Office of Indiana State Chemist (OISC), performed an investigation at the property listed above in response to a claim of injury/damage to non-target trees possibly resulting from exposure to Imprelis Herbicide. During my on-site investigation, I observed twisted tips and brown needles on numerous mature white pines and stunted potato plants with cupped leaves along the edges of the garden.
2. I photographed the site documenting the symptoms I observed:



Figure 1



Figure 2




Figure 3



Figure 4

3. I collected a plant sample from white pines exhibiting symptoms and submitted it to the Plant & Pest Diagnostic Lab (PPDL) at Purdue for assessment.
4. The report from the PPDL for the sample 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 color, 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. Factors other than herbicide injury may be contributing to the loss of trees that are nearly dead in this windbreak; including root disease, overcrowding and stress from drought in 2010 and heavy spring rains in 2010 and 2011."*
5. According to application information collected from Precision Turf Care, Chad Miller applied Imprelis Herbicide (EPA Reg. No. 352-793) to the lawn on May 3, 2011, at the rate of 4.5 oz /acre using ride-on application equipment.



Andrew R. Roth
Pesticide Investigator

Date: October 4, 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 20, 2011