

CASE SUMMARY

Case #2011/1356

Complainant: Allen & Susan Losure
110 E. North E Street
Gas City, IN 46933
765-674-4585

Applicator: Joe Chandler
Grant County Lawn, Inc.
P.O. Box 1595
Marion, IN 46952
765-384-5219

Registered Technician
Licensed Business

1. On July 29, 2011, I, Agent Beth Carter 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 Mrs. Losure. I observed the following on one lilac bush during my on-site investigation:
 - a) Leaves were cupped and curled (see figure 2, 3, & 4).
 - b) Leaves were brittle and leathery (non succulent) to the touch (see figure 2, 3, & 4).
2. I took the following photos depicting injured/damaged vegetation:



Figure 1



Figure 2



Figure 3



Figure 4

3. I collected a vegetation sample from the visibly impacted lilac bush as described in paragraph #1 for examination by the Purdue Plant Pest Diagnostic Laboratory (PPDL).
4. I did not collect a vegetation sample from the lilac bush for the OISC Residue Lab. The homeowner requested that I did not because I would have defoliated the entire bush.
5. According to a report from the PPDL, *"The lilac sample showed severe twisting and distortion of leaves. There was no evidence of significant mite or insect injury or disease on the sample submitted. The sample (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 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."*
6. According to the application information collected from Grant County Lawn Care, Imprelis Herbicide (EPA Reg. No. 352-793) was applied on April 2, 2011 and June 6, 2011 at the rate of 4.5 fluid ounces per acre using a hose and tank sprayer.



Elizabeth C. Carter
Pesticide Investigator

Date: September 6, 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 15, 2011