



Office of  
**INDIANA STATE CHEMIST AND SEED COMMISSIONER**

*Protecting Indiana's Agriculture and Environment - Feed, Fertilizer, Hemp, Pesticide and Seed*

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On January 14, 2021, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) sent out a news release notifying the public that the agency will be taking action to investigate the leaching of PFAS (per- and poly-fluorinated substances), into pesticide products from fluorinated HDPE pesticide containers. PFAS are chemicals known to be harmful to human health at high levels, if regularly exposed to them.

The purpose of this message is to share this information with Office of Indiana State Chemist (OISC) pesticide licensees. Included in this message is the [EPA News Release](#) and a [Frequently Asked Questions](#) webpage for your convenience. In summary, the initial analyses for the presence of PFAS were conducted on certain mosquito control products. States and local mosquito control districts are encouraged to contact their pesticide suppliers if there are questions about potential for PFAS in pesticide products they have purchased or intend to purchase. The affected pesticide manufacturer has voluntarily stopped shipment of any products in fluorinated containers and is conducting its own testing to confirm EPA results and product stability in un-fluorinated containers.

EPA researchers are working to understand how exposure to PFAS may be harmful to people and to the environment. The PFAS detections in rinsate from the tested containers does not represent PFAS concentrations in the environment or human exposure to PFAS.

According to the EPA, "it is estimated that roughly 20-30% of all rigid agriculture chemical packaging in North America sold into the crop protection market are packaged in fluorinated HDPE containers".

EPA has notified the pesticide industry and understands the pesticide industry is examining their distribution chains to identify and disclose potential areas for contamination. As for other containers, EPA is working with other federal agencies to understand the scope of the PFAS contamination and will provide further guidance as the issue evolves.

For any stakeholder questions regarding related issues not covered in the Press Release or FAQ, please contact EPA at [pesticidepackaging@epa.gov](mailto:pesticidepackaging@epa.gov). For any media inquiries, please email [press@epa.gov](mailto:press@epa.gov).

Additional information regarding PFAS is available at:

**Press Release**

<https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-takes-action-investigate-pfas-contamination>

**Frequently Asked Questions**

<https://www.epa.gov/pesticides/pfas-packaging>

**PFAS Action Plan**

<https://www.epa.gov/pfas/epas-pfas-action-plan>