

**WSSA Liaison to EPA-OPP (Office of Pesticide Programs)
Report to WSSA
Quarter 4, 2018**

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October 22 – 26

On October 25th, I presented the third webinar in the three part series entitled “Best Practices for Ground Application”. In the third installment there were 313 attendees. This was the third of the planned webinars for 2018. There was discussion about other topics that should be covered because of the success of the webinar series.

There was continued discussion around the DRT program and how to keep the program moving forward. There is a lot of interest within the EPA as well as within the industry to see the program become a successful and active program, but there are some hurdles in terms of implementation of the program that are preventing it from moving forward currently.

General Observations and Comments

I had a couple of joint conversations with the EPA OPP staff and the CPDA (Council of Producers and Distributors of Agrotechnology) about how to move forward with the DRT (drift reduction technology) program. There is much interest from both the EPA as well as the CPDA in seeing the program launched, but there seems to currently be some impasses which are hard to bridge. This has led to interest from the CPDA in developing a pilot program around deposition that may foster the new program. Either way, it appears as though this will be a drawn out process.

My group and I also had the opportunity to assist in considerations and construction of USDA NASS survey questions. There will be an emphasis on pesticide application practices in the latest surveys after input from USDA OPMP. It would be prudent for myself or someone from within WSSA to continue that relationship beyond working with Jill as there is a lot that she does to represent our society, but we should ask her to carry the entire burden herself. The more involved we are, the more input we will have over time.