



PESTICIDE ADVISORY NOTICE

Use of Pesticides for Onion Maggot Control in Onion Cull Piles Awaiting Burial



April 14, 2017

This year's weather conditions have delayed the burial of a large number of onion cull piles. The burial of onions, or other control activities, by a specific date are required to prevent the emergence of onion maggot. The eradication requirements and designated Onion Maggot Control Area in Malheur County are under the authority of the Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA), Oregon Administrative Rule (OAR) 603-052-0360.

OAR 603-052-0360 requires that onion cull piles must be landfilled, chopped and soil-incorporated in the field, composted, diverted for animal feed, **or** buried. As a final option, the control order states that "If inclement weather prevents plowing, the culls will be **treated with an EPA-labeled insecticide** ... until proper disposal occurs."

ODA Pesticides Program has identified the following EPA-labeled insecticides that can be legally applied specifically to onion cull piles (either directly to the pile or to areas surrounding the pile) for onion maggot control:

- EPA Reg. No. 10163-21, Gowan Malathion 8 Flowable (Gowan Company)
- EPA Reg. No. 66330-220, Malathion 5 EC (Arysta LifeScience North America)
- EPA Reg. No. 70299-17, AzaGuard (BioSafe Systems, a.i. azadirachtin)
- EPA Reg. No. 5481-559, Ecozin Plus 1.2% ME (AMVAC, a.i. azadirachtin)

This Advisory applies to cull onion piles located in grower fields only. Only pesticide products specifically labeled for applications to cull piles may be used for onion maggot control in onion cull piles. Products labeled solely for onions growing in fields cannot be applied to cull piles.

Growers and processors making pesticide applications to onion cull piles are hereby advised:

1. Applications of the products listed above on cull piles are NOT a cure-all solution. Onion maggots may continue to emerge from deep within the piles.
 - Pesticides applied over the top surface of cull onions should only be expected to provide temporary control of onion maggot.
 - More than one application may be necessary, but application rates, maximum number of applications, and all applicable precautions and restrictions on the product labels must be followed.
2. Contact ODA Pesticides Program* if you have questions about whether products other than those specified above can be applied to onion cull piles.
3. Pesticide applications to cull onion piles must be conducted by applicators using appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) as required on the product label. All personnel entering treated areas during the restricted entry interval (REI) for the pesticide, e.g., to move or bury the treated onions, must be provided the PPE prescribed on the label for early entry workers.
4. Cull onions that are treated with pesticides may not be repurposed as animal feed. Once treated, the piles should be buried on site or transported to an appropriate disposal facility.
5. It is advisable to limit livestock and wildlife access to treated cull onion piles.

*Contact David Priebe, ODA Pesticides Program, 503-986-4656, dpriebe@oda.state.or.us

