

PESTICIDE REPORTS

Division of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources • Oklahoma State University

<http://pested.okstate.edu>



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AUGUST 2026 TEST HELP WORKSHOPS

The Oklahoma State University Pesticide Safety Education Program (PSEP) will be holding test help workshops August 4 in Oklahoma City and August 6 in Tulsa.

The Oklahoma City workshop will be at the Oklahoma County Extension Center at 2500 N.E. 63rd St. in Oklahoma City. The Tulsa workshop will be at the Tulsa County Extension Office at 4116 E 15th St. in Tulsa.

Registration cost is \$50 before July 28 for Oklahoma City and \$65 after July 28. Registration cost is \$50 before July 30 for Tulsa and \$65 after July 30. Registration will include a copy of Applying Pesticides Correctly. This is the study manual for the core and service technician exams.

To register for this class please go to the Pesticide Safety Education Program (PSEP) website at <http://pested.okstate.edu/html/practical.htm> and click on the register online link. Class information and an agenda is also at that website. Future 2026 workshop dates can be found on the website as well.
(OSU PSEP)

SUPREME COURT SIDES WITH BAYER IN ROUNDUP CASE, LIMITING THOUSANDS OF CANCER LAWSUITS

According to reporting from [ABC News](#), the U.S. Supreme Court has ruled in favor of Bayer in a closely watched Roundup case, a decision expected to significantly limit thousands of failure-to-warn lawsuits alleging that the herbicide causes cancer.

The ruling centers on whether Bayer, [which acquired Monsanto and the Roundup brand in 2018](#), can be held liable under state laws for not including cancer warnings on Roundup labels when federal regulators have approved the product's labeling. The Court determined that federal pesticide regulations preempt such state-law claims, finding that Bayer cannot be sued in state courts for failing to provide warnings that conflict with federally approved labeling requirements.

The case originated with Missouri resident John Durnell, who developed non-Hodgkin's lymphoma after more than two decades of applying Roundup in his St. Louis neighborhood. A jury previously awarded Durnell \$1.25 million after concluding the company failed to adequately warn users of potential cancer risks. His case was one of approximately 200,000 claims filed against Bayer related to Roundup and glyphosate exposure.

The decision marks a significant legal victory for Bayer, which has spent years defending itself against litigation while setting aside an estimated \$16 billion to settle claims. Earlier this year, the company proposed an additional \$7.25 billion settlement intended to resolve many remaining cases.

The ruling comes amid continued scientific and regulatory debate surrounding glyphosate,

Roundup's active ingredient. In 2015, the World Health Organization's International Agency for Research on Cancer classified glyphosate as "probably carcinogenic." However, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has consistently maintained that glyphosate is not likely to cause cancer in humans when used according to label directions.

The case has broader implications for U.S. agriculture. Bayer has previously warned that continued litigation could force it to reconsider the future availability of glyphosate-based products in the U.S. agricultural market. Agricultural organizations have argued that losing access to glyphosate would have significant impacts on crop production, weed management, and food supply chains.

The decision also arrives amid ongoing policy debates within the Trump administration and the Make America Healthy Again (MAHA) movement regarding pesticide regulation, agricultural productivity, and food security.

(CropLife, June 25, 2026)

<https://www.croplife.com/management/legislation/supreme-court-sides-with-bayer-in-roundup-case-limiting-thousands-of-cancer-lawsuits/>

WHY DRONE PILOTS SPEND HOURS PREPPING FOR JUST MINUTES IN THE AIR

With seeds in the ground, agricultural drone operators and row crop farmers across the country are prepping their machines for fungicide spraying operations. Ahead of spray season, Iowa drone pilot Curtis Cunningham has already taken to the skies for pasture work, while prepping for the summertime rush.

“They get a lot of broadleaf and thistles, which puts pressure on the good grass for grazing, and can hurt animals,” said Cunningham, owner of Fortis Aerial in Runnells. He started the business this year, combining experience as a private pilot with a career in information technology.

Having returned from a recent job, Cunningham was resetting his DJI drones on top of a tender trailer. While technologically complex, modern drones are relatively simple to operate and maintain — even when catastrophe happens.

“They’re very durable units. Most of the time, crashes are pilot error,” Cunningham said. “When they go down, you just kind of snap it back together — put some Allen wrenches to it and put props on, and you’re up and running again,” he said.

Agricultural drone operators like Cunningham perform routine maintenance checks on propellers, motors and structural components to ensure safe flight operations.

Cunningham compares the maintenance demands of a drone fleet and its infrastructure to those of conventional ground-based equipment. A little bit of preparatory work goes a long way.

Before the season starts, tanks should be drained, neutralized with a deactivating agent and rinsed after use. Following manufacturer guidance, batteries must be tested to prevent fires or catastrophic failures and to ensure they reach their expected lifespan. Rubber seals should be changed every few years even if they’re not broken, along with other wear components.

“You’re going to want to change your propellers almost every year,” Cunningham said. “They’re flimsy carbon material. And they’re supporting 150 pounds of lift, every load, every time they take off, every 10 minutes for every field. That’s a lot of

stress on the blades, so they do need to get checked and replaced pretty frequently.”

After checking the props, Cunningham inspects the drone booms and structural elements, cleans radar components, and examines the motor for signs of wear or damage. In all things, he errs on the safe side. If something doesn’t seem right, it’s better not to take a chance. Often, diagnosing problems is intuitive.

“When flying so often, you get used to the sound of them. You can hear when something is not right. Put it on the ground,” he said. “If it’s got a little wobble to it, or if it’s got a little bit of tension in there that it shouldn’t have and doesn’t normally have, take the motor out and replace it. Don’t take the risk.”

Maintaining drone tender trailers are similar to ground spray rigs — tanks and lines must be flushed after usage and before the summertime row crop season starts.

But while the physical flying machines are at the heart of any drone operation, they’re not the only elements that need upkeep. Maintaining the tender trailer and its pumping systems is also similar to operating a ground rig.

Tanks and their lines must be flushed clean. Before takeoff, product must be correctly mixed.

And check the weather for high winds, which can ground drones. If it’s not too windy to fly, field guidelines must be adjusted so the drone flies in the correct crosswind direction. Otherwise, the product won’t be applied evenly.

Cunningham estimates it takes two to four hours of preparation for every two hours of actual flying. This includes required notices from the Federal Aviation Administration that need to be filed before each operation, and extensive chemical and flight

logging. He finds running this side of his business as the most challenging.

“Flying is the easiest part,” he said, highlighting the specific benefits of drone operation. Their payoff is worth the added maintenance effort. “We are not here to compete with ground rigs or existing aerial applications. We’re a different application for different needs. We hit those harder acres.”

(Farm Progress, June 15, 2026)

<https://www.farmprogress.com/crop-protection/why-drone-pilots-spend-hours-prepping-for-just-minutes-in-the-air>

JOIN THE EFFORT TO TRACK RESISTANCE IN BED BUGS AND GERMAN COCKROACHES

If you’ve worked in pest control for any length of time, you’ve probably noticed a frustrating trend: infestations that used to respond quickly now take more visits, more product, and more creativity to knock down. You’re not alone, and it’s not your technique. Across the country, German cockroaches and bed bugs are evolving resistance to the very insecticides that once kept them in check. This isn’t a local issue — it’s a national one. Without a coordinated way to track resistance, the pest management industry risks losing some of its most important tools.

The Resistance Challenge

Insects develop resistance in two primary ways. First, genetic mutations arise naturally as populations reproduce. If a mutation allows an insect to survive exposure to a particular active ingredient, those survivors pass that trait to the next generation. Over time, that product

becomes less effective. Second, repeated exposure to sub-lethal doses, concentrations too low to kill, can trigger increased production of detoxification enzymes that break down insecticides before they can act. These physiological defenses can persist and intensify across generations. We are seeing resistance emerge in every region of the country, yet there is no unified system to track its development and spread at a national scale. Despite clear warning signs, resistance testing remains piecemeal. Universities, extension labs, and manufacturers conduct localized studies, but results rarely connect across states or companies.

A National Solution

To address this issue, we need to work smarter, not harder. As such, with support from the pest management industry across America, we seek to establish a National Insecticide Resistance Monitoring Network that would provide a unified system for tracking resistance in bed bugs, cockroaches, and potentially other structural pests.

Here’s how it could work:

- **Sample Collection:** PMPs across the U.S. submit populations — regardless of suspected resistance — using provided sampling kits (See sidebar for details).
- **Testing:** Genetic analyses identify known resistance mechanisms and emerging markers.
- **Data Integration:** Results feed into a centralized database maintained at Virginia Tech.
- **Mapping:** Interactive dashboards reveal regional resistance trends, helping technicians

make informed decisions before product failures occur.

Coordinated resistance monitoring is already standard practice in agricultural systems through the United States Department of Agriculture and in mosquito control programs supported by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Extending this infrastructure to structural pests would modernize our industry's response to evolving resistance threats.

Benefits for PMPs and the Industry

Resistance monitoring isn't just academic — it's practical. Understanding local and regional resistance profiles can guide product selection, inform chemistry rotations, strengthen technician training programs, and support more strategic product development. Instead of reacting to failures, the industry can anticipate them. In an industry where product failures cost time, labor, and client trust, proactive resistance monitoring protects both profitability and reputation. A national network would transform local frustration into collective intelligence. When PMPs, manufacturers, and researchers share data, we move from reactive pest control to data-driven proactive pest management, guided by evidence, not trial and error.

The Technician's Role

Every great monitoring program starts with the people in the field, and technicians are the industry's early warning system. Technicians are the first to see resistance when a bait stops working, when a population rebounds unexpectedly, or when the usual treatments lose punch. A national monitoring program would give PMPs an easy way to submit samples,

allowing researchers to track the distribution and spread of resistance while ensuring that field experience directly informs research and product development.

A Smarter, Stronger Future

Resistance isn't going away. But with coordinated monitoring, we can stay ahead of it. A national program would connect field observations with laboratory science, transforming scattered data into actionable intelligence. In an industry built on reliability and trust, informed decision-making isn't optional — it's essential. The U.S. pest management industry has always adapted to change. Now it's time to lead again.

How PMPs Can Help Build a National Resistance Monitoring Program

1. **Get involved.** Contact Dr. Warren Booth (warrenbooth@vt.edu) to request free sampling kits based on your level of participation.
2. **Collect samples.** When encountering infestations, save a small number of cockroaches or bed bugs using the provided kit. Dead or alive! The kit will preserve them.
3. **Document treatments.** Record products used, number of applications, and treatment outcomes. This context is essential for interpreting resistance patterns.
4. **Stay informed.** Follow updates through industry journals, conferences, extension bulletins, and our lab website.

All submitted data will be anonymized. The goal is not to identify individual accounts or

evaluate companies, but to understand resistance patterns at regional and national scales.

This program is supported by funding from the Joseph R. and Mary W. Wilson Urban Entomology Endowment to Dr. Warren Booth at Virginia Tech.

(PCT Online, June 24, 2026)
<https://www.pctonline.com/news/join-the-effort-to-track-resistance-in-bed-bugs-and-german-cockroaches/>

CEU MEETINGS

Please note that some of these meetings are virtual using Zoom or Microsoft Teams. Please contact the meeting host directly if you have any questions.

Date: September 2, 2026
Title: ENSYSTEX - 2026 CEU Workshop
Location: Tulsa OK
Contact: Don Stetler (281)-217-2965
<https://ensystexceu.com/#95d40a97-d688-4731-9d1a-1e00ab8de51e>

CEU's:	Category(s):
1	7A
2	7B

ODAFF APPROVED ONLINE CEU COURSE LINKS

Online Pest Control Courses
<https://www.onlinepestcontrolcourses.com/>

PestED.com
<https://www.pested.com/>

Certified Training Institute
<https://www.certifiedtraininginstitute.com/>

WSU URBAN IPM AND PESTICIDE SAFETY EDUCATION PROGRAM
<https://pep.wsu.edu/rct/recertonline/>

CEU University
<http://www.ceuschool.org/>

Technical Learning College
<http://www.abctlc.com/>

All Star Pro Training
www.allstarce.com

Wood Destroying Organism Inspection Course
www.nachi.org/wdocourse.htm

CTN Educational Services Inc
<https://ctnedu.com/>

Veseris
<http://www.pestweb.com/>

AG CEU Online
<https://agceuonline.com/courses/state/37>

Target Specialty Products Online Training
<https://www.target-specialty.com/training/online-training>

American Pest CEUs <https://americanpestceus.com/>

Pestschool.com <https://pestschool.com/>

For more information and an updated list of CEU meetings, click on this link:
<http://www.kellysolutions.com/OK/applicators/courses/searchCourseTitle.asp>

ODAFF TEST INFORMATION

Testing will be done at testing centers in multiple locations around the state by PSI Services LLC.

Reservation must be made in advance at <https://test-takers.psiexams.com/okpest> or call **855-579-4643**

PSI locations.

Oklahoma City 3800 N Classen Blvd, Ste C-20, Oklahoma City, OK 73118

Tulsa 2840 E. 51st Street, Brittany Square Office Park, Suite 215, Tulsa, OK 74105

McAlester 21 East Carl Albert Parkway (US Hwy 270), McAlester, Oklahoma 74501

Woodward 1915 Oklahoma Ave, Suite 3, Woodward, OK 73801

Lawton Great Plains Technology Center, 4500 West Lee Blvd Building 300- RM 308, Lawton, OK 73505

Enid Autry Technology Center, 1201 W. Willow Rd, Room 402, Enid, OK 73703

Ponca City Pioneer Technology Center, 2101 N Ash, Ponca City, OK 74601

South Penn - Moore Norman Technology Center
13301 S. Pennsylvania, Oklahoma City OK

Weatherford-Southwestern Oklahoma State University 1001 N 7th St. Weatherford OK

Durant-Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma
1802 Chukka Hina Drive, Durant OK

Ardmore-Southern Tech, 2610 Sam Noble Parkway, Ardmore

If you have questions on pesticide certification. Please email or call:

Kevin Shelton 405-744-1060 kevin.shelton@okstate.edu

Charles Luper
405-744-5808 charles.luper@okstate.edu

**Pesticide Safety
Education Program**