OKLAHOMA COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE

PESTICIDE REPORTS

Division of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources • Oklahoma State University
http://pested.okstate.edu

January, 2026 CHEM

2026 TEST HELP WORKSHOPS

The Oklahoma State University Pesticide Safety Education Program (PSEP) will be holding test help workshops February 4 in Oklahoma City and February 5 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 January 28 for Oklahoma City and $65 after January 28. Registration cost is $50 before January 29 for Tulsa and $65 after January 29. 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)

EPA RELEASES FINAL GUIDANCE FOR ANTIMICROBIAL PESTICIDES THAT REQUIRE ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT REVIEWS

Today, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is releasing final guidance on how the agency will conduct endangered species assessments for new active ingredients, new use, and registration review actions for antimicrobial pesticides. This guidance fulfills requirements outlined in the Pesticide Registration Improvement Act of 2022 (PRIA 5) and puts additional processes and environmental protections in place to ensure pesticide exposures are not posing risks to federally listed species or their critical habitats. Although this document does not create new requirements for pesticide registrants, the recommendations in the guidance will guide companies as they fully consider and address potential effects of antimicrobial pesticides to listed species.

PRIA 5 mandates that EPA develop and issue guidance to registrants regarding analyses necessary to support the evaluation of potential adverse effects from new outdoor uses of pesticide products on listed species and their designated critical habitats. While PRIA 5 focuses on outdoor uses, this guidance addresses all antimicrobial pesticide uses—including indoor uses—with the potential for exposures to listed species and critical habitats (e.g., antimicrobial pesticides used to treat water in industrial settings that are released directly into surface water). EPA took public comment on the draft guidance, and considered the comments, which covered topics from the scope and applicability of the guidance to concerns about new data requirements and updated the guidance where appropriate.

The finalized guidance focuses on information applicants may consider to inform label changes that reduce or eliminate the potential for effects to listed species and their critical habitats and identifies opportunities within the existing regulatory processes where applicants can discuss with EPA potential for effects and ways to reduce or eliminate potential exposure. EPA's review of effects to endangered species is part of a robust human health and environmental assessment the agency does for every registered pesticide.

The guidance is available in docket EPA-HQ-OPP-2023-0281 at www.regulations.gov.
(EPA, December 31, 2025)
https://www.epa.gov/pesticides/epa-releases-final-guidance-antimicrobial-pesticides-require-endangered-species-act

GLYPHOSATE ONCE AGAIN IN SCIENCE DEBATE

The decision of Elsevier, a Dutch academic publishing company, to retract a safety evaluation and risk assessment of the herbicide Roundup and its active ingredient, glyphosate, for humans, is causing a worldwide furor.

Elsevier issued a retraction on a glyphosate study initially published in the journal Regulatory Toxicology and Pharmacology in April 2000. The 25-year-old study has been used by regulators such as the Environmental Protection Agency in assessments to approve use of the herbicide.

In explaining the retraction, the publisher stated, "Concerns were raised regarding the authorship of this paper, validity of the research findings in the context of misrepresentation of the contributions by the authors and the study sponsor and potential conflicts of interest of the authors. I, the handling (co)Editor-in-Chief of Regulatory Toxicology and Pharmacology, reached out to the sole surviving author Gary M. Williams and sought explanation for the various concerns which have been listed in detail below. We did not receive any response from Prof. Williams."

Writer Carey Gilliam noted in an analysis in The New Lede, "Regulators around the world have cited the paper as evidence of the safety of glyphosate herbicides, including the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in this assessment."
The Center for Biological Diversity said, "The study, which found that glyphosate poses no cancer or other health risks to people, was retracted because it relied

exclusively on unpublished Monsanto studies. The study failed to review any research that was not conducted by Monsanto, the maker of glyphosate, now owned by Bayer. The journal also found that the paper may have been ghostwritten by Monsanto employees and that financial compensation from Monsanto was not disclosed."

"The pesticide industry's decades of efforts to hijack the science and manipulate it to boost its profits is finally being exposed," said Nathan Donley, environmental health science director at the Center for Biological Diversity.

"The EPA must take immediate action to reassess its finding that glyphosate is not a carcinogen. That means rather than relying on Monsanto's confidential research of its own product, the agency needs to follow the gold standard of independent science established by the World Health Organization in its finding that glyphosate probably causes cancer."

On Monday, in a filing with the U.S. Supreme Court, Solicitor General John Sauer, appointed by the Trump administration in April, told the court it should take up an appeal from Bayer that the company hopes could help it quash ongoing lawsuits inherited when it bought Monsanto in 2018, The New Lede said in another article.

As DTN reported, the Solicitor General on Monday argued that when the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency created specific labeling requirements when it determined glyphosate is "not likely to be carcinogenic to humans" consistently since 1991, it approved Roundup labels without cancer warnings and prohibited Bayer from adding warnings without agency approval.

But EPA is in the midst of its registration review process for glyphosate, which happens every 15 years, AgFunder News said in an analysis.

Bayer told AgFunder News: "Glyphosate is the most extensively studied herbicide over the past 50 years. Thousands of studies have been conducted on the safety of glyphosate products. The vast majority of published studies on glyphosate had no Monsanto involvement."

"Regarding this specific Williams et al paper, we believe Monsanto's involvement was appropriately cited in the acknowledgments, which clearly states: 'We thank the toxicologists and other scientists at Monsanto who made significant contributions to the development of exposure assessments and through many other discussions,' and further identifies several 'key personnel at Monsanto who provided scientific support.'"

Health Canada said Thursday that its decision to approve glyphosate will not be affected by this development, The Canadian Press reported.

Health Canada said in a written statement that "the retraction of this review does not affect our previous review conclusions" because the department also independently evaluated the primary data sources used in the 2000 review paper, The Canadian Press added.

DTN Ag Policy Editor Chris Clayton contributed to this report.
(Progressive Farmer, December 5, 2025)
https://www.dtnpf.com/agriculture/web/ag/crops/article/2025/12/05/science-journals-withdrawal-safety

FTC PURSUES TRIAL ON CROP LOYALTY CASE

The Trump administration and 12 states asked a federal court to set a trial date in a crop-loyalty program lawsuit against Syngenta Crop Protection and Corteva, in a motion filed in the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of North Carolina. The lawsuit filed in 2022 alleges the companies paid distributors to block competitors from selling less-expensive generic pesticide products to farmers.

The Federal Trade Commission and attorneys general in California, Colorado, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska, Oregon, Tennessee, Texas, Washington and Wisconsin alleged in a Sept. 29, 2022, lawsuit that crop inputs distributors only get paid if they limit business with competing manufacturers. Such arrangements, the lawsuit said, are "cutting off" competition and allowing the companies to "inflate their prices and force American

farmers to spend millions of dollars more for their products."

Discovery in the case closed on Dec. 5, 2025, and briefing on motions is expected to be finished by March 20, 2026. According to the motion, mediation between both sides is expected to be completed by April 30, 2026.

The Trump administration and the states have asked the court to set a trial date for some time in October 2026 and to limit it to a 16-day, 80-hour trial.

"This case implicates multiple levels of the sale and distribution of crop protection products, and consistent with its complexity, the parties have taken depositions of 52 fact witnesses," the motion said.

"Plaintiffs expect that the parties will call at trial multiple current and former employee witnesses from each defendant, as well as witnesses representing other manufacturers and the defendants' distributor customers. The parties have also retained between them nine expert witnesses who have authored expert reports."

The plaintiffs told the court there would be "substantial overlap" in evidence to both Syngenta and Corteva.

"And witnesses from both Syngenta and Corteva will be called to testify about the defendants' unlawful agreements with each other," the motion said.

"But the efficiencies created by the evidence applicable to both defendants does not change the fact that plaintiffs have alleged and will seek to prove violations on the part of both Syngenta and Corteva."

Syngenta and Corteva are two of the largest pesticide manufacturers operating in the United States. Syngenta, based in Switzerland, is a subsidiary of a Chinese state-owned company. Corteva, headquartered in Indianapolis, Indiana, is the company formed as part of a merger between DuPont and Dow Chemical Company.

The complaint alleges Syngenta and Corteva take "illegal" steps to stop generic pesticides from eating into their profits. The loyalty programs include making payments to distributors -- as long as the distributors keep their purchases of competing generic pesticides beneath a certain threshold.

"Under this scheme, Syngenta and Corteva make more money than they would if they had to compete fairly with generics," the FTC said in a news release when the lawsuit was filed.

"Boxing out the competition allows them to keep charging such high prices that, even after compensating the distributors, they can maintain a large profit margin. Distributors pass those high prices along to farmers. And those prices are ultimately passed on to consumers."

When a company creates a new pesticide, the FTC said, it can patent the invention and prevent others from selling the pesticide for 20 years.

"Ordinarily, when the patent expires, generic versions of the product enter the market to compete with the original brand-name version," FTC said.

"The arrival of generics pushes prices down. Instead of one company wielding a monopoly over a new product, many manufacturers can compete for farmers' business."

The Biden administration FTC said at the time that the complaint was part of a "broader push to unlock competition and innovation in the American economy" as well as to "protect consumers and small businesses and crack down on unfair tactics by dominant companies."

The complaint targets six crop-protection active ingredients.

It claims that Syngenta has monopoly and market power in the United States with respect to azoxystrobin, a fungicide; and mesotrione and metolachlor, both herbicides.

In addition, the complaint alleges Corteva has monopoly and market power in the United States on the herbicide rimsulfuron and the insecticide and nematicide oxamyl. Corteva also has market power with respect to the herbicide acetochlor.

The complaint also alleges the companies violated state-competition and consumer protection laws in California, Colorado, Illinois, Iowa, Indiana, Minnesota, Nebraska, Oregon, Texas and Wisconsin.

Read more on DTN:

(Progressive Farmer, December 29, 2025)
https://www.dtnpf.com/agriculture/web/ag/crops/article/2025/12/29/trump-administration-12-states-seek

NPMA CROWNS TICKS AS 2025 PEST OF THE YEAR

The National Pest Management Association (NPMA) has named ticks as the 2025 Pest of the Year, as these tiny parasites made some of the biggest impacts on Americans' lives and news feeds this year. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), tick bite emergency room visits reached a five-year high, making ticks not just a nuisance but a serious public health threat.

"Ticks may be small, but their impact on public health is massive," said Dr. Jim Fredericks, B.C.E. and senior vice president of public affairs for NPMA. "From alpha-gal syndrome to Lyme disease to Rocky Mountain spotted fever, these pests carry serious diseases that can affect anyone spending time outdoors. That's why we're shining a spotlight on ticks this year and reminding everyone to take prevention seriously."

The 2025 winners: what the data revealed. NPMA analyzed media coverage, CDC health data, social media engagement on its channels and web traffic to determine which pests dominated the national conversation in 2025. The results paint a picture of what's keeping Americans up at night. Beyond naming ticks the pest of the year, NPMA also crowned:

Buzziest pest: bed bugs. Bed bugs took home the award for most social media engagement on @PestWorld social channels, said NPMA. These hitchhiking pests kept social media buzzing with concerns about infestations in hotels, homes and public spaces. In fact, a single female bed bug can produce over 500 eggs during her lifetime. To help consumers better understand these pests and how best to spot them when traveling, NPMA debuted Bed Bugs Exposed, a microsite and mini-series this summer.

Buzziest cities: Chicago, New York and Atlanta. These three cities were the most frequent visitors to PestWorld.org, showing that residents in these metro areas are actively seeking pest prevention information and professional help, said NPMA. PestWorld.org offers a pest pro locator, allowing users to connect with a qualified professional in seconds.

When to call a pro. If you're finding ticks regularly on your property, suspect bed bugs in your home or have concerns about any pest that may be lurking, it's time to contact a qualified pest management professional, said NPMA. Pest pros can assess your property, identify pest hotspots and implement targeted treatments to reduce pest populations.

"Prevention is an important first step, but professional pest control is the protection you need when you spot pests in your home or yard," said Fredericks. "Pest management professionals have the tools and expertise to treat your home effectively and can offer advice on how to prevent these pests from coming back."

For more ways to safeguard your health and home, visit PestWorld.org.

(PCT Online,December 8, 2025)
https://www.pctonline.com/news/npma-crowns-ticks-as-pest-of-the-year/

OKLAHOMA “DIRTY DOZEN” LIST IDENTIFIES INVASIVE PLANT SPECIES

Are you being a good neighbor?

It’s a question Karen Hickman, professor of natural resource ecology and management and director of the environmental science program at Oklahoma State

University, poses while discussing invasive plant species in Oklahoma.

Some of those invasive plants can spread onto neighboring properties, meaning upkeep and removal are important. But the "Dirty Dozen" list, which comprises 13 (not 12) invasive plant species across the state, poses dangers to rangeland in Oklahoma that go beyond just upsetting your neighbors.

"Typically, we care about these invasive species because of the harm to human health, harm to the economy or harm to biodiversity," Hickman said.

The 13 species part of the Dirty Dozen include:

- Japanese honeysuckle(*Lonicera japonica*)
- eastern red cedar(*Juniperus virginiana*)
- musk (nodding) thistle(*Carduus nutans*)
- Chinese privet(*Ligustrum sinense*)
- Russian thistle(*Salsola tragus*)
- sericea lespedeza(*Lespedeza cuneata*)
- Hydrilla(*Hydrilla verticillate*)
- yellow bluestem(*Bothriochloa ischaemum*)
- field brome(*Bromus arvensis*)
- salt cedar(*Tamarix spp.*)
- cheatgrass(*Bromus tectorum*)
- johnsongrass(*Sorghum halepense*)
- Siberian elm **(***Ulmus pumila*)

Leaving the plants on your property could result in decreased forage. The plants could be toxic. The invasive species could be detrimental to wildlife habitats, decreasing populations for hunting purposes.

Fire dangers can increase, too, if species are left untreated. "We see that a lot with eastern red cedar," Hickman said.

In addition to being part of the Dirty Dozen, musk thistle also lands on Oklahoma's noxious weeds list. Scotch thistle and Canada thistle are also considered noxious weeds in Oklahoma. That means landowners are legally required to control, treat or eradicate them. A light infestation is quantified as fewer than two plants per acre, a medium infestation is two to nine plants per acre, and a severe infestation is 10 or more plants per acre.

Properties bordering other states also need to remain aware of what those states have legally defined as noxious weeds. "There are noxious weeds that your Kansas neighbors are going to have to control, and Oklahoma landowners are not legally going to have to,"

What can landowners do?

How the problematic species are treated will depend on the specific species and the growth stage, Hickman said. She stressed the importance of reaching out to your county OSU Extension office and asking for assistance.

"For instance, if it is eastern red cedar and they are small, you can conduct a prescribed fire safely and burn and kill them all," Hickman said. "If it's johnsongrass and it's totally covering an area, you either are going to have to graze it or spray it with an herbicide."

Related:12 years, 3,200 trials: Syngenta unveils Vertento insecticide for 2026

Hickman stressed the importance of reaching out to local Extension educators to decide which herbicide is best, depending on the season and species. Digging the plant up and properly disposing of it is also an option.

Other invasive plant species that aren't as prevalent across the state can be found on okinvasives.org, where a watchlist for species and the type of land they invade (gardens, rangeland, forested area, etc.) is kept up to date.

The OSU Extension website offers a variety of resources to assist landowners in identifying and treating invasive species. OSU provides information on "plant this, not that" recommendations on all invasive species. Local Extension offices can also help with species and connect people with specialists.

But, as Hickman explained, species on the Dirty Dozen list will never be eradicated from the state.

"We've planted them, we've spread them," Hickman said. "Our goal is to increase awareness across the state of these species so that we can protect areas that haven't been invaded yet."

(Progressive Farmer, December 15, 2025)
https://www.farmprogress.com/crop-protection/oklahoma-dirty-dozen-list-identifies-invasive-plant-species

FUNGUS THAT ATTACKS CANADA THISTLE COULD HELP FARMERS

A fungus any farmer could love

Coming off a year when southern rust created havoc, the word "fungus" may not be popular. Yet not all rust fungi in agriculture are destructive. If you embrace the "enemy of my enemy is my friend" concept, you might view certain fungi differently.

Researchers in Colorado, Montana and Utah put a century-old discovery to work, and the results are striking. Canada thistle rust fungus has only one goal in life: attacking Canada thistle. Plant pathologist Byron Halsted envisioned turning the fungus into a biological control agent a century ago.

At Utah State University, Robert Schaeffer reported promising results for applications of the rust fungus after mowing or herbicide treatment of thistles, or both. Working with researchers in Colorado and Montana, Schaeffer found that the fungus alone cut the number of Canada thistle plants in half in two years in one study and by 22% in the others. The rust fungus combined with herbicides completely suppressed thistles at both sites after two years.

Controlling 95% of all Canada thistles in two years with a four-pronged approach of tillage, mowing, herbicides and the rust fungus sounds too good to be true. It is true, according to Schaeffer. However, if having to collect the rust fungus yourself sounds like a drawback, then perhaps there is a catch. So far, the rust fungus isn't available on farm store shelves.

Bill Curran, retired Penn State University Extension weed scientist, and Tim Seipel, Extension cropland weed scientist at Montana State University, collected the rust fungus and successfully applied it as a dry powder by hand or with a leaf blower on healthy thistles. However, they note that collecting the fungus was not easy.

The best time to identify Canada thistle rust is in the spring. Look on the underside of leaves for bright orange splotches. Then return in September and collect leaves with rust-colored teliospores. Once you dry, grind and blend leaves into a fine powder, you're ready to apply the fungus. (Farm Progress, December 10, 2025)
https://www.farmprogress.com/crop-protection/fungus-that-attacks-canada-thistle-could-help-farmers

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: January 15, 2026
Title: Texoma Farm & Ranch CEU Training
Location: 4090 Louis J Rodriguez Dr Wichita Falls TX
Contact: Dwayne Peirce (940)-716-8610
https://www.facebook.com/WichitaCountyExtensionService/

CEU's:	Category(s):
1	1a
1	10
1	Private

Date: January 18-19, 2026
Title: 2026 OAAA Convention
Location: Embassy Suites Norman OK
Contact: Kim Brown (405)-431-0381
https://okaaa.org/

CEU's:	Category(s):
4	1a
1	2
1	5
1	6
8	10
8	Private
8	A

Date: January 20-21, 2026
Title: Red River Crops Conference
Location: Altus Community Center
Contact: Halee Salmon (580)-477-7962
https://www.facebook.com/p/Red-River-Crops-Conference-100063571574226/

CEU's:	Category(s):
4	1a
4	10
1	Private

Date: January 26, 2026
Title: Carter County Early Spring Roundup
Location: Contact Carter County Extension Office
Contact: Stephanie Smith (580)-223-6570

CEU's:	Category(s):
1	1a
1	10
1	Private

Date: February 1, 2026
Title: Nutrien Ag Solutions/ Syngenta Grower Meeting
Location: Contact for Location
Contact: Brandon Miller (580) 977-9990

CEU's:	Category(s):
2	1a
2	Private

Date: March 5, 2026
Title: Veseris 2026 Annual CEU Workshop
Location: Contact for Location
Contact: Erin Monteagudo (512)-721-3945

CEU's:	Category(s):
1	3a
1	7A
2	7B
3	10

Date: April 15, 2026
Title: ENSYSTEX - 2025 CEU Workshop
Location: Contact for Location
Contact: Don Stetler (281)-217- 2965
https://ensystexceu.com/

CEU's:	Category(s):
3	3a
1	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

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