ROADSIDE VEGETATION MANAGEMENT EQUIPMENT AND TECHNOLOGY

ANNUAL REPORT FOR FY 2010

ODOT SPR ITEM NUMBER 2156

Submitted to:

Ginger McGovern, P.E.
Planning and Research Division Engineer
Oklahoma Department of Transportation
200 N.E. 21st Street
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73105

Submitted by:

Doug Montgomery, M.S.
Craig Evans, M.S.
Dennis Martin, Ph.D., Principal Investigator
Oklahoma State University
Department of Horticulture & Landscape Architecture
358 Agricultural Hall
Stillwater, OK 74078



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Metric Conversion Page

SI (METRIC) CONVERSION FACTORS									
	Approximate Conversions to SI Units					Approximate Conversions from SI Units			
Symbol	When you know	Multiply by	To Find	Symbol	Symbol	When you know	Multiply by	To Find	Symbol
in ft yd mi	inches feet yards miles	25.40 0.3048 0.9144 1.609	millimeters meters meters kilometers	mm m m km	mm m m km	millimeters meters meters kilometers	0.0394 3.281 1.094 0.6214	inches feet yards miles	in ft yds mi
in² ft² yd² ac mi²	square inches square feet square yards acres square miles	AREA 645.2 0.0929 0.8361 0.4047 2.590	square millimeters square meters square meters hectacres square kilometers	mm² m² m² ha km²	mm ² m ² m ² ha km ²	square millimeters square meters square meters hectacres square kilometers	AREA 0.00155 10.764 1.196 2.471 0.3861	square inches square feet square yards acres square miles	in² ft² yd² ac mi²
fl oz gal ft ³ yd ³	fluid ounces gallon cubic feet cubic yards	VOLUME 29.57 3.785 0.0283 0.7645	milliliters liters cubic meters cubic meters	mL L m³ m³	mL L m³ m³	milliliters liters cubic meters cubic meters	VOLUME 0.0338 0.2642 35.315 1.308	fluid ounces gallon cubic feet cubic yards	fl oz gal ft ³ yd ³
oz lb T	ounces pounds short tons (2000 lb)	MASS 28.35 0.4536 0.907	grams kilograms megagrams	g kg Mg	g kg Mg	grams kilograms megagrams	MASS 0.0353 2.205 1.1023	ounces pounds short tons (2000 lb)	oz lb T
۰F	TEMP degrees Fahrenheit	PERATURE ((°F-32)/1.8	exact) degrees Celsius	°C	°C	TEM degrees Fahrenheit	PERATURE 9/5(°C)+32	(exact) degrees Celsius	۰F
lbf lbf/in²	FORCE ar poundforce poundforce per square inch	nd PRESSUF 4.448 6.895	RE Or STRESS Newtons kilopascals	N kPa	N kPa	FORCE an Newtons kilopascals	d PRESSUF 0.2248 0.1450	RE OF STRESS poundforce poundforce per square inch	lbf lbf/in²

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

The focus of this report is the conveyance of information on new or previously underutilized technologies and resources that have application to the Oklahoma Department of Transportation's (ODOT) roadside vegetation management program. ODOT administrators and supervisors deal with many highway maintenance challenges. They have opportunities to use new technologies that can increase efficiency or effectiveness of vegetation management programs. As part of ODOT's contract with the Oklahoma State University Roadside Vegetation Management (OSU RVM) program, OSU personnel annually participate in multiple meetings including the Southern Weed Science Society, the National Roadside Vegetation Management Association (NRVMA) and the semi-annual Oklahoma Vegetation Management Association meetings, These meetings, along with personal contacts with industry representatives, allow OSU personnel to gather information regarding emerging technologies. OSU personnel also continually review many on-line and hard copy trade journals, magazines, and news releases that may have information about old and new roadside vegetation management items. The OSU RVM Program and its connection to the land-grant university system allow a unique opportunity for recommendations to ODOT regarding new applicable resources generated by other universities.

2.0 NEW ODAFF PESTICIDE SENSITIVE LOCATION VIEWER

During 2009 the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry (ODAFF) launched a new version of their Pesticide Sensitive Location Viewer (PSLV). As of July 1, 2010 the old version of the PSLV was removed from the web and replaced with the new version. The new version looks guite different (Figure 1) from the old version but is more useful as it now includes several improvements. The improvements include the use of the 2008 National Agriculture Imagery Program (NAIP) data that can produce much higher quality aerial images, overlay of NEXRAD weather radar that updates every 5 minutes, and quick access to the Oklahoma Mesonet weather data that also updates every 5 minutes. These new features, along with most of the old features, will continue to make this website a very useful tool to help ODOT personnel schedule and manage their seasonal herbicide applications. Obviously the most important aspect of this website continues to be a quick access to maps and locations of pesticide sensitive areas such as cotton, grapes, apiaries, organic sites, and endangered species. If Oklahoma producers register their sensitive crops with ODAFF, it makes it much easier for ODOT, as well as other pesticide applicators, to incorporate necessary no-spray buffer zones adjacent to the sensitive crops and sites. The web site for the ODAFF PSLV is http://www.oda.state.ok.us/cps-pslv.htm. Just click on the Pesticide Sensitive Location Viewer icon and you will enter into the viewer's current database. If ODOT

personnel have firewalls preventing them from accessing this website we would recommend their modification to allow personnel to take advantage of this very useful information.

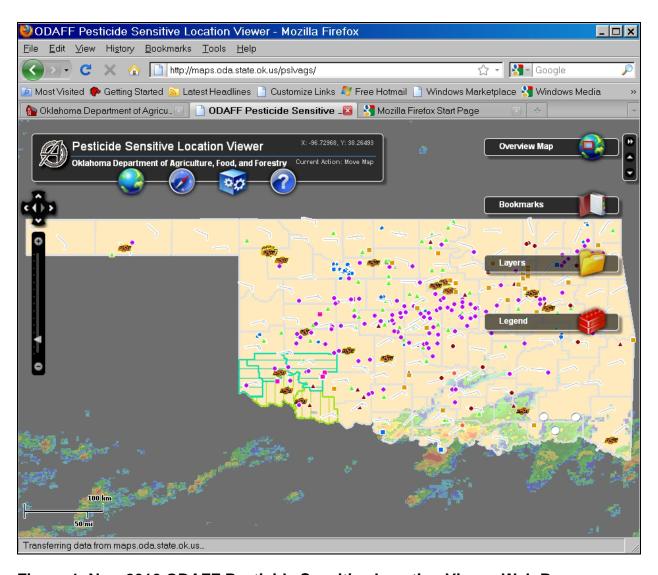


Figure 1. New 2010 ODAFF Pesticide Sensitive Location Viewer Web Page.

3.0 UPDATE ON THE NEW PASTORA® HERBICIDE FOR JOHNSONGRASS CONTROL

Pastora® is a new herbicide from Dupont that received its EPA registration in early 2010. Pastora® is a dry herbicide formulation that will include a new active ingredient (nicosulfuron) blended with an older active ingredient called metsulfuron that is found in

Escort XP®. Pastora® is registered for use on pastures, hay meadows, and non-crop areas such as roadsides. Pastora® herbicide has been evaluated for the past 3 years in OSU Roadside Weed Control Research trials. It has shown the ability to provide good to excellent control of both seedling and rhizome johnsongrass for a period of at least 3 months.

Pastora® should be applied at 1.0-1.5 ounces of product per acre combined with glyphosate at 0.5 pounds of active ingredient per acre (equivalent to 13 fluid ounces of Roundup Pro Concentrate® or 16 fluid ounces of generic standard glyphosate sources). Pastora® should be applied in a minimum carrier volume of 20-40 gallons of water per acre. For best results applications should be made when average johnsongrass heights are 16-18 inches. Because of the johnsongrass height label restrictions (up to 18 inches) it will be important that Pastora® treatments be applied in early summer (mid May to early June) as opposed to mid (July) or late summer (August). This treatment should provide 85-95% control of johnsongrass for 3 months while also providing good control of other annual and perennial broadleaf and grassy weeds. Pastora® should provide good control of field sandbur and will be a good alternative treatment to MSMA if and when MSMA loses its federal registration at the end of 2012. Pastora® treatments should produce very little, if any, noticeable injury to common bermudagrass as it has a high degree of safety similar to that of Outrider®. In 2010, OSU Herbicide and Drift Control Compatibility Research showed that Pastora herbicide was compatible with the Detain II drift control product.

Pastora® will be added to the ODOT Approved Herbicide and Adjuvant List (AHAL) in the fall of 2010 and will subsequently be added to ODOT's annual herbicide contract through an addendum in late 2010 or early 2011. The current retail price for Pastora® (July 2010) is \$15.25 per ounce of product. While there are many benefits in using Pastora® the cost may make it difficult to incorporate into existing budgets. If ODOT Field Divisions are going to consider using a Pastora® + glyphosate treatment, it is important to consider all benefits that it brings to the table when looking at costs per acre. Hopefully when added to the ODOT statewide herbicide contract, the price will drop to be more competitive with other alternative treatments. Because Pastora® is a blended herbicide (combining two active ingredients) it should provide good to excellent johnsongrass and sandbur control from the nicosulfuron component and additional broadleaf weed control from the metsulfuron component. Specific Pastora® treatment recommendations will be covered at the 2011 ODOT Continuing Education Workshops and will be included in OSU publication E-958 at a later date. A Pastora® specimen label may be found on-line at: http://www.cdms.net/LDat/ld9GU000.pdf, along with a Pastora® Material Safety Data Sheet at: http://www.cdms.net/LDat/mp9GU001.pdf.

4.0 UPDATE ON THE NEW STREAMLINE® HERBICIDE FOR BROADLEAF WEED CONTROL

Streamline® herbicide has the potential to be a very beneficial herbicide in ODOT weed control programs across the state. Streamline®, a new herbicide from Dupont, should receive its federal and state registration in early 2011 and should be labeled for use on uncultivated agricultural lands and non-agricultural areas such as roadsides, airports, utility rights-of-way, industrial sites, and natural areas. Streamline® is a broad spectrum herbicide that includes a blend of two active ingredients. Streamline® includes the new active ingredient aminocyclopyrachlor (as in experimental product DPX-MAT28) blended with metsulfuron methyl (as in Escort XP®). Streamline® will be offered as a dry herbicide formulation to be mixed with water and applied as a broadcast application.

Aminocyclopyrachlor belongs to a new class of herbicide chemistry known as the Pyrimidine Carboxylic Acids. This new herbicide class belongs in the family known as synthetic auxins (same family as 2, 4-D, Vanquish®, and Milestone VM®). Streamline® will be absorbed by both leaves and roots and translocated to growing points of plants where it will interfere with plant auxin production and development. Streamline® may be applied early in the year (March) and provide preemergence control of later emerging weeds or applied in early summer (May/June) to provide both postemergence control of weeds already present and preemergence control of later emerging weeds. Applied early Streamline® will provide good residual control of annual broadleaf weeds for 4 to 5 months. If applied in early summer Streamline® will provide good control of many annual broadleaf weeds, some annual grassy weeds, and some perennial broadleaf weeds depending on use rate and growth stage of the targeted weeds. It is a residual herbicide that can provide weed control for several months following application, similar to Milestone VM®. However, OSU research shows Streamline® will provide good kochia control while Milestone VM® provides only moderate suppression of kochia. Streamline® may also be applied in early summer with good results. Milestone VM® applied in early summer is not as effective as when applied in March. OSU Research trials have also shown that Streamline® applied in early summer can provide moderate postemergence control of palmer amaranth a pigweed species.

Pending final Streamline® registrations, formal OSU recommendations on Streamline® use rates, application timings, and specific weeds controlled are targeted for implementation at the 2011 ODOT Continuing Education Workshops. In 2010, OSU Herbicide and Drift Control Compatibility Research showed that Streamline® herbicide was compatible with the Detain II drift control product. Pending final registration and label review in early 2011, Streamline® will be added to the ODOT Approved Herbicide and Adjuvant List (AHAL) and will subsequently be added to ODOT's annual herbicide contract. As of the writing of this report, and considering possible final registration dates,

it is unlikely that Streamline® will be available for purchase on contract by the 2011 treatment seasons. If any ODOT Field Divisions were interested in using Streamline® in 2011 there is a possibility that if registration is completed in early 2011 this herbicide could be purchased off contract and used during the March-May 2011 ODOT spray season. At the time of issuance of this report we do not have access to herbicide treatment costs for Streamline® **herbicide**. We encourage each ODOT Field Division that may be interested in this new herbicide to consult with the OSU RVM team on specific implementation into their respective division.

5.0 UPDATE ON THE EPA REGISTRATION STATUS OF MSMA HERBICIDE PRODUCTS AND THEIR USE ON OKLAHOMA ROADSIDES

MSMA has been a beneficial herbicide in ODOT johnsongrass control programs since the early 1970's. MSMA was the standard johnsongrass control treatment in the early days and was the main herbicide responsible for cleaning up johnsongrass along many state highways. While MSMA use has declined significantly over the years it is still used by 3 to 4 ODOT Field Divisions each summer. MSMA is currently used primarily for field sandbur control efforts as well as for johnsongrass and broadleaf weed control. As reported to ODOT in the 2007 ODOT Herbicide Program Report, EPA was in the process of denying the reregistration of many uses of MSMA herbicides. While EPA was initially looking at mandatory MSMA cancellations, the effort quickly evolved into a voluntary cancellation by MSMA manufacturers. There is a significant difference in regulations and restrictions between an herbicide that is under a mandatory cancellation versus one that is under voluntary cancellation. Starting in 2009, and continuing over the next several years, there will be a voluntary phase out of MSMA use on most traditional use sites. Currently, MSMA herbicides labeled for use on roadsides will be discontinued by December 31, 2012 and all inventories of MSMA products labeled for roadside use must be used by December 31, 2013. Unless the current EPA voluntary phase out procedure changes on January 1, 2014 it will be illegal to use MSMA for weed control on all roadsides. ODOT should be careful about managing warehouse supplies of MSMA products and make sure not to carry over any MSMA past the December 31, 2013 deadline. In all practicality, ODOT should plan on using up all inventories of MSMA products by July or August of 2012. The MSMA situation will continue to be monitored closely by OSU personnel and any change in the current voluntary phase out will be reported to ODOT. ODOT field divisions still using MSMA in 2012 should contact OSU RVM personnel for suggestions on future alternative treatments to MSMA. Alternative treatments such as combinations of glyphosate

combined with either Plateau® or Pastora® will be the likely MSMA replacement treatments that offer similar weed control.

6.0 REVIEW OF THE BOOMINATOR® 5000R BOOMLESS SPRAY TIP AS A POSSIBLE ALTERNATIVE FOR THE BOOMBUSTER® 437-R

ODOT herbicide use started in the 1960's with applications made by tractor-mounted boom-type sprayers traveling over each treated area. ODOT found out very quickly that if they wanted to spray entire road systems or counties they would need a more effective and efficient way of applying herbicides. With the introduction of boomless spray tips in the early 1970's ODOT was able to spray clear zones from the smooth paved shoulder, making applications much more efficient. ODOT has used many boomless spray tip designs over the years. They started with boomless sprayers equipped with Off-Center tips (1970 through 1990), after which some ODOT field divisions evolved to Solid-Stream tips (1992 to present) and/or Boombuster® tips (1995 to present). Both Solid-Stream and Boombuster® tip-equipped sprayers work well as long as they were set-up, maintained, and calibrated correctly. OSU RVM personnel are always looking for components that may have a positive impact on ODOT spray applications.

The Boominator® tip, with the advent of newer larger tip sizes, shows some promise as a possible ODOT alternative to current Boombuster® or Solid-Stream tips (Figure 2). The Boominator® spray tip produces a spray pattern very similar to that of the Boombuster® tip. The Boominator® tip produces an arc-shaped pattern, with large coarse droplets, and the spray distribution in preliminary review appears relatively uniform across its pattern (Figure 3). The Boominator® tip is made entirely out of stainless steel (no nylon diffuser) which is a major design advantage over Boombuster® tips.

When properly cared for, the Boominator® tip appears extremely durable and could possibly last for 10+ years if not accidently damaged. The current retail cost of a Boominator® tip, depending on size, will range from \$140 to \$200. This is similar to slightly less than the cost of a comparable Boombuster® tip. We remind the reader that the Boombuster® tips often need to be rebuilt after 4-5 years of use. This involves sending the Boombuster® tip to the manufacturer for refurbishing at a cost of approximately \$65 to \$100 per tip with a 1 to 2 month turn-a-round time.



Figure 2. Photo (actual size) of the Boombuster® 437-R tip with nylon diffuser (left) and Boominator® 5000R tip with stainless steel diffuser (right).



Figure 3. Boominator® 5000R spray tip mounted at a height of 48 inches and operating at 25 psi.

The big question is how does the Boominator® 5000R tip perform and how does it compare to a Boombuster® 437-R tip? We are currently investigating the performance of the Boominator® and are reserving judgment on the product at this time. A preliminary investigation of the product began in summer of 2010. This summer the OSU-RVM team purchased a Boominator® 5000R spray tip and installed it on an ODOT Noble County yard roadside spray truck for performance evaluation and comparison to the truck's existing Boombuster® 437-R tip. Table 1 shows a comparison of the respective manufacturer's specifications & their recommendations for the set-up and use of the Boominator® 5000R and Boominator® 437-R tips. These tips are very

similar to each other with two notable differences. The first difference is that the respective manufacturers' recommend a 1 ¼ supply line for the Boominator® 5000R and a 1 inch supply line for the Boombuster® 437-R. The supply line being referenced is the line/hose that connects the output side of the water pump to the spray tip. The likely reason for the larger supply line recommendation for the Boominator® 5000R is the tip orifice is larger and has the capacity for approximately an 8% larger flow capacity when compared to the Boombuster® 437-R operating under similar pressures. This assumes that the plumbing system involved can supply this flow rate under field conditions. It is interesting to note that even though the Boominator® 5000R has a slightly larger flow rate it has a designed intake that is 1/32 inch smaller in diameter when compared to the Boombuster® 437-R.

To reiterate, the manufacturer recommends that the Boominator® 5000R tip be plumbed with a 1 ¼ inch supply line. An investigation will need to be conducted to determine if this is actually required under field conditions. We will also need to investigate if spray rig speeds need to be slowed by 1.0-1.5 mph over the current ground speeds being used by rigs equipped with a Boombuster® 437-R tips. Boominator® tips come in a range of sizes that may produce flow rates and pattern widths to accommodate different roadside boomless sprayers equipped with multiple spray tips. We would like to again point out that our investigation of the Boominator® technology is in a preliminary stage. The OSU RVM team suggests that if any ODOT personnel are interested in making a change to Boominator® tips that they consult with our OSU RVM team for proper sizes and precautions concerning this new technology. OSU personnel are always available for consultation on the Boominator® or any other sprayer component changes that ODOT personnel may be considering. We encourage ODOT personnel to give OSU-RVM personnel a call before making any significant changes to sprayer components.

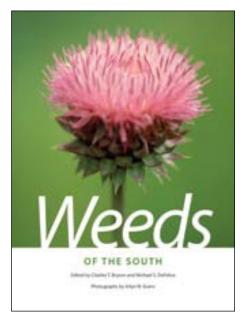
Table 1. Manufacturer tip specifications & manufacturer's recommendations for the set-up and use of the Boominator® 5000R and Boombuster® 437-R tips.

Manufacturer Specifications & Recommendations	Boominator® 5000R	Boombuster® 437-R	
Manufacturer	UDOR U.S.A., Inc.	Evergreen Products, Inc.	
	500 Apollo Drive	372 GA Highway 23 N	
	Lino Lakes, MN 55014	Millen, GA 30442	
	Tel: 651-785-0666	Tel: 478-982-5593	
Nozzle thread size (MNPT)	1 inch	3/4 inch	
Supply line size	1 ¼ inch	1 inch	
Pressure range	20-40 psi	30-50 psi	
Spray distance	20-30 feet	20-30 feet	
Nozzle mounting height	18-48 inches	15-48 inches	
Maximum flow rate (GPM)	17 (20 psi)	18.5 (30 psi)	
	20 (30 psi)	21.5 (40 psi)	
	23 (40 psi)	24.2 (50 psi)	
Local Supplier	Wylie Spray Center	Wylie Spray Center	
	5820 SW 11 th St.	5820 SW 11 th St.	
	Oklahoma City, OK 73128	Oklahoma City, OK 73128	
	Tel: 888-665-5538	Tel: 888-665-5538	

7.0 RECOMMENDATIONS FOR USE OF THE "WEEDS OF THE SOUTH" REFERENCE BOOK BY ODOT PERSONNEL

The OSU-RVM program is recommending that ODOT purchase copies of *Weeds of the South* and distribute copies to ODOT personnel directly involved in weed control on Oklahoma roadside rights-of-way. The primary reason for purchasing and distributing these books is to aid ODOT personnel in weed identification and to facilitate future weed identification efforts. *Weeds of the South* was published in 2009 (Bryson and DeFelice, 2009) as a cooperative effort of the Southern Weed Science Society. OSU personnel have been active members of this society for over 28 years. The book features more than 1,500 full-color photographs and provides essential information on 400 of the most troublesome weedy and invasive plants found in the southern United States. We recommend that the book be purchased and distributed as follows:

- -One copy to each county and interstate maintenance unit
- -Three copies to each ODOT Field Division Maintenance Engineer (distributed at their discretion)
- -One copy to each Program 2156/2157 Steering Panel Member



In Weeds of the South, each species account includes:

- Up to four full-color photographs showing seed, seedling, plant, flower, and other unique plant features.
- Plant geographical distribution maps.
- For grasses, a line drawing of the collar (where the leaf joins the stem), an important identifying characteristic.
- Scientific names, common names, and local synonyms of common names.
- Vegetative characteristics for seedlings and leaves
- Special identifying features, reproductive characteristics, and toxic properties

Although we have not found any single plant color identification source that covers 100% of the weeds that are encountered by ODOT personnel, we feel that *Weeds of*

the South provides excellent coverage of weedy species found on ODOT rights-of-way. This reference book should help ODOT personnel identify roadside weeds, but we continue to encourage all ODOT personnel to contact OSU for help in identifying troublesome weed species as they arise.

OSU has been in contact with Mr. John McLeod of the UGA Press (publisher) and have secured a purchase price quote of \$19.95/copy for 120 copies (total of \$2,397.00 + \$195.10 shipping = final delivered price of \$2,592.10). The \$19.95/copy quoted price and contact information is being submitted to ODOT to facilitate a single large purchase and take advantage of the price break. The following is contact information for Mr. John McLeod:

John McLeod
Sales and Marketing Director
UGA Press, 330 Research Drive, Athens, GA 30602
(706) 369-6158 | <u>imcleod@ugapress.uga.edu</u>
www.ugapress.org

Weeds of the South books may also be purchased at numerous on-line sources (i.e. Amazon.com) for approximately \$26.00-35.00/copy + shipping.

8.0 REVIEW OF NEW ODAFF COMBINED PESTICIDE LAWS & REGULATIONS (REVISED 8-1-10)

Earlier this year the ODAFF produced a new revised *Combined Pesticide Laws* & *Regulations* that governs all pesticide use in Oklahoma. We recommend that each ODOT facility that uses herbicides download and print a hard copy of the **new** *Combined Pesticide Laws* & *Regulations* (Revised 8-1-10). They can be downloaded as a PDF file directly from the following website or accessed through the ODAFF/Consumer Protection Division website at the following address:

Direct download of the New *Combined Pesticide Law & Rules* (Revised 8-1-10): http://www.oda.state.ok.us/forms/cps/cpl.pdf or

Download through the ODAFF/Consumer Protection Division website: http://www.oda.state.ok.us/cps.htm (look under Links on this web page)

In review of the new revised Laws & Regulations there are fortunately no changes that will have a large effect on ODOT herbicide programs. Nearly all of the changes made were to portions of the past *Combined Pesticide Laws & Regulations* that dealt specifically with structural pesticide applications (primarily termite control). Numerous laws & regulations were changed in this area but this should little to no impact on ODOT

personnel. There was one brand new addition to the Law that could have a positive impact on ODOT and all other pesticide applicators in Oklahoma. Now included in the ODAFF Combined Pesticide Laws & Regulations the State Board of Agriculture may appoint a pesticide rule advisory committee to serve as advisors to the Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry regarding review and recommendations for revisions to pesticide rules. The committee shall consist of: (1) One member shall represent agribusiness retailers; (2) One member shall represent vegetation managers; (3) One member shall represent aerial pesticide applicators; (4) One member shall represent commercial pest control applicators; (5) One member shall represent restricted use pesticide dealers; (6) One member shall represent manufacturers of pesticides; (7) One member shall represent private pesticide applicators; (8) Two members shall represent agricultural organizations; (9) One member shall represent the general public, with an emphasis on consumer protection; (10) One member shall represent Oklahoma State University or Oklahoma State University Cooperative Extension Service; and (11) One member shall represent the turfgrass industry. Of the initial members, four (4) shall serve one (1) year terms, four (4) shall serve two (2) year terms, and four (4) shall serve three (3) year terms. Thereafter, all members shall serve for three (3) year terms; provided, all members shall serve at the pleasure of the Board. The advisory committee shall meet at least annually to review and recommend proposed rules. The committee shall present written recommendations to the Department no later than October 1 of each year. The advisory committee may create subcommittees to address specific areas of concern. The subcommittees may meet more frequently to discuss the specific areas of concern. This new advisory committee is currently being put together and when it is up and going it will be a good way of influencing pesticide law changes in the future. OSU RVM personnel will monitor the activities of the new advisory committee with special attention to items that would be of interest to ODOT and ODOT vegetation managers.

9.0 NEW ONLINE ODAFF CEU STATUS CHECK IN FALL 2010

The Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry (ODAFF) have made available a website to check one's CEU status. All Oklahoma Certified Applicators in ODOT can go to the ODAFF web page and log in with their Certified Applicator number (make sure to include all of the zero's on the CA number) from their certification card to find out the number of CEUs that they currently have earned in each category. Information provided by the website includes all certification categories, certification year, re-certification year, years that the applicator has been certified in that category, the number of CEUs required in each category for recertification, and finally the meetings and number of CEU's for which the applicator has been given credit. This is a quick and easy way for ODOT personnel to check their certification status or status of personnel for which they are responsible.

To use the new ceu status checker go to this address: http://www.ag.ok.gov/ceu/.