Managing Rinsate and Meeting Compliance

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DATCP
Special Guests

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- Perry Hickey, Olson’s Crop Service
- Rick Porter, Agriland Coop
What is pesticide rinsate?

- **Rinsate**, defined in ch. ATCP 29, WAC
  - a mixture of one or more pesticides diluted with water or other substances, such as solvents, surfactants, rinsing agents or detergents resulting from cleaning pesticide application equipment, tanks, containers, catch basins or spill containment surfaces.

- **Pesticide sludge**: any solids that settle out of rinsate that contains pesticide(s).
What about fertilizer?

- **Fertilizer rinsate**: liquid that contains only fertilizer (no pesticide component).

- **Fertilizer sludge**: any solids derived from fertilizer rinsate (no pesticides).
Rinsate options

• Reuse
  - Most desirable option
  - requires good management practices

• Disposal
  - Pesticides disposal is heavily regulated
  - Requires haz. waste evaluation ($)
  - 3rd-party hauler/disposal contractor ($)
  - Ag-Cleansweep may help ($)
  - Local WWTP
If reuse is preferred, how do I keep it legal?
Fertilizer rinsate & sludge

[only fertilizer--no pesticides]

- preferred use--crop production--use as makeup water in fertilizer application
- may be mixed with manure in a manure storage facility...
  - facility must meet NRCS 313 Std. and County...consult County Extension Agent
  - cannot exceed 10% of the design storage volume
Legal use of pesticide rinsate?

You can use rinsate as makeup water if:
- the pesticide(s) in the mix is labeled for the application site
- the amount of pesticide does not exceed the labeled use rate for that site

If you cannot meet these requirements, then you cannot legally apply the mix to the intended site.
Remember: Use must be consistent with pesticide label

Not only is improper use illegal, it can cause significant crop and/or environmental damage, and can expose you to civil penalties.
Some rinsate don’ts...

- Don’t assume rainwater from a mix/load pad or containment unit is clean.
- Don’t place pesticide rinsate or sludge in a manure pit.
- Don’t relinquish control of rinsate to someone who cannot guarantee its proper use consistent with label.
GMP’s for rinsate management

• Store rinsate IAW applicable code requirements--ch. ATCP 29, 32 and 33, Wis. Adm. Code.
• Segregate rinsate into tanks by crop-type
• Use rinsate as quickly as possible--avoid long-term storage
GMP’s

• If you must store it, keep good records
• Promote practices that minimize generation of rinsate throughout your facility.
• Wash down equipment in the field
• Use nitrate test strips for fertilizer rinsate
• (Numerous others...see handouts)
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