

2023 VAAFM PMP Meeting

October 31, 2023

VSU-Randolph Campus, Judd Hall, Randolph

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| 7:50 – 8:25 AM | REGISTRATION |
| 8:25 – 8:30 AM | WELCOME |
| 8:30 – 9:30 AM | "The pen is mightier than the memory." - Your guide to Vermont's new pesticide rule record keeping & notification requirements with Q&A.
Matthew Wood – Vermont Agency of Agriculture |
| 9:30 – 10:30 AM | “Indian Meal Moths, Pesky Pantry Pests, & Cockroaches, oh my IPM!”
Kevin Moran – Forshaw |
| 10:30 – 10:45 AM | BREAK |
| 10:45 – 11:30 AM | Endangered Species Act (ESA) – update about EPA’s ESA
Steve Dwinell – Vermont Agency of Agriculture |
| 11:30 – 12:30 PM | “Oh Rats (and Mice)!” – rodent biology & ID, rodenticide labels, minimizing risk to non-targets, and IPM.
Katie Swift – Chair, Rodenticide Task Force |
| 12:30 – 1:30 PM | LUNCH |
| 1:30 – 2:00 PM | “Hello Beeeeces!” – The importance of bees of all types and why it matters to PMP’s, and how to address swarms
Brooke Decker – Vermont Agency of Agriculture |
| 2:00 – 2:45 PM | “Composting Tips to Avoid Rodents & Wildlife” – info to provide to your customers on how to manage compost to reduce rodents.
Deb Heleba – UVM Ext. Community Horticulture Programs |

Matthew Wood, PHARM Agent & Golf Permit Coordinator VAAFM matthew.wood@vermont.gov

Matt studied Wildlife Biology & Forestry at the University of MA in Amherst in the late 1980's before working at a USDA laboratory on Cape Cod as a research assistant working on Spongy Moths & Mediterranean fruit flies. Matt then moved to VT in 1996 to attend the University of VT under a master's program researching biological controls of downy mildew in hops. He was also the assistant manager of the greenhouse at UVM, & later managed outdoor perennial & greenhouse bedding plant production at VT's oldest nursery. In 2005 Matt joined the VAAFM as the pesticide certification & training coordinator. Later he became an inspector that conducts routine sampling & inspections & responds to complaints concerning pesticides, feeds, seeds, & fertilizers within his territory in NW VT. Matt is also responsible for issuing pesticide-use permits to golf courses throughout VT.

Kevin Moran, BCE **Forshaw** kevinm@forshaw.com

Kevin received his BS in Entomology from U Mass in 1974, worked as a high school teacher/coach, then as superintendent for Middlesex County Mosquito Control, MA. He was an owner/operator of a pest management firm before joining Residex Distribution in 1982, after which moving to Forshaw Distribution in 2016. He is licensed in all the New Engl& states & has spoken for many pest management professionals, & related industry seminars throughout Engl& for over 35 years & now in 15 other states as well.

Steve Dwinell, Director PHARM division VAAFM steve.dwinell@vermont.gov

Steve previously worked for the FL Dept. of Ag. & Consumer Services. From 2018 to 2022, he was a Quality Assurance Manager for Rollins, Inc., the parent company of several national pest management br&s. Steve has a Masters in Agricultural Entomology from the University of Florida & began his career as an Agricultural Extension Agent in Hamilton County, Florida. He is a past president of Association of Structural Pest Control Officials (ASPCRO), served as co-chair of the Managed Pollinator Protection Plan Committee for the Association of American Pesticide Control Officials (AAPCO), & is currently the co-chair of the AAPCO Endangered Species Act Workgroup.

Katie Swift, Chair **Rodenticide Task Force** swiftk@liphatech.com

Katie is the Senior Manager for Governmental Affairs for Liphatech, a global manufacturer of molluscicides, rodenticides & rodent control products based in Milwaukee, WI. She also has chaired the Rodenticide Task Force since its inception in 2021. She was born & raised in Honolulu. She has a Master's degree in Zoology from the University of Hawaii. For her thesis research, she conducted GLP laboratory efficacy studies for a diphacinone rodenticide on wild-caught rats from a rainforest on the Big Isl& of Hawaii, which resulted in multiple EPA & Hawaii SLN registrations for that product. Prior to joining Liphatech in 2016, she worked for the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service in Honolulu for 17 years, coordinating the program for the conservation uses of rodenticides to control & eradicate rodents & mongooses in Hawaii & on other Pacific Isl&s, including Midway, Wake, & Kwajalein Atolls. She was the lead author of the Environmental Impact Statement Preparation Notice for Rodent & Mongoose Control & Eradication issued by the State of Hawaii & the US Fish & Wildlife Service in 2016, that described the agencies' need for & proposed use of rodent control methods. She sits on a number of national industry working groups & committees, including Crop Life America's Endangered Species Working Group & RISE's Regulatory Affairs Committee. She coordinates the rodenticide manufacturers on registration issues with EPA & California's Department of Pesticide Regulation. She collaborates with organizations such as the University of California, the USDA's National Wildlife Research Center, & HawkWatch International on research into the effects of rodenticide exposure on wildlife.

Brooke Decker, State Apiculturalist VAAFM brooke.decker@vermont.gov

Brooke Decker serves as VAAFM's Pollinator Health Specialist & Apiculturist. She is currently the Vice-President of the Apiary Inspectors of America. She has a Master of Science Degree in Environmental Science from Antioch University.

Deb Heleba, Outreach & Education - UVM Community Horticultural Program Debra.Heleba@uvm.edu

Debra Heleba is the statewide outreach & education program manager for UVM Extension's Community Horticulture Programs. She coordinates the Ext. Master Gardener & VT Master Composter courses & supports more than 400 trained volunteers around the state who provide science-based gardening & backyard composting education in their local communities. Deb has worked at UVM Ext. for more than 30 years on several programs including tree fruit, new farmer, organic dairy, & farm succession planning. She holds a Master of Science degree from UVM's Department of Community Development & Applied Economics.