

Implementing the Pesticide Registration Improvement Act - Fiscal Year 2016

Thirteenth Annual Report



March 1, 2017

Table 1

PRIA Funded Pesticide Safety Education and Pesticide Worker Protection Activities in FY 2016

<p>Association of Farmworker Opportunity Programs (AFOP)</p> <p><i>National Farmworker Training Program Cooperative Agreement</i></p> <p>\$500,000</p>	<p>PRIA funds supported a variety of the national affiliates of AFOP for safety training for pesticide workers and worker families. This training increases protection for communities that may have a potential for high pesticide exposure. The characteristics of these communities are: high risk, low literacy, non-English speakers, low income, high mobility, and children at risk from take-home exposure. The project builds and supports a network of community-based outreach specialists within the AFOP membership to provide Worker Protection Standard (WPS) and take-home exposure prevention training to farmworkers in their respective communities. The project provides <i>Train the Trainer</i> courses, training materials, educational handouts, technical support, and monetary support for on-site training expenses to AFOP’s trainer network.</p> <p>AFOP’s Health and Safety Programs:</p> <p>AFOP’s Health & Safety Training Program has a network of 218 trainers located in 29 participating sites in 30 states. Under the Farmworker Occupational Health & Safety Training Program, trainers use the health and safety training as an outreach and recruitment tool for their community based organizations, devoting an estimated 15 percent of their time delivering training on heat stress prevention and pesticide safety training.</p> <p>Overall, 52,443 farmworkers were trained in various training topics during the period of January 4, 2016 until September 30, 2016:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ 15,873 farmworkers trained on Worker Protection Standards (WPS)▪ 11,236 farmworkers trained on Limiting Exposure Around Families (LEAF)▪ 6,344 farmworkers trained on Pesticide Exposure and Pregnancy (PEP)▪ 1,847 farmworkers trained on <i>José Aprende Sobre los Pesticidas</i>▪ 17,143 farmworkers trained on Heat Stress Prevention <p>Trainers work closely with agricultural employers, their local county extension agents, growers’ associations, local Farm Bureaus, faith-based organizations and community-based migrant service providers to gain access to workers. These partnerships have been successful in providing annual safety training to migrant workers as they arrive for the seasonal harvests. Trainers sometimes have opportunities to visit farmworkers in their homes and deliver the training there. On other occasions, farmworkers come to the community-based organization for services, and trainers provide them with training while they are in the building. The training is delivered to groups, most often at the worksite, which could be a lettuce field or peach orchard, for example. Trainers are prepared to deliver an interactive training session using the materials we have provided, and rely upon role play, demonstrations, discussions, storytelling, and games. The training is conducted most often in Spanish. Occasionally it is presented in English, and recently trainers have had to arrange interpreters for workers who speak only Haitian Creole or an indigenous language from Latin America.</p> <p>Limiting Exposure Around Families (LEAF) is a curriculum piloted in North Carolina and Florida, which seeks to mitigate and increase awareness of these take home exposure risks to families through a training curriculum and other educational materials. All</p>
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	<p>training and materials are in a bilingual, low-literacy format that offers advice on how to reduce or even eliminate the possibility of exposing their children to pesticide residues.</p> <p>Heat Stress Prevention. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, farmworkers die from heat-related illness at a rate 20 times greater than that of the entire U.S. civilian workforce. Yet, with appropriate steps, heat-related illness is preventable and fatalities are easily avoided. AFOP’s Health & Safety Programs seeks to save lives and preserve health, providing farmworkers and agricultural employers with the knowledge they need to make healthy decisions in the field. During Heat Stress Prevention Training Marathon Week on July 17-23, 2016, AFOP’s network of trainers provided heat stress prevention training to 2,879 farmworkers.</p> <p>Students Action with Farmworkers (SAF) is a program with Duke University that trains interns to conduct interactive pesticide safety education for farm workers and for farm worker families.</p>
<p>Pesticide Educational Resources Collaborative (PERC)</p> <p>Cooperative Agreement – University of California Davis & Oregon State University</p> <p>\$500,000</p>	<p>PERC’s goal is to implement the development, revision, or update of pesticide safety educational materials and resources targeted toward agricultural workers, pesticide applicators, and others.</p> <p>PERC began in January 2016 with the establishment of an Advisory Board (AB) with representatives of pesticide State Lead Agencies, State Cooperative Extension Services, farm worker advocacy groups, and the tribal community. The AB identified the most pressing needs for materials for 2016 based on input from EPA’s partners, stakeholders and the public. The AB chose materials to support the implementation of the recently revised Worker Protection Standard (WPS).</p> <p>PERC led the development of several key materials for the implementation of the WPS. Materials are posted on the website and made available to others for printing and distribution. The following materials were reviewed by EPA to ensure technical accuracy.</p> <p>“How to Comply with the Worker Protection Standard for Agricultural Pesticides” focuses on the 2015 revised WPS. The target audience is owners or persons responsible for the management of agricultural establishments that employ workers and handlers, and for commercial pesticide handling establishments. The manual helps readers determine whether they need to comply with the WPS, and provides detailed information on how to comply with the WPS requirements. The manual is available to anyone for reproduction. In October and November of 2016, PERC received over 28,000 hits on their website for the manual.</p> <p>“Quick Reference Guide” summarizes the major requirements of the 2015 revised WPS along with the accompanying regulatory citations. It is organized according to the target audience similar to the “How to Comply” manual. The guide is a stand-alone document and is included as a reference in the “How to Comply” manual. In October and November of 2016, PERC has received over 8,000 hits on their website for this stand-alone document.</p> <p>“National Worker Protection Standard: A Manual for Trainers of Agricultural Workers and Pesticide Handlers” was developed as a reference resource regarding new and existing WPS requirements as well suggestions for effective training techniques. The 2015 revised WPS requires that trainers of farmworkers and pesticide handlers meet</p>

	<p>certain qualifications. One way to qualify is to complete an EPA approved Train-the-Trainer program.</p> <p>“Is WPS Training Needed? What Employers Need to Know” presents which WPS-required basic pesticide safety training (for workers, handlers, or both) is required, if any, for persons who perform common tasks in agricultural settings.</p>
<p>Pesticide Safety Education Programs</p> <p>Potential Cooperative Agreement</p> <p>\$500,000 (Funds Not Distributed in FY16)</p>	<p>The National Association of State Departments of Agriculture won the competition for a 5 Year cooperative agreement and refused to accept the award. This grant is being re-competed. The competition closes on December 21 2016. The award will be made in January 2017</p>