

## Questions and Answers from the December 2007 Grower Workshop

**Alex McVicker – Agricultural Biologist**

### Changes to Respirator Regulations:

- Q: Do respiratory protection regulations apply inside an enclosed cab?
- A: Once the employee leaves the cab, respiratory protection must be available, and the employee needs to have been evaluated.
- Q: What are the qualifications for a program administrator?
- A: There are publications available that provide that information. A compliance guide is available on our website. A person who is familiar with the information in this guide may qualify.
- Q: When is it okay to use a dust/mist respirator verses a half face or full-face respirator?
- A: The pesticide label should provide specific information regarding respirator requirements. Contact our office or your pesticide dealer if you need further clarification.
- Q: When an employee chooses to use a dust/mist respirator for allergies, what are the employer's responsibilities?
- A: The employer must post *Section 6739 [r] for voluntary use*
- Q: Is *Section 6739 [r] available in Spanish?*
- A: Yes, as is *Section 6739 [q]*. Please go to our website to obtain this information at [http://www.sonoma-county.org/agcomm/resp\\_protection\\_resources.htm](http://www.sonoma-county.org/agcomm/resp_protection_resources.htm)

**Dan Curtin – Agricultural Biologist**

### Update on Vine Mealybug:

- Q: Does Vine Mealybug have a short tail? What about the immatures?
- A: Both have a short tail.
- Q: Are grapevines the only host for Vine Mealybug?
- A: Yes, it appears grapevines are the only known host in California.
- Q: Where are traps available?
- A: Some pesticide dealers have traps. You can also check the Agricultural Commissioner's website at [http://www.sonoma-county.org/agcomm/pest\\_management.htm](http://www.sonoma-county.org/agcomm/pest_management.htm) and/or the UCCE's website at <http://cesonoma.ucdavis.edu/Viticulture717/Mealybugs.htm>.
- Q: What kind of power washing equipment is recommended to clean equipment?

A: Visit the Best Management Practices for Growers prepared by the Sonoma County Winegrape Commission and Sonoma County University of California Cooperative Extension at [http://www.sonomawinegrape.org/files/VMB\\_growers05.pdf](http://www.sonomawinegrape.org/files/VMB_growers05.pdf). Go to page two, "Vineyard Sanitation Practices".

**Joseph Gray – Deputy Agricultural Commission**

**How to Handle Those Paperwork Blues:**

Q: When can industry submit pesticide use reports online directly to our office?

A: We are hoping industry will be able to submit pesticide use reports in 2008. We will notify industry when this service becomes available.

Q: Where does an employer display the A-8?

A: Where employees begin their workday.