

## **Development and Implementation of Fumigant REDs Training for the Southeast US.**

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With the December 1<sup>st</sup> deadline for new fumigant labels, a training program has been developed to disseminate information on how to comply with the new fumigant regulations. Even though training is not required in the 2010 label changes, it will be difficult for applicators to comply with the new regulations without some sort of training. The training developed for the 2010 label changes will be modified for the 2011 label changes in hopes that the registrant mandated training can be delivered instead by Southeast area extension personnel. This will ensure that the greatest number of applicators can be trained and reduce the burden on the registrants' personnel. The training being developed will be suitable for training extension personnel, fumigant applicators, and pesticide inspectors. By using the same training for all it will make sure that everyone is on the same page and if desired by individual states, it can be used as the education program to support a fumigation category on a pesticide license.

### **Training Components.**

Soil Fumigation Manual. A fumigation manual is being created with the final version formatted in print form and accessible on a web site via pdf format. This manual contains information as it relates to the new soil fumigant regulations, methods for proper soil fumigant application that maximize safety and efficacy including equipment calibration and safety procedures. The manual will be available to all states in the South Atlantic region for training and for those considering adding an additional soil fumigation category to their state licensing certification.

Power Point Presentations. There is an initial set of 10 power point presentations that will integrate with the previously mentioned soil fumigation manual. Presentations are being developed to facilitate state cooperative extension trainings for stakeholders on the new fumigant regulations and will be tailored to provide continued education credits for those states that add or update their pesticide licensing to include a soil fumigation category. These will be added to the website as pdf formats and will be accessible to any that wish to provide their own training to their stakeholders.

Online Interactive Modules. An initial set of 10 modules are being developed to companion the previously mentioned fumigation manual, but will also be useful as a stand-alone training. These modules will provide the basis for training in areas where on-site training is not possible or feasible. These modules can also be included in the continued education program for state pesticide license soil fumigation categories, reducing the impact of these new soil fumigation regulations on the training demands of the state extension personnel. These modules will be linked to a database housed on the University of Florida/IFAS Extension Server to allow traceability of certification to meet the requirements of EPA on determination of proper training prior to application of soil fumigants after the release of the 2011 soil fumigant labels.

Soil Fumigant Training. The above mentioned portions will be included on a website but also be combined and delivered through a series of in-person trainings with the stakeholders starting in November 2010. These trainings will focus on the new fumigant regulations as they apply to the 2010 fumigant label changes that will become law on December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2010. The trainings will initiate in Florida and work their way north to hit the major areas of soil fumigation.

***Additional Information Development.***

Once EPA has made its final decision on 2011 label changes for soil fumigants, the same process as mentioned above can occur with greater specifics being added to the already existing soil fumigation manual, power point presentations, and online modules. At this point the EPA required training can occur in conjunction with the soil fumigant registrants to meet the designated guidelines for registrant training. EPA will provide final acceptance of this training so that our state extension personnel can provide the trainings instead of placing the burden on the registrant's representative.