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STATE OF MAINE
MAINE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND RURAL RESOURCES
BOARD OF PESTICIDES CONTROL
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WALTER E. WHITCOMB
COMMISSIONER

HENRY S. JENNINGS
DIRECTOR

TO: Board Members

FROM: Gary Fish—Manager, Pesticide Programs

SUBJECT: Formal Adoption of the Best Management Practices for Athletic Fields and School Grounds and the Level Specific BMPs

DATE: February 16, 2012

The staff submitted the report to the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry (ACF) in response to Resolve 2011, Chapter 59, To Enhance the Use of Integrated Pest Management on School Grounds, on February 1, 2012. Subsequently, the ACF reviewed the report at its February 7 work session. They recommended that the Board consider all of the suggested changes. In addition to the report, the staff also developed best management practices (BMPs) for athletic fields and school grounds with a lot of help from an *ad hoc* committee and a short list of additional contributors (*see next page*).

Resolve 2011, Chapter 59, reads, “The board shall provide every school administrative unit in the State with a copy of the best management practices developed under this section. The board’s staff shall work with school integrated pest management coordinators appointed under board rule Chapter 27: Standards for Pesticide Applications and Public Notification in Schools to ensure that the best management practices and the connection between implementing those practices and an effective integrated pest management program are understood by the coordinators.” However, the ACF did not formally approve the BMPs.

The staff is requesting that the Board review the BMPs, including the level-specific BMPs, and revise, as needed. With final Board approval, the staff will send the BMPs to all state K–12 school units, and follow up with training sessions, in conjunction with Kathy Murray, the School IPM Coordinator for the Department.

AD HOC COMMITTEE TO DEVELOP BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES FOR ATHLETIC FIELDS AND SCHOOL GROUNDS

- Peter Baecher, Parks and Recreation Facilities Manager, Town of Brunswick
- Lauren Ball, DO, MPH, Deputy State Epidemiologist, Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention
- James Dill, Pest Management Specialist, University of Maine Cooperative Extension, Representative District 14
- Robert Maurias, Co-Owner, Mainely Ticks
- Kathy Murray, Coordinator, Maine School Integrated Pest Management Program, Maine Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources
- Charles Ravis, Board Member, Assistant Professor of Sports Management at Thomas College, Turf Management Consultant and Certified Golf Course Superintendent
- Stephen D. Sears, State Epidemiologist, Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention
- Heather Spaulding, Associate Director, Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association
- Christopher Turmelle, Turf Division Manager, Atlantic Pest Solutions
- Gary Fish, Staff Liaison

ADDITIONAL SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTORS TO THE BMPs

- Mary Owen, U-Mass Turf IPM Specialist
- Andrew McNitt, Director of the Center for Sports Surface Research, Penn State University
- Ethan Owens, City of Portland Athletic Facilities Manager
- Brian Eshenaur, Ornamentals IPM Educator, Cornell Cooperative Extension
- Curtis Bohlen, Board Member and Executive Director of Casco Bay Estuary Partnership
- Lynn Braband, NYS Community IPM Program of Cornell University
- Jesse O'Brien, Instructor of Turf Management, University of Maine and Down East Turf Farm