

## MAKING WEB-BASED PEST MANAGEMENT TOOLS WORK FOR YOU

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If use properly, the Internet can provide you with an incredible amount of useful pest management information quickly and cheaply. Unfortunately it can also provide you with an equal amount of, shall we say, less than useful information? The key to sorting out the good information from the less than useful information is being able to navigate within the web. At last year's conference, Bryan Jensen gave tips on navigating around the web and provided a number of accessible websites that have useful, up to date, crop product information. This year, I will demonstrate two websites that provide current pesticide labels and product registration information.

There are a number of good printed sources with current pesticide labels, or pesticide recommendations. However, printed sources of pesticide product registration information are harder to find. Pesticide labels can be found in the CRC "green book", labels attached to the product, co-op and extension guides. A major disadvantage to printed resource material is that it becomes outdated quickly as new information is continually being generated. Internet based resource information is usually the most up to date because updates are done faster, easier and cheaper than with most printed sources. Two internet resources that provide reliable and up to date are Crop Data Management Systems, or CDMS, and the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection Pesticide Database.

CDMS is one of the most complete and useful resources of pesticide label information found on the internet (<http://www.cdms.net/pfa/LUpdateMsg.asp>). The CDMS website supplies the user with a PDF version of the pesticide label and/or the Material Data Safety Sheet for pesticide products free of charge. The entire pesticide product database can be searched or searched by product use, i.e., agriculture/crop production or turf and ornamental/non-crop uses. To get to the webpage that contains agricultural/crop production product labels and MSDS sheets, from the homepage (See URL above), click on the **US - Ag/Crop** under the **LABELS & MSDS** on the left side of the CDMS homepage. This brings up a webpage that lists product manufacturers. Here you can search for a product either by the manufacturer or by the product trade name. If you choose to search by the manufacturer, click on the company's name in the list, which will send you to a page that lists all the company's pesticides products contained in the database. From here you choose the product and click. This will bring you another page that lists the specimen label, MSDS sheet, and any supplemental labeling information. Once you've chosen a specimen label, a PDF version of it will be brought up for viewing, printing, or saving.

If you want to search by a product trade name, enter the name into the search function text box on the upper left of the page. This will take you straight to the webpage with the specimen label, MSDS sheet, and any supplemental labeling information. A word of caution, if a specimen label doesn't "look right", you may be looking at a Canadian pesticide label since CDMS also maintains a Canadian database as well. In addition, check to make sure that the label is for your geographic location since the list of labeling information sometimes contains specific labels for other states, and supplemental uses.

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Once you've selected a specimen label, you can quickly search the label using the PDF search function, symbolized as a binoculars icon, located in the toolbar across the top of the page. Click on the binoculars and type in a keyword that matches what you want to find on the label. For example, to see if the product label lists a ground water advisory, type "ground water advisory" into the text box. If the product label contains a ground water advisory the search function will take you to that section in the label. Often a keyword, such as "rate", will be found throughout the label making the PDF search function cumbersome. However, if you use the icon immediately to the right of the binoculars icon, the search will continue on to the next occurrence of the word. Continue clicking on that icon to get to the section of the label that contains the information you want.

The second website, a joint venture of the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection and Kelly Registration Systems, Inc., allows users to conduct searches of a pesticide database for "registered pesticide products, the companies that sell and use pesticides and the people that apply them."(<http://www.kellysolutions.com/wi/>). There are four separate search categories on this website; Pesticide Registration Search, Licensed Restricted Use Pesticide (RUP) Dealers Search, Licensed Pesticide Business Location (PBL) Search, and Certified Pesticide Applicators Search. Of these four search categories, most users will find the pesticide registration search category the most practical. In this search category users can find specific answers to whether or not a pesticide is registered for use in Wisconsin. Searches can be conducted by company name, product name, target pest, active ingredient, EPA registration number, pesticide type, site or crop, formulation type, and restricted use products.

Probably the most common search will involve identifying the registered uses of an unfamiliar product. For example, generic formulations of glyphosate are appearing in increasing numbers. However, not every formulation is registered for use on glyphosate resistant crops. How can a pesticide applicator be sure that an application of a generic glyphosate to glyphosate resistant soybean or corn is legal? The easiest way is by conducting a search in the pesticide registration category. Click on the pesticide registration search to bring up a webpage that provides options for the search. By clicking on an option, such as Search by Product Name, a search page opens where the user enters the pesticide trade name. Once the trade name has been entered, the next page that opens lists the formulation(s) of the product. The next step is to select the proper formulation in the list by clicking on it. This will bring up a page that contains the product name, EPA registration number, expiration date, registration status, manufacturer and registration number, formulation, restricted use designation, and pesticide type. It also can show users the active ingredients in the product, pests controlled by the product, sites (crops) where the product may be applied, site/pest combinations where the product may be applied, and the EPA stamped label with a click of the mouse. As a side note, if you are only looking for a specimen pesticide label, use the CDMS website. In order to get specimen labels from the DATCP website, you actually leave the DATCP website and enter the EPA website. The visual quality of the specimen labels on the EPA website is poor at best and very difficult to read.

Hopefully, I didn't lose you with this webpage discussion. I encourage you to go to these two websites and explore them. They are very easy to use and quite useful. These resources are free, open to the public and are updated often. The more experience you gain using these sites, the more you will depend on them for information. .