
From: **Vincent Ahlholm** <vincentahlholm@gmail.com>

Date: Fri, Aug 27, 2021 at 9:41 AM

Subject: Pesticide records to public

To: <megan.1.patterson@maine.gov>

I wish I could attend meetings but in order to keep my farm alive it's usually pertinent that I be here. This idea of allowing others to see a list or application records is inherently wrong unless its for every product in the supermarket. The vast majority of our food products here are imported from other states and countries. They will have no pesticide app recorded for the customer to view. Mary the concerned mom only buys whats safe,,she buys the ones from BERRY GIANT. as she sees on line that Vincent used (trauma chemical of the day)and therefore his are BAD. Beyond that the BERRY GIANTS are from Mexico(40,000 acres of strawberry there)where the wage rate is 1\$ per hour,chemical certification bought,bribes paid to the cartels,but Mary knows they are safer as there is no chemicals listed.

This is a huge death sentence for all Maine farmers as well as making my competing neighbor know exactly how I grow produce. Can you make Coca-cola give its recipe to Pepsi ??I understand the thought process but it has and must be all products as Maine farmers will be the first to be accused of perfectly legal practices being evil.

Take the recent advertisement for Paraquat issues and lawyers seeking \$\$..Its used on grain crops to dessicate leaves(not in Maine)found in your breakfast cereal,it was used widely by theUSA DEa to spray on Mexican pot fields in the 70's,which was harvested and sent north to be smoked by thousands. Now If I kill weeds in a border area of a berry field with it,I will have it thought that its on Vincents berries. So Mary punches up QR code(it will come to that)on her phone and there it is,,,,,she's buying the BERRY GIANT "safe" berries is she not???

But I will be a vocal supporter of this if it's made into a national rule including all imports. It will not be as the power that is above Maine will not allow it. I would love to speak on this but August its near impossible to find this 10 minutes to compose this message

From: Vincent Ahlholm <vincentahlholm@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, August 30, 2021 8:46 AM
To: Patterson, Megan L <Megan.L.Patterson@maine.gov>
Subject: Re: Pesticide records to public

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Yes, comments can be added, would like to be able to address those whom think that it's a great idea to impose this on only Maine producers, what seems great will have implications of reducing farmers numbers even further in this state, I realize a farm count has gone up but that's not a true listing of commercial farms, smaller are good also but many farms are listed as existing for tax reasons of those with excess income, this has a definite depression of Maine farmers image on us being the ones listing products, to be equal across the entire food spectrum is an absolute must, I go to buy produce in the off season also, I know what they may or maybe use for crop protection, 99% don't, I am comfortable with that knowledge but most just don't know that most products from breads to muffins to oranges have fungicides in them to retard spoilage, this would or should be known also if I need to list a product application years prior to a young plant to get it to produce .I can and want to speak on this,