

New and Emerging Technology Course Agenda

June 22-25, 2026

Fort Collins, Colorado

Please note: All times listed on the agenda are in Mountain Time

Monday, June 22nd: Current State of New and Emerging Technologies

Dress Code: Alma Mater Monday

- 7:30 am** **Breakfast (Catered) and Check In**
- 8:00 am** Welcoming Remarks
Dave Huber, Deputy Director, VT Agency of Agriculture, Food & Markets
- 8:10 am** Course Overview and Logistics
Cindy Wire, PREP Coordinator, Immediate Office, US EPA Office of Pesticide Programs (OPP)
Lisa Blecker, PREP Administrator, Colorado State University (CSU)
- 8:20 am** Icebreaker and Introductory Exercise
Facilitator: Lisa Blecker, CSU
- 9:30 am** New and Emerging Drone Technology
Dan Martin, President/CEO, Pluvium
- 10:30 am** **Break**
- 10:45 am** US EPA and Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Regulatory Requirements for Drones
Joel Jones, Owner/Pilot at Drone Crop Services, and UAS Instructor, Orange Coast College
Andrew Shelby, Senior Scientist, Environmental Fate and Effects Division, US EPA OPP
- 11:45 pm** Group Photo
- 12:00 pm** **Lunch (Catered)**
- 1:00 pm** A Closer Look at Pesticide Labels and Emerging Technology
Andrew Shelby, US EPA OPP

- 1:45 pm Panel: State Requirements for Drone Pesticide Applications
- Alicia Scott, Environmental Program Manager, CA Department of Pesticide Regulation*
- Kelly Navinsky-Wenzl, Pesticide and Fertilizer Program Manager, KS Department of Agriculture*
- Zach Szczukowski, Agrichemical Program Manager, VT Agency of Agriculture, Food & Market*
- Tacy Jensen, Senior Environmental Inspector, Gila River Indian Community*
- 3:00 pm **Break**
- 3:15 pm Group Discussion: What are the Three Biggest Regulatory Considerations for the Growing Use of Drones?
- Facilitator: Lisa Blecker, CSU*
- 4:15 pm Examples of Drone Usage
- Facilitator: Lisa Blecker, CSU*
- 5:00 pm Adjourn

Tuesday, June 23rd: Worker Protection Issues Associated with Emerging Technology

Dress Code: Tropical Tuesday

- 7:30 am Breakfast (Catered)
- 8:00 am Overview of Proposed FAA Rule Part 108
Joel Jones, Drone Crop Services and Orange Coast College
- 9:00 am Potential Impacts of New FAA Rule to Applicator Certification Plans
Thomas Lopiano, Environmental Protection Specialist, Pesticide Reevaluation Division, US EPA OPP
- 10:00 am Break
- 10:15 am PPE Requirements: Who Needs to be Protected?
Isabel Gross, Environmental Protection Specialist, Pesticide Reevaluation Division, US EPA OPP
Nathan Davis, Certification and Licensing Manager, Office of the Indiana State Chemist (OISC)
- 11:15 am An AEZ Primer and Considerations for New Technology
Aidan Black, Environmental Protection Specialist, Pesticide Reevaluation Division, US EPA OPP
- 12:00 pm Lunch (Catered)
- 1:00 pm Breakout Group: What Are the Three Most Important Actions Needed to Protect Workers and Handlers Using New Technology for Pesticide Applications
Facilitator: Lisa Blecker, CSU
- 2:30 pm Training Needs and the Path Forward
Fred Whitford, Clinical Engagement Professor, Purdue University
Alexander Lehmann, Certification and Training Coordinator, MD Department of Agriculture
Lauren Gott, Pesticide Certification Specialist, MI Department of Agriculture & Rural Development
- 3:30 pm Break
- 3:45 pm Pesticide Educational Resources Collaborative (PERC) UAS/UAV Task Force Recommendations
Facilitator: Lisa Blecker, CSU and Nathan Davis, OISC
- 5:00 pm Adjourn

Wednesday, June 24th: Enforcement Considerations

Dress Code: Western Wednesday

- 7:30 am Breakfast (Catered)
- 8:00 am Drone Data and Recordkeeping
Joel Jones, Drone Crop Services and Orange Coast College
- 9:00 am Emerging Technology and Enforcement Considerations
Nathan Davis, OISC
Michael Bauman, FIFRA Inspector, Office of Compliance US EPA
Office of Enforcement and Compliance
- 9:45 am Break
- 10:00 am Emerging Technology and Enforcement Case Examples
Alexander Lehmann, Certification and Training Coordinator, MD
Department of Agriculture
Jacob Addison, Pesticide Product Registration Manager, Clemson
University
Travis Snodgrass, Western District Manager, NC Department of
Agriculture
Christopher Sutherland, UAS Division Coordinator, WA Department of
Agriculture
- 11:00 am Group Discussion: Other Considerations for New and Emerging
Technology
Facilitator: Lisa Blecker, CSU
- 11:30 am Field trip Information and Instructions
Facilitator: Lisa Blecker, CSU
- 12:00 pm Lunch (Catered)
- 12:30 pm Field Trip: Agricultural Research Development Education Center (ARDEC)
- 5:00 pm Adjourn

Thursday, June 25th: Publicly Available Data Tools to Assist Regulatory Issues

Dress Code: Throwback Thursday

- 7:30 am Breakfast (Catered)
- 8:00 am A Global Look at UAV Labeling
Sarah Hovinga, Regulatory Policy and Stakeholder Engagement, Bayer Crop Science
- 9:00 am Broader Look at New and Emerging Pesticide Application Technology
Nathan Davis, OISC
Lovreet Shergill, Assistant Professor of Weed Science, CSU
- 10:00 am Break
- 10:15 am The Emerging Technology of Mosquitoes as Pest Control
Matthew Weiner, Risk Manager, Biopesticides and Pollution Prevention Division, US EPA OPP
- 11:15 am The Future of Digital Labeling
Dan Schoeff, Digital Transformation Advisor, Immediate Office, US EPA OPP
Michelle Arling, Ethics Official, Immediate Office, US EPA OPP
- 12:00 pm Lunch (Catered)
- 1:00 pm Overview of Different Task Forces
Sarah Hovinga, Regulatory Policy and Stakeholder Engagement, Bayer Crop Science
- 2:00 pm Group Discussion: Where do We Go from Here?
Facilitator: Lisa Blecker, CSU
- 3:00 pm Break
- 3:15 pm Great American Make-Off
Facilitator: Lisa Blecker, CSU
- 4:15 pm Travel Overview
Lisa Blecker, CSU
Erica Bassett, PREP Educator, CSU
- 4:30pm Action Items and Wrap Up
Cindy Wire, US EPA OPP
- 4:40 pm Final Thoughts and Acknowledgments
Lisa Blecker, CSU



PREP NETWORK

Pesticide Regulatory Education Program

5:00 pm Adjourn

6:00 pm Group Dinner at Verboten