



To: Educators Who Teach Core Credits  
From: Emelie Swackhamer, Extension Educator, Lehigh and Northampton Counties  
Re: Formulations Teaching Kit  
Date: October 1, 2005

This teaching kit was developed using ideas from Patricia Hipkins at Virginia Tech, which were shared at the Southeast Pesticide Safety Education Center training held in Raleigh, North Carolina, in 2004. Pat identified common household products that represent various formulations and advocates using them as substitutes to demonstrate pesticide formulation characteristics.

Sue Drabic, Master Gardener Coordinator for Lehigh and Northampton Counties, used the information from Pat to develop this teaching kit for you to use. By following the scripts in Part I and Part II, you can teach:

- basic principles of pesticide formulations
- mixing order and using a jar test to check for compatibility
- a demonstration of different incompatible reactions

The components of this kit can be used as a stand-up lecture, or can incorporate a hands-on session into your training. Both Part I and Part II take about 30 minutes, which allows each of them to qualify for one PDA core credit.

We have piloted this kit with several audiences this summer including grounds managers, vegetable growers and field crop producers, and the participants agree it is an effective way to teach the topic. Please take a moment to look at the scripts and consider how you could use this teaching tool with your audiences.

Your kit contains:

CD with copies of:

- Instructor Scripts Part I & II
- Experiment Instructions for Part II
- Formulation Cards
- "W-A-L-E-S" Handout for Jar Test
- PowerPoint Presentation (optional to use)
- Notes for Instructors
- Pesticide Talk Handout
- Evaluation Form (please send a copy of any summaries you do to Emelie Swackhamer,

Lehigh County Cooperative Extension, 4184 Dorney Park Road, Room 104,  
Allentown, PA 18104-5798)

Corn starch, Lestoil, all purpose flour, concentrated juice, Pepto-Bismol, dry milk, iodine, vegetable oil, dishwashing liquid, powder machine dishwasher detergent, Epsom salts, unflavored gelatin, baking powder and vinegar

Jars, measuring spoons and cups to help you do the experiments

Compatibility chart

If you have any questions about how to use the kit please call Emelie at (610) 391-9840.

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