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Report Summary

Performance Audit

Pesticide Program

Pesticide and Plant Pest Management Division (PPPM), Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development

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PPPM's Pesticide Program is responsible for ensuring that pesticide application businesses, restricted use pesticide (RUP) dealers, and agricultural pesticide dealers are in compliance with applicable laws and regulations. To ensure that pesticides are sold and applied according to State law, PPPM inspectors conduct various audits, investigations, and inspections. The Laboratory Division's Central Licensing Unit (CLU) issues pesticide business and dealer licenses and registers pesticide products. The Pesticide Program is composed of 4 central office program areas, 4 regions, and 20 districts across the State. For fiscal years 2016 and 2017, PPPM expended \$11.1 million and \$11.2 million, respectively. As of September 30, 2017, Pesticide Program staff consisted of 10 central office and 18 regional employees.

Audit Objective			Conclusion
Objective #1: To assess the effectiveness of PPPM's efforts to license pesticide application businesses and certify or register pesticide applicators.			Effective
Findings Related to This Audit Objective	Material Condition	Reportable Condition	Agency Preliminary Response
None reported.		Not applicable.	

Audit Objective			Conclusion
Objective #2: To assess the effectiveness of CLU's efforts to register pesticide products.			Effective
Findings Related to This Audit Objective	Material Condition	Reportable Condition	Agency Preliminary Response
CLU did not properly file and retain all pesticide product registration records after entering application information into the Pesticide Registration Tracking System (PRTS). CLU could not locate hard copy files for 20 (31%) of the 64 records we sampled (<u>Finding #1</u>).		X	Agrees

Audit Objective			Conclusion
Objective #3: To assess the sufficiency of PPPM's monitoring of manufacturers, distributors, retailers, and pesticide applicators for compliance with pesticide laws and regulations.			Sufficient, with exceptions
Findings Related to This Audit Objective	Material Condition	Reportable Condition	Agency Preliminary Response
PPPM did not ensure that RUP dealers were audited at a regular interval or in accordance with PPPM procedures. RUP audits help safeguard the general public against RUP sales to individuals who do not possess the knowledge or experience necessary to be a certified applicator (<u>Finding #2</u>).		X	Agrees

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