

**DriftWatch™ program update (week ending May 21, 2011) –**

The DriftWatch™ program is a web-based geographic information system developed to help facilitate communication between pesticide users and growers of pesticide-sensitive crops with the hope that, through better communications, pesticide drift situations can be avoided. The program was developed by Purdue University for use in Indiana but has been expanded to several Midwestern states through a grant from the U.S. EPA. The Illinois Department of Agriculture, working with Purdue University, launched the DriftWatch™ Program for Illinois earlier this year. As of Friday, May 20, the following describes the status of the Illinois component of the DriftWatch™ program:

<b>Item</b>	<b>Count</b>
<b>Crop Producers and Vineyards</b>	168
<b>Registered Applicators</b>	29
<b>Beehives</b>	1,098
<b>Beekeepers</b>	1,053
<b>Acres Certified Organic</b>	1,641
<b>Organic Producers</b>	29
<b>Acres of Organic Raised Crops and Livestock (not certified)</b>	2,998
<b>Organic Raised Crops and Livestock Producers</b>	27
<b>Acres of other vegetables and fruits</b>	600
<b>Other vegetables and fruit producers</b>	27
<b>Acres of Vineyards</b>	450
<b>Number of Vineyards</b>	53

Since the inception of the Illinois page in mid-December 2010, the program has sent 530 automated e-mails to producers and applicators and logged 1,211 visitors who have made 3,630 page views. The Purdue staff indicates that this participation rate may actually be better than Indiana's first year of their program.

***Update for week ending May 28<sup>th</sup>:*** During the week, the Department received and processed requests to add the following sensitive sites: 11 Apiaries/Beehives, 1 Organic Crop location, and 1 vineyard.

***Update for week ending June 4<sup>th</sup>:*** During the week, the Department received and processed requests to add the following 6 sensitive sites: 2 Organic, free-range cattle locations; 2 Apiaries/Beehives, 1 Organic crop location, and 1 vineyard.