Enclosed

1. A cover letter, or email text, to be sent to your County-wide farm mailing list with two additional information sheets.
	1. Transporting Waste Pesticides for Collection
	2. Map with directions to the site and basic information to post at co-ops, chemical dealers, ag agencies, etc.
2. A press release for your local newspaper.
3. Posters of map for posting at co-ops, chemical dealers, ag agencies, etc.
4. Frequently Asked Questions sheet for use by county Extension offices to answer questions.

Feel free to call us at (662) 325-4617 or (662) 325-1978 if you have questions.

Thanks,

Mary Love Tagert and John Linhoss

TO: Mississippi Farmers With Agricultural Waste Pesticide Products

Enclosed is information about a waste pesticide collection event to be held on **Wednesday, December 12 from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.** in the parking lot next to the **Humphreys County Extension Office** located at **16463 US Hwy 49W** in **Belzoni** (see enclosed map). This program is a free service to Mississippi farmers who live in the area.

If you have agricultural pesticides that can no longer be used, you should make every effort to take advantage of this service. No other events of this type are scheduled for this area. This is a one-day event only, and to take part, you must bring any agricultural waste pesticides to the collection site during the designated timeframe.

You will need to safely transport waste pesticides to the collection site. If you have weak drums or containers that may leak or spill, be sure to use secondary containment to prevent spills. You will also need to cover the load in rainy weather. Hazardous material placards (signs) aren't needed if the pesticide load weighs less than 1,000 pounds. For loads weighing more than 1,000 pounds, you may want to split the load or use more than one vehicle. Labeling of containers is not required for participation in the program, but it is helpful if the original labels are still intact.

Please read the enclosed information about handling, containing and hauling agricultural waste pesticides and familiarize yourself with the directions to the collection site. No household waste pesticides will be collected. We will collect agricultural waste pesticides such as herbicides, insecticides, fungicides and related products. There will be a contractor on-site to collect agricultural waste pesticides in their original or secondary container. Rinsates or bulk containers will *not* be accepted. Again, it is your responsibility to safely transport pesticides to the collection site. If you have any questions about the program, please call the county Extension office at the number below.

Waste Pesticide Disposal Frequently Asked Questions

**What is the purpose of the program?** This event is offered to help farmers safely and efficiently dispose of cancelled, suspended, leftover, or otherwise unusable agricultural pesticides. No household wastes will be accepted.

**Who is eligible?** The program is intended for Mississippi farmers and is free to Mississippi farmers. Dealers and other commercial users may participate, but will be charged a fee, to be negotiated between the dealer/commercial user and the on-site contractor.

**What is a pesticide?** Insecticides, herbicides, fungicides, and plant growth regulators are pesticides and are eligible for the collection program.

**Will other products be accepted?** For this event, we will only be able to accept agricultural waste pesticides (including leftover insecticides, herbicides, fungicides, plant growth regulators and other pesticide products). **No rinsates or products in bulk containers will be accepted.** We will have a contractor on site to collect agricultural waste pesticides in their original or secondary container.

**What is the farmer's responsibility?** The farmer is responsible for making sure that pesticides are safely transported to the collection site. This means taking steps as described in this packet to reduce the chances of pesticides leaking, spilling, or blowing out in transport.

**Is overpacking needed?** Overpacking is necessary if the farmer thinks the drum or container may leak or spill during hauling. A heavy-duty garbage bag tied securely may be used as an over pack for some dry products and to hold oil absorbent used to soak up liquid spills.

**What about already leaking containers?** Place leaking containers into another leak-proof container or tray (over pack). The secondary container will be collected as well at the drop-off location. Clean up any spilled material with a suitable absorbent and place into a heavy-duty garbage bag. **We stress that anyone who has weak containers should safely repack or contain materials before transporting.**

**Are there other restrictions on transporting waste pesticides?** A load weighing less than 1,000 pounds does not need placards (signs). A load more than 1,000 pounds needs placards. For loads that weigh more than 1,000 pounds, it may be easier to split the load or use more than one vehicle. Also, tarping or covering the load is necessary in rainy weather.

**How long will the participant need to remain at the collection site?** In most cases, it takes only a few minutes to unload the vehicle. Workers with a licensed hazardous waste contractor will unload pesticides.

**What happens to pesticides brought to the collection site?** After unloading, the contractor will collect, categorize, repack and transport them out of state for disposal and recycling, when possible, according to state and federal environmental laws.

**Press Release: Pesticide Disposal Event Scheduled For December 12, 2018**

Mississippi area farmers with waste agricultural pesticides are invited to take part in a waste pesticide disposal event to be held on Wednesday, December 12 from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The event will be held in the parking lot next to the Humphreys County Extension Office located at **16463 Hwy 49W in Belzoni** (see enclosed map).

The one-time event offers farmers a no-cost, environmentally safe way to dispose of leftover pesticide products through a licensed contractor, according to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ with the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Mississippi State University Extension Service. We will have a contractor on site accepting agricultural waste products at this event.

To take part, farmers should bring their agricultural waste pesticides to the collection site between **8:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. on December 12. No drop-offs before or after the designated times are allowed, and doing so could constitute illegal dumping.**

There is **no charge** to Mississippi farmers, but farmers are responsible for safely transporting waste pesticides and tires to the collection sites. Waste pesticides include leftover, cancelled, or otherwise unusable products such as insecticides, herbicides, fungicides, and plant growth regulators. No rinsates or pesticides in bulk containers will be collected.

A licensed hazardous waste contractor will be on hand at the collection site and will collect, analyze, and dispose of or recycle the products according to applicable environmental laws and regulations.

This program is coordinated by the **Mississippi State University Extension Service** with funds made available through the **Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality** and the **Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce**. For more information, contact the **Humphreys County Extension Service office at 662-247-2915**.