



**Dave Heineman**  
*Governor*

# State of Nebraska

**Department of Agriculture**  
**Gregory A. Ibach**  
*Director*  
P.O. Box 94947  
Lincoln, NE 68509-4947  
(402) 471-2341  
Fax: (402) 471-6876  
[www.nda.nebraska.gov](http://www.nda.nebraska.gov)

January 31, 2014

MEMO TO: Pesticide Applicators, Dealers, and Others Interested in Atrazine Use Restrictions

FROM: Tim Creger, Pesticide and Fertilizer Program Manager

SUBJECT: Conflicting Atrazine Label Statements

The Nebraska Department of Agriculture (NDA) has become aware of an issue that, although not new, warrants the attention of private and commercial applicators involved in agriculture. NDA is sending out this notice in order to protect of our water resources and ensure compliance with label directions and the Nebraska Pesticide Act.

- Since approximately 1993, products containing atrazine have prohibited use within 50 feet of any well, whether it is used or abandoned.
- More recently, products containing acetochlor have also restricted use around wells, but only in cases where the depth to ground water is less than 30 feet, where the soil types are sandy (sands, sandy loams, and loamy sands), and also where the soils are low in organic matter.
- Within the last several years, products containing both atrazine and acetochlor have published labels with the well restrictions for both active ingredients in the environmental restrictions section. Often, the less restrictive statement for acetochlor is given first, along with an eye catching diagram showing a well and conditions where those acetochlor restrictions should be followed. This is then followed by the atrazine restrictions which are more restrictive than those for acetochlor

**Bottom Line:** Because of the atrazine restrictions, any product containing both acetochlor and atrazine are prohibited from being applied within 50 feet of any well, regardless of the soil types, percent organic matter, and depth to ground water found at the well.

Atrazine products also have use restrictions for protecting surface water, namely, setbacks near streams, rivers, lakes, and reservoirs, as well as considerations for tile outletted fields. These restrictions are also required, as indicated by the label, for all product mixtures containing atrazine.

Questions concerning label directions and product registration, applicator certification and licensing, or the NDA pesticide enforcement program can be directed to (402) 471-2351.

Conflicting Label Statements\_013014.doc