

# TPPC Member Spotlight: Brittani Clairmont, Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes of Montana



As the Pesticide Compliance/Outreach Coordinator for the Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes' (CSKT) Natural Resources Department Pesticide Program, Brittani Clairmont is no stranger to taking on multiple roles in her position. Her Pesticide journey began with meeting Jasmine Courville Brown at a holiday party 4 ½ years ago which led her on a new career path affording amazing opportunities working for the Tribe, traveling, and connecting with people all over the world regarding pesticide issues.

#### **Educator:**

With a background as an early childhood educator, Brittani has been able to continue educating youth as well as adults by providing Pesticide related educational materials to schools, landowners, businesses, pesticide applicators and the public. These resources include information on the effects of pesticides in the environment, worker protection standards, climate change and pollinator protection.

#### **Grant Project Organizer:**

Pollinator Protection has been Brittani's focus most recently as their program was awarded a first-time grant to restore a section of Tribal land for pollinator habitat. She has overseen all aspects of the project from the budget, identifying plant species and actual planting, monitoring efforts, outreach, education to completing the final report.

## TPPC Member Spotlight (continued)

#### **Pesticide Compliance Coordinator:**

During the busy summer season Brittani is often helping with inspections and working in conjunction with the CSKT Wildlife Program and the University of Montana on an osprey banding and blood sampling effort to understand migration patterns and the presence of heavy metals in osprey. In addition, she assists with surface water sampling to determine what compounds are showing up in local drainages that originate from pesticides, pharmaceuticals and personal care products (PPCP's).



#### Trainee:

On her way to becoming the newest FIFRA inspector for CSKT, Brittani participates in numerous required trainings as well as additional pesticide related classes to expand her knowledge. The most recent was the extremely well received Tribal PIRT in Tulsa, OK.

#### **Outdoor & Sports Enthusiast:**

In her spare time, Brittani spends time with family, friends and her fur-baby Gus, and she enjoys outdoor activities such as kayaking, floating the Flathead River, camping, and four-wheeling. Brittani also plays adult co-ed softball and often travels in state for games.

"Being able to work for my Tribe and teach our youth how important it is we take care of our land and preserve what we have left is such a rewarding yet humbling experience. I couldn't be prouder of how far our Tribe has come as well as all Tribal Nations. Together we will continue making a difference."

#### Lemlmtš/Hu sukiłqukni (Thank you!)

## Summer Quiz - How Much do You Know About Mosquitoes?

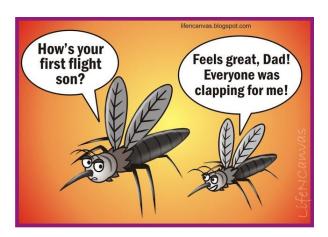
In celebration of summer, we thought it would be fun to test your mosquito knowledge, and learn some things about these pesky insects.

Enjoy the quiz and try it with your kids!

- 1. What size water container do mosquitoes need to lay their eggs?
  - a. Birdbath
  - b. Kiddie pool
  - c. Stock tank
  - d. Bottle cap

## Mosquito Quiz (continued)

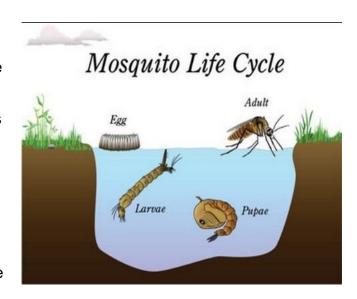
- 2. Are mosquitoes more attracted to all white or all black clothing?
- 3. (True or False) Only female mosquitoes will bite.
- 4. Which of the following are mosquitoes most attracted to?
  - a. Pregnant women
  - b. Beer drinkers
  - c. People with smelly feet
  - d. All of the above
- 5. (True or False) Mosquitoes are strong fliers.



- 6. Which is more deadly to humans: mosquitoes or snakes?
- 7. How long does it take for a mosquito to develop from an egg to an adult?
  - a. 2 days
  - b. 4-7 days
  - c. 8-12 days
  - d. 30 days
- 8. Of all the species of mosquitoes, how many can transmit disease in the U.S.?
  - a. 12
  - b. 112
  - c. 1,120
- 9. (True or False) Introducing sterile male mosquitos into an area will not affect the number of bites your receive.
- 10. Are adulticides or larvicides more toxic to humans, pets and other animals?

#### **Mosquito Quiz Answers:**

- 1. d. Bottle Cap. Mosquitoes only need about 1 inch of water to lay their eggs in, eliminating all standing water will help reduce the amount of new mosquitos.
- 2. Black. Wearing all black or dark clothing attracts mosquitos more than light/white clothing because they have limited vision and are drawn to easily identifiable colors.
- 3. True. Male mosquitoes only feed on nectar for nutrition. The females need protein from blood for making more mosquito babies and are equipped with a proboscis for sucking blood.
- 4. d. All of the above. Mosquitoes are attracted to carbon dioxide, which they can detect from 75 feet away, and women who are pregnant produce about 20% more carbon dioxide than everyone else making them easier targets. In addition, research studies have shown that people with smelly feet and/or who drink beer led to 30% more mosquito bites.
- 5. False. Mosquitoes are weak fliers; setting up an outdoor fan is a good deterrent and will make it harder for them to bite you.
- 6. Mosquitoes are the deadliest animal on our planet and by spreading diseases such as malaria, they are responsible for approximately 725,000 deaths annually.
- 7. b. A mosquito completely develops into an adult with the ability to bite in 4-7 days.
- 8. a. About 12 species of mosquitoes carry disease causing organisms. Worldwide there are 3000 species and approximately 200 species are found in the United States.
- 9. True. Since only female mosquitos bite, the use of a 'Sterile Insect Technique' will not affect the amount of bug bites, although not washing your feet might!
- 10. The use of adulticides is more harmful as they are often sprayed over large areas. Targeting larvae is more desirable because they are concentrated in a small space.



TPPC Summer 2022

## **Updates and Announcements**

#### Conferences

#### **ASPCRO Annual Conference**

The Association of Structural Pest Control Regulatory Officials (ASPCRO) will be holding their annual conference August 15-19 in Minneapolis, MN. For more information visit <a href="https://aspcro.org/meetings/#up-meeting">https://aspcro.org/meetings/#up-meeting</a>

## **Meetings**

## SFIREG Joint Working Committee Meeting

The State FIFRA Issues Research and Evaluation Group (SFIREG) Joint Working Committee will hold its semi-annual meeting on September 19-20, at a location to be determined. For more information visit <a href="https://aapco.org/2015/07/29/working-committees/">https://aapco.org/2015/07/29/working-committees/</a>

### **NASDA Annual Meeting**

The National Association of State Departments of Agriculture (NASDA) will hold their annual meeting September 26-29 in Saratoga Springs, NY. For more information visit <a href="https://www.nasda.org/event/2022-nasda-annual-meeting">https://www.nasda.org/event/2022-nasda-annual-meeting</a>

## **Full SFIREG Meeting**

SFIREG will hold it's semi-annual full meeting on December 5-6, location TBD. For more information see <a href="https://aapco.org/2015/07/30/sfireg-3/">https://aapco.org/2015/07/30/sfireg-3/</a>

## **Trainings & Courses**

#### **Risk Communication PREP**

The PREP Network will provide a course on risk communication issues on August 1-4 in Portland, OR. For more information visit <a href="https://agsci.colostate.edu/agbio/prep/courses-rc/">https://agsci.colostate.edu/agbio/prep/courses-rc/</a>

## Federal Certification Training for Private Applicators of RUPs within Indian Country

The EPA will be holding its quarterly training for private applicators of restricted use pesticides (RUPs) virtually on August 10-11. For more information visit <a href="https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-applicator-certification-indian-country/training-private-applicators-under-epa-plan">https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-applicator-certification-indian-country/training-private-applicators-under-epa-plan</a>

## Senior Executive Program Management PREP

The PREP Network will provide a course on senior executive program management on September 27-29 in Fort Collins, CO. For more information visit <a href="https://agsci.colostate.edu/agbio/prep/course-sepm/">https://agsci.colostate.edu/agbio/prep/course-sepm/</a>

#### **Enforcement PIRT**

The Office of Indiana State Chemist will host a Tribal Pesticide Inspector Residential Training (PIRT) on October 3-7 in Indianapolis, IN. For more information visit <a href="https://www.epa.gov/compliance/pesticide-inspector-residential-training-pirt">https://www.epa.gov/compliance/pesticide-inspector-residential-training-pirt</a>

## Federal Certification Training for Private Applicators of RUPs within Indian Country

The EPA will be holding its quarterly training for private applicators of restricted use pesticides (RUPs) virtually on November 9-10. For more information visit <a href="https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-applicator-certification-indian-country/training-private-applicators-under-epa-plan">https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-applicator-certification-indian-country/training-private-applicators-under-epa-plan</a>

## **TPPC Executive Committee Members**

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(Vacant) At-Large Representative

The TPPC is a member-based organization with more than 74 members and 46 Tribes and tribal organizations as of January 2022, whose activities are funded by a cooperative agreement with the EPA. The Council serves as a tribal technical resource, and provides a forum for dialogue between Tribes and the EPA on program and policy development relating to pesticides issues and concerns. Assistance provided to Tribes includes support in building tribal pesticide programs and conducting pesticide education and training, and the preparation of resources for Tribes interested in specialized issues such as Integrated Pest Management and pollinators. Through its interaction with the EPA, the TPPC keeps Tribes informed of developments in the regulation of pesticides and pesticide use, and provides feedback to the EPA on such matters from a tribal perspective (though it is important to note that communication between the EPA and the TPPC does not substitute for direct government-to-government consultation).

For information about how to join the TPPC, contact Mark Daniels at <a href="mark.daniels@nau.edu">mark.daniels@nau.edu</a> or (928) 523-8897.