MAINE BOARD OF PESTICIDES CONTROL

POLICY CONCERNING DEFINITION OF BIOLOGICAL PESTICIDE

Adopted X X, 2017

The Board listened to a concern raised by Maine Forest Service entomologists regarding the term "biological pesticide" as used in Section 5 of Chapter 29, which regulates pesticide applications for control of browntail moth adjacent to marine waters. The staff pointed out that when this rule was originally written, it contemplated that "biological pesticide" would primarily include strains of Bacillus thuringiensis and similar microbial pesticides. With the recent increase in browntail moth populations, questions have arisen about other active ingredients which are derived from organisms. Staff indicated that the term "biological pesticide" is now commonly perceived to include any single cellular biological organism or biologically derived product used to control, repel or mitigate a pest. For the purpose of clarifying the term "biological pesticide" as used specifically in Chapter 29, Section 5, the staff drafted two options that define the term, and those options were presented to the Board at the January 11, 2017 meeting for consideration.

- **1. Biological pesticide.** "Biological pesticide" includes any pesticide product with active ingredients limited to organisms and/or any biochemical derivatives from organisms.
- 2. **Biological pesticide.** "Biological pesticide" includes any microbial pesticide that contains the microorganism and byproducts normally associated with the organism.