



Resolution Regarding Concurrence with North Carolina Pesticide Board in Declaring Eastern and Hairy-tailed Moles as Pests

Whereas, the North Carolina Pesticide Board declared eastern moles (*Scolopus aquaticus*) and hairy-tailed moles (*Parascalops breweri*) as pests on May 13, 2014, and

Whereas, the North Carolina Pesticide Board has requested concurrence of the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission; and

Whereas, the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission held a public hearing on May 29, 2014 to receive comments on the request for concurrence; and

Whereas, public comments unanimously opposing concurrence expressed concerns about direct and secondary impacts of the use of pesticides to control moles on non-target species; and

Whereas, pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 113-133.1 the “Wildlife Resources Commission is charged with administering the governing statutes in a manner to serve as equitably as may be the various competing interests of the people regarding wildlife resources ...” ; and

Whereas, existing data are insufficient to clearly indicate impacts of pesticide use to control moles; and

Whereas, the North Carolina General Assembly is considering a provision that would remove Wildlife Resources Commission’s ability to restrict pesticide use in taking these important native wildlife resources;

Now, therefore, be it resolved, that the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission grants qualified concurrence of the designation of eastern and hairy-tailed moles as pests, contingent upon the following conditions:

- (a) Pesticides registered for use to control the eastern mole and the hairy-tailed mole may be used when either species is tunneling in managed turf in the following areas:
 - (1) residential;
 - (2) commercial;
 - (3) government property, excluding federal and state parks;
 - (4) golf courses, driving ranges, and golf instructional facilities;
 - (5) sod farms;
 - (6) athletic fields; or
 - (7) visitor centers and cemeteries.

- (b) Managed turf shall not include pastures.
- (c) Pesticides used to control the eastern mole and the hairy-tailed mole shall not be applied within 100 feet of natural or man-made bodies of water, including but not limited to, streams, rivers, ponds, swamps, lakes, and other wetlands.
- (d) Pesticides used to control the eastern mole and the hairy-tailed mole shall not be applied at elevations of 4,000 feet or greater.

Be it further resolved, that the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission directs agency staff to continue researching the impacts of pesticides used to control these species of moles and to initiate collaborative research to investigate the impacts of pesticides on subterranean mammals and their predators.

Be it further resolved, should it be determined that the use of any pesticide to control moles presents “an imminent hazard to the public, a non-target organism, or a segment of the environment...”, the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission may rescind this qualified concurrence pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 113-300.2, and the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission requests the North Carolina Pesticide Board to “order the summary suspension of the registration” of any such pesticide pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 143-447.

Approved, this the 10th day of July 2014, in an official meeting by the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission.



James Cogdell, Chairman



Gordon S. Myers, Executive Director