

**AGENDA FOR 2025 FALL OKVMA CONFERENCE**  
**Hard Rock Hotel & Convention Center**

**REVIEW SESSION – September 30, 2025 - Tuesday**

8:00 –11:30	Test Help / Review Session for OK Certified Pesticide Applicator Exams
11:30-1:00 lunch on your own	Offered by: Charles Luper & Kevin Shelton – OSU Extension Services
1:00 – 3:00	NO TESTING PROVIDED

**GENERAL SESSION – October 1, 2025 - Wednesday**

TIME	SPEAKERS	PRESENTATION TOPIC INFORMATION
<b>7:00 – 8:00</b>	<b>REGISTRATION - OSU Conference Services</b>	
<b>8:00 – 8:15</b>	<b>PRESIDENT’S WELCOME &amp; Nominations of New Board Members</b>	
8:15 – 9:15	<b><u>Megan Parker</u></b> Pesticide Certification & Training Administrator	<b><u>Laws &amp; Rules Update</u></b> Stay informed and compliant with the latest changes in Oklahoma’s pesticide regulations. This session provides a comprehensive overview of the 2025 updates to the Oklahoma Combined Pesticide Law and Rules, as administered by the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry(ODAFF).
<b>9:15– 9:30</b>	<b>Business Meeting, Election of New Board Member Positions, &amp; Scholarship Awards.</b>	
<b>9:30 – 10:00</b>	<b>BREAK with Exhibitors</b>	
10:00 – 11:00	<b><u>Dr. John Byrd Jr</u></b> Extension/Research Professor Plant and Soil Sciences Mississippi State	<b><u>Past, Present, and Future of Glyphosate</u></b> Because of the broad spectrum of annual and perennial weeds controlled, glyphosate (aka Roundup, etc.) has been widely used for vegetation management since the mid-1970s. This presentation covers the discovery of glyphosate as a miraculous new herbicide through Bayer’s current dilemma as the buyer of Monsanto.
<b>11:00 – 12:30</b>	<b>LUNCH PROVIDED</b>	
12:30 – 1:30	<b><u>Kevin Shelton</u></b> State Pesticide Coordinator Oklahoma State University	<b><u>Spray Equipment and Mixing Operations</u></b> This presentation will focus on spray application equipment including nozzle selection, droplet size, drift, sprayer performance and accuracy. I will also cover pump selection, cleaning agents, sprayer maintenance and basic math for calibration.
1:30 – 2:30	<b><u>Mark Bays</u></b> Oklahoma Forestry Services Urban & Community Forestry Coordinator ( Retired )	<b><u>The Survivor Tree</u></b> At the highest point on the grounds of the Oklahoma City National Memorial stands a very special tree in the hearts of the victims’ families, survivors and all those impacted by a senseless act of violence that struck the heart of Oklahoma City 30 years ago on April 19, 1995. This native American elm has come to represent hope and resilience and stands as a symbol for all to reflect upon remembering those who were killed, those who survived and those changed forever.
<b>2:30 – 3:00</b>	<b>BREAK with Exhibitors</b>	
3:00 – 4:00	<b><u>Dr. John Byrd Jr</u></b> Extension/Research Professor Plant and Soil Sciences Mississippi State	<b><u>National Issues Affecting ROW Vegetation Management</u></b> Drift, endangered species, mitigation, label standardization, are impacts that continue to create controversy toward pesticides as tools for pest management. This presentation will discuss potential impact of these for continued herbicide use as tools for vegetation management in rights of way.

**BREAKOUT SESSION – October 2, 2025 – Thursday**

8:00 – 10:00	<b><u>North American Training Solutions</u></b>	<b><u>Electrical Safety Tools and Applications for Line Clearance Tree Workers</u></b> According to OSHA electricity has long been recognized as a serious workplace hazard. For tree workers conducting operations in proximity to electrical hazards, there is specific training in electrical protective tools and techniques for workers to effectively manage risk. This talk will review electrical protective tools, techniques and applications such as detection equipment, protective equipment and devices as well as safe work practices specific to line clearance tree workers.
<b>10:00 - 10:30</b>	<b>BREAK with Exhibitors</b>	
10:30 - 11:30	<b><u>Megan Provost</u></b> RISE	<b><u>Federal and State Challenges Facing the Specialty Pesticide Industry</u></b> Join RISE (Responsible Industry for a Sound Environment), the national trade association representing manufacturers, formulators, distributors and other industry leaders in the specialty pesticide and fertilizer industry, to learn about some coming legislative, regulatory, and judicial opportunities and challenges in the specialty pesticide space, especially impacting the vegetation management segment.