



## Global Pesticide Industry Drone Task Force Submits Second GLP UASS Drift Studies to the U.S. EPA, Canadian PMRA, Australian APVMA, and United Kingdom HSE CRD

The global Unmanned Aerial Pesticide Application System Task Force, L.L.C. (UAPASTF) is pleased to announce its second data submission of Good Laboratory Practices (GLP) spray drift field trials using unmanned aerial spray systems (UASS) to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Health Canada's Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA), Australia's Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA), and the United Kingdom's Health and Safety Executive (HSE) Chemicals Regulation Division (CRD).

The UAPASTF's first-ever submission of GLP-drift data included five trials which were conducted in 2023 ([see here](#)). This latest submission represents another important milestone for the UAPASTF as it completes the initial GLP-drift package with four additional trials conducted in 2024. A non-GLP summary drift analysis, including proposed empirical regulatory drift curves and comparison of the UAPASTF curves to publicly available data, is also included in this new submission. Compared to regulatory drift curves for conventional application equipment, averaged UASS spray drift data from these studies was generally lower than aerial, higher than ground, and overlapping with airblast standard drift curves (Figure 1).

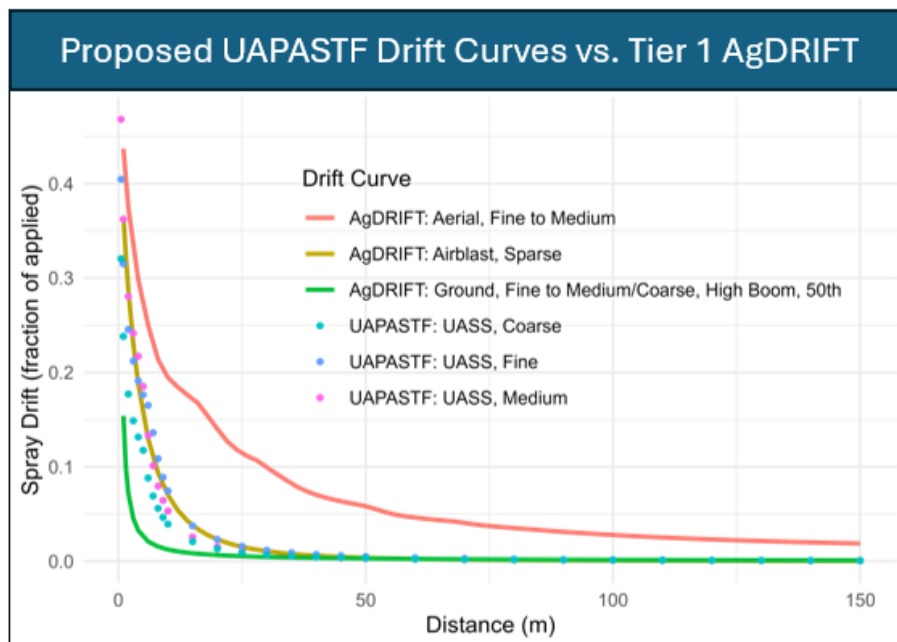


Figure 1: Aggregated and averaged 2023 & 2024 UAPASTF GLP field drift data compared to US EPA Tier 1 AgDrift Curves (Aerial, Airblast & Groundboom).



April 8, 2026

The UAPASTF, which was formed in December 2021, comprises pesticide manufacturing companies that are jointly developing data to support the use of UASS for pesticide applications globally. Now that both submissions of the 2023 and 2024 data are complete, the UAPASTF anticipates continued engagement with additional regulatory agencies and stakeholder groups over the coming months. The UAPASTF is also focused on informing estimates for non-dietary (i.e. occupational/worker) exposure and, as a first step, has conducted a 1-on-1 phone survey with 250 spray drone operators in the US. The two primary goals of the survey are to 1) collect qualitative information on job-step distribution for operators to better understand potential exposure pathways and 2) collect quantitative information for drone-related job steps which may be related to the parameters which drive current risk assessments (i.e., area treated per day, volume handled, etc). Additional work of the UAPASTF is focused on developing best practice guidance ([here](#) and [here](#)) and providing guidance for spray drift trials ([here](#)).

Emerging technologies such as UASS are being adopted at a rapid pace in agricultural and other pesticide applications worldwide. The data required to effectively regulate the use of UASS are being gathered to position these technologies relative to other conventional pesticide application technologies in agriculture. UASS must be integrated into regulatory processes as an additional option for pesticide applicators, enabling the technology to meet its full potential and deliver precision agriculture, targeted pesticide application, and sustainability goals while protecting human health and the environment.

The UAPASTF's mission is to share resources in the design, evaluation, and development of proprietary data for use in exposure estimates, regulatory drift models, risk assessments, and regulatory decisions. The UAPASTF was formed in part to respond to the [recommendations](#) of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Working Party on Pesticides (WPP) Drone/Unmanned Aerial Spray Systems Subgroup (ODSG). Because the guidance of the ODSG is critical internationally, alignment with its work is important to achieving the UAPASTF's goals, which include:

- 1) Characterizing off-site movement and spray drift potential of UASS-based applications alongside established conventional application methods (i.e., aerial or ground sprayers);
- 2) Evaluating occupational and residential exposures from use of UASS for pesticide applications; and
- 3) Characterizing crop residues from UASS-based applications alongside conventional methods.

The UAPASTF's work product is proprietary to its members, and the UAPASTF retains all rights in the data. In the future, when UAPASTF studies are relied upon by non-member applicants or registrants to satisfy pesticide regulatory requirements of any nation's regulatory authority to which the Task Force has submitted data, they must either become members of the UAPASTF or offer to pay



April 8, 2026

compensation to the UAPASTF for their reliance upon the Task Force’s data as provided under applicable law.

The UAPASTF welcomes new members to join the Task Force, given the importance and significance of the work it is doing to enhance the options for administering pesticides in a safe and efficient manner. Any pesticide applicant or registrant who desires to add UASS application methods to their own product labels is welcome to join the Task Force’s efforts. The member companies of UAPASTF will have the right on a worldwide basis to rely upon Task Force data for purposes of registering pesticides, maintaining and defending pesticide registrations, and protecting exclusive use and data compensation rights.

If a non-member applicant or registrant wishes to seek approval to add UASS application methods to any product label, it may (a) join the UAPASTF; (b) cite to the UAPASTF’s work and pay compensation to the UAPASTF for reliance on such data in accordance with FIFRA sections 3(c)(1)(F) and 3(c)(2)(B) and the analogous provisions of other nation’s rules and regulations; or (c) submit its own information that is of sufficient quality to meet regulatory requirements. Applicants and registrants should be aware that UAPASTF is developing its study program as an integrated whole. Any decision to simply cite the Task Force’s data and offer to pay compensation must extend to all related studies. In accordance with FIFRA and where applicable other nations’ rules and regulations, in the event that the UAPASTF and a non-member who wishes to cite the UAPASTF’s work are unable to reach a cost-sharing agreement, the terms and amounts of compensation shall be determined by arbitration, as provided, for example in the United States, in sections 3(c)(1)(F) and 3(c)(2)(B) of FIFRA.

Those desiring more information about the UAPASTF, including membership terms, may visit the UAPASTF website (<https://uapastf.com/>) or contact:

Alan Sachs and Harold Himmelman, UAPASTF Counsel  
Beveridge & Diamond, P.C. (202) 789-6049

Travis Bui, Chair of the UAPASTF Administrative Committee  
Corteva Agriscience (317) 431-7892

Rhonda Bichsel, UAPASTF Administrative Manager  
(660) 621-4237

<b>UAPASTF Current Membership (as of April 8, 2026)</b>		
Bayer CropScience LP	NuFarm Americas Inc	Syngenta Crop Protection LLC
Corteva Agriscience	Gharda Chemicals Intl	BASF Agricultural Solutions US, LLC
Gowan Company LLC	FMC Corporation	Valent USA LLC.