

2017-2018

Imperial County Summary of Pesticide Use, Recordkeeping, & Worker Safety Requirements

General Records That Property Operators/Growers Must Maintain:

- Restricted Materials Permit (RMP) or Operator ID form, maps, and supplements (two years)
- Pesticide use reports for all pesticides applied for two years (must include date of application, property operator, operator ID number or RMP number, site ID, crop, acres, pesticides applied-including the EPA or CA State Registration number, completion date and time, time to reentry), and records must be filed by site/field if applied by a commercial applicator.
- Method used by PCB to notify grower of application, completions, & completion notices.
- Any records required for employees handling pesticides, including pesticide use records with employee name and date of use for any employee handling DANGER or WARNING organophosphate/carbamate (3 years).
- Pesticide Safety Information Series (PSIS) if you have employees handling pesticides or entering treated fields.
- Safety Data Sheets (SDS) for all pesticides applied to your property

Records That Property Operator/Growers Must Submit:

- Notice of Intent & Recommendation - 24 hours prior to the application of California restricted materials.
- Pesticide use reports for the grower application of any pesticide by the 10th of the month following the application. Two forms: one for crops and one for non-crops (i.e. ditch banks, right-of-ways, etc.).

Field Worker Safety Requirements (any employee entering a "treated" field):

- Employer shall not permit anyone under the age of 18 to handle any pesticide.
- Complete and central location display of Safety Series A-9 (Hazard Communication) at work site.
- Display application specific information at a central location with unimpeded access during hours of fieldworker operation (site ID, acreage, date & time application is completed, reentry interval, pesticide/adjuvant and active ingredient, CA and EPA Registration numbers, and SDS).
- Field worker training - ensure that all employees working in a treated field have been trained within the last year.
- Plan for emergency medical care in advance.
- Immediately take all ill persons to a physician.
- Provide field worker decontamination facilities within ¼ mile of workers - soap, water (at least one gallon per employee), and clean towels.
- Comply with pesticide re-entry intervals (REI)/or early entry requirements.
- Comply with pesticide warning and posting requirements. Posting is now required for all products whose REI exceeds 48 hours.
- Comply with Application Exclusion Zone – Do not allow any person, other than the handler(s), to enter or remain in the treatment area during an application. Treatment area extends 100 feet from the application equipment for aerial, airblast, fumigation, or ground (fine spray); 25 feet for ground (medium spray) greater than 12 inches from the soil. Heat-related illness prevention, recognition, and first aid training in accordance with Title 8 CCR section 3395.

Beekeeper Notification Requirements for Grower Applied Pesticides Toxic to Bees:

- Must notify beekeepers participating in this program 48 hours prior to applying toxic pesticides to blooming crops when bees are within one mile regardless of the time of application.
- Follow specific pesticide label requirements for bees and bloom in all cases.

Training Requirements (training must be provided annually):

- Employees must be trained before working with pesticides and for each type of pesticide they handle.
- Written training records kept for each employee (retained for two years), signed by employee and certified trainer.
- Certified Trainer – must be qualified by: Train the trainer, PAC, QAL, QAC, PCA, Farm Advisor or other approved by Dir.
- Completed and centrally displayed Safety Series A-8 (Hazard Communication)
- Written training program for handler employees. Training records must specifically address:
(Note that most of these topics are covered by the Pesticide Safety Information Series)
 - Format and meaning of information contained in pesticide product labeling.

- Hazards of pesticides as identified in product labeling, SDS, or PSIS.
- Routes pesticides can enter the body.
- Signs and symptoms of overexposure.
- Emergency first aid for pesticide overexposure.
- How to obtain emergency medical care.
- Routine and emergency decontamination procedures.
- Need for limitations, appropriate use, and sanitation of personal protective equipment.
- Prevention, recognition, and first aid for heat related illness.
- Safety requirements and procedures for handling, transporting, storing, and disposing of pesticides.
- Environmental concerns such as drift, runoff, and wildlife hazards.
- Warnings about taking pesticides or containers home.
- Requirements of the California Code of Regulations pertaining to pest control operations and environmental protection in relation to pesticide safety, SDS, and PSIS.
- The purposes and requirements for medical supervision, and documentation, if they fall into that category.
- The location of the written hazard communication information for employees handling pesticides (PSIS A-8), other PSIS, and SDS.
- Heat-related illness prevention, recognition, and first aid training in accordance with 8CCR section 3395.

Written Respirator Protection Program – (keep records for 3 years)

- Know if respirators are required by reading the pesticides labels for the products you plan to use.
- When respirators are required, you must provide medical evaluation, fit testing, a written training program, annual respiratory protection training, annual pesticide program evaluation, and recordkeeping for these documents.

Medical Care and Medical Monitoring Requirements – (keep records for 3 years)

- Plan in advance for emergency medical care for all employees using pesticides & post this information at the work site (pickup, field).
- When handling any organophosphate or N-methyl carbamate pesticide labeled DANGER or WARNING, maintain use records for each employee which show the pesticide(s) used and date of each use.
- When an employee will work with organophosphates or N-methyl carbamates labeled DANGER or WARNING for more than six days in any 30 day period:
 - Employer must obtain medical supervision for employee & comply with Doctor's Letter, which outlines the program and frequency of testing. A copy of the medical supervision letter must be given to the Ag Commissioner's Office.
 - Employees must have cholinesterase baseline tests BEFORE they begin work, and must be retested at intervals based on 3CCR regulations & doctor's recommendation in the medical supervision letter.
 - All medical records and test results shall be kept on file by the employer.

Protective Clothing, Safety Equipment, and Other Handler PPE Requirements:

- PPE must be provided and maintained by the employer. PPE cannot be taken home by employees.
- A clean, long-sleeved shirt and long pants, or coveralls may be worn when handling CAUTION materials with a closed system. Clean coveralls are required when using DANGER or WARNING materials and where required by label.
- Eye protection & rubber gloves are required for all mixing and loading, when using hand-held spray equipment, and when cleaning equipment. (CA law; may not be mandated on pesticide labels)
- Whenever protective eyewear is required, and the label does not identify a specific type, one of the following must be worn: 1. Safety glasses that provide front, brow, and temple protection, 2. Goggles, 3. Face shield, 4. A respirator with a full-face mask approved by NIOSH.
- Gloves – 3CCR section 6738.3 specifies various categories of glove materials. If the label specifies a category, the gloves must correspond to the proper material. All gloves must be 14 mils or thicker except barrier laminate and polyethylene materials.
- Pesticide labels may also require a respirator, chemical resistant boots, apron, or specific clothing under coveralls.
- A closed system must be provided to and used by employees for mixing & loading of pesticides when required by label Tier 1 closed system – “Fatal if absorbed through skin”. Tier 2 closed system – “May be fatal if absorbed through skin”

- When eye protection is required by the label, the handler must have one pint of clean water available for emergency eye wash and the mix/load site must have at least 6 gallons of water available in a manner capable of delivering gently running water for at least 15 minutes.
- Whenever an employee is using any pesticide - soap, water, and single use towels must be available for washing at the work site, in addition to an extra pair of clean coveralls to change into.
- When an employee works with any pesticide for production agriculture or research use, a change area must be available where the employee can change and wash at the end of the day.
- Maintain contact with employees working alone with pesticides labeled DANGER every two hours in daytime; every one hour at night.

Minimal Exposure Pesticides - Buctril, Metasystox-R, Omite, Comite:

- Must comply with Minimal Exposure Pesticide Safety User Requirements - 3CCR 6793.
- Employer should have a copy of Pesticide Safety Information Series A-6 Minimal Exposure Pesticides available and ensure that employees handling these pesticides are in compliance with it.

I have received a copy of these requirements and understand that the California Food and Agricultural Code establishes that violations of pesticide use and worker safety requirements are subject to civil penalties of up to \$5,000 per violation.