

PEST CONTROL EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS

Excerpts from California Code of Regulations, Title 3:

6600. General Standards of Care.

Each person performing pest control shall:

- (a) Use only pest control equipment which is in good repair and safe to operate.
- (c) Use only methods and equipment suitable to insure proper application of pesticides.

6606. Uniform Mixture.

A uniform mixture shall be maintained in both application and service rigs.

6608. Equipment Cleaning.

Pest control equipment shall be thoroughly cleaned when necessary to prevent illness or damage to persons, plants or animals from residues of pesticides previously used in the equipment.

6610. Backflow Prevention.

Each service rig and piece of application equipment that handles pesticides and draws water from an outside source shall be equipped with an air-gap separation, reduced pressure principle backflow prevention device or double check valve assembly. Backflow protection must be acceptable to both the water purveyor and the local health department.

6630. Equipment Identification.

Each person engaged for hire in the business of pest control shall keep each ground rig, service rig, and similar equipment used for mixing or applying pesticides conspicuously and legibly marked with either the business' name, or with "Licensed Pest Control Operator", "Fumigation Division", "Licensed Fumigator", or substantially similar wording and the pest control operator license number of the person or firm. The markings shall be large enough to be readable at a distance of 25 feet.

6678. Service Container Labeling.

Service containers, other than those used by a person engaged in the business of farming when the containers are used on the property the person is farming, shall be labeled with:

- (a) the name and address of the person or firm responsible for the container;
- (b) the identity of the economic poison in the container; and
- (c) the word "Danger", "Warning", or "Caution" in accordance with the label on the original container.

6682. Transportation.

(a) Pesticides shall not be transported in the same compartment with persons, food or feed.

(b) Pesticide containers shall be secured to vehicles during transportation in a manner that will prevent spillage onto the vehicle or off the vehicle. Paper, cardboard, and similar containers shall be covered when necessary to protect them from moisture.

6742. Safe Equipment.

(a) Equipment used for mixing, loading, or applying pesticides shall be kept in good repair

and shall be safe to operate. The Director or commissioner may inspect, at any reasonable time, equipment used in mixing, loading, and application of pesticides. Equipment with any safety defect shall be repaired or altered to remove the hazard before further use.

(b)(1) All openings on tanks used for mixing or applying pesticides shall be equipped with covers that will prevent splashes and spills.

(2) Flexible hoses carrying liquid pesticides in toxicity categories one or two under pressure shall not pass unshielded through the cockpit of an airplane or helicopter.

(3) Shut-off devices shall be installed on the exit end of all hoses carrying liquid pesticides in toxicity categories one or two from mixing tanks that are adequate to prevent splashes onto the employee doing the loading when filling operations are stopped and the filler hose is removed from the inlet to the tank of the application vehicle. As an alternative, a reversing action pump, or similar system, may be used that will empty the hose and eliminate dripping of liquid from the end of the hose when the filling operation is stopped.

(4) Each tank, with a capacity of more than 49 gallons, that is used to mix or apply any liquid mixture derived from a pesticide in toxicity categories one or two, shall have either:

(A) A properly functioning means to indicate externally the internal liquid level in the tank such as a sight gauge; or

(B) The tank or the filler hose nozzle shall have a device that will automatically stop the filling operation before the pesticide liquid mixture spills over the top.

6744. Equipment Maintenance.

Persons who own or operate pesticide mixing, loading, or application equipment shall inform each employee under their control who may be involved in the cleaning, servicing or repair of that equipment of the hazards of the pesticides that a person may encounter and the methods of protecting against personal injury.

If such cleaning, servicing or repairing is to be performed by persons not under the control of the owner or operator of the equipment, he/she shall so notify the person in charge of performing these services.

Employees who clean, service, or repair mixing and application equipment shall be provided with any necessary protective equipment or clothing by their employer, and shall be instructed and supervised in the maintenance operation in a manner that will reduce work hazards.

6746. Closed Systems.

(a) Employers shall provide closed systems for employees that mix or load liquid pesticides in toxicity category one, or load diluted liquid mixes derived from dry pesticides in toxicity category one, for the production of an agricultural commodity.

No employee shall be permitted to transfer, mix, or load these pesticides except through a closed system.

The system's design and construction shall meet the Director's closed-system criteria.

(b) The requirements of the Section ~~do not apply~~ to: (1) Employees who handle a total of one gallon or less of pesticides in toxicity category one per day exclusively in original containers of one gallon or less; or (2) Regulatory personnel collecting samples of pesticides according to official sampling procedures.