

# 2017 Fieldworker Training



Department of  
Agriculture/Weights and  
Measures  
County of San Diego

Pesticide Regulation Program

# Summary

- Who is considered a Fieldworker?
- What is a treated field?
- What is a pesticide?
- Restricted Entry Interval (REI)
- Training Requirements
- Hazard Communication/Fieldworker Rights
- Application Specific Information
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- Field posting
- Fieldwork during a pesticide application
- Early Entry Fieldworker
- How can I protect myself from pesticides?
- Heat-related Illnesses
- Community help resources

# Who is considered a Fieldworker?



- ▶ Any person who, for any kind of compensation, performs cultural activities in a field such as harvesting, pruning, irrigating, fertilizing, transplanting, etc.

# What is a treated field?

- ▶ A field that has been treated with a pesticide or had a restricted entry interval (REI) period in effect within the last 30 days





# What is a pesticide?

- ▶ (a) Any spray adjuvant
- ▶ (b) Any substance, or mixture of substances which is intended to be used for defoliating plants, regulating plant growth, or for preventing, destroying, repelling, or mitigating any pest, which may infest or be detrimental to vegetation, man, animals, or households, or be present in any agricultural or nonagricultural environment whatsoever



# Restricted Entry Interval (REI)

- ▶ Period of time after a field is treated with a pesticide during which entry is restricted
- ▶ REI in effect to protect persons from exposure to hazardous levels of residues
- ▶ Pesticide label identifies the REI

(Ex. 4 hrs, 12 hrs, 24 hrs., etc.)



# Training Requirements

- ▶ Before beginning work in treated fields
- ▶ Required annually
- ▶ In a manner the employee understands
- ▶ Qualified trainer
- ▶ Documents/records kept for 2 years





# Hazard Communication/Fieldworker Rights

- ▶ Completed A-9 displayed at the worksite
- ▶ Access to pesticide use reports
- ▶ Access to Safety Data Sheets (SDS)

**PESTICIDE SAFETY**   
Information

CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY **A No. 9**

## Pesticide Safety Rules For Farmworkers

**The pesticide label, your training, and this leaflet, tell you about pesticide dangers at work.** Your employer must know and help you learn about the pesticides used where you work, and how to protect yourself. Pesticides are chemicals that are used to control unwanted insects, weeds, and plant diseases.

**EMPLOYERS:** This is the hazard communication leaflet for fieldworkers. Fill in the blank lines in this leaflet and display this handout where employees work in treated fields.

**FERTILIZERS ARE NOT PESTICIDES.**

**What training do I need?**  
You must be trained before working in fields where pesticides have been used recently. You must be trained every five years after that.

**What does my training cover?**  
You must be told about:

- 1. Health effects**
  - How pesticides can injure you or make you sick.
  - How you may feel or look if you get pesticides in or on you.
  - Ways pesticides can enter your body.
- 2. Pesticide safety**
  - The places at your work where you might get pesticides in or on you.
  - First aid information and where to get emergency medical care.
  - Job safety information.



**SAFETY TIP**  
**9**  
**TAKE A BATH OR SHOWER**  
and use soap after  
working in fields to  
wash off any  
pesticides

CA Department of Pesticide Regulation • 1001 I Street, Sacramento CA 95814

PSIS A No. 9 (HS-1587) A9 • 1



# Hazard Communication/Fieldworker Rights

- ▶ Report unsafe conditions without being punished or fired.
- ▶ Your employer is required to take you to the doctor if you get sick or hurt from pesticides at work.
- ▶ File for worker's compensation for work-related injury or illness



# Application Specific Information

- ▶ Treated Area
- ▶ Date/Time
- ▶ REI
- ▶ Name of the product
- ▶ Active ingredients
- ▶ EPA registration number

[illegible]

# Emergency Medical Care

- ▶ Shall be planned for in advance
- ▶ Be informed about the facility name and location
- ▶ Procedures to be followed to obtain emergency medical care
- ▶ If injured or exposed, the employee shall be taken to a physician immediately



PALOMAR  
MEDICAL  
CENTER



POMERADO  
HOSPITAL



# Decontamination Facilities

- ▶ Water

(1 gallon for each worker and 3 gallons for each early entry worker at beginning of work period)



- ▶ Soap

- ▶ Single use towels

- ▶ Not more than 1/4 mile from the fieldworkers (or at the nearest point of vehicular access).





# Field Posting

- ▶ **Outdoor applications:** post warning sign when REI is more than 48 hours, or if label indicates
- ▶ ***Enclosed space\**** applications (including greenhouses): post warning signs when REI is more than 4 hours, or if label indicates
- ▶ **\*** "Enclosed space" means a space enclosed, entirely or in part, with a nonporous covering of sufficient size to permit entry, and is used in the commercial or research production of an agricultural plant commodity. This includes greenhouses, polyhouses, mushroom houses, hoop houses, and similar structures.

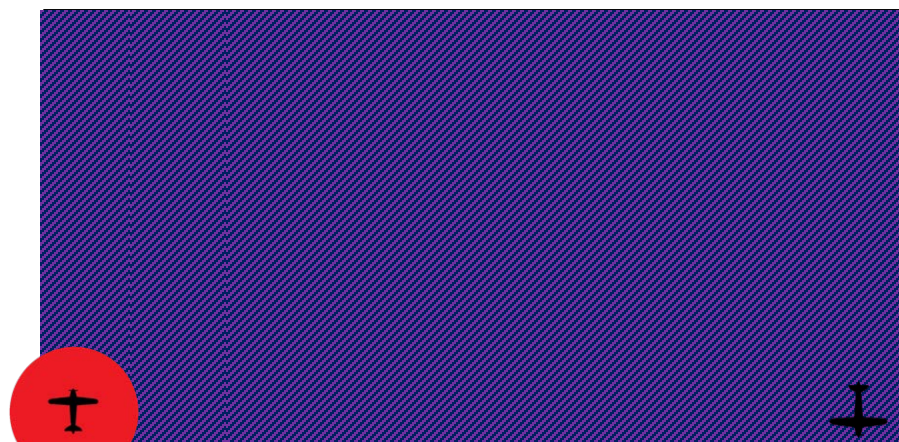


# Fieldwork during Pesticide Application

- ▶ Do not enter or remain in the area during an application
- ▶ Only the trained and equipped applicator can stay in the area



# Application Exclusion Zone (AEZ)



When the application is concluded, the AEZ no longer exists.



Field



AEZ



Treated  
Area

# Application Exclusion Zone (AEZ)

- ▶ If the pesticide is applied outdoor
  - a) AEZ 100 ft -aerial, air blast, fine spray applications
  - b) AEZ 25 ft - application height > 12 inches and at least a medium spray
  
- ▶ If the pesticide is applied in enclosed space
  - a) AEZ entire enclosed space plus non-sealed area, for space treatments (fumigant, fog, aerosol, mist) or if label requires respirator
  - b) AEZ entire enclosed space during fine spray applications
  - c) AEZ treatment site plus 25 ft when pesticide is applied as medium or larger spray from a height > 12 inches

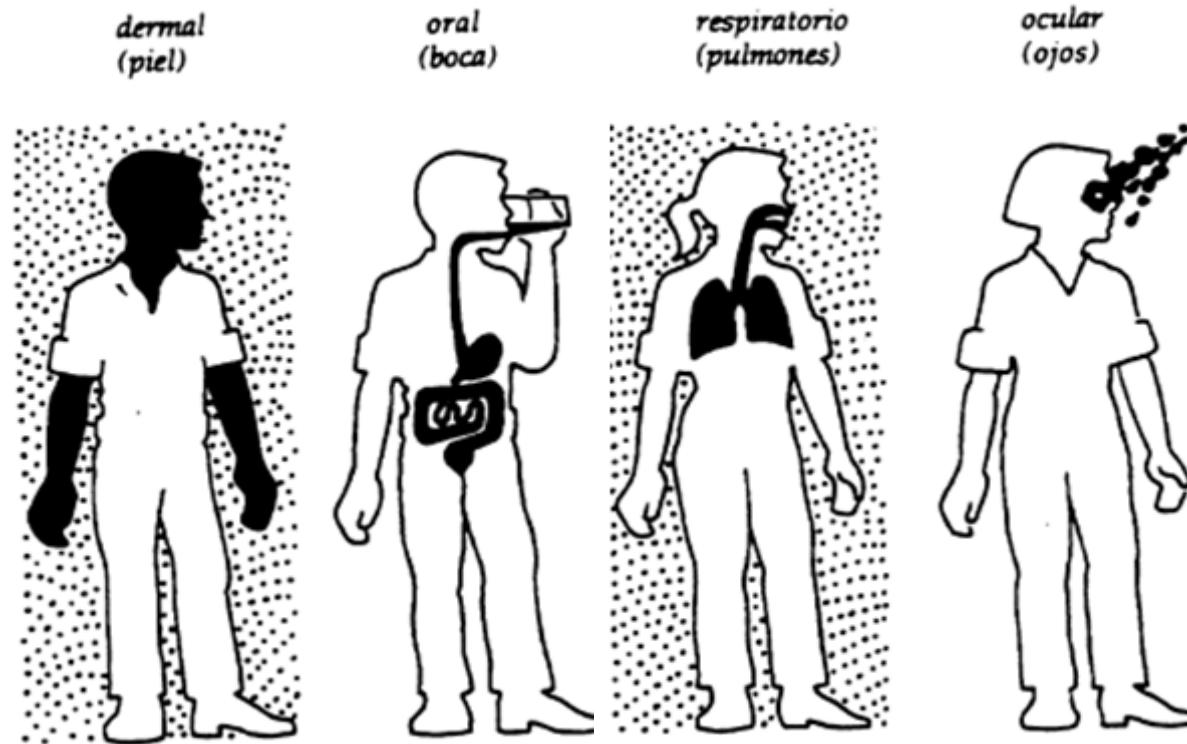


# Field Entry during an REI

- ▶ REI does not require double notification
- ▶ At least 4 hours have elapsed
- ▶ Exposure is minimal
- ▶ Use the PPE established on the label
- ▶ Do not work more than 8 hours per day
- ▶ They are informed of this exception
- ▶ Early entry workers must be at least 18 years old

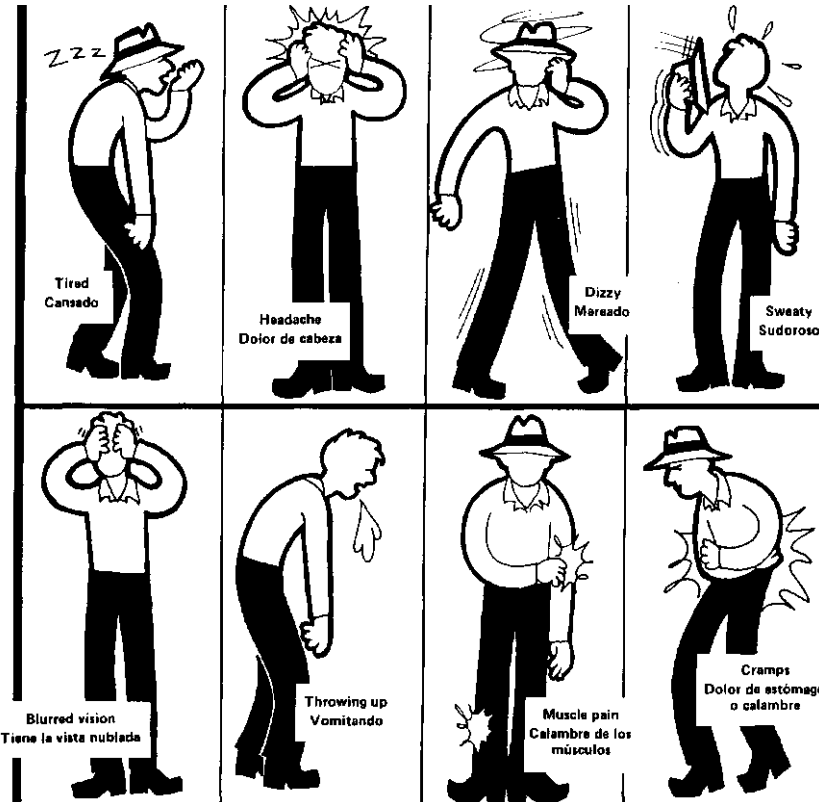


# Routes of Pesticide Exposure



# Symptoms of Pesticide Exposure

- ▶ Headache
- ▶ Dizziness
- ▶ Vomiting
- ▶ Tiredness
- ▶ Fever
- ▶ Sweating
- ▶ Muscle cramps
- ▶ Hives
- ▶ Rash
- ▶ Drooling/Salivation
- ▶ Difficulty breathing



# Examples of Pesticide Exposures





# Minimizing Pesticide Exposure

- ▶ Wear clothing that covers your skin.
  - ▶ Long-sleeved shirt
  - ▶ Long pants
  - ▶ Shoes and Socks
  - ▶ Hat or Cap



# How can I protect myself from pesticides?

- Wash your hands before eating, drinking, smoking, chewing gum, or going to the bathroom



## Wash Your Hands



# How can I protect myself from pesticides?

- ▶ Do not allow pesticide residues to get on your skin.
- ▶ Avoid contact when working to minimize exposure risk





# How can I protect myself from pesticides?

- At the end of your work day, take a bath/shower, wear clean clothing and wash work clothes separate from the rest of the family





# How can I protect myself from pesticides?

- ▶ Keep pesticides and other chemicals for use in the home, out of reach of children and preferably under lock and key
- ▶ Read the label completely:
  - ▶ Before you buy it
  - ▶ Each time you use it
  - ▶ To mix or apply it
  - ▶ When you store it
  - ▶ When discarding it



# First Aid for Pesticide Illness/Injury

- ▶ Safely get the person away from the pesticides if you can without hurting yourself
- ▶ If you are feeling sick from pesticides stop work and leave the area immediately
- ▶ If you get pesticides in your eyes rinse your eyes for 15 minutes while blinking
  - ▶ Do not force anybody's eyes open
- ▶ Ask for help immediately. Call 911 and notify your employer/supervisor
- ▶ If person is not breathing, practice cardio-pulmonary respiration (CPR) if you are trained to give it
- ▶ Tell emergency responders about the pesticide that may be involved



# How can I protect myself from pesticides?

- ▶ Never put or keep a pesticide in bottles or other containers commonly used for food or drinks
- ▶ Never take pesticides or their containers home even after rinsing them





# How Can I Protect Myself from Pesticides?

- Containers prohibited to store or keep pesticides pose a serious risk to health





# Symptoms of Heat-Related Illnesses

## ▶ Heat Exhaustion

- ▶ Headaches
- ▶ Dizziness or fainting
- ▶ Weakness
- ▶ Wet skin
- ▶ Irritability
- ▶ Thirst
- ▶ Nausea or vomiting

## ▶ Heat Stroke

- ▶ Confusion
- ▶ Unable to think clearly
- ▶ Pass out or collapse
- ▶ Seizures
- ▶ Stop sweating

- ▶ \*If you experience fainting, vomiting, or confusion you need help fast.

# Heat-Related Illness Prevention

- ▶ WATER- Stay hydrated and drink water often
  - ▶ Access to drinking water (1/4 gal/hr/shift)
- ▶ REST
- ▶ SHADE- Must be available if the temperature exceeds 80°F
  - ▶ Access to shade allowed all the time
- ▶ Wear comfortable clothing that will protect you



# Heat-Related Illness

- ▶ If the temperature is equal or greater than 95 °F
  - ▶ Be alert to signs and/or symptoms of heat illness
  - ▶ Remember to drink more water and more often
  - ▶ Designate a person to call in case of an emergency
  - ▶ Min. of 10 minute break every 2 hrs for “cool down”



# Heat-Related Illness

- ▶ Employees and supervisors must be trained before starting work
- ▶ Report heat illness symptoms early
- ▶ Know first aid and emergency response





# Heat-Related Illness

- ▶ In case of emergency, call 911 and notify your employer or supervisor
- ▶ Help the person move to a cool place to rest
- ▶ Provide water as long as the person is conscious and not vomiting
- ▶ Help cool the person (Ex. cold compress, fans, ice packs, etc.)
- ▶ If person is not breathing, practice the cardi-pulmonary respiration (CPR) if you are trained to give it



# Community Help Resources

## Vista Community Clinic

1000 Vale Terrace

Vista, CA 92084

(760) 631-5000

## Escondido Community Center

641 E. Pennsylvania Ave.

Escondido, CA 92026

(760) 737-7896

## North County Health Services

150 Valpreda Rd.

San Marcos, CA 92069

(760) 736-6767



# Improve Your Work Conditions and Report Illness/Injuries Caused by Pesticides



- ▶ Call 911 to report an emergency
- ▶ Call the California Poison Control system, 24 hours a day, at 1 (800) 222-1222 for tips and references for health care providers.
- ▶ Call the Agricultural Commissioner 1 (877) 378-5463 to report unsafe conditions due to pesticides, or if you experienced a pesticide related illness or injury. Your call will be confidential and you can report anonymously.



# Reporting Illness Caused by Pesticides

- ▶ If you experience a pesticide related injury or illness on the job, your employer must take you to the doctor.
- ▶ For more information, please contact your County's agricultural Commissioner, an office of legal services, such as Rural Legal assistance of California (CRLA) 1 (800) 677-5221, or your Union.
- ▶ Although you receive medical care in Mexico, it is important that you report your pesticide related illness/injuries in California.
- ▶ Your health and that of other agricultural workers depends on you to report your pesticide illness or injury.





# Department of Agriculture/Weights and Measures County of San Diego



Pesticide Regulation Program  
(858) 694-8980

Spanish Hotline  
1-(877) 784-6426