

## **Worker Protection Requirements: Effective January 2, 2017**

1. Employees must have proper training if they will be working with/around pesticides. The training must be in a manner and language that the workers can understand. New employees must be trained before handling/working around pesticides.
  - **Handlers and Fieldworkers:**
    - a. Must be trained every year.

The person conducting the training for employees who will be handling pesticides must be qualified. Training must be provided in an area reasonably free from distraction and the trainer(s) must be present throughout the entire presentation. “Handlers” include regular employees as well as contract workers.
    - b. Employers must use a written training program.

For both employees handling pesticides and/or fieldworkers, a training record must include employee’s printed name and signature; the title(s) and source(s) of the training materials used; employer’s name; and trainer’s name and qualifications; the date of the training; plus the job to be assigned. This record shall be retained by the employer for two years at a central location at the workplace accessible to employees.
    - c. Trainings must cover for each pesticide or chemically similar group of pesticides to be used:
      - Pesticide label(s) location, format, meaning, and requirements
      - Safety Data Sheet(s) location, format, and meaning
      - PSIS leaflet location, format, meaning, and requirements
      - Routes by which 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, any required 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 pesticide containers home
      - Employee's rights
    - d. In any workplace where respirators are required by label, permit condition, regulation, or employer, the employer shall establish and maintain a written respiratory protection program with work site-specific procedures.
2. **“Treated Field”** is the Restricted Entry Interval (REI) of recent pesticide(s) applied plus 30 days  
If employees are working in a field during the Treated Field time period they’re considered Fieldworkers.
3. Employer must maintain at a central location with unimpeded access to Fieldworker and/or Handler employees during normal work hours:
  - An **A8** (for Handlers) and/or **A9** (for Fieldworkers) must be filled out and posted at the worksite and all permanent decontamination facilities and all decontamination facilities servicing 11 or more employees
  - Pesticide use records for the last two years
  - Safety Data Sheet (SDS) information for all pesticides used in the last two years

- If Fieldworkers do not meet at a central location every day before starting work then the A-9 must be at each field site and filled out with a good description of where the application specific information is located

4. **Decontamination site for Handlers or Fieldworkers:**

- **Handlers:** Must be at the pesticide Mixing/Loading site (if mix/load site is within the treated field decontamination supplies must be in an enclosed container) and not more than 1/4 mile (or at the nearest point of vehicular access) from other handlers.
- **Fieldworkers:** Must be within a 1/4 mile of the treated field, but not within the treated field. Employees must be notified of the location of the decontamination site prior to working in a treated field.
- **Must** have the following in quantities sufficient for the routine washing of hands, face, for emergency eye flushing, and for washing of the entire body available:
  - a. Potable water (of a quality and temperature that will not cause illness or injury when it contacts the skin or eyes or if it is swallowed, stored separate from that used for pesticide mixing- unless the tank is equipped with appropriate valves to prevent back flow) in a quantity of at least 3 gallons per handler (or early entry employee) at the beginning of each handler's work day. Fieldworkers require at least 1 gallon of water per employee at the beginning of the fieldworker's work day.
  - b. Single use towels
  - c. Soap (hand sanitizing gels, liquids, and/or wet towelettes do not meet single use towel and soap standards)
  - d. One clean change of coveralls must be available at each decontamination site for handlers
- **Must** have one pint of water for emergency eye flushing must be immediately available (carried by the handler or on the vehicle or aircraft the handler is using) to each employee handling pesticides if the pesticide product labeling requires protective eyewear.
- If the product labeling requires protective eyewear or a closed system, all mix/loaders must have access to gently running water at a rate of 0.4 gallons/minute for at least 15 minutes, or have access to at least 6 gallons of water in containers suitable for providing a gentle eye flush for about 15 minutes.

5. **Application specific information** must be displayed at a central location for handlers, fieldworkers, and contracted labor and shall include:

- 1) Crop or site treated and identification of the treated area;
- 2) Dates and times the application started and ended;
- 3) Restricted entry interval;
- 4) Product name, U.S. EPA reg. number and active ingredients; and
- 5) Copy of the Safety Data Sheet(s) for the applied pesticide(s)
- 6) Spray adjuvant name and California registration number if applicable

This information must be displayed within 24 hours of the completion of an application and include all applications that have been made to any treated field on the agricultural establishment within 1/4 mile of where employees will be working. The information must remain displayed until the area no longer meets the definition of a treated field. Application specific information must be retained for two years.

6. **Application Exclusion Zones:** Field work during pesticide application requires that no employer shall allow any person, other than the person making the application, to enter an Application Exclusion Zone when pesticides are applied in an outdoor setting. Application Exclusion Zones are as follows:

- An area extending 100 feet horizontally from the application equipment in all directions during application when the pesticide's applied by air-blast sprayer, aerially, or as a fine spray, fumigant, smoke, mist, or fog.
- An area extending 25 feet horizontally from the application equipment in all directions during application when the pesticide's applied in a manner other than the methods listed in the previous bullet point and is sprayed at a height greater than 12 inches from the soil using at least a medium spray. There's no application exclusion zone if the pesticide is applied less than 12 inches from the soil using at least a medium spray.