

Office of the Agricultural Commissioner

Imperial County Summary of Production Agriculture Regulations Effective July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023

Records That Property Operators/Growers Must Maintain (3CCR 6618, 6619, 6623-6627, 6723, 6723.1, 6724,

6728, and 6739, 6761.1, 6764):

- 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 the 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.
- 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 (3CCR 6624, 6626, and 6627):

- Notice of Intent 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.). "Pesticides" include all substances/materials intended to control, destroy, repel, or mitigate a pest and adjuvants. This definition includes glyphosate and organic materials, and all such use must also be reported.

Field Worker Safety Requirements (any employee entering a "treated" field) (3CCR 6618, 6761-6776)

- Property operators must have a method of informing employees or other contractors who may be entering a field or working within a ¼ mile of a field of ongoing applications or active restricted entry intervals (REI).
- Complete and central location display of PSIS 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 and time application is completed, reentry interval, pesticide/adjuvant, and active ingredient, CA and EPA Registration numbers, and SDS).
- Do not allow any person, other than the applicator(s), to enter or remain in a treated area during an application.
- Fieldworker training ensure that all employees working in a treated field have been trained within the last year. Training requirements of 6764 have recently changed, and training material must be updated.
- Plan for emergency medical care in advance and post the location of emergency medical facilities at the work location. Immediately take all ill persons to a physician.
- Provide field worker decontamination facilities within a ¼ mile of workers soap, water (at least one gallon per employee), and single use towels.
- Comply with pesticide REI/or early entry requirements.
- Comply with pesticide warning and posting requirements as specified on the label and in 3CCR 6776. Posting is required for all products whose REI exceeds 48 hours.

Training Requirements for Handlers (training must be provided annually) (3CCR 6724):

- 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 2 years), signed by the employee and certified trainer.
- Certified Trainer must be qualified by Train the trainer, PAC, QAL, QAC, PCA, Farm Advisor, or other approved by Dir.





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- Completed and centrally displayed PSIS A-8 (Hazard Communication)
- Written training program for handler employees. Training records must specifically address: (Note that the PSIS covers most of these topics)
 - o Format and meaning of information contained in pesticide product labeling.
 - Applicator's responsibility to protect persons, animals, and property.
 - Need for limitations, appropriate use, and sanitation of personal protective equipment.
 - Safety requirements and procedures for handling, transporting, storing, and disposing of pesticides.
 - Where and in what form pesticides may be encountered (treated surfaces, residues on clothing/PPE/ application equipment, and drift)
 - Hazards of pesticides as identified in product labeling, SDS, or PSIS.
 - Routes pesticides can enter the body.
 - Signs and symptoms of overexposure.
 - Routine decontamination procedures. (1. Hand washing before eating, drinking, using the restroom, etc. 2. Shower with soap and water. 3. Changing into clean clothes. 4. Washing clothes separately from other laundry)
 - o SDS contains information on hazards, emergency medical treatment, and other information
 - The location of the written hazard communication information for employees handling pesticides (PSIS A-8), other PSIS, and SDS.
 - The purposes and requirements for medical supervision, and documentation, if they fall into that category.
 - Emergency first aid and decontamination, including eye flushing for pesticide exposure.
 - How and when to obtain emergency medical care.
 - Heat-related illness prevention, recognition, and first aid training in accordance with 8CCR section 3395.
 - Requirements of the California Code of Regulations pertaining to pest control operations and environmental protection concerning pesticide safety, SDS, and PSIS.
 - Handlers must be 18 years old
 - o Environmental concerns such as drift, runoff, and wildlife hazards.
 - Field posting requirements and REIs
 - Employees should not take pesticides or containers home.
 - Potential hazards to children and pregnant women. Handlers should decontaminate prior to coming into contact with family members.
 - How to report pesticide use violations
 - Employee rights (receive information about pesticides to which they may have been exposed, that a doctor or other representative is also entitled to this information, the illegality of employer retaliation for pesticide complaints and that they should report suspected violations to the Ag. Commissioner.

Written Respiratory Protection Program – (keep records for 3 years) (3CCR 6739):

- Know if respirators are required by reading the labels of the pesticides 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.



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Medical Care and Medical Monitoring Requirements – (keep records for 3 years) (3CCR 6726 and 6728):

- Plan for emergency medical care for all employees using pesticides and <u>post</u> this information at the <u>worksite</u> (pickup, field). You must follow this plan and take staff for medical evaluation in the event of exposure or illness.
- When handling <u>any</u> organophosphate or N-methyl carbamate pesticide labeled DANGER or WARNING, maintain use records for <u>each employee</u>, which show the pesticide(s) used and date of each use.
- When an employee works with organophosphates or N-methyl carbamates labeled DANGER or WARNING for more than six days within any 30 days:
 - Employers must obtain medical supervision for employees and comply with the Doctor's Letter, which outlines the program and frequency of testing. A current 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 6728 regulations and 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 (3CCR 6730-6738.4 and 6746):

- Whenever an employee is using any pesticide soap, water (3 gallons per handler), and single use towels must be available for washing at the worksite, in addition to an extra pair of clean coveralls to change into.
- When the label requires eye protection, the handler must have one pint of clean water available for emergency eyewash (in the cab of the application equipment), 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.
- PPE must be provided and maintained by the employer. Employees cannot take PPE home. The employer must also ensure the proper use and storage of PPE.
- Eye protection and rubber gloves are required for all mixing and loading, when using hand or ground spray equipment, and when cleaning or repairing 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 ANSI Z87 compliant items <u>must</u> be worn: 1. Safety glasses that provide front, brow, and temple protection, 2. Goggles, 3. Face shield, or a respirator with a full-face mask approved by NIOSH.
- Gloves 3CCR 6738.3 specifies various categories of glove materials. If the label specifies a category, the gloves must correspond. 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, head covering, or specific clothing under coveralls.
- A clean, long-sleeved shirt and long pants or coveralls may be worn instead of label required PPE when handling CAUTION materials with a closed system. Coveralls and apron may be used when handling DANGER or WARNING materials instead of labels required PPE.
- A closed system must be used by employees for mixing and loading of pesticides when required by label or by precautionary statements. Tier 1 closed system: "Fatal if absorbed through skin"; Tier 2 closed system: "May be fatal if absorbed through skin."
- When an employee works with any DANGER or WARNING pesticide, a changing area must be available where the employee can change and wash at the end of the day.
- Maintain contact with employees working alone with DANGER pesticides every 2 hours in the daytime, every 1 hour at night.



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Minimal Exposure Pesticides - Buctril, Metasystox-R, Omite, Comite (3CCR 6790-6793):

- Must comply with Minimal Exposure Pesticide Safety User Requirements 3CCR 6793.
- Employers should have a copy of PSIS A-6 Minimal Exposure Pesticides available and ensure that employees handling these pesticides comply with it.

Pesticide Use Near Schoolsites (3CCR 6690-6692):

- Any production ag. site within ¼ mile of a schoolsite (Public K-12 and licensed daycares) is subject to application restrictions from 6:00 AM to 6:00 PM, Monday through Friday. The restrictions prohibit applications during these times based on the potential for drift created by the application method and the pesticide formulation.
- Any property operator of an ag. site within ¼ mile of a schoolsite must submit an annual notification to the schoolsite by April 30th, of all intended pesticide use for the upcoming school year. Pesticides intended to be used should be accurate for the active ingredient; however, the trade name need not be. Notifications must be amended 48 hours prior to use for unanticipated pesticides. If a property operator changes, the new property operator has 30 days to submit the notification. Annual notifications must be retained for 2 years.

Beekeeper Notification Requirements for Pesticides Toxic to Bees (3CCR 6982 and 6983):

- Applicators must perform a beecheck in BeeWhere <u>prior</u> to applying toxic pesticides to blooming crops. If an apiary is listed within one mile of the application site, they must be notified 48 hours in advance.
- Follow specific pesticide label requirements for bees and bloom in all cases.

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.

Initial to acknowledge that you have read and understood the information in this document.