

RMP Alternatives and Mitigation Measures Form

Title 3 of the California Code of Regulations 6426(a), titled *Alternatives and Mitigation Measures*, states:

(a) Each licensed agricultural pest control adviser and grower, when determining if and when to use a pesticide that requires a permit, shall consider, and if feasible, adopt any reasonable, effective and practical mitigation measure or use any feasible alternative which would substantially lessen any significant adverse impact on the environment.

While this specific code section is directed at agricultural use, the general requirement to consider alternatives applies to all permits.

To determine compliance with this requirement, we are asking you, the permit applicant, to identify the specific alternatives and mitigations measures that you consider prior to using restricted material pesticides. Responses must be relevant to the restricted materials listed on your permit (e.g. herbicides, insecticides, rodenticides, etc). Complete sentences are not necessary, but complete thoughts are. For instance, "IPM" is not an acceptable answer, but explaining how Integrated Pest Management is practiced and what methods are used by your operation would be. A pdf fillable version of this form is available at <https://agcom.imperialcounty.org/pesticide-use-enforcement/>. See reverse for suggestions.

Permit Number	Permit Name		
Authorized Representative		Signature	Date

What **alternatives** to the use of restricted materials have you considered?

What **mitigation measures** have you considered to reduce environmental impacts?

Examples of Alternatives *(Pest control methods alternative to the use of Restricted Materials.)*

- Use less toxic (non-restricted) pesticides whenever possible
- Only treat when pest-specific economic thresholds are met
- Scout fields regularly and properly identify target pests for economic threshold evaluation
- Mechanical control (i.e. mow, disc, hoe) of weeds
- Choose plant varieties for pest and disease resistance
- Monitor for presence of beneficial insects and take impacts into consideration
- Pre-water to germinate weed seeds and control before weed seed set
- Use cultural controls designed to promote crop resilience
- Adjust tillage, leveling, and irrigation to discourage disease and promote healthier crop stand
- Proper timing of fertilizers to help crop outcompete weeds
- Cover crops and mulching to improve soil quality and reduce weed growth
- Promoting healthy crop stand by increasing seed rate
- Protect and/or release beneficial insects, natural predators, or other beneficial organisms
- Plant trap crops that lure pests away and encourage the presence of beneficial organisms
- Trapping/physical barriers to control rats, mice, voles, moles, gophers, and some insects
- Fabric row covers to exclude insects and birds
- Solarization or use of other weed control fabric

Examples of Mitigation Measures *(Reducing the significance of the adverse effects of Restricted Materials)*

- Reduce applications by only treating when pest-specific economic thresholds are met and maximizing application effectiveness
- Use spot treatments or limit applications to affected areas of the field
- Use methods that reduce off-target movement (by drift, inversion, volatilization, run-off, etc.)
- Using low pressure, large droplet and lower application height for spray applications
- Use adjuvants to promote more effective pest control and reduce off-target movement
- Time treatments to avoid beneficial organisms and/or pollinators
- Avoid treatments when people are likely to be in the vicinity
- Employ application buffers to increase distance to sensitive sites
- Time irrigation to reduce pesticide runoff