What Ag employers and others need to know

Understanding the Revised Worker Protection Standard

# The WPS applies to...

- Farms
- Production forestry
- Sod farms
- Orchards
- Christmas trees
- Nurseries/greenhouses
- Rangeland where forage is harvested (growing plants)

- Organic pesticides
- Restricted-use pesticides
- General-use pesticides
- Herbicides
- Fungicides
- Insecticides
- etc.

# When Does the WPS Apply?

#### Agricultural establishments where ag pesticides are used

#### DIRECTIONS FOR USE

It is a violation of Federal law to use this product in a manner inconsistent with its labeling.

Read all Directions for Use carefully before applying.

Do not apply this product in a way that will contact workers or other persons, either directly or through drift. Only protected handlers may be in the area during application. For any requirements specific to your state or tribe, consult the agency responsible for pesticide regulation.

#### AGRICULTURAL USE REQUIREMENTS

Use this product only in accordance with its labeling and with the Worker Protection Standard, 40 CFR part 170. This Standard contains requirements for the protection of agricultural workers on farms, forests, nurseries, and greenhouses, and handlers of agricultural pesticides. It contains requirements for training, decontamination, notification, and emergency assistance. It also contains specific instructions and exceptions pertaining to the statements on this label about personal protective equipment (PPE), and restricted entry interval. The requirements in this box only apply to uses of this product that are covered by the Worker Protection Standard.

Do not enter or allow worker entry into treated areas during the restricted entry interval (REI). The REI for each crop is listed in the directions for use associated with each crop.

Certified crop advisors or persons entering under their direct supervision under certain circumstances may be exempt from the early reentry requirement pursuant to 40 CFR Part 170.

PPE required for early entry into treated areas that is permitted under the Worker Protection Standard and that involves contact with anything that has been treated, such as plants, soil, or water, is:

- · Coveralls over short-sleeved shirt and short pants
- Chemical-resistant gloves made of any waterproof material
- · Chemical-resistant footwear plus socks
- Chemical-resistant headgear for overhead exposures

Notify workers of the application by warning them orally and by posting warning signs at entrances to treated areas.





#### Who is a 'worker'?

 Any person, including a self-employed person, who is employed and performs activities <u>directly relating</u> to the production of agricultural <u>plants</u> on an agricultural establishment.

• A person is a "worker" under the WPS if they work in areas that were treated with a WPS-labeled pesticide *within the last 30 days*, or where a restricted-entry interval was in effect in the last 30 days

#### **Directly Related:**

- Harvesting
- Thinning
- Hand-weeding
- Pest-scouting
- Pruning
- Planting
- Preparing sites/media for planting
- Carrying nursery stock
- Watering



#### Who is a 'handler'?

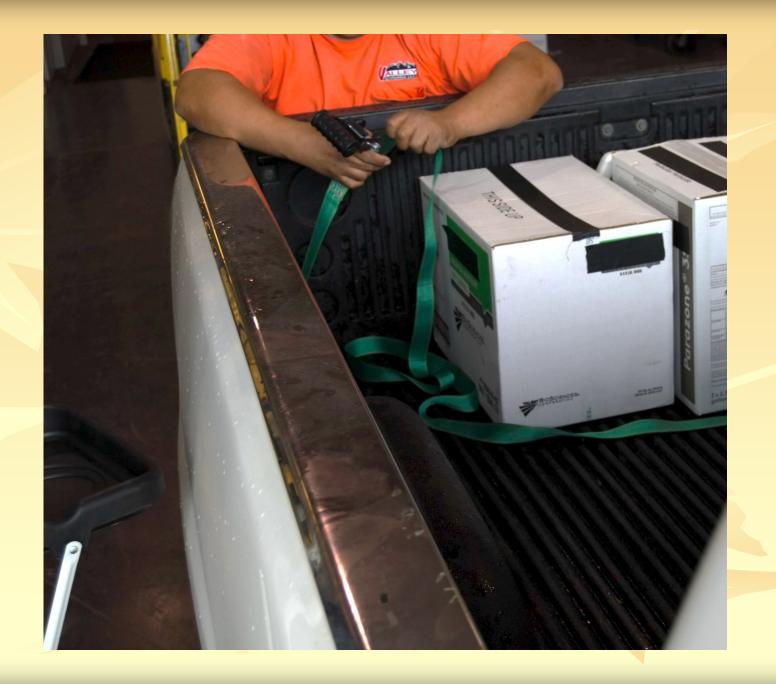
- Mixing, loading, helping to apply, or applying pesticides
- Disposing of pesticides
- Handling open containers of pesticides
- Cleaning, adjusting, handling, or repairing equipment that may have pesticide residues

#### Who is a 'handler'?

- Anyone who enters an enclosed space after it was treated and before ventilation criteria have been met
- Entering a treated area outdoors after application of a soil fumigant before aeration
- Performing tasks as a crop advisor during a pesticide application or REI



Does WPS apply to employees who transport pesticides?



#### Who is responsible for compliance?

The agricultural employer

Not the certified applicator

# **Exempt from some portions**

- Owners and members of immediate family
  - Spouse
  - Children
  - Stepchildren
  - Foster children
  - Grandparents
  - Grandchildren
  - In-laws

# Exempt from which portions?

- Pesticide safety training
- Notice of applications
- Posting and SDS
- Emergency assistance
- Minimum age\* (must be 18, a Private Applicator or Fully Certified to use Restricted Use Pesticides)

Still must follow ALL label requirements

#### WPS in a nutshell

- Pesticide safety training for employees
- Pesticide safety, application, hazard info
- Notice about applications
- Respirator fit testing
- Decontamination supplies
- Emergency assistance

# Pesticide safety training

- Workers must be trained before entering treated area
- Handlers must be trained before performing any handling task
- Trained yearly
- Employer must keep record of training
  - Two years

# Who can conduct training?

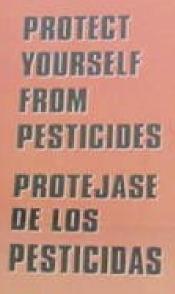
- Certified pesticide applicators
  - Commercial or private applicators
- Graduates of Train the Trainer courses
- Designated trainers (extension educators)

# What does training involve?

- Present with EPA approved materials
- Trainer present entire time
- No distractions
- New content (2018)

#### Safety, application & hazard info

- Must be displayed if app within 30 days and workers or handlers are present
- Information about applications
- Emergency information
- SDS (was MSDS)
- Pesticide safety poster
  - New content required 2018





Pesticides may be on plants and soil, in irrigation water, or drifting from ucorby applications.

> Los pesticidas pueden estar en las plantas o en el suelo, en el agua de riego, o arrastrados por el viento cuando se aplican cerca.



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Wash work clothes separately from other clothes before wearing them again.

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The nearest emergency medical facility (hospital)	is:
El centro de emergencia médica (hospital) más cercano	057
Name Nombre	
Street Calle	
City Cludad	
Telephone Teletono	

For more information on pesticides call:

Para más información sobre pesticidas llame:

- 1-800-858-7378; or
- State Lead Agency or Authority: Agencia o autoridad estatal pertinente:

Tel: ( )



is poster, call GEMPLER'S, Inc. at 800-382-8473. Use Order No. P928 . . . price is \$1.50 ea.

# Application info

- Location and description of treated area
- Product name, EPA Reg.#, active ingredient(s)
- Restricted Entry Interval (REI)
- Description of treated area
- Time and date of application
  - Start and end times
- Keep records for two years

# Notice about applications

- Verbally warn workers and post warning signs if required by the label
  - All danger poison products
- Otherwise post warning signs if the REI is >
  - 4 hours for enclosed space (greenhouse)
  - 48 hours for outdoor production

# Respirator requirements

- When a respirator is required by the label employers must provide prior to use
  - Medical evaluation
  - Respirator training
  - Fit testing
  - Keep records of above for two years

#### Decontamination supplies

- Within ½ mile of worksite
- Water 1 gallon per worker, 3 per handler
- If protective eyewear required for handlers
  - 1 pint immediately available
  - Extra 3 gallons for eye flush
- Plenty of soap and single use paper towels
- Change of clothes for handlers

# Emergency assistance

- Transport promptly to medical facility
- Promptly provide to medical personnel
  - Product name, EPA Reg.#, active ingredients
  - How pesticide was being used
  - Circumstances of exposure
  - SDS

#### Help is available

Joe Becovitz – (765)494-1589—regulator becovitz@purdue.edu

Fred Whitford – (765)494-1284—extension fwhitford@purdue.edu

#### Resources:

https://pesticideresources.org/