

Federal Pesticide Regulations – Chapter 3

- **FIFRA** – Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act
- **Worker Protection Standard**
- **FFDCA** – Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act

FIFRA – Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act

- All pesticides must be registered with the EPA.
- EPA considered all economic, social and environmental costs and benefits when registering pesticides.
- Based on data provided by product registrants:
 - Toxicity studies (human, fish, wildlife)
 - Environmental fate studies (residues, solubility)
 - Studies on potential to cause cancer or mutations

FIFRA

- Pesticides classified as “General Use” or “Restricted Use”.
- Users of “Restricted Use” pesticides must be certified or work under the direct supervision of a certified applicator.
- Provides penalties for “use inconsistent with the labeling” of a pesticide. **Label = Law**
- Permits states to have primary enforcement authority and to administer a certification and training program.

Worker Protection Standard

- **Applies to pesticides that are used in the production of agricultural plants on farms, forests, nurseries and greenhouses.**
- Aimed at protecting employees and workers from occupational exposure to agricultural pesticides.
 - Covers people working in areas that have been treated with pesticides, and employees that handle pesticides for use (i.e. mix, load, apply)

Worker Protection Standard

- Users of ag pesticides and/or employers of ag workers or pesticide handlers, must provide employees with:
 - **Information** on exposure to pesticides;
 - **Protection** against exposure to pesticides; and,
 - Ways to **mitigate exposure** to pesticides.

Worker Protection Standard

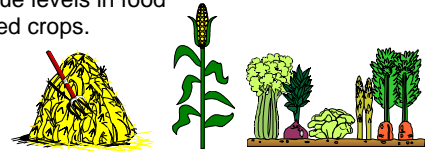
- **Restricted Entry Interval – REI**
 - The time immediately following the application of a pesticide when unprotected workers may not enter the treated area.
 - Workers wearing appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) may re-enter before the REI has expired.
 - When no REI is specified on the label, treated areas may be re-entered when the spray has dried or the dust has settled.

WPS Label Statement

- "AGRICULTURAL USE REQUIREMENTS - Use this product only in accordance with its labeling and with the Worker Protection Standard, 40 CFR, Part 170."

FFDCA – Federal Food, Drug & Cosmetic Act

- Administered by the FDA
- Governs pesticide residue levels in food or feed crops.



FFDCA – Important Definitions

- **Residue** = the amount of pesticide that remains on a plant or animal surface after treatment.
 - The more persistent the pesticide, the longer the residue remains.
- **Tolerance** = the maximum amount of residue that may legally remain on a harvested crop
 - Tolerance is set by the EPA and enforced by the FDA
- **Harvest Interval** = the amount of time that must elapse between pesticide application and harvesting of the crop.

Pesticide Tolerances

- A tolerance must be set for every crop listed on the label.
- If the residue at harvest exceeds the set tolerance – the crop may not be marketed or sold. It is subject to seizure/condemnation.
- **NEVER apply a pesticide to a site or crop that is not listed on the label = illegal use of product and adulterated crop.**

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