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Agribusiness & Food Solutions

Safety & Loss Prevention: **Pesticide Safety**



Pesticide exposure is harmful to not only the employees who apply and prepare the pesticides, but also to the workers who handle the treated crops and soil. Pesticides can reside on workers' clothing, boots and skin, subsequently exposing the worker's family members. All Pesticide labels and (Safety Data Sheets) SDS will give the information on the following key points:

What are the Health Impacts?

- Short-term: rashes, blisters, stinging eyes, blindness, nausea, dizziness, headaches, coma and death
- Long-term: infertility, birth defects, endocrine disruption, neurological disorders, cancer and death

Pesticide exposure causes farmworkers to suffer more chemical-related injuries and illnesses than any other workforce in the nation (Farmworker Justice, 2017).

How to Protect Your Body



Eye protection when mixing, loading or applying pesticides. Eyeglasses or sunglasses do not provide adequate protection.

EMPLOYEES MUST WEAR:

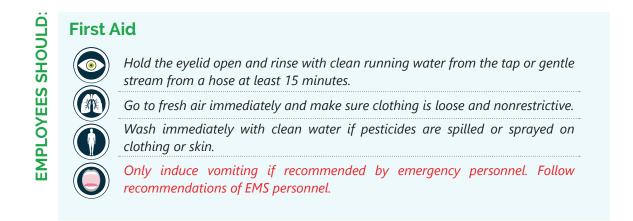
Clean, chemical-resistant gloves when mixing, loading or applying pesticides. Employees must wash their hands before eating, drinking, smoking or going to the bathroom.



A respirator while using harmful pesticides anytime the label requires one, or if you are mixing, loading or applying most pesticides.

Clothes with long sleeves and long pants, boots, socks, a hat and/or scarf and gloves. Employees should bathe promptly after returning home and wash exposed clothing separately after each use.





Employees should read and /or understand all labels and Safety Data Sheets (SDS) for all pesticide hazards they are exposed to.

For more information, please see the EPA's Agricultural Worker Protection Standard (WPS)

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