Chapter 23
PESTICIDE EXPOSURE CONTROL PLAN

A. References.

Worker Protection Standard WAC 16-233: References to 40 CFR, Part 170
Pesticides Worker Protection Standard 296-307 Part I
WSU BPPM 45.65 Pesticide Policy Overview
WSU BPPM 45.67 Approval to Make Pesticide Recommendations
WSU BPPM 45.69 Use of Registered Pesticides
WSU BPPM 45.70 Experimental Use of Pesticides

B. Purpose.

This plan intends to reduce or eliminate hazardous employee exposure to pesticides. Pesticides are any substance that is intended to prevent, destroy, control, repel or mitigate any pest organism whether it be plant, animal or virus (except viruses in or on humans or other animals). Pesticides may be used as a plant regulator, defoliant or desiccant and include spray adjuvants (e.g. surfactants, emulsifiers and anti-foaming agents). Examples of pesticides include herbicides, insecticides, fungicides, rodenticides, disinfectants, fumigants and animal repellents.

C. Scope.

This exposure control plan covers employees as having reasonably anticipated occupational exposure to pesticides.

D. Responsibilities.

Supervisors

- Identify work activities with potential exposure to pesticides, including pre-application activities.
- Require that employees engaged in the previously identified work familiarize themselves with this APP chapter.
- Offer employees cholinesterase monitoring and testing as required.
- Provide employees pesticide worker protection standard and/or applicator training prior to assignment to tasks with potential exposure.
- Provide employees Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), for PPE selection and training information, please see this APP's PPE chapter.
- Ensures decontamination supplies/facilities are available whenever a pesticide was applied or a restricted entry interval (REI) was in effect in the last 30 days. Reference WAC 296-307-10930 for pesticide workers, and WAC 296-307-11225 for pesticide handlers.
- Ensures pesticide application notification requirements are met per label and WAC 296-307-12025 and WAC 296-307-12030 requirements.
- Ensures workers, other than appropriately trained and equipped pesticide handlers/applicators, do not enter restricted areas until the REI (refer to pesticide label and WAC 296-307-1215 and WAC 296-307-12020) has terminated.

- Ensure pesticide use is consistent with label directions.
- Ensure no pesticide is applied such that any person other than the appropriately trained and equipped handler/applicator shall contact the pesticide either directly or through drift (see also WAC 296-307-13010, Restrictions during applications).
- Evaluate employee adherence to pesticide exposure control policy and initiate corrective action when necessary e.g. additional training and/or disciplinary action.

Note: The Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) section 14 (b)(4) provides that a person is liable for a penalty under FIFRA if another person employed by or acting for that person violates any provision of FIFRA. The term "acting for" includes both employment *and contractual relationships*.

Employees

- Immediately inform their supervisor when (previously unidentified) tasks present potential pesticide exposure.
- Familiarize themselves with this APP chapter.
- Receive cholinesterase monitoring and testing as required.
- Attend and participate in pesticide worker protection standard and/or applicator training.
- Review available pesticide application information (e.g. notifications) and do not enter restricted areas until the REI (refer to pesticide label and WAC 296-307-1215 and WAC 296-307-12020) has terminated, unless they are trained and equipped pesticide handlers/applicators.
- Use pesticides only if trained and per label directions.
- Ensure no pesticide is applied such that any person other than the appropriately trained and equipped handler/applicator shall contact the pesticide either directly or through drift (see also WAC 296-307-13010, Restrictions during applications).
- Wear PPE and adhere to pesticide exposure control policies and procedures. Employees not conforming to pesticide exposure control policy may be subject to disciplinary action.

E. Training.

Employees that may be assigned to handle or use pesticides, or with a reasonable expectation of exposure must understand the contents of this APP chapter and receive pesticide worker protection standard and/or applicator training.

Employees who apply pesticides other than general use pesticides or apply general use pesticides using powered equipment must obtain the applicable Washington State Department of Agriculture (WSDA) applicator certification for the type of work and areas of pest control performed. Applicators must maintain their certifications through ongoing professional development course work as appropriated for their certification type.

Non-certified employees may perform certain pesticide applications only if under the direct supervision of a certified applicator, providing supervised personnel remain within

eyeshot and earshot of the licensed applicator. Note: Only licensed applicators may apply pesticides from a tractor (enclosed or not enclosed) because of the requirement for supervised employees to remain within earshot Certain pesticide labels may contain additional supervision requirements. Employees that will be expected to enter any field that has been sprayed with a labeled pesticide within 30 days of application or the expiration of a REI must receive pesticide worker protection standard training on an annual basis.

F. Requirements for Pesticide Handlers and Workers

A pesticide handler is any employee who mixes, transfers, loads, applies or disposes of pesticides. They may repair, adjust or clean pesticide equipment and may enter treated areas before the REI has expired. The REI is the time after pesticide application during which entry to the treated area is restricted to properly trained and equipped employees. A pesticide handler must possess a WSDA pesticide certification.

A pesticide worker is any employee performing agricultural related work in an area where pesticides are or have been used in the past 30 days. Pesticide workers do not handle any pesticides or machinery with residues, do not have to possess a WSDA pesticide certification and may not enter treated areas (with limited exceptions) until the REI has expired.

Employers must ensure employees have access to:

- Restrictions during pesticide applications
- Restrictions after pesticide applications
- Notifications of pesticide applications (for agricultural and research applications, see WAC 296-307-10830 for posting requirements)
- Specific information on individual pesticide applications
- Notifications of pesticide application to non-EH&S personnel
- Pesticide safety training
- Posted pesticide safety information
- Decontamination supplies, procedures and training
- Emergency exposure assistance

G. Cholinesterase Inhibiting Pesticides.

Cholinesterase inhibiting pesticides (CIP) interfere with an enzyme (cholinesterase) that regulates the activity of nerve impulses in humans and other animals. Employers must track employee handling (mixing, use, cleanup and disposal) of CIP and institute a monitoring program if any employee exceeds 30 hours of handling in any consecutive 30 day period. A list of CIP is found at the link in Section A of this Chapter.

Employers who use CIP must:

- Record the number of hours each employee handles CIP
- Implement a medical monitoring program for any employee who exceeds 30 hours handling in any consecutive 30 day period
- Identify a medical provider to provide medical monitoring services

- Make cholinesterase baseline and periodic testing available
- Investigate work practices when cholinesterase levels are depressed more than 20% of employees baseline
- Remove employees from CIP work areas when recommended by medical provider
- Provide training to covered employees
- Report employee handling hours to medical provider
- Maintain medical monitoring and other records for seven years

H. I. Pesticides Recordkeeping

Employers are to maintain pesticide related records and make them available to employees, their representatives and to regulatory agency personnel upon request. Employers are to maintain the following records for at least seven years:

- Specifics of each pesticide application, whether applied by the unit or by an outside contractor
- Annual inventory of stored pesticides
- Pesticide purchases