

# **MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY & FISHERIES**

## **PESTICIDE SAFETY**

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**Plant Protection and Quarantine**

# **ELEMENTS OF PESTICIDE SAFETY**

**CHOOSE THE RIGHT PRODUCT**

**USE THE CORRECT DOSE**

**PRECAUTIONS**

**CLEANING UP**

**APPLICATION**

**HARVEST INTERVAL**

**STORAGE**

**DISPOSE OF EMPTY CONTAINERS**

# **POINTERS ON PESTICIDE SAFETY**

**Purchase only pesticides registered for use.**

**Do not purchase damage or leaky containers.**

**Read the label at time of purchase and before use.**

**Employ only healthy adults for spraying pesticides.**

**Use non-leaky equipment for spraying.**

**Mix pesticide in a bucket by adding water to dilute**

# PESTICIDE LABEL

*Provides readily, understood information, on :*

**Identification of product in the container**

**Purpose for which the product may be used.**

**Manner of use of the product.**

**Hazards and appropriate precautions in handling storage and use.**

**First-aid measures or medically treatment in case of poisoning**

# **BEFORE SPRAYING**

**KNOW YOUR PEST PROBLEM**

**APPLY PESTICIDE ONLY WHEN NECESSARY**

**USE THE RIGHT PESTICIDE FOR THE SPECIFIC PEST & CROP**

**READ THE LABEL BEFORE MIXING**

**DO NOT MIX MORE PESTICIDES THAN IS REQUIRED.**

**ENSURE THAT THE SPRAY EQUIPMENT WILL NOT LEAK.**

# **WHEN APPLYING CHEMICALS**

**Wear protective clothing**

**Avoid walking in spray mist**

**Do not contaminate stream, ponds, etc.**

**Check equipment for leaks.**

**Check dosage rate and compatibility.**

**Do not smoke, eat or drink.**

# **WHEN SPRAYING**

**Time of application**

**Best during or late evening.**

**Do not apply when it is likely to rain.**

# **METHOD OF APPLICATION**

**Spray with the wind not against.**

**Cover area to be sprayed evenly.**

**Avoid spray drift.**

**Do not blow out clogged nozzles.**

# **AFTER SPRAYING**

**Use left-overs on the areas with similar problems**

**Wash spray can with clean water.**

**Bath after spraying with soap and water.**

**Keep people and animals out of freshly treated areas**

**Observe the re-entry period of pesticide.**

**Do not contaminate ,ponds, rivers, and other water ways.**

**Do not wash spray equipment in rivers and water ways**

**Do not eat , drink or smoke while spraying.**



# DURING SPRAYING

## ***SPRAY DRIFT:***

**Minimizing spray drift**

**Spray when the wind is low.**

**Do not spray when the temperature is high or the humidity is low.**

**Use nozzles that make a few small drops.**

**Use the lowest pressure that will give the lowest pattern and the right drop sizes**

**Avoid pointing the nozzles upwards.**

# **OCCUPATIONAL EXPOSURE TO PESTICIDES**

**FARMERS**

**HANDLERS IN WAREHOUSE**

**WORKERS**

**VECTOR CONTROL**

**VETERINARY OFFICERS**

**HEALTH WORKERS**

**NB UNSKILLED, SEMISKILLED AND  
POORLY TRAINED WORKERS ARE VERY  
VULNERBLE**

# **SOURCES OF EXPOSURE TO PESTICIDES**

**Badly cleaned application equipment (pesticides residue on spray equipment)**

**Unwashed or insufficiently cleaned protective clothing.**

**Spray drift**

**Pesticides residue on recently sprayed crops.**

**Aerosol application in enclosed spaces**

**Contaminated water sources**

**Eating, drinking and smoking during pesticide handling.**

# **PREVENT PESTICIDES POISON**

**Avoid skin contact with pesticide.**

**Should contamination occur wash exposed skin immediately.**

**Do not transfer from original containers into unlabeled bottles.**

**Do not eat, drink while working with pesticides.**

**Do not contaminate foods or drinks with pesticides.**

**Do not use empty pesticide containers to store food or drinks.**

**Do not store pesticides in food or drink containers.**

**Keep children out of pesticides store and work areas.**

**Mix pesticides outside or in well ventilated conditions.**

**Take care when opening pesticide containers.**

**Take care when pouring concentrates.**

**Stay clear of spray mist**

# SIGNS & SYMPTOMS OF PESTICIDE POISON

**GENERAL** - extreme weakness and fatigue

**SKIN**- irritation, burning, excessive sweating.

**EYE** - itching, burning, watering, blurred vision and narrow pupil.

**DIGESTIVE SYSTEM** - Burning in mouth and throat, extreme salivation, nausea, vomiting and abdominal pain.

**THE NERVOUS SYSTEM** - Headache, dizziness, confusion, restlessness, muscle twitching, unconsciousness.

**RESPIRATORY SYSTEM** - cough, chest pain, difficulty in breathing.

# FIRST AID FOR PESTICIDE POISONING

## ***STOP THE EXPOSURE***

wash off pesticide

remove contaminated clothing

remove victim from source of vapors, dust etc.

## ***READ THE PESTICIDE LABEL***

keep the victim flat, quite and warm in a well ventilated area until help arrives.

## ***SEEK MEDICAL HELP***

Provide doctor or other medical person with a copy of the label or original container.