

Use pesticides safely

INFORMATION SHEET

Pesticides training resources for market gardeners, growers and horticultural workers in NSW

The NSW Government has produced the 'Safe use of pesticides in NSW' video program and the 'Use pesticides safely' poster to help market gardeners, growers, and horticultural workers use pesticides safely and legally. The program has been produced in English and also in Arabic, Cantonese, Mandarin, Khmer and Vietnamese for pesticide users who do not read or understand English. The program is available on DVD.

The program and poster are highly relevant to pesticide users working in the market gardening and horticultural sector. They outline how to use pesticides safely and legally in NSW (including safeguards needed to prepare, apply and dispose of pesticides). The program incorporates messages that are designed to benefit farmers, their families and neighbours, and the wider environment.

The program and poster support relevant NSW legislation that applies to pesticides. They provide general information about pesticide training and record-keeping. Training in the use of pesticides is compulsory for all people who use pesticides as part of their job – including market gardeners and horticultural workers. Training must be renewed every five years by completing a short refresher course. Records of pesticide use must also be kept for every job. This includes spraying crops, plants or other produce; spraying fallow land before or after harvesting; dipping fruit and vegetables, or when baiting pests. Records must be in English and made within 24 hours of using a pesticide. The program reminds farmers of these responsibilities. If a person uses pesticides at work without being properly trained, allows their training to expire or does not keep proper records, they may be fined.

Viewing this program will help farmers understand how to manage pesticides safely and legally

For further information on:

Training: call the Department of Environment and Climate Change NSW (formerly the Department of Environment and Conservation NSW) on 131 555 or visit www.environment.nsw.gov.au/pesticides/trainers.htm

You may also visit the National Training Information Service (www.ntis.gov.au), which provides information on courses, qualifications, units of competency, training providers and more.

The Pesticide Act, the Record-keeping Regulation and pesticide use: call the Department of Environment and Climate Change NSW (formerly the Department of Environment and Conservation NSW) on 131 555 or visit www.environment.nsw.gov.au

Pesticides and permits: call the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA) on (02) 6210 4748 or visit www.apvma.gov.au

Horticultural advice: call NSW Department of Primary Industries on (02) 4588 2100 or visit www.dpi.nsw.gov.au

Pesticide container disposal: call drumMUSTER on (02) 6230 6712 or visit www.drummuster.com.au

Collection of unwanted rural pesticides: call ChemClear® on 1800 008 182 or visit www.chemclear.com.au

Specialist waste contractors: they are listed in the Yellow Pages under 'Waste Reduction and Disposal Services'.

Occupational Health and Safety: call WorkCover NSW on 131 050 or visit www.workcover.nsw.gov.au

Material Safety Data Sheets: either contact your pesticide supplier, call the 1800 telephone number noted on the label, or call (02) 6232 4677. You may also visit www.msds.com.au

**Proper use of pesticides helps protect you,
your family, your community and the environment**