



Safety Rules: Pesticides (Poisons)

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| Checklist or Form: | Go to Form I - Pesticide Application Record |
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Purpose

This document outlines the rules for the safe handling and storage of Pesticides (Poisons, including Herbicides).

Scope

This document applies to all grounds/maintenance workers.

Training

Workers using Pesticides must have completed the TAFE chemical handling course or, for “green” pesticides, deemed competent by their Supervisor.

Information

Pesticide Record Keeping – Pesticides Regulation 1995.

Large Spraying Jobs

For jobs that require an application rate of more than 5 litres of concentrate per day or involve the use of power applicators, a log of usage must be kept using the standard Pesticides Application Record Sheet (EPA format) **Form I**.

Small Spraying Jobs

Small quantities of domestic-type pesticides may be used if they meet the following criteria;

- The pesticide being used is ordinarily used for domestic purposes.
- Widely available to the general public and can be found in supermarkets
- Application will be by hand or hand-held applicator
- Outdoor use, you are using no more than 20 litres or 20 kilograms of a ‘ready to use’ product, or 5 litres or 5 kilograms of a concentrated product
- Indoor use, you are using no more than 5 litres or 5 kilograms of a ‘ready to use’ product, or 1 litre or 1 kilogram of a concentrated product

Rules

1. Operator to establish if EPA record keeping is required based on the above information. If required your supervisor should be contacted to organise the supply of the Pesticides Application Record Sheet (EPA format) **Form I**, which shall be kept on site until completion of the job, then returned to the office for filing and kept for a minimum period of three (3) years.
2. Material safety data sheet must be read, kept in close proximity of chemical and strictly adhered to.



3. Personal protective equipment to be worn: long pants, long sleeved shirt, Safety boots, and Sun protection. - Any other P.P.E. noted on the chemical label or MSDS must also be worn.
4. Operator to inspect area to be sprayed and if required the work area must be cordoned off and members of the public kept clear.
5. Bulk storage of pesticides (Poisons) is to be in a lockable bunded area at a minimum distance of 5 metres from flammable materials. Unused decanted pesticides are to be correctly labelled in accordance with WorkCover NSW publication Reading Labels and Material Safety Data Sheets and returned to the storage area on completion of the job.
6. Use appropriate manual handling techniques – do not bend and twist the back, use the legs. Take regular rest breaks.
7. If you feel ill or dizzy when using pesticides, immediately cease the job, leave the area of application, rest (preferably in fresh air) and sip water. If the feeling does not pass, seek first aid or medical assistance.