Updates to the Federal Worker Protection Standard
Goals of the Revised WPS

- Improve occupational protections
- Reduce acute occupational pesticide exposures and incidents
- Reorganize and streamline the rule
- Address concerns related to 1992 WPS
The Principles of the Worker Protection Standard

Inform
- about pesticide safety

Protect
- from potential pesticide exposure

Mitigate
- pesticide exposures when they do occur
Rules Meant to Inform

- Pesticide safety training
- Trainer requirements/Training material requirements
- Posted pesticide safety information
- Pesticide application recordkeeping
- Pesticide application notification requirements
Rules Meant to Inform Updates to Pesticide Safety Training

Worker training 23 points

Handler training 36 points

Annual Training

Emphasis on hazards to pregnant women and small children

No Grace Period

6/7/2016
Rules Meant to Inform
Updates for Trainers / Training of Handlers or Workers

Trainers who have completed an EPA approved train-the-trainer program, or

Certified applicators, or

Training Materials EPA Approved

Trainer has to be present throughout training
Rules Meant to Inform
Updates to Posted Safety Information

- SDS for all pesticides applied must be kept in a location accessible to workers and handlers
Rules Meant to Inform Updates to Pesticide Recordkeeping

- Workers/Handlers must be able to obtain information about pesticide applications and SDS sheets that occurred when they are/were employed.
- Worker/Handler may also designate a person in writing to have access to this information.
- Facilities must now keep pesticide application records, SDS, training records for two years.
Rules Meant to Inform
Updates for Pesticide Application Posting

- Outdoor Applications
  - REI Greater than 48 hours
- Enclosed Space Application
  - REI Greater than 4 hours
Rules Meant to Protect

- Minimum Age
- Application Exclusion Zone (AEZ)
- Respiratory protection
Updates to Rules Meant to Protect Minimum Age

Handlers

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Members of Owner’s Immediate Family Exempt
Updates to Rules Meant to Protect Application Exclusion Zone

Employers are responsible to keep workers and other people out of the AEZ on their own property.

Applicators must suspend application whenever someone who is not involved in the application enters the AEZ.

0, 25, or 100 feet

Moves with application
AEZs in Outdoor Production (170.405(a)(1))

- 100 foot AEZ
  - Applied aerially, by air blast or with a spray quality smaller than medium (volume median diameter < 294 microns)
  - Applied as a fumigant, smoke, mist or fog

- 25 foot AEZ
  - Applied other than above & sprayed from a height of >12 inches from planting medium with spray quality of medium or larger

- No AEZ
  - Applied otherwise
Droplet Size and Relation to AEZ
Pesticidestewardship.org

### Color Codes for Droplet Size

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Symbol</th>
<th>Color Code</th>
<th>Approximate VMD Range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Very Fine</td>
<td>VF</td>
<td>Red</td>
<td>&lt; 150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fine</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>Orange</td>
<td>150 – 250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>Yellow</td>
<td>250 – 350</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coarse</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>Blue</td>
<td>350 – 450</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very Coarse</td>
<td>VC</td>
<td>Green</td>
<td>450 – 550</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extremely Coarse</td>
<td>XC</td>
<td>White</td>
<td>&gt; 550</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

100 foot AEZ

25 foot AEZ
Updates to Rules Meant to Protect Application Exclusion Zones in Outdoor Production

When the application is concluded, the AEZ no longer exists.

- Field
- AEZ
- Spray Area
- Treated Area
Updates to Rules Meant to Protect Application Exclusion Zones On Field Borders

There are workers from the neighboring field in the AEZ!

EVALUATE!
Can you ask the workers to move somewhere else until you are done with the application?

Yes, they agreed to move!

Proceed with caution.

Neighboring Field

Your Field

Finished the AEZ
You can now use the neighboring field to do the application!
Updates to Rules Meant to Protect Application Exclusion Zones

There are workers from the neighboring field in the AEZ, and they refuse to move! Can you ensure these workers won’t be contacted through drift?

Yes, the wind is blowing away from the workers and I can ensure that my application will not contact the workers in the other field.

WIND

When the application is finished the AEZ no longer exists.
Updates to Rules Meant to Protect Respiratory Protection

- Be medically cleared
- Fit tested
- Instructed on use and maintainence
Rules Meant to Mitigate

Decontamination supplies

Information for medical personnel
Updates to Rules Meant to Mitigate Decontamination Supplies

- Specific requirements for Water for Decontamination:
  - 1 gallons per worker
  - 3 gallons per handler or early-entry worker;
  - Measured at the beginning of the work period

- If handler is mixing/loading a product that requires eye protection, eyeflush water must be immediately available at the mix/load site for handler eye flushing

- If applicator is using a product that requires eye protection, one pint of water must be immediately available to each applicator
Updates to Rules Meant to Mitigate Information to Medical Personnel

SDS sheets

Application information

Circumstances of exposure
Implementation Timeline

- **9/28/2015**: Revised WPS final rule signed
- **11/2/2015**: Revised WPS final rule published in the Federal Register.
- **1/2/2017**: Compliance Required with Most Revised WPS Requirements Except:
  - New content in Worker and Handler Training
  - New content in Pesticide Safety Information Display
  - Responsibility for Handlers related to the Application Exclusion Zone
- **1/1/2018**: Compliance Required with All WPS Requirements
Questions?

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