

Section 9. Permitted Pesticides - Review of Pesticides By the Environmental Health Division.

I. Review criteria.

Pesticides used by departments or programs of the county shall be only those permitted by the Thurston County Environmental Health Division or specifically as allowed by the Thurston County Board of Health.

A. Information to be considered in a review shall include, but not necessarily be limited to: trade name, active ingredients, registration status, degradation products, contaminants/inerts, mobility, persistence, bioaccumulation, acute toxicity, aquatic toxicity, carcinogenicity, developmental and reproductive toxicity, mutagenicity, neurotoxicity, skin/eye irritation, data gaps, and applicator safety. The review will be based on professional consideration of these factors.

The Environmental Health Division is responsible for development and modification of review guidelines. These guidelines are intended to provide consistency in conducting pesticide reviews. The Pest and Vegetation Management Advisory Committee will review the guidelines on a periodic basis and provide recommendations and comments.

B. Only pesticides of the lowest possible hazard shall be used. Except as provided in paragraph C below, pesticides with an unacceptable degree of hazard include those having:

1. One or more of four types of chronic toxicity characteristics (carcinogenicity, mutagenicity, reproductive toxicity, and developmental toxicity); or
2. Carcinogenicity, mutagenicity, or reproductive and developmental effects from a single study that are dose-related or major; or
3. Adverse effects in the lab occurring at or near concentrations that may be reached in the environment; or
4. The characteristics of high mobility and persistence; or
5. An acute toxicity (LD50) of less than 50 mg/kg when tested on rats.

C. The above factors may be greatly influenced by other considerations, resulting in a low hazard potential. Pesticides that have one of the above characteristics may still be considered to be of low hazard if:

1. Studies with adverse effects are outweighed by studies without adverse effects (considering such factors as test quality, severity of effects, type of species, doses); or
2. Based on a qualitative evaluation of available information, the application technique could not result in exposures toxic to non-target organisms; or
3. The constituent in question appears on EPA's List 4 inerts.

II. Inerts.

If the identity of the inert ingredients is known, the inert ingredients shall be evaluated with as much information as is available. If the identity of the inert ingredients is unknown, the manufacturer will be required to identify on which of EPA's lists of inerts they appear. Other sources may be asked to provide information on the identity of the inert ingredients.

Preference will be given to pesticides of those manufacturers who provide full disclosure of all ingredients.

Pesticides with inerts on Lists 1 and 2 (those with known or suspect toxicological concern) shall not be used.

Pesticides with inerts on List 3 (unknown toxicity) shall be evaluated on a case-by-case basis, including such factors as: toxicity information available from the manufacturer; proportions in the formulation; and availability of alternative products or practices with known low toxicity.

Pesticides with inerts on List 4 (minimal concern) will be presumed to satisfy the review criteria.

Pesticides with inerts for which the list status is unknown shall not be used.