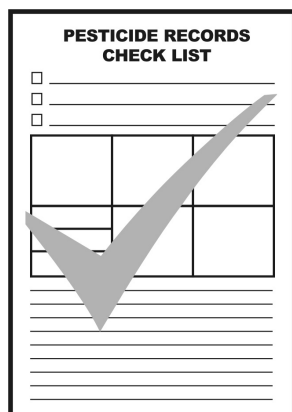

Section 22

Keeping Pesticide Records

Why Keep Records?

When you apply pesticides or supervise someone else doing the job, you should keep a record of all pesticide applications. Records will prove useful later when you have to decide on re-entry dates, harvest dates, time of next application, equipment settings, application rates, or trouble areas. Your record of pesticide use will also help to protect you and the investment you make in your crops. If a question or problem arises about your application of pesticide products, you will be able to show that you used the proper amounts and procedures by referring to your records.



Pesticide application records will help you to:

- ▶ evaluate your results
- ▶ improve your pest control practices
- ▶ avoid pesticide misuse
- ▶ purchase only what you need
- ▶ reduce your pesticide inventory
- ▶ demonstrate proper use in case of crop damage or a question about residues
- ▶ identify and solve application problems
- ▶ document your use of pesticides in case of lawsuits
- ▶ plan your pesticide needs for the next season (for example, rotation of pesticides).

What Should I Record?

Your application records should include:

- ▶ **Date & Time of Application** – This information is useful when deciding on the time of re-entry, re-application, and harvest. The pre-harvest interval is the time that must pass between application of pesticides and harvest of the crop. It is listed on the label. By recording the application date as well as the pre-harvest interval, you can record your **earliest harvest date**. You may refer to this information in following seasons.
- ▶ **Location of Application** – This information helps you determine how effective the pesticide application was. Also, if you know the area that has been sprayed, you will not respray/overspray the area.
- ▶ **Pest & Host** – Record the name and the stage of growth of the pest and host. Both are important when deciding on the best pesticide to use, the application time and rate.
- ▶ **Pesticide (trade name & PCPA Registration #)** – In the event of a spill, property damage, poisoning or legal action, it is important to know the name of the pesticide, the formulation, and the **PCPA** Registration #.
- ▶ **Pesticide Rate** – This information is useful when comparing the results of different pesticides or comparing various rates of the same pesticide. Also record the amount of water used in the spray mix for each hectare.
- ▶ **Site of Action or Mode of Action Group** – This information helps you plan strategies to prevent or delay the development of pest resistance to pesticides that work in the same way.
- ▶ **Equipment Used** (nozzles, pressure, spacing, speed) – Record what equipment and settings you used to apply the pesticide. This information will help you evaluate the effectiveness of the pesticide at different sprayer pressures, speeds, and nozzle spacings. It will also help you decide whether to make changes in the settings for the next time. Also, make a note of the type of nozzles used and when you changed them. This will help you estimate the expected wear of the nozzles.

- ▶ **Applicator's Name** – It is always good practice to record the name of the person who actually applied the pesticide.
- ▶ **Weather Conditions** – A record of the weather conditions at the time and place you applied the pesticide will help you deal with questions about the effectiveness of the pesticide, property damage, drift, runoff, or other environmental concerns. You should record the wind speed, the wind direction, the temperature, relative humidity and information about precipitation at the time and place of application.
- ▶ **Location of Sensitive Areas** – Make a note of the animals and plants in the surrounding areas. Record the size of buffer zones. Record whether any damage occurred to plants or animals in the sensitive areas. (You should be able to prevent the damage next time). Try to determine the cause of the damage so that it can be prevented next time.
- ▶ **Results of Application** – Inspect the treated area from time to time to see the results of the pesticide application. Written comments will help you decide what to use in the future.

A good record keeping system:

- ▶ provides the information you need later
- ▶ is easy to understand, and
- ▶ is easily available.

There are many charts and record keeping systems that you could use to keep track of your application. A sample chart is shown on the following page.

**DON'T TRUST YOUR MEMORY –
WRITE IT DOWN!**

Keep a notebook with you and write down the information as it happens. Later, transfer all information to a permanent record kept in your home or office. Tell other employees where you keep this information.

Pesticide Application Record

Date and Time:

Crop:

Applicator's Name:

Location / Field Identification:

Crop Information:	Pesticide Information:	Equipment Information:
<p>Growth Stage:</p> <p>Growing Conditions:</p>	<p>Product Name:</p> <p>PCPA Reg. #:</p> <p>Group Number:</p> <p>Adjuvant:</p> <p>Pesticide Rate:</p> <p>Reapplication Date:</p> <p>Earliest Harvest Date:</p> <p>Re-entry Date:</p>	<p>Calibrated Rate (L/Ha):</p> <p>Nozzle Type:</p> <p>Nozzle Spacing:</p> <p>Pressure:</p> <p>Speed:</p>
Pest Information:	Weather Information:	Other Observations:
<p>Pests Present:</p> <p>Stage of Growth:</p> <p>Thresholds:</p> <p>Scouting Details:</p>	<p>Wind Speed:</p> <p>Wind Direction:</p> <p>Temperature:</p> <p>Relative Humidity:</p> <p>Soil Moisture and Precipitation:</p>	<p>Buffer Zone:</p> <p>Location of Sensitive Areas:</p>
Results/Comments		Diagram:

Written Instructions for Assistants Using Class 2 Pesticides


Certified Farmers who **indirectly supervise** Assistants must:

1. **Provide written instructions** to Assistants for mixing, loading or applying Class 2 pesticides, **and**
2. Be available for immediate response through an effective communication system, **and**
3. Be present within a reasonable period of time to respond to an emergency situation.

Your written instructions must contain all the information required by the Ontario Ministry of the Environment. There is a sample form on the next page. It includes all the required information that you must give in writing to an Assistant who mixes, loads or applies a Class 2 pesticide under your supervision. You may design and use a form that works for your farm, but it must contain **all** the information shown on this sample form. You can add extra information to your form if you wish.

If you would like a copy of the sample form in **Spanish** or **French**, contact the Ontario Pesticide Education Program:

- ▶ by phone at 1-800-652-8573
- ▶ by fax at 519-674-1589
- ▶ by e-mail at o pep@o pep.ca

If you need more information about supervising Assistants,  read the Section **How Pesticides are Regulated** in this manual.

Instructions for the Proper Application of Pesticide Products (Required for Class 2 Pesticide Products) To Be Filled out by Certified Farmer

Farm:	
Assistant:	
Certified Farmer:	
Contact Number:	Alternate Contact Number:

In Case of an Emergency:
• Call Certified Farmer at: _____

In Case of a Leak or Spill:
• Protect yourself first
• Shut off all equipment
• Tell the Certified Farmer & GET HELP
• Stop the spill from spreading

In Case of a Poisoning:
• Call for help right away - call the Certified Farmer
• Keep victim comfortable until help arrives

Re-entry Period: _____

Pre-Harvest Interval: _____

Amounts of Pesticides to Add into the Tank				Tractor/Sprayer
Product:	PCPA Reg. #:	MOE Class #:	Amount:	
1				Sprayer:
2				Tractor:
3				Gear:
4				Speed:
Water to Add to Tank	--	--		Pressure:
				RPM:

Number of Tanks: _____

Spray Area: _____

Crop: _____

Start Time: _____

Finish Time: _____

Date: _____

**When you mix,
you must wear: (√)**

- Coveralls
- Long pants and shirt with long sleeves
- Gloves, chemical resistant
- Boots, chemical resistant
- Water repellent hat
- Apron, chemical resistant
- Respirator
- Goggles
- Face Shield
- Waterproof rain suit with hood

**When you apply,
you must wear: (√)**

- Coveralls
- Long pants and shirt with long sleeves
- Gloves, chemical resistant
- Boots, chemical resistant
- Water repellent hat
- Apron, chemical resistant
- Respirator
- Goggles
- Face Shield
- Waterproof rain suit with hood

Assistant Signature

Supervising Certified Farmer Signature, Certificate #

This form was developed in cooperation with the Ministry of the Environment, the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, University of Guelph Ridgetown Campus, AGCare, and various Ontario farm groups.

Review Questions



1. List three (3) reasons to keep good records of pesticide applications:
 - 1.
 - 2.
 - 3.

2. Your pocket notebook is adequate to properly keep track of your pesticide applications.

TRUE FALSE

3. Certified Farmers who **indirectly** supervise Assistants **must** provide written instructions when Assistants use the following provincial class of pesticides:
 - a) 2
 - b) 3
 - c) 4
 - d) 5

