



Regulation 63/09 of the Ontario Pesticides Act

Assistants who mix, load or apply any **Class 2 or 3** pesticides, must be supervised by a Certified Farmer, and they must:

- be at least 16 years of age, **and**
- have basic pesticide safety training, recognized by the Ontario Ministry of the Environment.

This includes employees, family members and seasonal workers.

- **Assistants don't have to write an exam.**
- **Assistants must re-train every five years.**

There are two training options for Assistants:

Option 1 - Grower Pesticide Safety Course (GPSC)

Assistants may attend a one day GPSC, but they do not write the exam. The fee is \$105.

Option 2 - On-Farm Training by a qualified Assistant Instructor

If you are a Certified Farmer, you can attend an Assistant Instructor Course and become qualified to provide on-farm training for assistants. You must renew your instructor qualification every five years. The fee for the Assistant Instructor Course is \$65. This fee includes a kit of training materials you will use when you train your assistants.

You will fill in a "Record of Training" checklist for each Assistant you train. You send this completed checklist, plus a \$25 registration fee to the Ontario Pesticide Education Program. OPEP will send each Assistant a wallet card that is valid for five years.

An Assistant who has completed the training may mix, load and apply most Class 2 and 3 pesticides, under supervision of a Certified Farmer.

However, an Assistant may NOT:

- Choose, recommend or buy the pesticides
- Decide which application rate to use or calibrate equipment
- Decide how to store or dispose of the pesticides or containers
- Use a Class 2 pesticide that produces a suspension in air in buildings (pesticides that produce a fog, mist or are ultra low volume pesticides).

As a Certified Farmer, you are responsible for all pesticide use and handling on your farm. You may supervise up to three Assistants at any given time.