To obtain information about the Immigration and Reform Act and current related farm/labor laws that specify employer responsibilities and seasonal agricultural worker status, contact:

**Federal:**
Office of Special Counsel, Washington, D.C., Employer Information: (800) 255-8155.

**In Illinois:**
Travel Control Section, Immigration and Naturalization Service, 10 W. Jackson, Chicago, IL 60604, (312) 353-7334.

(Migrant Farm Workers and Farm Labor) Department of Labor, 310 S. Michigan Ave., Chicago, IL 60604, (312) 793-2804.

**In Indiana:**
Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS). Donald P. Ferguson, Officer in Charge, 950 N. Meridian Street, Indianapolis, IN 46204, (800) 375-5283; web site: <www.ins.usdoj.gov/graphics/fieldoffices/indianapolis/aboutus.htm>.

Migrant Farmworkers Project. Norman Metzger, Director, 151 N. Delaware Street, Suite 1800, Indianapolis, IN 46204, Toll-free: (800) 869-3505 (farm workers only) or (317) 631-9410 ext. 239.

**In Iowa:**
Iowa Dept. of Employment Services, Attn: John McDonald, Bureau of Field Operations, 150 Des Moines St., Des Moines, IA 50309, (515) 281-9336.

**In Minnesota:**
Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS), 2910 Metro Dr., Bloomington MN 55425, (612) 854-7754, after hours: (612) 222-8824.


**In Missouri:**
Missouri Dept. of Economic Development, Division of Workforce Development, 421 E. Dunklin St., P.O. Box 59, Jefferson City, MO 65104, (573) 751-3978.

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**Precautions with Pesticides**

Pesticides are designed to poison or otherwise manage pests. Many pesticide products may poison people, pets, livestock, wildlife, ornamental plants, and other non-target organisms. Pesticide applicators and their families have increased potential to be exposed to pesticides. It is important to keep all pesticide exposures to an absolute minimum.

You must protect your family members, field workers, and other people from pesticide injuries. Most pesticide accidents result from careless practices or lack of knowledge about safe handling of pesticides. The time you spend to learn about the safe use of pesticides is an investment in the health and safety of yourself, your family, and others.

The Environmental Protection Agency has certain restrictions on the use of pesticide chemicals. These restrictions apply to the use of chemicals applied to control insects, mites, plant diseases, weeds, nematodes, and other pests. Such restrictions may prohibit the use of a chemical or allow residue tolerances on harvested vegetables. A grower must know what chemical to use on each vegetable; how to apply; the post-treatment re-entry interval, if any; when to use the chemicals with respect to farm worker and/or picker safety; and the environment and the harvest of each vegetable crop. The grower must follow all label instructions regarding harvest restrictions (1) to assure the consumer that the food is free of dangerous residues and (2) to comply with the law to prevent seizure of his crop.

- Only mix the amount of a pesticide that you can use in one day.
- If you do have leftover spray mix, the best way to dispose of it is by applying it to a labeled crop in a legal manner.
- Never dispose of surplus pesticides in a way that will result in the contamination of ground or surface waters.
- Rinse all empty containers three times before disposal.
- Pour the rinse water into the spray tank. Puncture or break triple-rinsed containers to facilitate drainage and to prevent reuse for any other purpose.
- Then dispose of the container according to label directions.
Rules For Using Pesticides with "Danger" Signal Word

Formulations of Monitor, Lannate, Thimet, DiSyston, Furadan, and Guthion are highly poisonous. They should not be applied unless applicators strictly follow all precautions listed on the pesticide label. Some of those listed are the following.

- When handling or applying these materials, always wear the proper respiratory equipment as listed on the label.
- Always wear protective clothing to cover as much of the body as possible.
- Never handle pesticides with your bare hands. Wear rubber gloves, not leather or cloth gloves.
- Avoid breathing these pesticides when opening the containers or mixing into the spray tanks.
- Always wash hands, arms, and face immediately after handling pesticides and before eating or smoking.
- Never smoke while handling or applying pesticides.
- During the spraying operation, work in a manner to reduce all possible hazards of coming into direct contact with spray drift. In fact, if wind conditions make it difficult to stay out of the drift, don’t spray. If you must spray, wear all protective clothing as listed on the pesticide label.
- After each day’s work, take a thorough shower or bath, and change clothes. Wash spray clothes separately from the family wash, and after washing clothes, run another complete hot water and detergent wash cycle through the washer before washing family clothes.
- Wear clean overalls, underwear, socks, and cap each day you spray.
- Always keep pesticides in their original labeled containers, and store in a safe place. Store and dispose of containers according to information on the pesticide label.

Symptoms of Pesticide Poisoning

Poisoning symptoms include headache, blurred vision, pinpoint pupils, weakness, nausea, cramps, diarrhea, and discomfort in the chest. Symptoms can begin almost immediately after exposure or may be delayed for several hours. Call a physician any time you are concerned about illness due to contact with a pesticide.

If you experience any of these symptoms during exposure to pesticides, stop spraying or dusting immediately, and have someone take you, or go yourself, to a doctor. Do not resume spraying or dusting until you have consulted a doctor and the tests show it is safe to continue. When going to the doctor, take along the pesticide label or a sample label of the pesticide you have been using, material safety data sheet, and, if possible, the phone number of the manufacturer. This information is extremely critical for the doctor to make a proper diagnosis.

Emergency Treatments

Medical antidotes should be prescribed or given only by a qualified physician. First aid treatments should be given by someone having a basic knowledge of first aid as it relates to pesticide poisoning. In advance, prepare a well-thought-out plan of action to follow in the event of an accident with pesticides! First aid can be used initially to help a victim while medical help is on the way, or can be administered to a victim enroute to qualified help.

Call a doctor, an emergency medical service, or an Area Poison Information Center for immediate help. Know whether the label has a telephone emergency information number printed on it. Poison Information Centers have been established in Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri, and surrounding states to provide physicians with current information on diagnosing and treating accidental poisoning cases. See the inside front cover of this publication for poison control information for your state.

In case of accidental poisoning, first call a physician or hospital. Give them information about the poisoning, especially the name of the pesticide product. If they do not have a poison information center there, they should be able to put you in contact with the nearest one. If not, consult your local hospital, and get the name, address, phone number, and director of the center nearest you. You should get this information now just to have it available should the need arise.