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CONDITIONS COVERING THE USE OF PARAQUAT

The Environmental Protection Agency is requiring that by November 14, 2019, manufacturers of paraquat must change labeling of the product to include the new requirement that handlers must have paraquat-specific training in addition to a certified pesticide applicator's license/certificate in order to apply paraquat.

After that date, existing stock with labeling not bearing the restrictions may continue to be used until the stock is exhausted. As with most other labeling requirements, the product labeling attached to the container controls the use of the product.

Two certifications will be required to use paraquat products:

A certified pesticide applicator's license/certificate

Paraquat-specific training certificate in handler's name obtained online at www.usparaquattraining.com

Non-certified applicators will no longer be allowed to use products even if under the supervision of certified applicators.

Ground Applications

The prevailing wind direction during the application must be away from the sensitive area.

No applications may be made during inversion conditions or when wind speed is less than 2 mph, or greater than 7 mph.

Aerial Applications

The best drift management strategy is to apply the largest droplets that provide sufficient coverage and control. Applying larger droplets reduces drift potential, but will not prevent drift if applications are made improperly, or under unfavorable environmental conditions

Buffer distances will be determined by wind direction. If air movement is towards a sensitive area* at the time of the application, a buffer of at least 2 miles shall be maintained. If air movement is away from a sensitive area, the following buffers shall be maintained:

From incorporated cities or populated areas:

One mile for application by fixed wing aircraft

1/2 mile for application by helicopter

From sensitive crops**, truck farms, and certified organic crops:

1/2 mile for applications by helicopter or fixed wing aircraft

During the application, the prevailing wind direction shall be 90° to 180° away from any sensitive areas within 2 miles.

* sensitive areas are those areas where damage is not acceptable whether due to health, economic, or aesthetic concerns.

** sensitive crops are those crops where damage is not acceptable. The owner of the crop shall make the decision as to whether damage is acceptable. In no case shall this be interpreted to mean that a commodity may be harvested when it has a residue of paraquat in excess of tolerance.

Weather conditions. No applications may be made during inversion conditions or when wind speed is less than 2 mph, greater than 7 mph.

No less than 10 gallons of water per acre may be used as diluent.

Spray material shall not be discharged at a height of more than 10 feet above the crop or target.

Boom length shall not exceed 3/4 of the length of the wing on fixed wing aircraft or 6/7 of the length of the rotor on helicopters. Boom pressure shall not exceed 40 psi.

The flow of liquid to nozzles shall be controlled by a positive shut-off system.