

# **Nova Scotia Industrial Vegetation Management Manual**

## **Notice**

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This manual is provided for information only. Users of this manual rely on the contents of this manual at their own risk. This manual is not intended to be a representation of the current law on the subject of pesticide use. Users of this manual should always check with the appropriate authorities in their area to ensure Users are conducting their activities in a proper manner and in accordance with the laws of their jurisdiction. The Government of Nova Scotia, as represented by the Department of Environment and Labour, is in no way responsible for the activities of Users of this manual.

# **Acknowledgements**

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The Nova Scotia Department of Environment and Labour would like to acknowledge the New Brunswick Department of the Environment and Local Government for development of the original (1999) version of this manual.

Text for this manual was developed by ProAgri Consulting Limited (specifically Traci Curry and Lise Casey). Editorial review was provided by Kathy Stapleton of the New Brunswick Department of the Environment and Local Government. Formatting was provided by Imprint Communications (Stacy Howroyd).

The format for this manual is based on the Standard for Pesticide Education, Training and Certification in Canada. Content of this manual is also derived from the Industry Standards and Good practices for Vegetation Management, The Nova Scotia Pesticide Safety Manual, The Ontario Pesticide Education and Licensing Program/Aerial Module and Canadian Forestry Services Fact Sheets.

Funding for the development and production of this manual was provided by the New Brunswick Environmental Trust Fund.

# Introduction

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The Industrial Vegetation Management Category includes the application of herbicides by ground application to control weeds in an industrial area including a roadside, power-line, pipeline, right-of-way, railway, well site, equipment yard, or non-crop land.

The *Nova Scotia Industrial Vegetation Management Manual*, in conjunction with the *Applicator Core Training Manual*, contains the basic information that all industrial vegetation managers must know in order to become a certified pesticide applicator in the Province of Nova Scotia.

The *Applicator Core Training Manual* is divided into twelve sections covering the basic pesticide application topics such as legislation, regulations, toxicity and safety as well as the steps and decisions which all applicators have to make in their daily routine on the job.

The *Nova Scotia Industrial Vegetation Management Manual*, focuses on information specific for pesticide application in an industrial setting. Applicators wishing to obtain a Pesticide Applicator's Certificate for Industrial Vegetation Management using pesticide must be aware of the information contained in both this manual and the *Applicator Core Training Manual* in order to pass the applicator certification exam.

Both the *Applicator Core Training Manual* and this manual have been set up to help you prepare for the Industrial Vegetation Management category pesticide applicator certification exam. Read the goals at the beginning of each chapter. This will allow you to recognize the most important points from the chapter. Read each chapter carefully and answer the review questions at the end of the chapter. The answers are provided in an appendix at the end of the manual. These goal, questions and answers have been designed to help you learn the most important points from each chapter.

**Pesticides are not for amateurs. To protect people and the environment, pesticide applicators must be trained professionals!**

# Legislation

## Introduction

Federal, provincial and municipal governments regulate pesticides. Pesticide laws are designed to protect the purchaser, the applicator, the consumer and the environment. As a Pesticide Applicator you should have a good understanding of these laws. Ensure you are familiar with the information on legislation contained in the *Applicator Core Training Manual*. Additional information on provincial legislation, specific to industrial vegetation management programs is presented in this chapter.

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## Learning Objectives

### Completing this chapter will help you to:

- Understand the scope of the Industrial Vegetation Management certification.
- Understand when a business operators certification is required.
- Know when approvals are required for pesticide applications to manage industrial vegetation.

Pesticides are regulated in Nova Scotia under the authority of the Environment Act and the Pesticide Regulations, administered by the Nova Scotia Department of the Environment and Labour. The intent of the legislation is to ensure that pesticides are used, stored and disposed of in an appropriate manner. Every citizen has a responsibility under the Act to ensure that their use of pesticides does not result in pollution of the environment.

It is important that industrial vegetation managers have a clear understanding of provincial legislation. Nova Scotia provincial pesticide legislation can be viewed on line at [www.gov.ns.ca/enla/pests/regulations.asp](http://www.gov.ns.ca/enla/pests/regulations.asp)

### **Business Operator's Certificate**

Any business that sells the service of applying commercial or restricted class pesticides must obtain a Business Operator's Certificate from the Department of Environment and Labour. A completed Contingency Plan must be submitted along with the application for a Business Operators Certificate. The Business is responsible to maintain records of pesticides use. These records are subject to audit by NSEL.

The Business Operators Certificate is valid for no more than one year from the date of issue and expires on December 31. Specific terms and conditions are attached to the Business Operators Certificate. These terms and conditions are a legal document, enforceable under the Environment Act. It is the responsibility of the Business Operator to ensure that these terms and conditions are followed.

### **Pesticide Applicator Certification**

All employees of the business who apply commercial or restricted class pesticides must be certified by the Nova Scotia Environment and Labour. Pesticide applicators must pass a provincial pesticide applicator certification exam to become certified. This certification authorizes the applicator to use a pesticide by ground application including site preparation, brushing, crop tree release, thinning, insect control, disease control and vertebrate control in a forest management operation, forest seed orchard, outdoor nursery, or plantation.

Study material for this program is contained in two manuals. They are the *Applicator Core Training Manual* and the *Nova Scotia Industrial Vegetation Management Manual*. The *Applicator Core Training Manual* contains the general knowledge that all users of pesticides

must know and forms pesticide applicator *Scotia Industrial Management Manual* information on pest application technology, procedures for the management category.

the core for all programs. The *Nova Vegetation* contains specific management, legislation and safety industrial vegetation



**Nova Scotia**

## **Permits and Approvals**

An approvals is required prior to making the following types of pesticide application:

- the use of herbicides with a long residual (e.g., soil sterilants)
- applications to utility corridors and rights of way
- applications to roads streets or highways

For additional information see the Activities Designation Regulations - Division II which can be found on-line at [www.gov.ns.ca/just/regulations/regs/envactiv.htm](http://www.gov.ns.ca/just/regulations/regs/envactiv.htm)

## **Pesticide Label**

The pesticide label is an essential source of information for the applicator and is a legal document. Applicators must read the label before using the product and abide by the directions.

## Self-test Questions

*Answers are located in Appendix A of this manual.*

1. What provincial regulation governs the use of pesticides in Nova Scotia ?

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2. Which provincial department is the regulatory agency for pesticide use in Nova Scotia ?

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3. Who requires a Business Operator's Certificate ?

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## **Vegetation Management**

### **Introduction**

Vegetation management involves using the best method of control for unwanted vegetation. This is done by understanding the biology of the plant. Vegetation management can include using prevention, cultural, mechanical, biological and chemical methods. Successful vegetation management starts with proper identification of the weed.

What is a weed? A weed is any plant growing where it is not wanted. This can be in areas where they:

- reduce access and visibility along transportation corridors
- create transmission line hazards
- interfere with railroads by jamming switches and rotting ties

### **Learning Objectives**

**Completing this chapter will help you to:**

- Understand vegetation management.
- Know the methods used for vegetation control in the industrial vegetation management sector.
- Be familiar with the different types of herbicides used in industrial vegetation management.
- To review the common weed species in industrial sites.

## Weed Biology and Identification

The *Applicator Core Training Manual* provides a detailed description of weed life cycles, development stages and plant structures. It is essential to understand weed biology in order to apply the best management method to achieve effective control.

Weeds are classified according to their life cycle. **Annuals** are plants that complete their life cycle in one year. **Biennials** are plants that live between one and two years. **Perennials** are plants that may live for many years. Plants are also classified according to similar structures:

- **Flowering species** produce flowers that develop into seeds. They can be herbaceous (soft stems that die back (fireweed, grass) or woody (hard stems that do not die back during the winter (specked alder, brambles).
- **Deciduous species** produce leaves that are dropped during the fall and produce seeds through fruits and flowers. These are hardwood species such as birch and maple.
- **Conifers** produce needles or scale-like leaves and produce their seeds in cones. These are the softwood species such as spruce and fir.

## Vegetation Management Methods

There are many methods of managing vegetation that are suited to specific situations. The management for a particular site depends on the long-term objectives, site characteristics, environmental considerations, landowner and public concerns, adjacent land uses and availability of resources. Often a combination of management techniques are needed. This is called an **integrated vegetation management (IVM)** approach.

An IVM program should be followed when developing a control program for industrial sites. IVM utilizes a combination of methods to ensure that a successful control program is implemented. It is critical to know the growth habit of the target vegetation and to monitor site characteristics to determine when and how to treat. A long term strategy should be developed to minimize impact on people and the environment. These methods include:

- prevention (sanitation)
- cultural control
- mechanical control
- biological control

Regardless of methods used, all precautions to protect workers and minimize off-target movement must be taken. Weather conditions must be continually assessed during control to ensure chosen methods can be continued without environmental harm.

## **Prevention (Sanitation)**

Prevention is the first step in developing a successful vegetation management program. This would include:

- cleaning machinery before moving between locations to prevent the spread of weed seeds
- using machinery in areas of low infestation before moving to areas of high infestations
- controlling weeds in nearby ditches, fence lines, pathways and roads to reduce the source of re-infestation

## **Cultural Control**

This method utilizes techniques that discourage or prevent weed growth. These methods would include:

- Planting/encouraging species to complement the area, stabilize the soil and improve aesthetics. An example of a complementary species would be blueberries in a power corridor. Blueberries will not interfere with power lines, will spread quickly, will compete with weed species and are of economic benefit.
- Seeding after soil disturbance. Bare ground is an invitation for weed seeds to germinate and spread. If you must have bare ground in areas such as power stations, use a thick layer of crushed rock to discourage weed germination.
- Planting nurse or companion species. A fast growing species is planted with the desired species which will out-compete weeds while the desired species is getting established. It is important that the companion species can be easily controlled.

## **Mechanical Control**

This method utilizes physical control of the weed to disrupt its life cycle. It's often used in areas where chemical control is not appropriate because of:

- environmental considerations such as water courses
- non target species that are present
- weeds that are too advanced or tall for chemical control
- public relations issues such as where burn-out is undesirable or proximity of residential areas/sites

### **Mechanical controls include:**

- brush mowing
- hand slashing
- girdling
- tree trimming
- machine clearing
- burning

### **Mechanical - Brush Mowing**

Vehicles with cutter heads are used to mow down smaller trees and brush (less than about 10 cm in diameter). Heavy equipment such as crawler tractors, low ground pressure tractors, brush cutters, chipping equipment and mowing attachments are used. This method is useful for site preparation and conifer release (the selective control of non conifer species which will allow the conifers to grow and flourish).

Mowing is used where:

- brush is too tall to spray with herbicides
- other methods are not appropriate
- off target vegetation is susceptible to herbicides (gardens, planted trees, shelter belts and field crops)

Mowing is more expensive than herbicides but less expensive than hand slashing and trimming. There is also less chance of worker injury than with hand operated power saws. Often mowing is followed up with herbicides to reduce brush re-sprouting. Mowing of sprayed vegetation is also used where burn out maybe offensive to the public.

The negative impacts of mowing are:

- removes non-target plants, thereby reducing plant competition, wildlife forage and opening up niches for unwanted vegetation
- does not promote colonization of cleared areas with compatible species and usually increases suckering of then on-compatible species
- on wet terrain, disturbance of soils by tires may cause erosion
- rotary blades create safety hazards by throwing rocks and debris long distances
- cut stumps may be hazardous to humans when hidden by low vegetation\
- debris may cause a fire hazard
- promotes heavier re-growth of deciduous vegetation
- potential damage to machinery and operator if used on severely sloped or marshy areas

## **Mechanical - Hand Slashing**

Hand slashing is the removal of brush species using hand operated power saws. Slashing is used where the:

- amount of brush to be controlled is small and mowing would be uneconomical
- trees are too large for mowing and too tall for herbicide application
- brush is inaccessible to mowers
- area is environmentally sensitive

Some of the equipment used for hand slashing are chainsaws, topping saws, chippers, pole pruners, handsaws, climbing gear, axes, brush cutters and wedges.

### **The negative impacts of hand slashing are:**

- labour intensive
- increased incidents of worker injuries and accident
- heavier re-growth (suckering) of deciduous vegetation

## **Mechanical - Girdling**

Girdling is the removal of a strip of bark from around the trunk of the tree. This method effectively controls woody weeds such as alder and birch.

## **Mechanical - Machine Clearing**

Vegetation can be completely cleared by blade, bucket or back-hoe equipment, either on tracks or rubber tires. Crawler tractor clearing is usually used to prepare sites for construction. It is quicker and less expensive than mowing and hand slashing.

It is important that machine clearing is not conducted within 30meters of open water as it may cause sedimentation. Take note that there may also be legislated requirements regarding machinery's proximity to water.

Negative impacts of machine clearing are similar to brush mowing but also include:

- environmental impacts
- increased chance of erosion on sloped soils
- not aesthetically pleasing to the public

## **Mechanical - Tree Trimming**

Tree trimming is the selective removal of branches of high value trees to prevent them from growing into unwanted places such as power lines. Trimming is the most expensive means of tree removal due to its very selective control.

It can be hazardous to workers who are trimming trees around power lines or working from an aerial bucket. Ensure that proper safety procedures are followed when working around powerlines.

## **Mechanical - Burning**

Controlled burning may be used for site preparation to improve the site for planting. A controlled burning will prevent the buildup of large amounts of cut brush that poses a uncontrolled fire hazard during drought conditions.

## **Biological Control**

This is the control of pests through the use of organisms including insect parasites and predators, birds and microorganisms and synthetic compounds that mimic naturally occurring compounds. Current use of biological controls in vegetation management is limited but researched is ongoing.

Living organisms can control vegetation by:

- grazing a site before weeds go to seed i.e. using sheep for conifer release
- releasing pest specific insects
- encouraging native or naturalized insects/diseases to control weeds

The negative factors with biological control are:

- biological research is expensive and long term
- control is a long term process
- control will not be 100% as organisms will not consume their entire food supply

## **Chemical Control**

Various herbicide methods are used to provide selective or complete control of vegetation. Herbicides are used to treat stumps left after mowing or slashing to reduce suckering. Herbicide use is the least expensive form of vegetation control and provides the least chance of worker injury. All applicators in Nova Scotia are required to have a Pesticide Applicator Certificate.

Herbicides are a popular method of vegetation management because:

- control can be selective or non selective depending on which product/application technique is used
- selective use may improve habitat for wildlife and promote the growth of compatible species
- there is less re-sprouting of target species than with other brush control
- there is little or no disturbance of the soil
- long term control as compared to other methods

Improper use of herbicides can pose serious environmental problems. There are potential effects on fish or wildlife or contamination of domestic water if improper equipment or application techniques are used. There are also public relations issues surrounding concern about the use of pesticides in the environment. The use of herbicides is a privilege, not a guarantee. Applicators must be certified and conduct their business in a professional manner.

In order to select the most effective herbicide for a given situation, applicators must understand not only the biology of the plant but how the herbicide controls the plant. The following section discusses the various factors of herbicides.

## **Types of Herbicides**

Herbicides are classified according to:

- selectivity
- mode of action
- timing of application
- residual effectiveness

**Herbicide Selectivity:** herbicides control weeds selectively or non selectively. Selective herbicides only control the targeted weed species. Non-selective herbicides control all plants depending on the product chosen.

**Herbicide Mode of Action:** is the method by which the herbicide controls the targeted weed species.

- **Contact herbicides:** kill only the part of the plant that the herbicide comes into contact. There is relatively little movement of the herbicide within the plant. Contact herbicides are effective in controlling annuals but are not effective in controlling perennials as only the top portion of the plant is "burned off" while the underground root structure is not affected. An example of a contact herbicide is Gramoxone.
- **Systemic herbicides:** move (translocate) from the place of contact (above or below ground) throughout the plant. Effects may not show up for several days to several weeks although the plant has stopped growing. Too much herbicide on the leaves may kill the leaf cells too quickly and prevent translocation to the site of action in the plant. An example of a systemic herbicide is Vision.

**Herbicide Timing of Application:** herbicides are also classified according to when they are applied.

- **Pre-plant herbicides** are applied to the soil prior to seeding or transplanting and are usually incorporated into the soil.
- **Pre-emergent herbicides** are applied after seeding of the crop but prior to weed or crop emergence. Pre-emergence may be to prior to germination of either the weed or the crop.
- **Post-emergent herbicides** are applied after the crop and the weeds have emerged. These herbicides also control established weed species.

**Herbicide Residual Effectiveness:** refers to how long the herbicide remains active in the soil to control weeds over time.

- Residual herbicides can remain active for several weeks to several years. Velpar is a residual herbicide.
- Non-residual herbicides are quickly broken down in the soil and will not affect weeds germinating after application. They are broken down by microorganisms, sunlight or chemical degradation. Vision is a non-residual herbicide.

### **Special Considerations for Residual Herbicides**

Residual herbicides remain in the soil for a long period of time. This makes them more susceptible for moving off site through leaching and erosion. Problems that can develop are:

- Damage to trees and shrubs when roots are either in or grow into the treatment area. A buffer zone between the application site and nearby vegetation should be listed on the label. If not, the buffer should be 1/2 times the height of the vegetation.
- Ground water can be contaminated if the treatment site is located in an area with a high water table and coarse gravelly soil.
- Certain desirable plant species will be suppressed by residual herbicides. This limits future use of the area therefore present use of the site must coincide with the length of time that the residual herbicide is active.
- Persistence can vary with product, rate, formulation, concentration, weather and soil conditions.
- Steep slopes should be avoided as this leads to erosion and runoff of the pesticide product. This can be a problem when looking at treatment areas next to roadsides and railways, brooks and ponds.
- When using a residual herbicide, you should develop a site specific plan to ensure no adverse impact to the environment. The site specific plan should include:
  - soil type, structure, pH
  - proximity to water bodies
  - site drainage patterns
  - surrounding land ownership/use

### **Factors Influencing Herbicide Effectiveness**

There are external factors that must be considered when making decisions regarding effective herbicide application. Ensure that vegetation has been correctly identified before control measures are taken. The following factors can optimize the control of weed species.

- **Shape and Surface of Leaves:** The shape and surface of leaves influence how well herbicides stick to the surface so that it can be absorbed by the plant. Thin upright leaves and hairy or waxy plant surfaces make it difficult for the herbicide to make good contact with the leaf. Surfactants and additives can be added to the spray mix in order to increase the wetting ability of the spray to assist with leaf penetration. Do not add a surfactant if the label does not require it.
- **Weather Conditions:** high temperature, humidity, wind and rain will affect herbicide efficacy. High temperatures and humidity will cause phenoxy herbicides (i.e. Dycleer) to volatilize and drift from the target. Cool temperatures will decrease the rate of plant transpiration which will reduce the movement of systemic herbicides into and within the plant. Wind will cause drift and can move the herbicide off target. Rain may wash the herbicide off the plant before it can be absorbed. Some soil applied herbicides require rain or irrigation after application to carry the herbicide into the root zone.

- **Plant Growth Stage:** The young rapidly growing weed is more susceptible to herbicide control than later growth stages. Systemic herbicides have shorter distances to travel to reach all parts of a young plant. Once plants have reached the flowering stage they are much more resistant to herbicides. Perennial plants are more resistant to herbicides in the later growth stages except at the bud or early flowering stage. At this stage, nutrients are being translocated down to the roots of the plant in preparation for winter survival. The herbicide will move with the food supply.
- **Soil Type:** Soil type affects the rate of herbicides that must be used in order to achieve optimal control. Organic and clay soils bind herbicides to the soil particles which reduces the amount available for weed control. Sandy soils often require lower rates of herbicides because the herbicides are more available to plants. PH of the soil can also affect herbicide activity. Thoroughly reading the pesticide label will assist the applicator to apply the correct rate given the specific soil conditions.
- **Soil Moisture:** Warm moist soils are at their optimum condition for soil applied herbicides.
- **Cultivation:** Cultivating before a herbicide is applied can make the herbicide more or less effective. For instance, cultivating quackgrass several weeks prior to herbicide application will increase control. The long underground rhizomes are broken up and begin to sprout. This ensures that the herbicide will be translocated to the tips of the root system of the new plant. In other instances, breaking up the plant reduces control. Cultivation is usually not applicable to industrial scenarios except for nurseries and plantations.
- **Resistance:** The number of herbicide resistant plants has increased over the past decade. Resistance develops when the same herbicide or herbicides using the same control pathway are used over a period of time. Those weeds that were not controlled develop offspring that have the same resistant gene. Over time, those species with the resistant gene become the dominant species and will no longer be controlled. There are a number of steps that can be taken to slow down the development of resistance such as rotating different families of herbicides and following label rates. The under and over application of herbicides leads to resistance. Tank mixing different active ingredients may control the plant using different mechanisms of action that will also slow down the development of resistance.
- **Mowing:** If mowing has occurred then herbicide application must be delayed until sufficient suckering or re-growth has occurred.

The following should be considered when selecting a herbicide program:

- treatment objectives (are you doing a site preparation or a brushing operation)
- herbicide compatibility with the environment

- timing of application (what season do you the herbicide)
- efficacy (which product will work on the treatment site)
- herbicide costs
- legal aspects
- site characteristics
- selectivity and crop tree resistance
- practicality of the treatment
- safety

## **Weed Identification**

The following is a list and description of weeds of significance to the eastern Canadian forestry and industrial sectors.

### **Herbaceous Species Goldenrod (*Solidago spp.*)**

The Maritimes have 16 native goldenrod species that all flower in late summer. Goldenrod prefer dry open habitats and are often found in waste areas, railroads, roadsides and cut-overs. Characteristics of the species include simple and alternative leaves that may be entire or toothed, dull yellow flowers and a distinctive musky odour.

This plant is associated with poor soil conditions and can be controlled by:

- improving soil conditions
- cultivation
- selective herbicides

### **Aster (*Aster spp.*)**

There are approximately 18 species of aster in the Maritimes with most having a perennial life cycle. Identification of asters is easier once the mature plants flower. Characteristics of the species are:

- asters mainly bloom mid-late summer and early fall
- flower heads range from white to deep purple, the disk is red, purple or yellow.
- leaves are alternate, simple and toothed

Like goldenrod, these plants thrive on poor soil conditions. Control measures are the same as for goldenrod.

### **Eastern Bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*)**

Eastern Bracken is probably the most common fern in Atlantic Canadian woodland areas. Eastern bracken is usually found in shaded areas and is spread by spores. The plant has ferns that arise singularly and fronds that are large and coarse. Eastern Bracken is resistant to most herbicides and can be difficult to control. Contact your forestry specialist for control recommendations for your area.

### **Fireweed (*Epilobium angustifolium*)**

Fireweed is a common weed in clear cut and burnt-over areas. This plant is sometimes confused with purple loosestrife. Fireweed is a tall perennial plant with showy pink-purple flowers. Fireweed seed produces a tuft of white hair which is distinctive when viewed from a distance (unlike purple loosestrife). Fireweed is a pioneer species and does not generally cause long term problems.

### **White Sweet Clover (*Melilotus alba*)**

White sweet clover is a biennial plant, reproducing from seed. This tall plant can reach heights of 3 metres and has white, frond-like flowers with very small leaves arranged as three leaflets. This plant is a member of the pea family and develops round or oval pods which contain 1-4 dark coloured seeds.

White sweet clover can be a problem along rail line crossroads and roadways as it grows very tall and restricts visibility for motorists. It is a prolific seeder and spreads rapidly along road-ways. It can be very difficult to mow with hand held equipment as the stalks will wrap around blades/chains and jam the equipment. It prefers to grow in a gravelly soils and is a salt tolerant plant. It can be controlled by selective broadleaf herbicides and its spread can be checked by mechanical mowings before it reaches the seed pod stage.

### **Ragweed (*Ambrosia spp.*)**

Ragweed is an annual plant which usually emerges along road-sides in mid to late June. This weed is usually 30-50 cm in height but may be considerably shorter. The leaves of ragweed are fern like in appearance and the plant may grow with a single stalk or may be bushy in appearance. The tiny green flowers of ragweed form on spikes. Ragweed is a prolific seed producer with one plant producing from 3000-62,000 seeds per year.

Ragweed can cause serious health problems for humans due to its high production of pollen. One ragweed plant can produce 8 billion pollen grains in 5 hours and travel over 400 kilometres. This plant is very salt tolerant and is prolific on roadsides. Mowing is not an effective control measure as ragweed will grow and seed below the cutter bar. Planting a competitive species or implementing a herbicide program will provide control.

### **Coltsfoot (*Tussilago farfara*)**

Coltsfoot is an unusual perennial plant in that its flowers appear before its leaves, usually late April to early May. Its bright yellow flowers and seed heads are similar to dandelion. Coltsfoot leaves emerge in clumps and are green with a greyish woolly underside.

Coltsfoot can spread over 3 metres in one season by under-ground rhizomes and is extremely difficult to control. Consult your forestry or agricultural representative for specific control measures on this plant.

### **Control of Herbaceous Species**

Many of the herbaceous species that pose a problem to the forestry operations are perennials that reproduce from underground structures. This would require a control program that depletes the root reserves, out-competes the weed or uses a systemic herbicide. An ongoing mowing program would reduce the root reserves by forcing the plant to use its resources from its roots to produce its vegetative structures. This would require targeting mowing during the bud stage and may have to be done more than once a season. Complete control would be difficult to achieve using this measure. Another method would be to plant a competitive species. A herbicide program using a selective systemic herbicide may provide excellent control.

### **Woody Species**

#### **Speckled Alder (*Alnus rugosa*)**

There are 30 species of alder but only three occur in the Maritimes. The most common is speckled alder (*Alnus rugosa*). Alders are pioneer species that occur in areas that are reverting back to forest. They can be found along roadsides, ditches and open areas. The following are characteristics of the species.

- Alternate oval shaped leaves that are a dull dark green, coarsely textured, slightly hairy (depending on species), uneven and sharply toothed edges.
- Bow shaped stems that are found in clumps that spread laterally from the base. They can reach a height of six meters. Older alders may have a 10 cm diameter but taper or branch to a smaller diameter. The exposed surface of cut stumps turn orange.
- Flowers hang from the ends of twigs in small bunches until spring. They develop into oval dark brown cones that may remain on the branch for more than one year.
- Alders are nitrogen fixers which mean they can convert nitrogen from the atmosphere into nitrates. This can make alders a good choice for planting as a

competitive species as they will improve the fertility of nutrient poor land. They also provide good wildlife stands for rabbits and birds.

### **Red Osier Dogwood (*Cornus*)**

The dogwood family includes over 50 different species of which 5 are found in the Maritimes. The red dogwood is a common weed. The wood is very hard but doesn't reach a commercially valuable size. The following are characteristics of the species.

- Leaves have five to seven pairs of prominent veins that follow the leaf shape. This is a distinct characteristic for the dogwoods. Leaves are opposite, dark green on top, lighter underneath and slightly fuzzy.
- The red dogwood seldom reaches three meters and has a bushy appearance. The bark is lime green in the summer and red in the winter. The bark is dotted with small white oval markings.
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- Small white flower clusters are flat topped, bloom in June and produce white-blue berries produced by September.

### **Red-Berried Elder (*Sambucus pubens*)**

Two common elder species found in the Maritimes are common and red-berried elder. Elders are the only shrub that have opposite pinnate leaves (leaflets arranged along each side of a common stalk). The following are characteristics of the species.

- Leaves are opposite and pinnate with five to seven leaflets. The leaves are sharply toothed, dark green on top and light green with fuzz underneath.
- Stems are found in clusters that spread from the base and may reach a height of three meters. The bark is brown and covered with "warts".
- Oval or pyramid-shaped clusters of creamy-white flowers bloom in May. Brilliant red berries are produced in mid-July.

### **Serviceberry (*Amelanchier spp.*)**

There are 20 species of Serviceberry. They are shrubs and trees are also known as shadbush, juneberry or saskatoonberry. The easiest way to identify serviceberry is that they are often the first shrub to bloom in the spring. The following are characteristics of the species.

- Leaves vary in shape with most being rounded at the base. They are alternate, toothed and can be as small as four cm and as big as 20 cm.

- Stems are light grey and streaked with dark vertical lines. The wood is hard, heavy, tough and close-grained. The heartwood is dark reddish-brown and the sapwood is pale. Thin winter twigs are coated with a white film.
- Flowers are white and produce edible fruit in July. Fruit are round, reddish-purple and topped with five small dried up flower parts.

### **Willow (*Salix spp.*)**

Willows flower early in the spring which is the easiest time for identification because catkins (dry scaly unisexual spikes) are still present. Catkins do not droop as they do with other tree species. The following are characteristics of the species.

- Willows have long alternate narrow pointed leaves.
- Sizes range from knee-high shrubs to tall trees. Stems may grow singularly or in clumps. The wood is light colored and tough.
- Willows flower as fuzzy catkins in May or June. Tiny seeds are released, spread by the wind and can begin germination within hours of landing on the ground.
- Twigs are slender and yellowish with crescent shaped buds.

### **Poplar (*Populus spp.*)**

Poplars and aspens are also included in the willow family which flower very early in the spring. Aspen have smooth buds while poplar buds are finely hairy. The following are characteristics of the species.

- The flowers are surrounded by a deeply toothed or lobed bract.
- Catkins are produced in the early spring with the seed maturing before leaves fully expand.

### **Maple (*Acer spp.*)**

Maples are one of the most abundant tree species in Canadian deciduous forests. The two most common species in Eastern Canada are sugar and red maple.

- **Sugar Maple (*Acer saccharum*)** flowers from late April to early June. They have bark that is smooth and grey.

- **Red Maple (*Acer rubrum*)** is often seen as a shrub in poorly drained or clear cut sites. The leaves are thick and leathery with serrated margins.

### **Birch (*Betula spp.*)**

Birch has 50 species in the northern hemisphere with yellow and white birch being the most common in the Maritimes.

- **Yellow Birch (*Betula alleghaniensis*)** has broad oval shaped pointed leaves. Stems are shiny brown with small white markings that smell like wintergreen when broken. Birch is often a dominant species in deciduous forests.
- **White Birch (*Betula papyrifera*)** has a variable leaf shape and bark color. Its distinct papery white bark makes it easy to identify. It is scattered in our forests but often germinates into a pure stand after a fire.

### **Beech (*Fagus spp.*)**

There are 10 species that can be found in the northern hemisphere with one species found in the Maritimes (*F. grandifolia*). The following are characteristics for this species.

- Leaves are toothed with points at the end of each vein.
- Fruit is a sharply three angled nut with one seed.
- Beech is severely affected by the *Nectria* beech canker.

### **Kalmia (*Kalmia angustifolia*)**

Kalmia, also known as sheep laurel and lambkill, are shrubby type plants that are usually found as large infestations. This plants common name is derived from the fact that kalmia is toxic to sheep.

- Flowers are showy and rose or pale pink in color and are arranged in clusters and flower from late May to early July.
- Leaves are opposite with in-rolled margins and powdery-white under sides.
- The plant has an interesting appearance in that the flowers grow along the stalk, not at the top.

## **Brambles**

Brambles include red raspberry (*Rug us idaeus*) and smooth blackberry (*Rubus canadensis*). Both of these species are common on roadsides, deforested land, rocky ground, clearings and on the edges of woods.

- **Red Raspberry** has canes that range from bristly to nearly smooth. The leaves are divided into 3-5 leaflets, which are white beneath. Raspberry flowers in July as small inconspicuous clusters and produces edible fruit.
- **Smooth blackberry** has canes that are smooth or have only scattered, straight prickles. The leaves are divided into five leaflets, the terminal one on a long stalk. It flowers in June and July with ten to twenty showy flowers and produces edible fruit.

Brambles represent a species with conflicting perceptions. Although the general public view brambles as a food source that derives economic benefit, brambles are a serious weed species in the industrial sector.

## **Control of Woody Species**

### **Woody Species**

One of the problems with woody species in industrial areas is that they sucker after they are cut. Suckering occurs when the parent stem of a shrub or tree is cut and numerous small stems grow from the parent root system. In many cases, cutting encourages suckering and growth.

A program using mechanical control methods must be done on a regular basis to ensure that species that spread through suckering are kept controlled. An integrated management program using a variety of methods ensures that effective long term control is achieved. A foliar or basal bark spray program often controls the entire plant because the herbicide is moved throughout, killing all parts of the plant. Suckering does not occur.

# Self-test Questions

*Answers are located in Appendix A of this manual.*

1. List the factors that influence herbicide activity. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. Define a contact herbicide. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. List four vegetation management techniques. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. What is integrated vegetation management? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. What are the environmental considerations when using residual herbicides? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Environmental Impact

### Introduction

Industrial pest management programs occur in areas that are valuable for wildlife and recreation. The public is concerned that pesticide use will result in the loss of resources, both now and in the future. It is essential that pesticide applicators carefully manage their programs so that the pests are controlled and the environment is protected. Both land and aquatic impacts must be considered.

### Learning Objectives

**Completing this chapter will help you to:**

- Know how industrial vegetation management pesticide programs can harm wildlife and recreation areas.
- Be familiar with procedures to protect the environment from pesticides.

### Aquatic Impact

Aquatic organisms can be harmed both directly and indirectly through incorrect pesticide applications and spills. Direct harm is the obvious effects from contamination of habitat.

Indirect harm results from:

- The reduction of food supply through loss of food organisms or stream side vegetation.
- Loss of vegetation canopy over streams. Canopy is essential for temperature regulation, food supply and fish cover.

- Water sources can be protected from pesticides through the use of buffer zones.

Buffer zones are areas that are left in their natural state to protect neighbouring habitats. Buffer zones are important because they:

- Catch spray drift or run-off that minimizes toxic hazards to aquatic habitats.
- Prevent damage to stream-side vegetation.

Buffer zone width will vary depending on terrain, forest cover, method of application and the pesticide used.

### **Land Impact**

Wildlife habitat and recreation activities can be adversely affected by incorrect pesticide application. Like aquatic impact harm may be direct or indirect. Direct harm is the obvious effects from contamination of habitat such as insecticide toxicity on birds and their young when nesting.

Indirect harm results from:

- Insecticides altering bird behaviour
- Insecticides removing food source insects and pollinators
- Loss of habitat that is essential for food, shelter, nesting, dens, hunting perches and foraging sites.

Recreation sites such as snowmobile, hiking and ski trails, berry picking sites and waterways can be lost or irreparably damaged by pesticide misuse. Applicators must identify forest or right-of-way use and must protect these areas as required through permits or guidelines.

Land resources can be protected by:

- Practising an IVM program
- Conducting site visits prior to application
- Setting aside certain areas of treatment blocks for wildlife forage
- Choosing selective methods of application to protect non-target organisms and minimize the effect on browse vegetation
- Working with wildlife habitat staff to develop a site specific management plan.

# Self-test Questions

*Answers are located in Appendix A of this manual.*

1. Why are buffer zones important? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. How can land resources be protected from pesticide contamination? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. How can aquatic organisms be harmed through incorrect pesticide use? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



## **Application Technology**

### **Introduction**

Pesticide application is one method of control that may be used in an integrated pest management program. Pesticide applications must use techniques and equipment that will not only achieve successful control but are also cost effective and environmentally sound. The technique and equipment chosen must ensure thorough coverage of the target species, that the correct amount of pesticide is applied and that drift is reduced. Choosing inappropriate techniques will not control the pest, waste time, increase costs and may have an adverse impact on the environment. Proper pesticide application requires knowledge and skill of application technique, equipment and calibration.

### **Learning Objectives**

#### **Completing this chapter will help you to:**

- Be familiar with application techniques used in the industrial vegetation management sector.
- Learn about application equipment used in the industrial vegetation management sector.
- Learn how to select nozzle types for particular applications.
- Learn how to calculate treatment area for pesticide application.

### **Application Techniques**

Pesticides must be applied when the target species are at their most susceptible stage of growth while the non-target species are at their most resistant stage of growth. This will decrease the possibility of non-target damage.

Most pesticide applications in the industrial sector use herbicides.

**Application techniques for vegetation management include:**

- foliar application
- bud break spray
- early foliar spray
- late foliar spray
  
- fall spray
- basal bark application
- cut surface application
- stump treatment
- trunk wound application
- tree injection
- soil application
- aerial application
- tree growth retardation

**Foliar application**

Foliar application is the application of a pesticide spray mix to leaves and stems. Pesticides can be applied with truck-mounted boom and boomless systems, helicopter or fixed wing aircraft, compressed air sprayers and hand held spray guns.

**Advantages of foliar application are that they are:**

- the most cost effective method of control
- the most time efficient method of control

**Disadvantages of foliar application are that they:**

- require complete coverage
- can create a drift hazard
- are the most publicly visible form of pesticide control

**There are several timings for foliar applications:**

- **Bud break or dormant sprays** are used in the late winter or early spring prior to when buds break to form leaves. Herbicides are absorbed through the bark of the brush. Conifers are resistant to herbicides at this stage. Dormant sprays are often used where foliar application was not completed in the previous season or where off-target plants could be harmed by drift. Pesticides can be applied with oil or water carriers. There are some environmental concerns with dormant sprays because they use oil carriers.

- **Early foliar sprays** are used in the late spring when most young vegetation is susceptible to herbicides. This is not an effective time for conifer release as the conifers can be damaged.
- **Late foliar sprays** are used in mid to late summer. This application can be less effective on brush species as they are more resistant as they get larger. Once conifer growth has stopped and buds have formed, conifer resistance to herbicides increases. A water carrier is often used.
- **Fall sprays** are used in the late summer to late fall. This application can be very effective on brush and perennial herbaceous species. Herbicides are translocated down to the root system along with food reserves in preparation for the winter. It is not effective on species that have ceased growth. Conifers are generally resistant to herbicides at this time.

**Basal bark application** Basal bark application is the application of a herbicide solution on the base of stems from a height of approximately 0.5 meters to ground level, on root collars and on exposed roots. Control is most successful when stems are less than 10 cm in diameter.

**The advantages of basal bark application are:**

- Treatment can be carried out any time of the year (most effective in late summer).
- is highly selective since only target plants are treated.

**The disadvantages of basal bark treatment are:**

- Environmental concerns because of the oil carriers used to penetrate the bark
- This method is very labour intensive.

There are three variations to basal bark applications that include one-sided low volume, thin line and stream line applications.

**Cut surface application** is the application of herbicides to the application cambium layer of the woody species. The cambium layer is the tissue between the wood and the bark. This layer carries water and nutrients to all parts of the plant. Applying a herbicide to this layer will ensure that herbicides are carried to the stems, foliage and roots. The advantages and disadvantages of cut surface applications depend upon the method used. The following is a description of three methods of cut surface application:

**Stump treatment** is the application of a herbicide to cut stems or stumps of trees immediately after mowing or hand slashing to prevent suckering. The application is made to the outer 2.5 cm of the cambium layer of the cut stump. There is specialized equipment available such as the **sprout-less applicator®** that cuts and applies the herbicide in one operation.

**The advantages of stump treatment are:**

- It is highly selective as only target plants are treated
- The non oil solution reduces environmental impact

**The disadvantages of stump treatment are:**

- Time consuming
- Labour intensive

Can produce inconsistent results especially when treatment is made during heavy sap flow in the spring or when stumps have been left for several days before application

**Trunk wound application** (hack and squirt) consists of making a cut in woody plants and applying herbicides to the cut. Herbicides can also be injected into trees with hypo-hatchets, squirt bottles or basal injections by making a 45 ( angle cut through the bark at waist height. The label will indicate the number of notches (frills) that are required for the tree diameter. This type of application is used mainly to control species that sucker and where unwanted species are located on the edges of open areas. Control is variable for some species during heavy sap flow in the spring i.e. maples. Trunk wound applications are successful with trees or shrubs that have stems that are 5 cm in diameter or larger.

**The advantages of trunk wound application are:**

- It is highly selective as only target plants are treated
- The non oil solution reduces environmental impact

**The disadvantages of trunk wound application are:**

- Time consuming
- Labour intensive

Can produce inconsistent results especially when treatment is made during heavy sap flow in the spring.

**Tree injection** uses a system where a capsule that contains a systemic herbicide is injected into the bark. It is used mainly on woody species on right-of-ways. Another technique is drilling holes into the trunk and inserting a probe into the trunk. The probe dispenses the herbicide.

**Advantages of tree injection are:**

- minimal herbicide exposure to the worker and the environment
- highly selective
- can be done in the fall or winter months.

**Disadvantage of tree injection is that:**

- it requires several months for the effects to become visible.

**Soil Application**

Soil application is the application of soil active herbicides that are taken up by roots. These herbicides are applied directly to soil and may require moisture to become activated. Caution with this procedure is that pesticides should not be applied to frozen ground or on sloped terrain as the herbicide may move off-target. Wettable powders and liquid formulations are applied as a spray application. Soil application is often done using a hand held boom that is sprayed to treat individual spots (site preparation, conifer release) or by low-pressure boom sprayers as a broadcast over a large area (nurseries).

Granular formulations are dispensed by granular application equipment. Small amounts can be spread by hand around the base of the tree or broadcast by hand or mechanical spreader. Do not apply on sloped terrain. Rainfall or irrigation dissolves the granules which causes them to release the herbicide into the root zone. Soil applied herbicides are often residual so special consideration is essential when developing this type of control program to minimize off-site movement.

**The advantages of soil treatment are:**

- Provides residual control
- Can apply with small equipment to do a small area

**The disadvantages of soil treatment are:**

- May move off-site due to its residual properties
- Not suitable for sloped or gravelly terrain

**Application Equipment**

A wide variety of equipment is available for applying pesticides in the industrial sector. This equipment can range from hand-held applicators, large tractor or truck mounted sprayers to rough terrain vehicles. The decision for selecting the most appropriate equipment is based on the size and type of area to be treated, the type of pest, the pesticide formulation and applicator accuracy.

Whether the sprayer is a small 3-point hitch truck mounted unit or a large tractor drawn unit, there are basic similarities in the component parts and their interaction. Every sprayer has three basic systems that work together to spray pesticides on the target. The three basic systems consist of **supply**, **control** and **delivery**. All equipment must be well designed, safe for the workers and the environment and meet Canadian Standards. Refer to the *Applicator Core Training Manual* for additional information on sprayer components.

The following section discusses commonly used nozzles and equipment used for industrial applications.

**Nozzle Selection**

Nozzle information is detailed in the *Applicator Core Training Manual*. This chapter discusses nozzle types, flow rates, spray angles, overlaps and spray patterns. Nozzles may be selected for such uses as drift reduction, banding, soil incorporation or boomless operation. The three most common nozzle types that are used for industrial sector are flat fan, off center and hollow cone.

The following section discusses various nozzles that are used for industrial applications. Pesticide Labels may also provide information regarding nozzle selection.

High volume nozzles are mainly used for boomless spray systems but can be attached to the ends of booms to increase the spray swath. Off-center, cluster and solid stream nozzles are the three most common types of nozzles used for roadsides, embankments, fence lines, etc.

Off-center nozzles produce a wide spray that is off to one side of the nozzle. These nozzles are often mounted on the side of a truck for roadside spray operations.

Cluster nozzles can be used on boom and boomless sprays as well on the end of handguns. They are often combined in clusters of 2 to 5 nozzles in a boomless system and direct the spray up and out. An adjuvant must be used with these nozzles so that when air and spray are mixed they form foam that is visible to the applicator. **Boomjet nozzles** are a combination of a center-discharge and 2 or more off-center discharge fan nozzles. The spray droplets vary in size from very small to very large. Drift management is essential when using these nozzles. **Large deflector nozzles**, another type of cluster nozzle, spray swaths up to 20 meters wide from a single nozzle. Cluster type nozzles often require 50% overlap. **Accutrol nozzles** are designed to be used in combination with a spray adjuvant. The nozzles draw in air and mixes it with the spray to form a foamy mixture that is visible to the operator.

Solid stream nozzles are used with hand held gun-sprayers to spray tall or distant targets.

**Low-pressure flat fan nozzles** are designed for low pressures of 100 kPa to produce larger droplets. Although the pattern and output is similar to a standard flat fan nozzle, drift hazard is reduced. Flat fan nozzles are generally used for herbicide applications. Some examples are: **narrow band nozzles** are used for basal bark applications, **tapered flat fan** that are used in an overlapping spray pattern and **even flat fan** that are used for banding applications.

Flooding fan nozzles enable the boom to be placed only 30 cm above the target vegetation and produce a wide spray swath. Although these nozzles produce less drift than standard flat fans, they also produce an inferior pattern. **Raindrop nozzles** produce larger droplets than standard flat fans, which also reduces drift potential. **Hollow cone nozzles** produce fine spray droplets that are often used for insecticides and fungicides to allow the spray to penetrate the canopy.

Controlled droplet applicators uses disc movement in the nozzle body to reduce the spray into droplets rather than through mechanical means as in other nozzle types. The two common types of nozzles are the **radiarc®**, which uses a vibrating disc and the **direct-a-spray®**, which uses a spinning disc.

Disc-core nozzles produce a hollow cone pattern and are used in aerial applications.

Thru-valve boom and microfoil boom nozzles are also used for aerial applications. They produce a consistent droplet size that allows the volume of spray at the outside of the swath to be equal to the spray volume in the center of the swath. Overlap is not required. This reduces drift because the smaller droplets are not produced on the outside of the swath.

## Equipment Selection

## Compressed Air Sprayers

Compressed air sprayers are best for spot treating areas that are inaccessible to larger equipment or for small area treatments. They usually have a tank capacity of 5-25 liters, are carried by a strap over the shoulder and use hand operated pumps. The pressure in the tank is reduced as the tank is emptied, however there are models available that have constant-pressure. Suction draws pesticide from the tank and forces it out with the air flow. Other models utilize CO<sup>2</sup> cylinders to provide pressure. There are two basic types of compressed air sprayers:

- **Hand Sprayers** are small sprayers that are used to apply small quantities of pesticides, spot treatments and hard to spray areas. The advantages with these sprayers are that they are economical, easy to use, clean and store. The disadvantages are that pressure and output rate fluctuate and there is not enough agitation to keep wettable powders in suspension.
- **Backpack Sprayers** are similar to a hand sprayer but have a self-contained unit (tank and pump) that is carried on the applicator's back. A mechanical agitator plate may be attached to the pump plunger to keep pesticides mixed in solution. Backpack sprayers can be equipped with a small boom with several nozzles or a boomless wand with a nozzle or a cluster of nozzles at the end. A mist blower can also be used as a backpack.

### Advantages of using a backpack are:

- Can selectively control vegetation
- Can access small areas
- Versatile in its applications

### Disadvantages of using a backpack are:

- Labour intensive and costly
- Difficult to control tall vegetation
- Physically challenging to the applicator in areas of rough terrain

## Boom Sprayers

These larger sprayers are used when the application can be made from a tractor or truck mounted boom. Arm booms are available for roadside and ditch spraying. One end of the arm shaft is mounted on either the front, side or the back of the truck with a nozzle or nozzle cluster at the end of the boom. They are not widely used in industrial vegetation management as the terrain is often too rough to keep the booms stable. Hand booms and adjustable spray guns can be operated from a truck or tractor mounted power spray equipment to spray stump and basal sprays or to spray tall vegetation. They can deliver a range of spray output from a fine mist to a narrow coarse stream. **Spray gun nozzles** wet surfaces thoroughly. Different spray guns operate at different pressures between 30-800 psi.

**Low-pressure sprayers** are designed to distribute liquid spray solution over large areas. They deliver a low to moderate volume of spray (100-650 liters/ha) and are usually mounted on tractors or trucks. Some models are self-propelled.

**The advantages of low-pressure sprayers are:**

- medium to large tanks
- lower cost than high pressure sprayers
- versatile

**The disadvantage of a low-pressure sprayer is:**

- the low pressure limits pesticide penetration and reach.

**High-pressure sprayers** are hydraulic sprayers that can spray through dense foliage and to tops of tall trees. They deliver larger volumes of spray of 200-5500 liters/ha with pressure ranges of 1000-2700 kPa. They are usually mounted on tractors, trailers, and trucks or are self-propelled. They may utilize a hose and handgun for use in spraying trees.

**The advantages of high-pressure sprayers are that:**

- they provide good penetration and coverage
- are well built and long lasting

**Disadvantages of high-pressure sprayers are:**

- the high cost of equipment
- the need for large amounts of water, power and fuel
- that the high pressure produces fine droplets which may drift

**Boomless Sprayers**

These sprayers generally use cluster nozzles for spraying road-sides, ditch banks, utility lines, etc. Boomless sprayers are easier to manoeuvre over rough ground and are less expensive than boom sprayers. Often this sprayer can spray a swath between 6-10 meters. It is usually mounted on a 4 wheel drive power wagon, skidder or caterpillar-type tractor.

One disadvantage with the boomless sprayers is that it is difficult to control drift due to the fine spray pattern. Shrouds for booms are available to reduce droplet drift and allow spraying during windy weather. They can reduce droplet drift to less than one percent but have some disadvantages:

- applicator cannot see the nozzles
- difficult to calibrate nozzle tips
- difficult to clean under some models
- possible buildup and runoff of some herbicides

Low-pressure boomless sprayers have a central nozzle cluster that produces a horizontal spray pattern that is similar to the swath pattern made by a boom sprayer. These sprayers are useful in irregular shaped areas because they can move through narrow places and avoid trees and other obstacles. Some of these sprayers are equipped with a hose and hand held gun nozzle for applications in small or hard to reach areas. The **radiarc®** sprayer applies pesticides while providing drift control through low volume applications. It can apply spray to both sides, one side or to the rear of the sprayer vehicle. **Power hose sprayers** consist of a hose and a single nozzle of durable construction which is usually stored on a reel mounted system. It can be used for spraying selective spots by pulling the hose and nozzle for as far as the length of the hose will allow. Staff are needed to operate the pump, the spray nozzle and lift and move the hose.

**Mist blowers** produce concentrated sprays in a fine mist at low volumes per hectare. The pesticide is carried in the air stream instead of liquid. These sprayers usually have the same components as low or high-pressure sprayers but also utilize a high-speed fan. The air blast separates the drops of pesticide into fine droplets and carries them to the target. This sprayer can be useful in swamps, under power lines, over rough ground, for stand tending or in seed cone nurseries. Most are trailer mounted but may be tractor mounted. A backpack mist blower can be used to spray small areas and can be used for brush up to 10 meters tall. A **cannon® airblast sprayer** can shoot spray up to 25-30 meters in height due to the high output fan (125 miles/hour). The advantages of a mist blower are the good penetration at high or low volumes under low pump pressures. The disadvantages are the high cost of the equipment, high power and fuel use, high drift hazard, use of concentrated pesticides and hard to spray small target areas

**Ultra low volume (ULV) sprayers** utilize pesticide concentrates without dilutents. They may be hand held or mounted on either ground equipment or aircraft. The advantages of ULV sprayers are that since no diluent is required it decreases time and labor, eliminates the need to find water sources and provides for equal control with less pesticide. The disadvantages with these sprayers are that they do not provide thorough coverage, there are hazards of using high concentrations, there is a chance of over dosage and there are only a few pesticides registered for ULV use.

## **Granular Applicators**

These applicators are usually broadcast seed sowers, fertilizer spreaders or airguns. The broadcast method applies the granules over the entire site. The banding method applies granules in narrow bands only over the area being controlled. A typical hand spreader has a rotating plate powered by a hand crank for spreading the granules and is carried by a shoulder sling strap. It has adjustable openings to obtain different rates. Some granular herbicides are applied to brush by hand. Pails and scoops are used by each member of a crew to dispense the pesticide. There is usually a crawler tractor that hauls the bags of pesticides.

## **Other Equipment**

Research in application technology is ongoing as the industry continues to require better, more cost effective, environmentally sound and efficient equipment. Several other types of equipment that are currently being used in the industry are:

**Hypo-hatchet®** is a hand held unit that is a "hatchet" attached to a hose and a small mixing tank. It works as a tree injector using a chisel head hatchet. After the chisel head has been inserted into the bark, the herbicide is delivered to the cambium layer by a lever that is activated to dispense the herbicide. A measured amount of herbicide is delivered with each hit of the axe to the stem or trunk. The number of hits depends on the size of the brush. Check label recommendations.

**Sprout-Less applicator®** has a small herbicide reservoir that attaches to the bottom of a brush saw. A pump and a dispensing system are activated during the brush cutting action of the saw. Brush is cut and sprayed at essentially the same time for improved herbicide translocation through the cambium layer. It is very selective and does not produce drift.

**Crusher/sprayer unit®** utilizes a larger rough terrain vehicle with a heavy steel drum in front of the vehicle that crushes the vegetation. The sprayer unit is located at the rear of the vehicle. The brush is crushed and sprayed at essentially the same time. This improves herbicide translocation.

### **Equipment Calibration**

It is essential that whatever equipment be chosen for pesticide application should be properly calibrated. Calibration ensures that the correct amount of pesticide is being applied at the proper speed and correct height above the target species. A properly calibrated sprayer will increase pest control, decrease damage to non-target species, reduce pesticide costs, save time (no need to retreat) and reduce the potential for environmental risks.

Refer to the *Applicator Core Training Manual* for equipment calibration for various types of application equipment. One type of equipment not mentioned in that chapter is the **hack and squirt applicator**. It is essential that the squirt device apply the correct amount of herbicide per notch. Calculate the total pesticide required per stem diameter and density of stems per hectare to determine the amount of spray mix that will be required.

### **Environmental Considerations when using Sprayer Equipment**

- **Spray drift**- before beginning a spray application program, evaluate weather conditions to assess the potential for spray drift. Consider:
- **Air and ground temperature** - high temperatures increase pesticide volatility, reduces pesticide effectiveness and may create a temperature inversion. A temperature inversion occurs when air at ground level is cooler and more stable than air above the ground. This prevents very fine spray droplets from settling which allows them to move off target.
- **Relative humidity** - high temperature and low relative humidity increases pesticide volatility.

- **Wind speed and direction** - increased wind speed increases drift. No wind conditions may also cause drift as the very fine droplets do not settle which allows them to move off target.
- **Impending weather conditions** - if the forecast is calling for rain within several hours of the spray application, reschedule application.

Reduce the potential for spray drift by spraying under favorable weather conditions, choosing suitable application equipment and technique, pesticide formulations and using drift control agents.

### **Water Quality**

Water quality factors such as temperature, sediment, pH and presence of salts in the water that is mixed with pesticides may affect its performance. For example, the active ingredient of some pesticides are adversely affected when the water is alkaline. The rate at which pesticide breakdown occurs also depends on the length of time the pesticide spray mix is left in the tank and the amount of organic material in the water. Silt and organic material can also affect the mechanics of the spray equipment such as pre-mature pump wear and plugging of screens and nozzles.

### **Pesticide Use Calculations**

Once the sprayer has been properly calibrated, the applicator must be able to accurately determine the amount of pesticide that will be required for the application. Refer to the *Applicator Core Training Manual* for information on how to determine pesticide calculations for granular and liquid pesticides.

## Conversions

Although labels use the Metric system (hectares and liters), some pesticide applicators are still using the Imperial system (acres and gallons); therefore it is important to know how to convert from the Imperial system. A number of commonly used conversion factors are provided in the box below.

**Liters/hectare = gallons/acre x 11.23**

10 gallons/ acre x 11.24 = 112.3 liters/ha

**m<sup>2</sup>= ft<sup>2</sup>x0.093**

You are spraying an area 90 ft x 120 ft = 10,800 ft<sup>2</sup>x 0.093 = 1,004.4 m<sup>2</sup>

**Hectare =  $\frac{m^2}{10,000}$  m<sup>2</sup>**

1,004.4 m<sup>2</sup> x  $\frac{1}{10,000}$  = 0.10 hectare

**Hectare = acre x 0.405**

5 acres x 0.405 = 2.025 hectares

## Area Measurements

To determine how much pesticide will be needed to do a job, the area to be treated must be measured. If the area is a rectangle, circle or triangle, simple formulae may be used. Determining the area of an irregularly shaped site is more difficult.

The following examples will help in determining the area of both regularly and irregularly shaped surfaces.

### Regularly Shaped Areas

#### Rectangles

The area of a rectangle is found by multiplying the length (L) by the width (W).

**Example: Using a rectangle that measures 50m by 175m.**

**Area = Length x Width**

= 175m x 50m

= 8,750m<sup>2</sup>

## Circles

The area of a circle is the radius (one-half the diameter) squared and then multiplied by 3.14.

**Example: Using a circle with a radius of 42 m**

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Area} &= \text{radius}^2 \times 3.14 \\ &= (42 \times 42) \times 3.14 \\ &= 5,538.96 \text{ m}^2\end{aligned}$$

## Triangles

The area of a triangle is one-half the base (b) multiplied by the height (h).

**Example: Using a triangle with a base of 45m and a height of 28m**

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Area} &= \frac{\text{b} \times \text{h}}{2} \\ &= \frac{(45 \times 28)}{2} \\ &= 630 \text{ m}^2\end{aligned}$$

## Irregularly Shaped Areas

Irregularly shaped areas often can be reduced to a combination of rectangles, circles, and triangles. Calculate the area of each and add them together to obtain the total area.

**Example 1:**

$$\begin{aligned}b &= 15\text{m} \quad h = 15\text{m} \\ L &= 40\text{m} \quad W = 48\text{m} \\ L_1 &= 38\text{m} \\ W_1 &= 21\text{m}\end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Area} = \frac{(B \times H)}{2} + (L \times W) + (L_1 \times W_1)$$

$$\frac{(15 \times 15)}{2} = 112.5$$

$$40 \times 48 = 1,920$$

$$38 \times 21 = 798$$

$$112.5 + 1,920 + 798 = 2,830.5 \text{ m}^2$$

Another way is to establish a line down the middle of the property for the length, and then measure from side to side at several points along this line.

Areas with very irregular shape require more side to side measurements. The average of the side measurements can be used as the width. The area is then calculated as a rectangle.

**Example 2 :**  
 $ab = 60 \text{ m}$   
 $c=23 \text{ m}$   
 $d=10\text{m}$   
 $e=25\text{m}$   
 $f=19\text{m}$   
 $g=28\text{m}$

$$\text{Area} = (ab) \times \frac{(c+d+e+f+g)}{5}$$

$$= 60 \times \frac{(23 + 10 + 25 + 19 + 28)}{5} = 1,260\text{m}^2$$

A third method is to convert the area into a circle. From a center point, measure distance to the edge of the area in 10 to 20 increments. Average these measurements to find the average radius. Then calculate the area, using the formula for a circle.

Example 3: **Radius =  $\frac{a+b+c+d+e+f+g+h+i+j+k+l}{12}$**

$a = 10$	$g=10$
$b=12$	$h=9$
$c=16$	$i=13$
$d=15$	$j=12$
$e=11$	$k=13$
$f=12$	$l=16$

$$\text{Radius} = \frac{10+12+16+15+11+12+10+9+13+12+13+16}{12} = 12.42$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Area} &= \text{radius}^2 \times 3.14 \\ &= (12.42 \times 12.42) \times 3.14 \\ &= 484.1 \text{ m}^2 \end{aligned}$$

# Self-test Questions

*Answers are located in Appendix A of this manual.*

1. List the types of foliar application. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. Describe a basal bark application. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. List two types of compressed air sprayers. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. What are two disadvantages of using a shroud for a boomless sprayer? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. Describe a hypo-hatchet. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. What are the advantages of high pressure boom sprayers. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



# **Safety**

## **Introduction**

Pesticide application requires more than knowledge of equipment and application techniques. It also requires managers and applicators to develop and follow policies that prevent accidents from occurring. This would include accidents to the applicator and to the environment. Safety policies must include responsibilities of all involved, procedures for personal protection, health monitoring, site application monitoring, training in pesticide application and record keeping. Pesticide safety is discussed in detail in the General Pesticide Safety Manual, Chapters 11-16. It includes information on safety precautions, handling, mixing and loading, disposal, storage and record keeping.

## **Learning Objectives**

### **Completing this chapter will help you to:**

- Understand what a pesticide management plan should include.
- Identify hazards, other than pesticides, that may be present at the work site.

## **Planning**

Environmentally sound planning will assist in reducing pesticide accidents. Pest management should control target species while minimizing off-target effects. The first step is to carefully plan the pesticide application program. These steps would include:

**Pre-application functions** are those activities that need to occur prior to application to ensure that the application is legal, safe and effective. These functions would include:

- Pre application meeting that will discuss application details, legal requirements, hazards, sensitive areas and emergency response plans.
- Work site surveys and maps to plan sensitive areas and mark hazards.
- Develop a management plan that includes application decisions, crew supervision guidelines (chain of command, spot checks to ensure safe working conditions), job scheduling,

Safety planning is essential ensuring that the work environment is safe for the crews. This would include developing a:

- **Safety policy** - companies involved in pest management activities must develop policies that ensure they are committed to employee safety. These policies must include company and staff responsibilities, procedures and employee training in pesticide application and safe use.
- **Hazard assessment** - hazards in target sites must be determined. These may include terrain, weather, man-made, traffic or strenuous physical hazards. Uneven terrain may lead to pesticide accidents through the loss of vehicle control. High wind conditions and open area sites may lead to a drift probability. There may be man-made hazards such as over-head power lines where equipment may become entangled that may not only lead to pesticide accidents but serious personal injury. Reduce traffic hazard by wearing high visibility vests, using signs and flaggers and following provincial traffic safety regulations

Applicators must be trained to:

- identify and mark hazards
- use appropriate protective equipment
- follow safe work procedures
- be certified when working within the safe limits or approach of energized power lines

**Equipment hazards** - pesticide accidents may lead to exposure of both the applicator and the environment through improper protection and procedures during mixing and loading, application and maintenance. Equipment hazards also include powered and mobile equipment, power tools and hand tools.

Applicators must protect themselves and others in the following ways:

- being fully trained and certified in the use of the equipment.
- follow manufacturers guidelines
- properly maintain equipment
- wear appropriate personal protective equipment
- pay attention
- keep unauthorized people away from job site

**Application scheduling** - determine the best time to conduct the program. Other than targeting times when the weather is favourable, there are other factors that need to be considered to reduce the possibility for a pesticide accident. For example, applications near a roadside must consider the level of traffic activity and be scheduled around peak times.

# Self-test Questions

*Answers are located in Appendix A of this manual.*

1. Identify hazards that may be present at the application site. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. List the pre application functions. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. How can applicators protect themselves and others from equipment hazards? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## **Planning For Emergencies**

### **Introduction**

Foresters should develop complete response programs for possible emergencies in the field, office and storage facilities. A pesticide spill or fire may never happen, but if it does, will you be ready?

Emergency response planning will:

- protect your employees
- prevent an emergency from becoming a major disaster
- protect the community
- protect your business
- keep environmental damage to a minimum
- build confidence with your neighbours

### **Learning Objectives**

**Completing this chapter will help you to:**

- To understand the need for emergency response planning.
- Understand how to develop a contingency plan.

## **Emergency Response Program**

Emergency Response Programs save lives, property and money. Emergency response planning ensures applicators are prepared to handle emergencies and often results in prevention of emergencies because applicators learn to spot and control hazardous conditions before they cause serious problems. Planning also ensures that industrial vegetation management companies are properly equipped to handle emergencies.

### **An Emergency Response Plan should contain the following features:**

- facility emergency plans
- field emergency plans
- emergency services, supplies and equipment
- training
- emergency notification

The Canadian Vegetation Management Association has developed an Emergency Response Checklist for Pesticide Applicators. The following information is based on this checklist.

### **Facility Emergency Plans**

Facilities include all stationary sites such as offices, storage and sheds. A facility plan will use all pertinent information about the site including physical layout of building, equipment, dangerous goods, supplies and staff.

Facility information should include:

- An overview map of the site and surrounding areas including access roads, main shut offs for gas, electricity outlets, pesticide storage(s) and contents, fire protection equipment, perimeter fencing and distances to important buildings. Construction materials should also be noted.
- A map sketch of existing drainage for controlling runoff of contaminants. All nearby ditches, culverts, underground drains, streams, brooks and rivers should be noted. Use arrows to indicate drainage direction. If possible, indicate where and how water runoff may be blocked by dykes and dams. Include lists of dyking materials and whether land-moving equipment is available on site.
- A list of surrounding neighbours and land use (residences, commercial operations, farms, etc.) and include the number of occupants in the area.
- Planned evacuation routes.

List all potential emergencies for each site. Determine what actions would be required for each scenario.

These would include the following:

- calling the fire department, ambulance, hospital and police.
- notifying appropriate government departments and other emergency services.
- notifying management
- notifying next-of-kin for seriously injured applicator
- notifying media
- maintaining an up to date log of the scenario as it unfolds including who has been contacted and what their communications were to you.
- also determine who is responsible for each of these emergency procedures.

Develop an inventory of post-emergency procedures including:

- company and government reports
- insurance claims
- company and government investigations of emergencies.
- cleanup and resumption of work
- assign responsibility for each of these procedures.

**List a full inventory of emergency equipment.** Include the manufacturer, date of purchase, operating instructions, renew-al dates (for fire extinguishers and oxygen tanks) and date last used

A telephone directory of all local and provincial emergency services and government contacts. Please refer to the emergency contact list at the end of the chapter.

Compile copies of Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) for each of the pesticide products being used.

**Note: All of the above material should be compiled in a single manual and copies made available to all staff. Copies of the plans should also be given to each emergency response organization or Department that would be involved in emergency response.**

### **Field Emergency Plans**

Field emergency plans (site-specific plans) should include as much of the same information as facility emergency plans as possible and:

- Maps of the work sites marked with private and public boundaries, residences and other dwellings, water sources and vegetation.
- **Telephone numbers** of emergency services closest to the site.

- As well, all company vehicles and private vehicles used on the job should be equipped with communication devices (e.g. mobile telephones, 2-way radios), a copy of emergency plans and emergency equipment relevant to the job site and hazards.

### **Emergency Services, Supplies and Equipment**

Emergency services, supplies and equipment are recommended for every work site as described below.

#### **First Aid**

Requirements for emergency first aid services, supplies and equipment are based on the number of applicators per shift on a specific site, the type of work being done and the location of the work. Industrial vegetation management companies must follow provincial regulations regarding Occupational Health and Safety requirements. These regulations vary in each province - companies that do work in more than one province need to be aware of these variations.

#### **First Aid Services and Staff**

Readers should refer to provincial occupational health and safety regulations for specific requirements. One or more applicators may have to be certified as a First Aid Attendant, Safety Coordinator, First Aider I, First Aider II, Paramedic or Nurse.

#### **First Aid Rooms**

For large operations, first aid rooms may be required. Provincial occupational health and safety regulations define the contents of first aid room and who must have them.

#### **First Aid Kits and Supplies**

Check provincial first aid regulations for a description of the contents of first aid kits. Contents are based on the number of people in a work crew and the specific work being done. In addition, the following materials should be available at facilities and to work crews that handle chemicals or pesticides.

- clean water, soap and towels for washing
- clean water for drinking
- syrup of ipecac (available from drug stores) to induce vomiting **only if recommended by the provincial poison control centre and the pesticide label**
- activated charcoal (available from drug stores) to absorb ingested pesticides when either vomiting must not be induced or after inducing vomiting, when it is recommended
- impervious gloves for the person who administers first aid

- Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) for any products controlled under WHMIS. MSDS can be obtained from the company that sells the product or the manufacturer that makes the product.

### **Emergency Conveyance**

Applicators must have access to emergency conveyance, either through local ambulance service or by an emergency conveyance on the work site. An emergency conveyance must be large enough to accommodate a stretcher and passenger inside the vehicle. Check provincial occupational health and safety regulations for further specifications.

### **Eyewash and Shower Facilities**

Wherever there is a possibility an applicator will be splashed with pesticides or other harmful substances, wash facilities must be immediately available. As a minimum, a container of clean water should be on hand at field sites, and eyewash facilities and a deluge shower should be available at mixing and loading facilities.

### **Respiratory Protective Equipment**

Respiratory protective equipment must be readily available wherever applicators may be exposed to airborne contaminants in excess of the occupational exposure limits defined in provincial occupational health and safety regulations.

### **Spill Cleanup Equipment**

Adequate cleanup equipment must be available for use at all work sites where chemicals and pesticides are stored, mixed, loaded and handled. Equipment should include:

- personal protective equipment (gloves, boots, waterproof apron, coveralls, eye protection and respiratory protective equipment)
- absorbent material such as sand, activated charcoal, vermiculite, dry coarse clay, kitty litter or commercial absorbent
- neutralizing material such as hydrated lime or activated charcoal
- long-handled brooms
- shovels
- waste container with lid
- blank labels to identify contents of waste containers

#### **On trucks, the following cleanup equipment should be available:**

- personal protective equipment
- absorbent material
- shovel

- empty container with lid for transferring ruptured pesticide containers or pesticide-contaminated materials
- blank labels for identifying contents of waste containers

## **Firefighting Equipment**

Firefighting equipment should be available at all work sites and include:

- water supplies (in buildings)
- multi-purpose (ABC agent) fire extinguishers with spare cartridges
- shovels and pails
- backpack pumps
- fire blankets (in case an applicator's clothing is ignited)

Firefighting equipment required by provincial fire codes must be readily accessible and properly maintained at work sites. At the minimum, vehicles should carry 5 lb. extinguishers and mobile equipment should carry 10 lb. extinguishers.

The equipment should be readily accessible and maintained according to a schedule. A log should be kept of inspections and repairs. Pressure gauges on all portable extinguishers and the seals on all cartridge extinguishers should be inspected at least every three months. If low pressure or damage seals are found, the extinguishers should be repaired or replaced immediately.

The only time, other than for an emergency, fire equipment should be removed from its assigned location is for maintenance. If the equipment is to be removed for longer than a few hours, replacement equipment should be available.

## **Training**

Applicators should be trained in the various emergency procedures developed for their work areas, including:

- **first aid** - first aid training requirements are discussed under Emergency Services, Supplies and Equipment
- **firefighting** - all applicators should be trained in firefighting techniques and equipment for their work areas
- **cold weather survival** - applicators should be trained to recognize and protect themselves from the dangers of cold weather, specifically:
  - ▶ hypothermia, a condition in which the core temperature of the body falls below the normal 37°C. Hypothermia can develop rapidly as a result of falling in cold water or slowly from working in wet, windy conditions.

- ▶ wind chill, which is the combined chilling effect of wind and temperature on humans. A wind chill factor can result from even a relatively gentle wind. For example, a temperature of 5°C combined with a 20 km/h wind lowers the temperature below freezing.
- **hot weather survival** - applicators should be trained to recognize and treat hyperthermia (heat stress)
- **WHMIS** - applicators must be trained to handle any products on their work site that are covered by WHMIS. Applicators must also be trained in the emergency procedures for each product as described on product labels and MSDSs.

### **Emergency Notification**

Each emergency requires different notification procedure. Whenever an emergency notification call is made, the caller should be able to provide details on:

- location and type of emergency
- pesticides, equipment and other materials involved in the emergency
- presence of injuries and fatalities
- threat to surrounding areas

Applicators should be trained in proper notification procedures. Complete lists of emergency services, government agencies and company contacts should be:

- included in each copy of emergency response plans
- posted in conspicuous locations at work sites (near telephones)
- posted in company vehicles and private vehicles used for company business

These lists should be updated periodically and re-issued any-time changes are made. An emergency response program can protect you, your applicators, your neighbourhood and your environment from an emergency turning into a major disaster. Emergency response planning can save time, money and lives. Be prepared.

## Self-test Questions

*Answers are located in Appendix A of this manual.*

1. List the five features that an emergency response program should have. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. List five items that should be contained in a pesticide spill kit. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. Why should your business have an emergency response plan? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Professionalism

### Introduction

As noted in an earlier chapter, many of the challenges facing industrial vegetation managers stem from the perception that pesticide application destroys habitat and contaminates our resources. Responsible foresters applicators need to address public concerns raised over pesticide use. A commitment to sustainable forests will demonstrate that all methods are given equal consideration and that the environment is a priority.

### Learning Objectives

#### Completing this chapter will help you to:

- Understand why good communications and public relations are essential for a pest management program.
- Know how to effectively provide public information.

**Bystander exposure** is probably the biggest area of concern for the public and the one that receives the majority of negative media attention. Bystander exposure includes people who may come into contact with pesticides without being directly involved with application. This exposure may occur from:

- berry picking in or next to treated areas
- hiking in a treated area
- homeowners living adjacent to treated areas

The main causes of bystander exposure are drift and early re-entry into sprayed areas.

## Notification and Communication

Bystander exposure can be minimized with an organized notification and communication program. Notification programs may also reduce or satisfy public concerns over an application program. A notification program should include information on:

- where the work is to be carried out
- the purpose behind the work
- the method chosen and why
- short and long term impact of work
- re-entry period
- 

Notification usually includes newspaper articles and notices, public meetings and door-to-door information sessions. Notification is an area that can make pesticide applicators uncomfortable but experience has shown that a good notification program will alleviate problems and misunderstandings down the road.

**Staff training** is crucial in a good public communication program. Applicators must be organized and present a good first impression. They must be prepared to answer questions about:

- toxicity level of pesticide products being used
- impact on people and wildlife
- alternative methods considered
- protection of off-target vegetation (drift control, control of fire hazards)

This information must be given in a clear, concise and positive manner. Applicators should have information regarding the pro-gram, contact person, return address and telephone numbers that they can make available to the public.

Information should be made available during the implementation of a pesticide program.

Applicators should be able to briefly and simply explain to the public:

- the control method being used (including herbicide trade name and the active ingredient)
- safety measures in place including personal safety gear and drift control
- the reason for the pesticide application
- for whom the work is being done
- re-entry period, if applicable
- how to contact their supervisor for more information

## Berry Picking Areas

There are special considerations for industrial applications as berry picking areas are often located along roadsides, transmission corridors, etc. It is important to keep in mind that berries are:

- a source of food for wildlife
- a source of food for people

- a source of income for people

Spraying these areas may contaminate the berries and/or destroy the berry plants. Berry picking areas should be identified in a site management plan and the following precautions should be taken:

- areas should be tagged so applications can be avoided
- implement alternative methods of vegetation control
- if a pesticide application is the only acceptable method of control, ensure that it will occur after the berries have been picked.

If a known berry picking area has been accidentally sprayed, the site must be posted until the berries have fallen off the branches.

Credibility and professionalism are the cornerstones to any good notification program. Information sources must come from trustworthy individuals and be presented in a factual, unbiased manner.

A professional applicator will increase the success of a pesticide application program by gaining public confidence by:

- being knowledgeable about the control program
- considering the neighbours needs
- taking the time to listen to the public's concerns

# Self-test Questions

*Answers are located in Appendix A of this manual.*

1. What is bystander exposure? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. What information should be included in a notification pro-gram? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. What information should the applicator be prepared to discuss with the public? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

# Appendix A: Answers to Self-test Questions

## Chapter 1 Legislation

1. Pesticide Regulations.
2. Nova Scotia Department of Environment and Labour.
3. Any business applying pesticides for hire or reward.

## Chapter 2- Vegetation Management

1. The factors that influence herbicide activity are:
  - ▶ shape and surface of leaves
  - ▶ weather conditions
  - ▶ plant growth stag
  - ▶ soil type
  - ▶ soil moisture
  - ▶ cultivation
  - ▶ resistance
2. A contact herbicide kills only the part of the plant that the herbicide comes into contact. There is relatively little movement of the herbicide within the plant.
3. Four vegetation management techniques are:
  - ▶ prevention.
  - ▶ cultural control.
  - ▶ mechanical control.
  - ▶ biological control.
  - ▶ chemical control.
4. Integrated vegetation management is utilizing various methods of control combined into a single management program.
5. The environmental considerations when using residual herbicides are:
  - ▶ set up buffer zones.
  - ▶ ensuring the treatment site is not in an area of a high water table.
  - ▶ future use of the site.
  - ▶ persistence of the product
  - ▶ avoid steep slopes
  - ▶ be aware of off-target species that may be adversely impacted by the herbicide

### **Chapter 3 - Environmental Impact**

1. Buffer zones are important because they:
  - ▶ catch spray drift or run-off that minimizes aquatic habitats.
  - ▶ prevent damage to stream -side vegetation.
2. Land resources can be protected from pesticide contamination by:
  - ▶ setting aside certain areas of treatment blocks
  - ▶ choosing selective methods of application to protect non-target organisms.
  - ▶ working with wildlife habitat staff to develop a site specific management plan.
3. Aquatic organisms can be harmed through incorrect pesticide use by:
  - ▶ contaminating habitat.
  - ▶ reducing food supply through loss of food organisms or stream side vegetation.
  - ▶ loss of vegetation canopy over streams.

### **Chapter 4 - Application Technology**

1. The types of foliar application are:
  - ▶ bud break spray
  - ▶ early foliar spray
  - ▶ late foliar spray
  - ▶ fall spray
2. A basal bark application is the application of a herbicide solution on the base of stems from a height of approximately 0.5 meters to ground level, on root collars and on exposed roots.
3. Two types of compressed air sprayers are hand sprayers and backpack sprayers.
4. Disadvantages of using a shroud for a boomless sprayer are:
  - ▶ operator cannot see the nozzles
  - ▶ difficult to calibrate nozzle tips
  - ▶ difficult to clean under some models
  - ▶ possible buildup and runoff of some herbicides
5. A hypo-hatchet is a hand held unit that is a "hatchet" attached to a hose and a small mixing tank. The herbicide is delivered to the cambium layer after the chisel head has been inserted

into the bark. A lever is then activated to dispense the herbicide. A measured amount of herbicide is delivered with each hit of the axe to the stem or trunk.

6. Advantages of high pressure boom sprayers are:

- ▶ provide good penetration and coverage
- ▶ well built and long lasting

## **Chapter 5 - Safety**

1. Hazards that may be present at the application site are: terrain, weather, man-made, traffic or strenuous physical hazards

2. The pre application functions are:

- ▶ pre application meeting that will discuss application details, legal requirements, hazards, sensitive areas and emergency response plans.
- ▶ work site survey and maps to plan sensitive areas and mark hazards.
- ▶ develop a management plan that includes application decisions, crew supervision guidelines (chain of command, spot checks to ensure safe working conditions), job scheduling,

3. Applicators can protect themselves and others from equipment hazards by:

- ▶ being fully trained and certified in the use of the equipment.
- ▶ follow manufacturers guidelines
- ▶ properly maintain equipment
- ▶ wear appropriate personal protective equipment
- ▶ pay attention
- ▶ keep unauthorized people away from job site

## **Chapter 6 - Planning for Emergencies**

1. The five features that an emergency response program should have are:

- Facility emergency plans
- field emergency plans
- emergency services, supplies and equipment
- training
- emergency notification

2. Items that should be contained in a pesticide spill kit are:

- ▶ personal protective equipment (gloves, boots, waterproof apron, coveralls, eye protection and respiratory protective equipment)
  - ▶ absorbent material such as sand, activated charcoal, vermiculite, dry coarse clay, kitty litter or commercial absorbent
  - ▶ neutralizing material such as hydrated lime or activated charcoal
  - ▶ long-handled brooms
  - ▶ shovels
  - ▶ waste container with lid
  - ▶ blank labels to identify contents of waste containers
3. Your business should have an emergency response plan to:
- ▶ Protect your employees
  - ▶ Prevent an emergency from becoming a major disaster
  - ▶ Protect the community
  - ▶ Protect your business
  - ▶ Keep environmental damage to a minimum
  - ▶ Build confidence with your neighbours

## **Chapter 7 - Professionalism**

1. Bystander exposure includes people who may come into contact with pesticides without being directly involved.
2. Information that should be included in a notification program is:
  - ▶ where the work is to be carried out
  - ▶ the purpose of the work
  - ▶ the method chosen and why
  - ▶ short and long term impact of work
  - ▶ re-entry period
3. Information that the applicator should be prepared to discuss with public:
  - ▶ the control method being used
  - ▶ safety measures
  - ▶ the reason for the pesticide application
  - ▶ for whom the work is being done
  - ▶ re-entry period
  - ▶ contact names and numbers

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APPENDIX B:

PESTICIDE REGULATIONS

## **Citation**

**1** These regulations may be cited as the "Pesticide Regulations".

## **Interpretation**

**2** In these regulations

- (a)** "Act" means the Environment Act;
- (b)** "Administrator" means a person appointed pursuant to Section 3 of these regulations, and includes an acting Administrator;
- (c)** "animal" includes vertebrates, invertebrates and micro-organisms whether wild, domestic, living or dead, but does not include humans;
- (d)** "buffer zone" means an area where a pesticide shall not be directly applied;
- (e)** "certification" means a type of pest management activity for which a person can become certified by obtaining a certificate of qualification;
- (f)** "certified applicator" means a person who has obtained a certificate of qualification under these regulations to apply a pesticide;
- (g)** "commercial applicator" means a person, other than a private applicator, who uses or supervises the use of a pesticide;
- (h)** "commercial class" means a class of pesticides designated by the Federal Regulatory Authority;
- (i)** "contamination" means
  - (i) any significant adverse effect which the Minister believes on reasonable and probable grounds is or may be causing harm to any part of the environment, or
  - (ii) the presence of a hazard to an organism, other than the target organism, which the Minister believes on reasonable and probable grounds is or may be detrimental to the normal physiological functions of human, animal or plant life;
- (j)** "Department" means the Department of Environment and Labour;
- (k)** "Federal Regulatory Authority" means the Federal Minister responsible for regulating pest control products;

**(l)** "fumigant" means a chemical that, for uses regulated by the Federal Regulatory Authority, can exist in a gaseous state at a required temperature and pressure that is lethal to a given pest;

**(m)** "land" means surface land, land covered by water, subsoil, matter beneath the subsoil or any combination thereof, but does not include land inside a building or structure;

**(n)** "micro-organism" means a microscopic plant or animal, including a bacterium, virus, fungus, alga and protozoon;

**(o)** "Minister" means the Minister of Environment and Labour;

**(p)** "pest" means any plant, animal, micro-organism or any organic functions of a plant, animal, or micro-organism, including any insect, nematode, rodent, predatory animal, parasite, bacterium, fungus, weed, or other form of plant or animal life or virus, the Minister believes is or may be injurious, noxious or troublesome, but does not include a virus, parasite, bacterium or fungus in a living person or animal;

**(q)** "pesticide" or "pest control product" means

(i) any substance that is sold or represented for use in preventing, destroying, repelling, attracting, or mitigating, directly or indirectly, any pest,

(ii) any substance that is a pest control product within the meaning of the Pest Control Products Act (Canada) or is intended for use as a pest control product,

(iii) any substance that is a plant growth regulator, a defoliant or a plant desiccant,

(iv) a fertilizer within the meaning of the Fertilizers Act (Canada) that contains a substance referred to in subclauses (i), (ii), or (iii), or

(v) any other substance designated as a pesticide in the regulations, but does not include a substance that is intended for sale, sold or represented for use in potable water to prevent or destroy bacteria, parasites or viruses if the substance is not a pest control product within the meaning of the Pest Control Products Act (Canada);

**(r)** "pesticide research" means a limited pest control program authorized by the Federal Regulatory Authority;

**(s)** "pesticide storage facility" means a facility that is used to store pesticides and meets the requirements prescribed in these regulations;

(t) "plant" means an organism which usually derives part of its sustenance by photosynthesis and part by root sorption, and includes a parasitic plant, tree, shrub, weed, grass, fern, moss or micro-organism;

(u) "private applicator" means a person who applies or supervises the application of a pesticide on property owned, leased, or rented

(i) by the applicator,

(ii) by an employer of the applicator, or

(iii) by another person, if the pesticide is applied without monetary compensation or reward to the applicator other than trading services;

(v) "restricted class" means a class of pesticides designated as a restricted class by the Federal Regulatory Authority;

(w) "sell" includes sale, offer for sale, expose for sale, display or advertise for sale, or have possession of for the purpose of sale or distribution;

(x) "treatment site" means the area to which a pesticide is applied;

(y) "vendor of a pesticide" means a person who for hire or reward, sells, supplies or distributes directly to a user, or stores a pesticide, but does not include a farmer or other person who stores a pesticide for their own use and not for resale or distribution.

### **Administrator**

**3** The Minister may appoint an Administrator to administer these regulations.

### **Exemption from regulations**

**4** These regulations do not apply to the use or sale of a germicidal, disinfectant, veterinary, or sanitizing product registered under the Pest Control Products Act (Canada).

### **Application of federal statutes**

**5** The requirements of these regulations are in addition to any applicable federal legislation, including the Fertilizers Act (Canada) and the Pest Control Products Act (Canada) and regulations made pursuant to those statutes.

## **Part I - Certificates of Qualification**

### **Prohibitions**

- 6 (1)** No person shall apply a commercial class or restricted class pesticide unless that person holds a valid certificate of qualification.
- (2)** No person shall sell or store for gain or reward a commercial class or restricted class pesticide unless that person holds a valid certificate of qualification.

### **Certificates of qualification**

**7 (1)** The Minister or an Administrator may issue the following classes of certificates of qualification:

- (a)** Class I - Vendor's Certificate which authorizes the holder to sell, supply, or distribute a pesticide directly to a pesticide user or to store, for hire or reward, a commercial or restricted pesticide;
- (b)** Class II - Structural Certificate which authorizes the holder to use a pesticide, other than a herbicide or fumigant, for the prevention or control of pests in or around a structure, excluding plant pests in a greenhouse;
- (c)** Class III (A) - Forestry Certificate which authorizes the holder to use a pesticide by ground application including site preparation, brushing, crop tree release, thinning, insect control, disease control and vertebrate control in a forest management operation, forest seed orchard, outdoor nursery, or plantation;
- (d)** Class III (B) - Greenhouse Certificate which authorizes the use of a pesticide, other than the use of a restricted class fumigant gas in a greenhouse during the storage, display or production of an agricultural crop including vegetables, ornamental trees, mushrooms and forest tree seedlings and the use of pesticides on areas immediately surrounding a greenhouse;
- (e)** Class III (C) - Industrial Vegetation Certificate which authorizes the use of a herbicide by ground application to control weeds in an industrial area including a roadside, powerline, pipeline, right-of-way, railway, well site, equipment yard, or non-crop land;
- (f)** Class III (D) - Landscape Certificate which authorizes the use of a pesticide, other than a restricted class fumigant gas, for the maintenance of ornamentals, shrubs, flowers and turf on outdoor residential, recreational, commercial and public land, including the use of a pesticide in an outdoor nursery for propagation of landscape and garden plants;

**(g)** Class IV - Mosquito and Biting Fly Certificate which authorizes the use by ground application of an insecticide for control of mosquitoes or biting flies;

**(h)** Class V - Aquatic Vegetation Certificate which authorizes the use of a herbicide by ground application for the control of aquatic weeds in standing or running water in areas left exposed during periods of low water, including the use of a herbicide in a lake, river, irrigation canal, or ditch;

**(i)** Class VI - Fumigation Certificate which authorizes the use of a fumigant for soil fumigation or fumigation in an enclosed structure, including a grain bin, elevator, building, railcar, truck, or closed vault;

**(j)** Class VII - Aerial Certificate which authorizes the use from an aircraft of a pesticide on any land or water;

**(k)** Class VIII - Agriculture Certificate which authorizes the use of a pesticide, other than a restricted class fumigant gas, by ground application for the protection of an agricultural crop or livestock, including use for control of noxious weeds, birds and rodent control in a farm pond with no outflow, use on a Christmas tree plantation, use on livestock and poultry pests, use in farm seed treatment, use for soil fumigation and use around farm buildings associated with crop and livestock production, but not including use in a greenhouse or commercial seed treatment;

**(l)** Class IX - Business Operator's Certificate which authorizes the holder to carry on a commercial pesticide business or enter into contracts to handle, use, store or sell to a user a commercial class or restricted class pesticide; and

**(m)** Class X - Special Certificate which authorizes the use of a pesticide for a purpose not included in Classes II to VIII.

**(2)** A limited class [may] be created by the Minister or an Administrator for the application of a pesticide restricted to a certain activity within one certification class.

**(3)** A Class III or Class VIII certificate of qualification may be issued by the Minister or an Administrator to a private applicator or a commercial applicator.

**(4)** Subject to subsection (3), a certificate of qualification under subsection (1) may only be issued to a commercial applicator.

### **Application process**

**8 (1)** An applicant for a certificate of qualification shall complete an application in a form approved by an Administrator.

- (2) An applicant for a certificate of qualification shall complete an examination and achieve a minimum standard of performance established by the Minister.
- (3) A certificate of qualification shall be valid for a period of 5 years from the date of issuance with the exception of a Class IX Certificate which shall be valid for 1 year from the date of issuance.
- (4) The holder of a certificate of qualification may be retested once in every 5-year period from the date of the issuance of the initial certificate of qualification.
- (5) A certificate of qualification shall entitle the holder to perform only those uses that the class of certificate of qualification authorizes the holder to perform and no other uses.
- (6) No certificate of qualification issued pursuant to these regulations is transferable.
- (7) Unless agreed otherwise in writing by an Administrator, no person shall apply for a certificate of qualification under these regulations unless that person is at least 18 years of age.

### **Supervisory restrictions**

- 9 (1) A private applicator who is a certified applicator in Class III or VIII may directly supervise a non-certified applicator where
  - (a) the non-certified applicator performs the same use as authorized in the certificate of qualification held by the certified applicator; and
  - (b) the non-certified applicator is at least 18 years of age.
- (2) A commercial applicator who is a certified applicator may directly supervise a non-certified applicator where
  - (a) the certified applicator holds a valid Class II, III, or VIII certificate of qualification;
  - (b) the certified applicator is present at the treatment site at all times while the non-certified applicator is applying a pesticide; and
  - (c) an Administrator is notified when the supervision of the non-certified applicator will occur.
- (3) A non-certified applicator may only be supervised by a commercial applicator under subsection (2) for one 30-day period.
- (4) A certified applicator referred to in subsections (1) and (2) is responsible for all actions respecting the application of pesticide by the non-certified applicator.

## **Business operator**

**10** The holder of a valid Class IX Business Operator's Certificate shall ensure that

- (a) a person who is employed by the business operator and who is responsible for handling or applying a commercial class or restricted class pesticide has a valid certificate of qualification;
- (b) a commercial class or restricted class pesticide is sold only to
  - (i) an applicator or business who holds a valid certificate of qualification, or
  - (ii) a person who has hired another person who holds a valid certificate, qualification;
- (c) any activity of a person employed by the business operator complies with the pesticide label instructions for the proper and safe use of pesticides; and
- (d) any instruction to a person employed by the business operator is in accordance with the Act, these regulations or any other requirements set forth by an Administrator.

## **Records**

**11** An Administrator may require the holder of a Class IX Business Operator's Certificate to submit a record of the application or sale of a pesticide.

## **Part II - Pesticide Approvals**

### **Approvals**

**12 (1)** Pesticide application activities that require an approval under the Act are designated in the Activities Designation Regulations.

**(2)** Unless authorized in writing by an Administrator, an applicant for an approval shall apply at least 60 days prior to the intended starting date of the application of the pesticide.

**(3)** An approval holder shall keep and maintain equipment or supplies readily available to minimize the impact of any release of a pesticide.

**(4)** An approval holder shall notify an Administrator before commencing a spray program under an approval.

**(5)** An approval holder shall adhere to weather condition restrictions stipulated on an approval respecting the application of a pesticide.

- (6) An approval holder shall ensure that the approval or a copy of the approval is available at the loading, mixing, or application area when the pesticide is being used.
- (7) All boundaries of a treatment site where pesticide is used or applied and buffer zones shall be marked or identified so that they are known and visible to the applicator.
- (8) An approval holder for aerial spraying of a pesticide shall either personally accompany, or provide a contractor or agent to accompany, a pilot on a pre-spray aerial inspection of a treatment site to ensure that the pilot is fully aware of the area to be sprayed, any buffer zones involved and the property boundaries of the treatment site.
- (9) An approval holder shall keep and maintain a record of the information the Minister or an Administrator requires of each pesticide used or applied.
- (10) Where there is no evidence that an adverse effect may occur or will occur, the Minister may waive or modify in writing the requirements prescribed in subsections (5), (6), (7), (8) and (9).

### **Part III - General**

#### **Public notification**

- 13 (1)** An approval holder shall undertake a public information and notification program as a term and condition of the issuance of an approval.
- (2) Except for spot treatments to a utility corridor, utility right-of-way, street or highway right-of-way, no person shall apply a pesticide under an approval by any method unless the person gives public notification through a local newspaper or other means approved by the Administrator at least 20 days before the application commences identifying where and when the pesticide will be applied.
- (3) No person shall apply a pesticide under a pesticide research program unless that person
- (a) posts signs approved by an Administrator identifying that pesticide research is on at the treatment site before the application commences; and
  - (b) keeps the signs referred to in clause (a) in place for 20 days after the last application at the treatment site.
- (4) No person shall apply a pesticide under an approval for crop tree release, site preparation or forest insect control unless
- (a) at least 30 days before the application commences, the person

- (i) posts signs approved by an Administrator identifying when and where the pesticide will be applied,
- (ii) ensures that the signs referred to in subclause (i) contain a space for coloured fluorescent decals which shall be applied to the signs when spraying commences at the treatment site, and
- (iii) ensures that the signs referred to in subclause (i) are placed on all access roads leading to the treatment site and at the edge of the treatment site;

**(b)** at least 30 days before the application commences, the person delivers a written notice approved by an Administrator to the owner or occupier of any dwelling, business, school, public building, or any other inhabited structure which is located within 500 m of the treatment site, identifying when and where the pesticide will be applied; and

**(c)** at least 20 days before the application commences, when the total area under an approval or the area of the individual treatment site exceeds 200 ha, the person publishes a notice approved by an Administrator through a local newspaper identifying when and where the pesticide will be applied.

**(5)** If the applicant can provide reasons which are considered acceptable to the Minister or an Administrator, the Minister or the Administrator may waive, modify, or alter the notice requirements provided in this Section.

**(6)** No person shall remove or alter any sign required to be posted under these regulations unless authorized by these regulations or by an Administrator.

**(7)** Subject to subsection (9), no sign posted under these regulations shall be removed for a period of 7 days after the last application at the treatment site.

**(8)** Unless agreed in writing by an Administrator, any sign posted pursuant to an approval under these regulations must be removed by the approval holder no later than November 1st in the year that the approval was issued unless there is a conflict with subsection (7) in which case the approval holder shall remove any signs immediately after 7 days have elapsed from the last application at the treatment site.

**(9)** Unless agreed in writing by an Administrator, every person who for hire or reward applies a commercial class or restricted class pesticide to a lawn, tree or other area that surrounds a domestic residence, an apartment, a commercial building, or that is located in a public area, shall

**(a)** post a sign approved by an Administrator indicating that a pesticide application has taken place on the treatment site immediately after the last application of the pesticide; and

(b) not remove a sign posted under clause (a) for a period of 24 hours after the last application at the treatment site.

### **Prohibitions**

**14 (1)** No person shall apply, handle, use, abandon or dispose of any pesticide, a mixture containing a pesticide or seeds treated with a pesticide unless the handling, use, abandonment or disposal is conducted in conformance with the product directions or limitations shown on the manufacturer's product label or in a manner approved by the Minister or an Administrator.

**(2)** Despite subsection (1), no person shall apply, handle, use, abandon or dispose of a pesticide, a mixture or a device containing a pesticide or a material treated with a pesticide in a manner that results or may result in contamination of the environment.

### **Pesticide research**

**15** Any pesticide research shall be reported by the researcher to an Administrator in writing 15 days before application commences under the pesticide research authorization.

### **Filling/flushing**

**16** No person shall fill, flush or clean a sprayer or equipment used for or in association with the application of a pesticide in a manner that results or may result in contamination.

### **Contingency plan**

**17** The Minister or an Administrator may require contingency plans respecting a release of a pesticide to be prepared for approval by the Minister or the Administrator by a person who holds a Class IX certificate of qualification or by an approval holder who applies a commercial class or restricted class pesticide.

### **Pesticide containers**

**18 (1)** No person shall dispose of a container that was used to hold a commercial class or restricted class pesticide except

(a) at a container collection site; or

(b) in a manner approved by the Minister or an Administrator.

**(2)** All pesticides shall be stored in the labelled containers supplied by the manufacturer unless otherwise authorized in writing by an Administrator.

## **Buffer zones**

**19** Where the Minister believes on reasonable and probable grounds that a treatment site may be sensitive to the application of a pesticide, the Minister may require a buffer zone be set aside in which no spray is to be directly applied, may determine the size of the buffer zone to be maintained, and may outline how the buffer zone is to be marked or identified.

## **Cancelled registered pesticides**

**20 (1)** Where the registration of a pesticide has been cancelled under the Pest Control Products Act (Canada), the person to whom the pesticide was registered shall

- (a) collect or accept return of all such pesticide supplied by the person to others; and
- (b) dispose of all such pesticide in a manner acceptable to an Administrator.

**(2)** No person shall use, apply, display, or sell a pesticide if its registration has been cancelled under the Pest Control Products Act (Canada).

## **Protected water area**

**21** No person shall apply a pesticide within a protected water area designated under Section 106 of the Act unless the person complies with any regulations regarding the use of pesticides within the protected water area.

## **Part IV - User Pesticide Storage Facilities**

### **User pesticide storage**

**22 (1)** Part IV of these regulations applies to a private individual or the owner, operator or person responsible for a commercial business who stores a commercial class or restricted class pesticide in excess of 25 l in liquid form or 25 kg in solid form, whichever is applicable, for their own use or business use in a user pesticide storage facility, but does not store the commercial class or restricted class pesticide for resale.

**(2)** No private individual or owner, operator or person responsible for a commercial business described in subsection (1) shall store a commercial class or restricted class pesticide unless the following conditions are met:

- (a) the pesticide is stored in a facility that prevents the uncontrolled release of the pesticide;
- (b) a list of pesticides stored in the facility and the estimated quantities normally held in storage is, upon request, supplied to the chief of the local fire department or the chief's designate;

(c) a placard is affixed and maintained on the outside of each door leading into the room where the pesticide is stored bearing the words "WARNING - CHEMICAL STORAGE - AUTHORIZED PERSONNEL ONLY" or words to like effect in block letters which are clearly visible; and

(d) emergency telephone numbers are displayed in the facility, including telephone numbers of the fire department, hospital, poison control centre, Department, police and Emergency Measures Organization.

### **Part V - Vendor Pesticide Storage Facilities**

#### **Vendor pesticide storage**

**23 (1)** Part V of these regulations applies to the owner, operator or person responsible for a commercial business who for hire or reward, or for resale, stores a commercial class or restricted class pesticide in a vendor pesticide storage facility.

(2) Any person storing commercial class or restricted class pesticides for hire or reward, or for resale, must do so in a facility that meets a standard established, approved or recognized by the Minister under subsection 8(2) of the Act.

#### **Storage approval**

**24 (1)** No person shall construct a new vendor pesticide storage facility or extend or modify an existing pesticide storage facility to store a commercial class or restricted class pesticide for hire or reward, sale, resale, or wholesale distribution unless the person receives an approval from an Administrator.

(2) An approval under subsection (1) shall be processed under the Approvals Procedure Regulations.

#### **General restriction on facility location**

**25** No person shall construct or extend a vendor pesticide storage facility

(a) within 30 m of the bank of any surface watercourse or the ordinary high water mark of any surface watercourse, whichever distance is greater, unless approved in writing by an Administrator; or

(b) within 60 m of a well or surface watercourse used as a private water supply, unless approved in writing by an Administrator.

## **Construction requirements**

**26 (1)** The construction requirements described in this Section are in addition to all applicable federal, provincial, and municipal laws and regulations, including building, fire, and electrical codes and regulations.

**(2)** No person shall construct a vendor pesticide storage facility unless the following conditions are met:

- (a)** in the area where pesticides are stored, the floor surface shall be made of steel, concrete or other similar durable material which is impervious to an absorbable liquid;
- (b)** flooring in the area where pesticides are stored shall have a smooth surface and be capable of being cleaned and decontaminated of any pesticide stored in the facility;
- (c)** in the area where pesticides are stored, there shall be a continuous, non-combustible curb on the floor which is integral with the floor and is at least 10 cm in height around the perimeter of the area and is capable of retaining liquids;
- (d)** in the area where pesticides are stored, there shall be no floor drains, catch basins, sumps or other openings in the floor;
- (e)** the facility shall have adequate ventilation by either natural or mechanical means to the outside atmosphere to prevent the accumulation of toxic or flammable vapours;
- (f)** there shall be at least 2 entrances and exits to the facility located on opposite sides of the facility if the floor area of the facility exceeds 200 m<sup>2</sup>;
- (g)** there shall be a separate room or area at or near the area in which the pesticides are stored that contains adequate washing facilities for personal decontamination; and
- (h)** a source of running water shall be readily available in or adjacent to the area where pesticides are stored.

## **Storage requirements**

**27** No owner, operator or person responsible for a vendor pesticide storage facility shall store a commercial class or restricted class pesticide unless

- (a)** the area where the pesticides are stored is a separate locked room or compartment that is partitioned from the floor to the ceiling with building materials that conform with fire and building codes and has no openings except those required for ventilation and entrances;

- (b) all permanent storage racks or shelves are constructed of non-combustible material that can be easily cleaned;
- (c) all pesticides are stored according to the label storage requirements provided by the manufacturer;
- (d) all pesticides are stored at least 10 cm above the floor;
- (e) all herbicides, insecticides and fungicides are stored separately from each other in the facility;
- (f) all pesticides are separated from any flammable materials by a fire resistant barrier or enough space to minimize risk of combustion of the pesticides;
- (g) all pesticides are stacked in a manner that enables the pesticides to be readily inspected; and
- (h) foodstuffs, including feed, are not stored in the facility.

#### **Access to site**

**28** No person shall own, operate or be responsible for a vendor pesticide storage facility unless

- (a) the facility has sufficient outside lighting to be of use to emergency service personnel;
- (b) any windows in the facility are locked to prevent unauthorized access when authorized personnel are not present;
- (c) the facility has doors that remain closed and locked at all times when authorized personnel are not present; and
- (d) access to the facility is restricted only to authorized personnel.

#### **Safety measures**

**29 (1)** No person shall own, operate or be responsible for a vendor pesticide storage facility unless

- (a) protective clothing including gloves, hats, coveralls, boots, eye protection, a first aid kit and a respirator appropriate for use with the pesticide being stored are readily available, are properly maintained, and functional at all times at the facility and are free from pesticide contamination;
- (b) eye wash and emergency showers are readily available at the facility;

(c) the chief of the local fire department or the chief's designate is provided annually with a list of pesticides stored in the facility and the estimated quantities normally held in storage and the chief or the designate is notified of any significant changes in stocks which occur during the year;

(d) a placard is affixed and maintained on the outside of each door leading into the room where the pesticide is stored bearing the words "WARNING - CHEMICAL STORAGE - AUTHORIZED PERSONNEL ONLY" or words to like effect in block letters which are clearly visible; and

(e) emergency phone numbers are displayed in the facility including the telephone numbers of the fire department, hospital, poison control centre, Department, police and Emergency Measures Organization.

(2) Every owner, operator or person responsible for a vendor pesticide storage facility shall ensure that "no smoking" signs are prominently displayed in an area where pesticides are being stored.

(3) No person shall use an open flame to conduct welding, burning, cutting, melting, heating or any other activity in a vendor pesticide storage facility unless appropriate safety measures are taken.

(4) Every owner, operator or person responsible for a vendor pesticide storage facility shall post or make readily available to employees or other persons any material safety data sheets that have been compiled and supplied by the manufacturer of the pesticide.

(5) No owner, operator or person responsible for a vendor pesticide storage facility shall place a pesticide in that facility unless it is equipped with

(a) a fully-operative fire alarm system;

(b) fire extinguishers which are approved by the fire department and are placed in strategic positions in and around the pesticide storage facility; and

(c) materials for containment and clean-up as required by an Administrator.

(6) Unless an Administrator directs otherwise in writing, every owner, operator or person responsible for a vendor pesticide storage facility shall ensure there is unobstructed access to the facility for emergency equipment and personnel.

### **Maintenance and inspection of facility**

**30 (1)** Every owner, operator or person responsible for a vendor pesticide storage facility shall

(a) comply with all relevant legislation respecting pesticide storage and the use of personnel protection equipment and clean-up techniques;

(b) inspect monthly the facility and repair or replace any parts that may be damaged or defective; and

(c) immediately secure any container or package found leaking a pesticide and clean up the area.

(2) Every owner, operator or person responsible for a vendor pesticide storage facility shall keep and make available for review upon request by an inspector, a book or report of monthly inspections and any action taken under subsection (1).

(3) The book or report described in subsection (2) shall be kept while the facility is in operation and for 2 years after operations cease.

### **Abandonment**

**31 (1)** No owner, operator or person responsible for a vendor pesticide storage facility shall abandon that facility or any part of that facility unless the person notifies an Administrator in writing at least 6 months before the date of the proposed abandonment.

(2) No owner, operator or person responsible for a vendor pesticide storage facility shall abandon that facility unless the facility is left in a condition approved by an Administrator.

(3) Unless approved in writing by an Administrator, an abandonment pursuant to subsection (1) does not relieve the owner, operator or person responsible for a vendor pesticide storage facility from any requirement contained in the Act, regulations made pursuant to the Act, or in an approval issued with respect to that facility.

#### **Part VI - Effective Date**

**32 (1)** Subject to subsection (2), these regulations shall come into force on, from and after April 11, 1995.

(2) With respect to private applicators, clauses 7(1)(c), (d), (e), (f), and (k), and clause 10(b) shall come into force on, from and after December 1, 1996.

