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CONDITIONS COVERING THE USE OF PESTICIDES NEAR SENSITIVE SITES

The Commissioner defines sensitive sites as areas frequented by people and environmentally sensitive areas that could suffer harm or injury. Sensitive sites include rural and/or residential homes, farmworker housing, schoolsites, nursing homes, and hospitals. Sensitive sites also include organic operations, sensitive crops, estuaries, reservoirs, lakes, ponds, waterways, livestock, beehives, state wildlife management areas, and critical habitats of rare, endangered, or threatened species.

If endangered species are indicated on a label, check with the California Department of Pesticide Regulation's PRESCRIBE, an online endangered species database for further information.

http://calpip.cdpr.ca.gov/infodocs.cfm?page=aboutprescribe

Under no circumstance shall a Warning or Danger material be applied unless the minimum distance between closest operating nozzle and non-target areas are maintained as listed below. The use of Caution materials and/or alternative application measures should be considered as mitigation efforts.

Distance should be measured from the property line when considering sensitive sites. In some instances, the applicator can obtain permission from the property operator to allow the buffer to extend on to the property, but that zone must be unoccupied at the time of application.

In order to apply pesticides closer than the minimum distance, the permittee shall obtain written permission by the occupant of the dwelling. This written permission must also be provided to the Pest Control Business performing the application prior to the start of the application. A copy of the written permission shall be made available upon request by the Commissioner.

Buffers shall be employed to prevent exposure to occupants in proximity to rural residential properties; i.e. a single home on or adjacent to agricultural farming operations. This includes residences rented or leased for occupancy by the property operator(s). Such buffers shall be measured from the edge of the area that could be reasonably used by the resident (for example the yard edge).

Air movement shall be away from the sensitive sites noted above at all times during an application regardless the size of the required buffer.

Sensitive Site Distance Table

TYPE OF PESTICIDE APPLICATION EQUIPMENT

MINIMUM DISTANCE BETWEEN CLOSEST OPERATING NOZZLE AND THE NON-TARGET AREA

Aircraft 500 feet Danger, 300 feet Warning

Air blast orchard sprayer 100 feet

High boom ground rig in open field use 100 feet

Ground rig applying liquid or dust formulations of pesticide no more than 12

inches above the soil

100 feet

Ground rig applying liquid or gas below soil (see also fumigation requirements if applicable) 100 feet (or in compliance w/ fumigation regulations, whichever is more restrictive)

Ground rig applying dry pesticide pellets no more than 12 inches above the soil or below the soil 5 feet