



Checklist

Wait! Before a pesticide application, review this checklist to ensure that all safety precautions are in place to prevent drift and protect workers and your neighbors.

Think About the Consequences.

Have you thought through the consequences if drift occurs under the present conditions? Will you expose people or make them ill? Will you subject your company to an investigation? Will you or your company face lawsuits?

Watch for Work Crews, Cars, Pedestrians and Others.

Have you communicated effectively with your PCA, applicator and neighboring farmers? Are you aware of crops produced in the surrounding fields and the routines of neighboring field crews? Remember, attention should be given to harvesting crews, but also when there are only one to two workers in a neighboring field, cars are driving past the field or pedestrians are walking nearby.

Talk to Your Neighbors.

Have you checked with your neighboring farmers about an upcoming pesticide application? Do you have the names and phone numbers of neighboring farmers and/or their foremen?

Inform Your Workers.

Has your work crew or labor contractor been informed about activities taking place in your field or in surrounding fields? Do they know they should stop work and leave the premises if there is a possibility of exposure to pesticides or unsafe conditions?

Prepare Fields Properly.

Have you prepared the field properly prior to the application? For fumigants, has the ground prep been done correctly to ensure that the soil is ready?

Check Wind Patterns and Weather Conditions.

Are there weather conditions present which could negatively affect the application (i.e., fog or heat)? Is there a wind pattern associated with a certain time of day? Do you have a mechanism onsite to monitor wind changes or the lack of wind? Is this mechanism visible to ground or aerial applicators?

Communicate with Your Applicator.

Is there direct communication with the ground applicator or the pilot so that an application can be stopped or altered if necessary? Does the applicator know that you want him/her to stop if something goes wrong?

Remember, extreme care should be taken when applying a chemical around a school or near a residential area.