

Private



Private Pesticide Applicator Responsibilities



Find out more online

<https://oda.direct/Pesticides>

- Advisories
- Enforcement actions
- Laws and compliance
- Licensing information
- Registration information
- License recertification
- Recordkeeping
- Storage and disposal

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<https://oda.direct/Pesticides>

Soil fumigation

Most soil fumigants are restricted-use pesticides and have special label requirements. Examples include:

- Chloropicrin
- Dazomet
- Metam sodium
- Metam potassium
- Methyl bromide

If, as a Private pesticide applicator, you will be making soil fumigant applications on property that you own, rent, or lease, you will need to complete EPA-approved Soil Fumigant Applicator Training every 36 months. The training is available through EPA's Soil Fumigant Toolbox at:

<https://oda.fyi/EPASoilFumigantTraining>.

Future changes

In the future as a Private Applicator, if you will be making soil fumigant applications on property that you own, rent, or lease, you will need to take and pass a Soil Fumigant examination. This is because of changes in federal law. All licensed applicators, pesticide consultants, and pesticide dealers will be notified when this requirement becomes Oregon law. It is anticipated that this will be reflected as a category on your Private Applicator's License. For information about scheduling a pesticide exam, go to:

<http://oda.direct/TakingPesticideExams>.

For information about soil fumigant label changes, go to <https://oda.direct/SoilFumigation>.

Licensing

A Private Pesticide Applicator's license allows a person to purchase, apply, or supervise the use of restricted-use pesticides on agricultural land owned, rented or leased by the private pesticide applicator. Agricultural land includes farmland, rangeland, forests, greenhouses, nurseries, orchards, etc.

After you take and pass the Private Applicator's exam, you become certified, and are able to apply for a Private Pesticide Applicator's license.

Recertification

The license certification is valid for up to five consecutive calendar years, and expires Dec. 31 of the final year.

At the end of five years, you can renew your certification by:

- Retaking and passing the Private Applicator exam at the end of the fifth certification year
- or**
- Attend approved recertification courses (must be completed before the end of the 5 year certification period).
 - » 16 total hours required – 4 of the hours must be "Core".
 - » 8 hours maximum per year.
 - » A list of classes is available on the ODA website.



Reading the label

Read it ...

Read the label before you purchase a pesticide product, each time you apply it and when you store or dispose of it.

Follow it ...

Always follow label directions exactly. Wear required personal protective equipment, apply correct rates on listed sites, and observe other special precautions.

Protecting pollinators

- Select insecticides that are lowest in toxicity to pollinators.
- Do not make pesticide applications while pollinators are foraging.
- If commercial hives are present, inform the beekeeper of when and where pesticide applications will be made and notify them if you intend to apply a pesticide.
- Observe buffer zones around beehives.

For information on protecting pollinators see “How to Reduce Bee Poisoning from Pesticides” (PNW 591) available from Oregon State University Extension.

Avoiding problems

- Apply a pesticide only if the crop or site is specifically listed on the label.
- Keep application equipment in good condition and calibrated correctly.
- Prevent particle and vapor drift.
- Avoid areas where runoff into waterways is likely.
- Protect local endangered species.
- Be especially careful near sensitive sites, such as schools, hospitals and beehives.
- Observe buffer zones around certain waterways. For information, go to <https://oda.direct/Buffers>
- Use required personal protective equipment (PPE).
- Adequately supervise all applications made by unlicensed employees.
- Follow and ensure that workers follow the Restricted Entry Interval (REI) stated on the pesticide label.
- Follow the Pre-harvest Interval (PHI) stated on the label. The PHI is the required wait time from the last pesticide application to harvest.
- Report any adverse effects to humans, animals, or the environment to the ODA Pesticides Program at 503.986.4635.

USDA recordkeeping

Recordkeeping elements

- Pesticide brand or product name.
- Pesticide EPA registration number.
- Total amount applied—record lbs., oz. or gal. of actual product used.
- Size of the area treated.
- Crop, commodity, stored product or site.
- Location of application—not the address of farm. Acceptable locations include:
 - » County, range, township and section;
 - » Maps or written descriptions;
 - » USDA identification system;
 - » The legal property description.
- Date (Month/Day/Year).
- Certified applicator’s full name (no nicknames or initials) and license number.
- Restricted-use pesticides must be recorded within 14 days of the application.
- Records must be maintained for 2 years.
- Provide records to ODA personnel, USDA personnel and attending licensed health care professionals when requested.

Protecting workers

Call OR-OSHA 800.922.2689 for more information about:

- Worker Protection Standard (farm, forest, nursery and greenhouse sites)
 - » Pesticide safety training
 - » Central posting and notification
 - » Decontamination supplies
 - » Emergency Assistance
 - » Restricted-entry intervals
 - » Personal protective equipment (PPE)
- Hazardous Communication Standard
 - » Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) available for workers to view.
 - » Train workers on how to use an MSDS.

Preventing drift

It is your responsibility to keep your application on the intended target site only. In addition to the label, these steps can help you reduce the potential for drift.

- Keep application equipment maintained and accurately calibrated.
- Use the lowest pressure setting possible and spray as close to the target while maintaining adequate coverage.
- Use drift control technology such as drift retardants, etc.
- Do not spray during temperature inversions, or during other unfavorable weather.