



FACT SHEET 7.3

READING A PESTICIDE LABEL

Hobby farmers may find the need to use a pesticide or herbicide as part of an overall management program, particularly if non-chemical integrated pest management measures are not working. Reading and understanding the information provided on a pesticide label is essential for the product's safe and effective use. Most of the information on a pesticide label is required to be provided to you by Federal Law. It is against the law to use a pesticide inconsistent with its label.

WHAT THE PESTICIDE LABEL WILL TELL YOU

- What the pesticide is approved to control (e.g. type of pest or weed)
- Ingredients in the pesticide
- Pesticide toxicity
- Health hazards and first aid information
- Physical, chemical and environmental hazards
- Directions for use: how, where, when and how often to apply
- Directions for storage and disposal
- Manufacturer contact information

POLLINATOR PROTECTION ADVISORY ON PESTICIDE LABELS

Pesticides have long been known to impact important pollinators, including bees. A recent pesticide label change now requires the addition of a bee advisory box on certain pesticides to help protect pollinator populations. Identified by a bee icon, this advisory box alerts applicators to the potential hazard the pesticide poses to bees and other insect pollinator populations. This bee advisory box provides specific instructions and separate label restrictions to help minimize pollinator exposure during foraging (when plants and trees flower, shed pollen, or produce nectar).



REMEMBER, MANY CROPS RELY ON POLLINATORS TO BE SUCCESSFUL. ALTHOUGH WIND PLAYS AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN PLANT POLLINATION, BEES AND OTHER INSECTS ARE ALSO ESSENTIAL TO THIS PROCESS AND CAN BE NEGATIVELY IMPACTED BY PESTICIDE USE.



WATER QUALITY BENEFIT

Following pesticide label instructions can help reduce the chances of harmful chemicals reaching nearby water resources.

1 **WEED-B-GONE**

HERBICIDE - kills broadleaf weeds **2**

3 **ACTIVE INGREDIENT(S)**

Chemical ABC.....	2.0%
Chemical XYZ.....	3.0%
Other (inert) Ingredients.....	95.0%
Total	100.0%

4 **CAUTION**

EPA Reg. No. 123-45-67890 **5**
 EPA Est. No. 12345-AB-C

6 **PRECAUTIONARY STATEMENTS**

Hazardous to Humans & Domestic Animals

KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN
 Causes moderate eye irritation. Avoid contact with eyes or clothing. Wash thoroughly with soap and water after handling.

ENVIRONMENTAL HAZARDS
 To protect the environment do not allow herbicide to enter or run off into storm drains, drainage ditches or surface water.

7 **NET CONTENTS:**

2 lbs.

8 **FIRST AID**

IF SWALLOWED: xxxx
 IF IN EYES: xxxx
 IF ON SKIN: xxxx
 IF INHALED: xxxx

9 **PHYSICAL OR CHEMICAL HAZARDS**

xxxxx

10 **DIRECTIONS FOR USE**

xxxxx

11 **STORAGE AND DISPOSAL**

xxxxx

12 **XYZ CHEMICAL CO.**

123 STREET
 ANYTOWN, STATE 01234
 (555) 555-5555

13 **RESTRICTED USE PESTICIDE**

It is a violation of Federal law to use this product in a manner inconsistent with its labeling.

- 1. BRAND NAME** - The name used by the manufacturer. A particular active ingredient may be sold under several different brand names.
- 2. PRODUCT DESCRIPTION** - Describes the type of pesticide and what it will control.
- 3. ACTIVE INGREDIENT(S)** - The chemical that controls the pest. Inert or other Ingredient(s) do not directly impact the pest but help the active ingredient work.
- 4. SIGNAL WORD** - Will be one of the following: CAUTION, WARNING, DANGER or DANGER/POISON with CAUTION being least toxic and DANGER/POISON being highly toxic. Signal words indicate the relative acute (short-term) toxicity of the product to humans and animals. If you are choosing between two products that will control the same pest, the signal word can be used to help choose the least toxic product.
- 5. REGISTRATION AND ESTABLISHMENT NO.** - The registration # is proof that the product and label were reviewed by the U.S. EPA. The establishment # identifies the facility where the product was manufactured.
- 6. PRECAUTIONARY STATEMENT** - Details of the potential hazards to people, pets and the environment. Most pesticide labels are required to say 'Keep Out of Reach of Children'. This area may also include the main route of entry (how a pesticide may enter the body), how to prevent exposure and required personal protective equipment.
- 7. NET WEIGHT** - The total volume or weight in the pesticide container.
- 8. FIRST AID SECTION** - Outlines what to do in case of exposure to the pesticide.
- 9. PHYSICAL OR CHEMICAL HAZARDS** - Describes potential fire, chemical, or explosion hazards specific to the pesticide.
- 10. DIRECTIONS FOR USE** - Details how to properly apply the pesticide safely. Information may include: what type of pest it can be used to control, where it can be used, how to apply it, how much to apply (rate of application, dilution rate), frequency (how often), when to apply it, how soon after application people and animals can come into contact with a treated area, and how soon a crop can be harvested or consumed after treatment.
- 11. STORAGE AND DISPOSAL** - Details how the product should be stored and how to dispose of unused product and empty containers.
- 12. MANUFACTURER** - Gives the name and contact information for the product manufacturer.
- 13. RESTRICTED USE PESTICIDE** - Pesticides are either General Use Pesticides (GUP) or Restricted Use Pesticides (RUP). RUPs are generally more toxic and require the applicator to be trained and certified to purchase and apply it.