

Protecting your Eyes, Face and Lungs

Wear the following equipment to protect your facial area from exposure

Equipment	Protection	How to wear it
Goggles	Chemical-resistant goggles keep your eyes safe from both splashing and, if using dry formulations, dust or granules. Don't use goggles with cloth or elastic headbands as these will absorb pesticides.	Wear goggles snugly on your face so that the sides of your head are protected from splashes. If you wear glasses, make sure you purchase goggles which fit snugly over them. Never wear contact lenses when working around pesticides.
Respirators	Only NIOSH-approved respirators should be used. Do not exchange parts of different respirators. (For example, do not use a cartridge produced by Company "A" with a respirator produced by Company "B" as the combination may not provide adequate protection to the user). Dust masks are ineffective in protecting against herbicide vapors. Similarly, the filters on tractor cabs are intended to remove dust and are not intended to protect against vapor or mists. Chemical cartridge respirators are recommended for outdoor use when mixing and applying pesticides.	When carrying out operations, change filters each day. The cartridge should be replaced when chemical odour becomes apparent or when breathing becomes difficult. New cartridges should always be installed at the beginning of spray season. Prior to commencing work, check the face seal while the respirator is on the wearer's face. Regardless of design, respirators cannot be worn securely by people wearing beards, moustaches or sideburns.
Face Shields	Goggles offer protection, but frequently full-face protection is advised or required according to the pesticide label. It is especially important to protect your eyes and face when pouring or mixing liquid concentrates. Effective face shields are made of clear plastic	Since the shield attaches to the hard hat, you can raise or lower it as needed.

Laundering Pesticide-soiled Clothing

Skin can absorb chemicals from clothing and equipment that have not been handled and washed properly. Additionally, improper laundering can result in contamination of the washing machine or dryer.

Just as the operator needs to be cautious when handling pesticides, the person doing the laundry needs to be cautious when handling pesticide soiled clothing.

Consult the Manitoba Agriculture and Food's factsheet "Protective Clothing for Use with Pesticides" for further information,

Container Disposal

Properly rinsed containers should be delivered to a designated pesticide container disposal site. Contact your Agricultural Representative or your Rural Municipal office for the locations of pesticide container disposal sites in your municipality.

Triple Rinsing

Triple rinsing renders used pesticide containers (metal, plastic, glass) more than 99.9 per cent free of residues, in most cases. Recent data shows that over 78 per cent of pesticide containers are being rinsed by farmers. Here are the steps that should be followed:

1. Empty contents of the container into the spray tank and drain in a vertical position for 30 seconds.
2. Add a measured amount of rinse water or other diluent so container is about one-fifth full.
3. Rinse the container thoroughly and pour the rinsate into the spray tank.
4. Repeat the procedure twice (it should only take about 5 minutes in total).
5. Puncture or break triple rinsed containers to render them non-reusable. Paper bags should be rinsed once prior to disposal.

Pressure Rinsing

Also available are pressure rinsers that can rinse all sizes of empty pesticide containers that can be lifted into position over the spray tank. A 30-second rinse with a pressure rinser is convenient and just as effective as triple rinsing. Pressure rinsers are constructed to be thrust into the bottom of a metal can or plastic jug. Holes, situated laterally in the rinser tip, direct water from a pressurized source against the inner sides of the container and effectively wash the residual pesticide into the spray tank.

Some farmers have found it convenient to attach a rinser to the pump on their large water storage tank to minimize container handling. -Pressure rinsers have the added advantage of rendering containers useless by automatically puncturing them.

Pesticide Formulations and Compatibility

Abbreviations associated with product names indicate the type of formulation.

Abbreviations most often used are: W or WP == wettable powder

E or EC = emulsifiable concentrate

SC == spray concentrate

WDG =wetable dispersable granules

DF == dry flowable

When tank mixes are being considered follow any specific label instructions and check label for incompatibilities. Compatibility is usually better if WP is mixed with WP. EC formulations are more likely to cause compatibility problems when mixed with WP formulationvvs.

Compatibility charts only indicate physical mixing properties and do not indicate chemical interactions and for that reason are not included in this guide.