

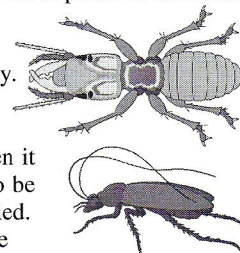
Job Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Job Site Location: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Start Time: \_\_\_\_\_ Finish Time: \_\_\_\_\_ Foreman/Supervisor: \_\_\_\_\_

## Topic 632: Insecticides

**Introduction:** Occupational exposure to insecticides includes those involved in the manufacture, formulation, mixture, and application, as well as those exposed to residues. Exposure to the public can result from unsafe practices and transportation accidents involving insecticides. Insecticides can cause sweating, headache, flu-like symptoms, blurred vision, sleepiness, and vomiting. Following are safety guidelines for safe operations with insecticides:

- **Employees** who mix, load, or apply insecticides, work in an area before a reentry time has expired, or who are otherwise exposed to hazardous chemicals must receive all information and training on the insecticides that they are working with.
- **All employees** have the right to request and receive a copy of MSDS's regarding hazardous insecticides in the workplace. When you are concerned about safety and health practices, or dangers in the workplace, notify your employer immediately.
- **An MSDS** includes information on symptoms of overexposure, chemical characteristics, physical and health hazards, protective measures for handling the material, and first aid and emergency procedures.
- **Remember**, in areas where insecticides are used, you must post the name of the insecticide, where it was applied, when it was applied, and the restricted entry interval (REI) when workers may return to the work area. This information has to be written and posted in a central location that is easily accessible to the public, and all workers, before insecticides are applied.



**Signs and Symptoms of Exposure:** Overexposure to some insecticides may not have effects for a long time. Limiting exposure by following safe work practices will prevent these effects. Insecticides can enter your body through the nose and mouth by breathing in dusts.

- Insecticides can enter your body through the skin and cause rashes or burns. Your skin could become red and itchy, and blisters may form.
- Eye redness and soreness can be caused by splashing an insecticide in your eyes, or rubbing your eyes with a hand or clothing that has some on it.
- Skin rashes and eye irritation can become serious injuries and need to be treated by a doctor.
- Signs of serious exposure that could cause death are very small pupils in the eyes, drooling, a runny nose, and trouble breathing.
- When a worker shows these signs, get medical help *immediately*! Take the label or insecticide container with you to the doctor.

**Residues:** Chemical residues are small amounts of insecticides that can remain after areas have been treated. Hazardous chemical residues can be on plants, in soil, and on any indoor or outdoor area that has been treated. Residues can be carried by the wind into your area from other applications. Chemical residues cannot always be seen, so you should cover as much of your skin as possible. This will help prevent skin rashes or overexposure.

- **Wear** long-sleeved shirts, long-legged pants, safety shoes or boots, and unlined gloves that can be properly cleaned. Do not wear leather boots because they can absorb chemicals. A full body coverall may be needed for certain operations.
- **Wear** a dust mask, a respirator, a full-face respirator, or an air-supplied respirator depending on the applications being used.

**Re-Entry Period:** Some hazardous insecticides are poisonous for a period of time after they are applied. The re-entry period is the amount of time that must pass before it is safe to go back into a treated area.

- **Do not** re-enter an area until the reentry time has passed. Laws require different restricted entry intervals (REIs) for different insecticides and different types of work. Check the laws in your area.

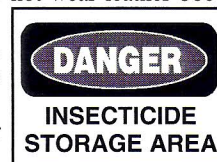
**Safe Practices for Handling Hazardous Insecticides:** Store all insecticides and equipment in a safe area. Post signs to keep unauthorized persons out.

- **Make sure** all precautions are taken when handling equipment. Always wash your face and hands with soap and water before eating, drinking, smoking, or using the toilet. Always wash your work clothes separately from other laundry before wearing them again. Wash your hands and arms after putting work clothes into the wash. Wash with soap and water, and shampoo your hair after each work day.

**First Aid:** When an accident using hazardous insecticides occurs, get the label information and get immediate help. When medical help is not available, follow the first-aid directions on the label. When you show signs of chemical poisoning, get immediate medical help. Take the hazardous chemical label or material safety data sheet (MSDS) to the doctor, health clinic, or emergency room.

- Immediately wash in the nearest clean water when insecticides are spilled or sprayed onto your body. Then shower, shampoo, and change into clean clothing as soon as possible. Get medical attention when any signs of overexposure are present.
- Swallowing a hazardous insecticide can cause poisoning or death. If you swallow a hazardous chemical, get immediate medical treatment.
- Eye damage can happen in a few minutes from some types of hazardous insecticides. Eyes absorb hazardous chemicals faster than any other part of the body. Rinse your eyes immediately with clean water for 15 minutes.

**Conclusion:** Insecticides need to be handled with extreme care. Use these safety guidelines to ensure a safe working environment for you and the public.



## Work Site Review

Work-Site Hazards and Safety Suggestions: \_\_\_\_\_

Personnel Safety Violations: \_\_\_\_\_

Material Safety Data Sheets Reviewed: \_\_\_\_\_ (Name of Chemical)

### Employee Signatures:

(My signature attests and verifies my understanding of and agreement to comply with, all company safety policies and regulations, and that I have not suffered, experienced, or sustained any recent job-related injury or illness.)

_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

These guidelines do not supercede local, state, or federal regulations and must not be construed as a substitute for, or legal interpretation of, any OSHA regulations.