

Idaho OnePlan – Pesticide Applicator Recordkeeping Program

The Situation

Since 1993, certified private pesticide applicators have been required to keep records of their use of federally registered restricted use pesticides (RUPs). Use of a pesticide can be restricted to certified applicators by the US Environmental Protection Agency because of the product's risk to humans, water bodies, beneficial insects, or wildlife.

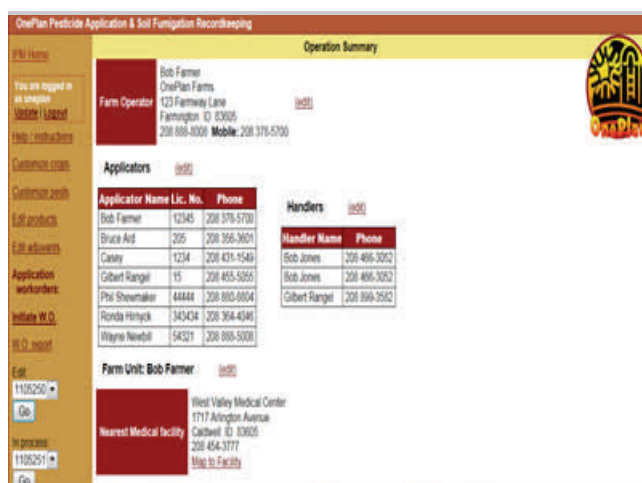
Restricted use pesticides can be identified by the use of the words "Restricted Use Pesticide" in a box at the top of the product label. "For retail sale to and use only by certified applicators or persons under their direct supervision, and only for those uses covered by the certified applicator's certification" appear below the box.

There are several important reasons to keep accurate records of RUP applications. Among them are:

- To document the efficacy of a product,
- To document the crop safety of a product,
- To quickly identify a product used in case of a medical emergency associated with the product's use,
- To help avoid resistance buildup associated with repeated use of products with the same chemistry, and
- To provide liability protection in the case of legal claims against a grower.

Following is the information that must be recorded:

- The brand or product name of the RUP and the product's EPA registration number,
- The total amount applied,
- The size of the area treated,



OnePlan Pesticide Applicator Recordkeeping Program summary page. www.oneplan.org/PAR

- The crop, commodity, stored product, or site to which the product was applied,
- Location of the application,
- Day, Month and Year of the application,
- Applicator name and certification number.

There is no required format for RUP recordkeeping. All the required information must be recorded within 14 days of the application. Records must be kept for a minimum of two years and must be provided, upon request, to credentialed USDA and/or ISDA representatives, or health care professionals when treating individuals who may have been exposed to RUPs.

Our Response

As a result of stakeholder input from a Canyon County crops advisory committee, the Idaho OnePlan Pesticide Applicator Recordkeeping tool (PAR) was developed in 2009 in consultation with the Idaho

State Department of Agriculture. The objective of the Idaho OnePlan PAR program is to help farmers comply with the recordkeeping rules for RUPs and the Worker Protection Standard in an easy to use, secure, digital format. The program is free for all users.

The PAR is currently part of the "Idaho OnePlan" website and can be found at: <http://www.oneplan.org/PAR>. The PAR is a collaborative effort between University of Idaho Extension, the Idaho Association of Soil Conservation Districts and the USDA-NRCS. Ongoing funds for website updates and maintenance are currently being provided by the Idaho Alfalfa and Clover Seed Growers' Commission, the Idaho Potato Commission and the Idaho Sugarbeet Industry. Growers using the PAR program will meet all the pesticide recordkeeping and Worker Protection Standard requirements of the US Environmental Protection Agency and the Idaho State Department of Agriculture.

Program Outcomes

During the winter months, program collaborators gave presentations at numerous grower meetings educating growers on the use and benefits of the PAR website. In 2011, the second year the website was available, there were 340 users.

Users of the PAR website were asked to complete an online evaluation. Below are the summarized results:

- 100% of the users responding said the Idaho OnePlan PAR computerized pesticide record keeping program was useful to them or their organization,
- 78% indicated that the program was "useful" or "very useful,"
- 93% of the users had increased compliance with state and federal pesticide rules,
- 50% were better able to keep track of pesticide applications by field and/or crop,
- 57% were more confident in their ability to supply Worker Protection Standard information to their employees,
- 100% of users responding said they would recommend the Idaho OnePlan PAR to a colleague.

Growers using the Idaho OnePlan PAR program have free access to a digital program that has helped them to be in compliance with state and federal pesticide laws by meeting their pesticide recordkeeping and worker protection requirements. These pesticide application records are available for growers to easily access in the event they are audited. In addition, the records are readily available to assist in making management decisions related to crop rotation and pest resistance. The use of this program has increased farm worker safety and the use of sustainable pesticide practices.

References:

Idaho State Department of Agriculture pesticide recordkeeping website.
<http://www.agri.idaho.gov/Categories/Pesticides/recordKeeping/indexUSDArecordkeepingMain.php>
Accessed 9/10/2012

Idaho State Department of Agriculture worker protection program website.
http://www.agri.idaho.gov/Categories/Pesticides/workerProtection/indexworker_protection.php
Accessed 9/10/2102

United States Department of Agriculture pesticide recordkeeping website.
<http://www.ams.usda.gov/AMSV1.0/ams.fetchTemplateData.do?template=TemplateQ&navID=PesticideRecordkeepingProgram&rightNav1=PesticideRecordkeepingProgram&topNav=&leftNAV=&page=PesticideRecordkeepingProgram&resultType=&acct=pestcdreckpprg>
Accessed 9/10/2012.

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