HOW-TO Tip Sheet # 28

Safe use of Pesticides

FREE! Please take one!

Pesticides can be used effectively to grow fruit and vegetables productively as well as attractive trees, shrubs, flowers and tropicals. However, their effectiveness depends on you and your safety. Safety with pesticides is the key to their success.

Understanding the label

Each label contains important information and should be read fully before using any chemical.

Domestic product name

This indicates the formulation of the chemical purchased.

- Liquid emulsifiable concentrate for spraying; mix with water
- Liquid suspension for spraying; mix with water.
- Wettable powders for spraying; mix with water and shake.
- Dusts; ready to use in dry form.
- Granulars; ready to use in dry form (mostly for soil application).
- Pressurized sprays; ready to use as spray.

Guarantee represents the actual chemical in the product being used and its concentration percentage.

Poison symbols on the label indicate the toxicity in diminishing order.

Directions for use outline other important information on rates and methods of application, timing and necessary precautions.

It is easy to forget an important precaution or direction for use; so read the label each time you use a pesticide.

Storage

Here are a few simple rules to follow in storage of pesticides.

1. Pesticides should be stored in a locked, well-ventilated area.
2. Store pesticides away from food and drink for human and animal consumption.
3. Always store pesticides in their original containers.
4. Herbicides should be stored separately from other pesticides, so that contamination will not occur.

Handling

Always wear protective clothing when applying or mixing pesticides. This includes rubber gloves, rain suit (rubber), goggles, respirator and rubber boots. This will eliminate chemical absorption, by both clothing and skin.

Do not eat, drink or smoke while using pesticides. Always wash thoroughly before eating, drinking, smoking or using the toilet after pesticide use. Special precautions will be indicated on the label.

FOLLOW INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY

Be sure that all chemicals are locked away when not in use and once mixing is complete. Keep others out of the area being sprayed. Never spray when windy or when pesticides may drift. Protect the environment and avoid spraying near any body of water or domestic water source, i.e. wells.

These simple instructions and guidelines make spraying a safe, effective way to improve the quality and appearance of your garden.

Disposal

Once empty, pesticide containers must not be re-used but must be discarded immediately. Homeowners working with domestic class pesticides may put the empty containers directly out for garbage collection. Do not burn empty pesticide containers. They may give off toxic smoke or fumes.

These simple instructions on storage, handling and disposal will prevent most accidents and create beneficial results for a beautiful garden through the use of pesticides.

Following are a few helpful conversions for easy measuring of pesticides:

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

1 Imperial gallon = 4 quarts = 8 pints = 160 fluid ounces = approx. 1.2 U.S. gallons
1 U.S. gallon = .8345 or approx. 5/6 Imperial gallon
1 Imperial gallon of water weighs 10 lbs.
1 Imperial quart = 2 pints = 40 fluid ounces
1 Imperial pint = 20 fluid ounces = 2-1/2 cups
1 measuring cup = 8 fluid ounces
3 teaspoons = 1 tablespoon = ½ fluid ounce
1 ton = 2,000 lbs.
1 lb. = 16 ounces
1 ppm = one part per million by weight = 1 lb. in 100,000 gallons of water
100 ppm = one pound in 1,000 gallons of water = 1.6 ounces in 100 gallons of water
1:1000 by weight: means 1 part of material by weight in 1,000 parts of another by weight, e.g. 1 ounce of copper sulfate in 1,000 ounces of water (=25 quarts = 6-1/4 gallons of water), e.g. 1 gram of copper sulphate in 1 litre of water
1 ounce per 1,000 square feet is approx. 3 lbs. per acre
1 pint = 20 fluid ounces of spray mixture per 1000 square feet = the 5 gallon per acre rate
To convert Imperial gallons to U.S. gallons, multiply by 1.2
To convert U.S. gallons to Imperial gallons, multiply by 0.8345 (or .83)
1 mile = 5,280 feet = 1,760 yards = 320 rods
1 rod = 16.5 feet = 5.5 yards
1 yard = 3 feet = 36 inches
1 foot = 12 inches
1 acre = 43,560 square feet = 4,840 square yards = 160 square rods
1 square yard = 9 square feet
1 mile an hour = 88 feet per minute
1 square foot = 144 square inches
1 rod x 1 mile = 2 acres

METRIC EQUIVALENTS

Length
Inch = 2.54 cm
Foot = 0.3048 m
Yard = 0.914 m
Mile = 1.609 km
Millimetre = 0.039 inches
Centimetre = 0.394 inches
Decimetre = 3.937 inches
Metre = 3.28 feet
Kilometre = 0.621 mile

Area
Square inch = 6.452 cm^2
Square foot = 0.093 m^2
Square yard = 0.836 m^2
Square mile = 2.59 km^2
Acre = 0.405 ha.
Cm^2 = 0.155 square inches
M^2 = 1.196 square yards
Km^2 = 0.386 square miles
Ha. = 2.471 acres

Volume (dry)
Cubic inch = 16.387 cm^3
Cubic foot = 0.028 m^3
Cubic yard = 0.765 m^3
Bushel = 36.368 litres
Board foot = 0.0024 m^3
Cm^3 = 0.061 cubic inches
M^3 = 31.338 cubic feet
Hectolitre = 2.8 bushels
M^3 = 1.308 cubic yards

Volumes (liquid)
Fluid ounce (Imp) = 28.412 ml
Pint = 0.568 litre
Gallon (Imp) = 4.546 litres
Litre = 3502 fluid ounces (Imp)
Hectolitre = 26.418 gal (U.S.) = 21.997 gal (Imp)

Landscape Ontario 7856 Fifth Line S, RR 4, Milton, ON L9T 2X8
(905) 875-1805 1-800-265-5656
e-mail: lo@hort-trades.com website: www.landscapeontario.com

LOOK FOR THIS SYMBOL WHEN SHOPPING FOR YOUR GARDENING NEEDS