Pesticide Safety for Fieldworkers

Protect Your Health by Following These Basic Rules:

- Only workers 16 years of age or older, with a pest applicators certificate issued by the Integrated Pest Management Program of British Columbia are permitted to mix, load, or apply pesticides.
- Before you enter a field:
 - Always look for a Re-Entry sign, or
 - Ask your supervisor:
 - What has been sprayed?
 - When?
 - When is it safe to re-enter?
 - What precautions should be taken?
- Pesticides can:
 - Remain on leaves, branches and on the ground
 - Remain on your clothes
- Pesticides can enter the body through:
 - Skin
 - Swallowing
 - Breathing







WARNING

- If you are over exposed to pesticides, you may notice:
 - Dizziness or weakness
 - Trouble seeing
 - Excessive sweating and saliva
 - Nausea or vomiting
 - Skin rash
 - Flu-like symptoms



Report this to your doctor, and tell them the name of the pesticide you have been exposed to.

- Remember, pesticides can enter your body through the skin:
 - Wear protective clothing when using chemicals
 - Always change and wash your clothing after work
 - Work clothes contaminated with chemicals should be washed separately
 - Never wear clothing that has been in contact with chemicals the next day

Protect Your Health by Following These Basic Rules:

- Wash your hands, forearms and face
 - After handling a pesticide or sprayed crop
 - Before eating, drinking, smoking or using the toilet
 - At the end of each day
- Don't eat freshly sprayed crops!
- Don't drink from a cup or container unless you're sure it's safe. Empty containers may have held pesticides.
- Stay away from unmaked containers which may contain pesticides. Pesticide containers must not be re-used for any other purpose.
- Keep out of spray path or spray drift when pesticides are being applied
- Avoid areas where pesticides are mixed, loaded, stored or disposed
- Know the location of fresh water for emergency use
- If you swallow a pesticide call the doctor immediately
 - Have the label or name of the pesticide with you. Ask the doctor about first aid treatment
 - If you go to the doctor take the pesticide name or label with you
 - If you spill a pesticide on yourself, wash with soap and water and change your clothing immediately. If necessary, flush your eyes with water for 15 minutes
 - Make sure the incident is reported to your supervisor

