

FARM LABOR LAW INFORMATION

To obtain information about the Immigration and Reform Act and current related farm/labor laws that specify employer responsibilities and seasonal agricultural worker status, contact:

- Federal:** Office of Special Counsel, Washington, D.C., Employer Information: (800) 255-8155.
- In Illinois:** Travel Control Section, Immigration and Naturalization Service, 10 W. Jackson, Chicago, IL 60604, (312) 353-7334.

(Migrant Farm Workers and Farm Labor) Department of Labor, 310 S. Michigan Ave., Chicago, IL 60604, (312) 793-2804.
- In Indiana:** Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS). Donald P. Ferguson, Officer in Charge, 950 N. Meridian Street, Indianapolis, IN 46204, (800) 375-5283; web site: <www.ins.usdoj.gov/graphics/fieldoffices/indianapolis/aboutus.htm>.

Migrant Farmworkers Project. Norman Metzger, Director, 151 N. Delaware Street, Suite 1800, Indianapolis, IN 46204, Toll-free: (800) 869-3505 (farm workers only) or (317) 631-9410 ext. 239.
- In Iowa:** Iowa Dept. of Employment Services, Attn: John McDonald, Bureau of Field Operations, 150 Des Moines St., Des Moines, IA 50309, (515) 281-9336.
- In Minnesota:** Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS), 2910 Metro Dr., Bloomington MN 55425, (612) 854-7754, after hours: (612) 222-8824.

Minnesota Labor and Industry Dept., 443 Lafayette Rd., St. Paul, MN 55155, (612) 296-6107.
- In Missouri:** Missouri Dept. of Economic Development, Division of Workforce Development, 421 E. Dunklin St., P.O. Box 59, Jefferson City, MO 65104, (573) 751-3978.

PRECAUTIONS WITH PESTICIDES

Pesticides are designed to poison or otherwise manage pests. Many pesticide products may poison people, pets, livestock, wildlife, ornamental plants, and other non-target organisms. Pesticide applicators and their families have increased potential to be exposed to pesticides. It is important to keep all pesticide exposures to an absolute minimum.

You must protect your family members, field workers, and other people from pesticide injuries. Most pesticide accidents result from careless practices or lack of knowledge about safe handling of pesticides. The time you spend to learn about the safe use of pesticides is an investment in the health and safety of yourself, your family, and others.

The Environmental Protection Agency has certain restrictions on the use of pesticide chemicals. These restrictions apply to the use of chemicals applied to control insects, mites, plant diseases, weeds, nematodes, and other pests. Such restrictions may prohibit the use of a chemical or allow residue tolerances on harvested vegetables. A grower must know what chemical to use on each vegetable; how to apply; the post-treatment re-entry interval, if any; when to use the chemicals with respect to farm worker and/or picker safety; and the environment and the harvest of each vegetable crop. The grower must follow all label instructions regarding harvest restrictions (1) to assure the consumer that the food is free of dangerous residues and (2) to comply with the law to prevent seizure of his crop.

- Only mix the amount of a pesticide that you can use in one day.
- If you do have leftover spray mix, the best way to dispose of it is by applying it to a labeled crop in a legal manner.
- Never dispose of surplus pesticides in a way that will result in the contamination of ground or surface waters.
- Rinse all empty containers three times before disposal.
- Pour the rinse water into the spray tank. Puncture or break triple-rinsed containers to facilitate drainage and to prevent reuse for any other purpose.
- Then dispose of the container according to label directions.