



Pesticide Illness Surveillance

Agricultural Drift Event Summaries Only (2011)

Event	Event Narrative	#	Active Ingredient(s)
110013	An air-blast ground sprayer was being calibrated in an orchard. It was tested using water. Two male farm workers ages 19 and 43 were being transported on the back of a pickup truck. As they passed approximately 6 meters from the ground sprayer, they reported feeling spray on their faces and detected a chemical odor. They were told that it was water only. They developed gastrointestinal and neurological symptoms following this exposure. They sought medical attention two days later. Samples of clothing tested by a WSDA laboratory were positive for four active ingredients. DOH referred the incident to the Department of Labor and Industries for compliance inspection. Workers were not asked to decontaminate after the incident.	2	Carbaryl Endosulfan Cypermethrin Myclobutanil
110037	A 33-year-old male vineyard worker felt spray on his face and eyes while he was driving an air-blast ground sprayer across a grape field. He sought medical attention for ocular and dermal irritation.	1	Calcium polysulfide
110038	A 52-year-old female was driving through an orchard to visit a friend and was exposed to pesticide from a ground air blast spray application. She developed gastrointestinal, neurological, and respiratory symptoms. She sought medical attention 12 hours later.	1	Mineral oil - includes pa Calcium polysulfide
110047	A 64-year-old male farmer was exposed to pesticide that drifted from an adjacent potato field chemigation circle while he was spraying herbicides to his own apple orchard. The potato circle is 35 feet away from the orchard. His right arm was hit with the irrigation mix of three herbicides as he tried to cover his face from the mix. He did not decontaminate after the exposure, nor did he notice he had a rash until four hours later. He did not seek medical attention and did not miss any days from work. WSDA conducted a compliance investigation and concluded the applications to the potato field were inconsistent to the label precautions. The pesticide records were missing several elements for both for the potato field application	1	Metribuzin Pendimethalin Flumioxazin

	and the orchard application.		
110056	An aerial applicator sprayed a wheat field next to fruit tree nursery fields. He was spraying a tank mix of an insecticide with a fungicide. Twenty female laborers ages 23 to 44 were pruning cherry trees at the time or worked in the area within hours of the application. Most of the workers felt or smelled the spray; some reported feeling a mist or breeze from the application. Two workers sought medical attention the same day. The rest of the workers did not seek medical treatment. Sixteen of the 20 workers reported two or more health effects. The most commonly reported health effects were respiratory, gastrointestinal, and neurological. WSDA collected foliage samples in different areas of the field where workers were located at the time of the incident. These samples were positive for residues of the active ingredient of the insecticide applied. A clothing sample tested negative for the pesticides applied.	16	Propiconazole lambda-Cyhalothrin
110057	A 64-year-old and a 61-year-old female were riding their motorcycle and became ill about four hours after a licensed aerial applicator applied a fungicide to a field. The spray drifted onto and exposed the two riders. The riders reported seeing the plane and the spray coming from the plane. Both riders were wearing riding leathers, gloves, and headgear, so the exposures were most likely only from inhalation of the product. The riders experienced similar symptoms that included gastrointestinal and neurological effects. Samples taken from the motorcycle by WSDA confirmed presence of the fungicide.	2	Propiconazole Azoxystrobin
110059	A 63-year-old male was driving a vehicle for his job when he swerved to miss the spray from an airplane spraying a wheat field west of the road in front of him. His windows were down at the time and the herbicide drifted in his vehicle. He noted a strong unpleasant odor and felt mist on his skin and eye. He developed respiratory and dermal health effects and sought medical attention. He attempted to identify products sprayed by inquiring at a hangar nearby, where he was told it was probably a fungicide. WSDA investigation revealed that herbicides were applied and samples collected from the right of way and road reflectors were positive for residue. WSDA issued an advisory letter to the pilot.	1	Pyrasulfotole Technical MCPA, 2-ethylhexyl ester Bromoxynil octanoate Bromoxynil heptanoate
110072	A 21-year-old was thinning apple trees adjacent to a neighboring farm while an airblast spray application was occurring. He smelled spray and felt in on his face. He developed ocular symptoms and sought medical attention six days later. The management of the farm did not have contact information for the neighboring farm and the employee did not want DOH to refer the incident to a compliance agency.	1	Sulfur
110095	A 24-year-old female apple thinner was taking a break at the edge of a block when she saw a plane flying low for a number of passes. She could smell an odor and half-hour later she developed neurological and respiratory symptoms. The airplane was spraying a fungicide and surfactant on a sunflower field. She sought medical treatment two hours later and was discharged the same day. Her employer provided spray records and indicted the area of application was from 650 to 750 feet away from the sunflower field.	1	Pyraclostrobin

110106	A 53-year-old male with a pre-existing eye condition was drifted with an insecticide used to control mosquitoes around working areas in a farm. The worker was inside a gondola picking corn when an air-blast ground sprayer drifted him. He felt the spray on his face and shirt. He was drifted a second time as the applicator made a second pass. He washed his face and arms five minutes later. He developed neurological symptoms 10 minutes after he was exposed. He sought medical attention three days later as his eye irritation worsen. He was not told about the application. The case was referred to the Department of labor and Industries industrial hygiene compliance staff who obtained the name of the insecticide.	1	Malathion
110111	A 35-year-old female was 30 weeks pregnant when she developed gastrointestinal and respiratory symptoms after spraying of a pear orchard adjacent to the campground she was at with her family. WSDA sampling confirmed that pesticide drift reached their campground cabin. The mother and her four daughters sought medical attention.	1	Mineral oil - includes pa Aliphatic petroleum solve Etoxazole Novaluron Spirotetramat
110113	Twenty-seven farm workers, 7 females and 20 males, ages 19 to 64, were picking cherries when a neighboring isle of pear trees next to the cherry orchard received an airblast spray application. Some of the workers felt and smelled the spray. Nine workers are known to have sought medical attention after they developed dermal, ocular, and upper respiratory irritation as well as some neurological and gastrointestinal symptoms. All WSDA samples of foliage and clothing were positive for the active ingredient of two of the three insecticides applied.	14	Mineral oil - includes pa Aliphatic petroleum solve XDE - 175-J XDE - 175-L Spirotetramat
110120	A crew of 24 workers was picking strawberries while a pesticide application to potatoes in an adjacent farm approximately 300 feet away was occurring. Four farmworkers, 3 females and 1 male, ages 21-, 24-, 24- and 28-years-old reported experiencing health effects after noting a strong odor. One of the females was five months pregnant at the time. The three females developed neurological and gastrointestinal health effects and went to a hospital emergency department for medical care. The male continued working and did not seek medical attention. None of the other 24 workers reported illness to their employer. WSDA investigated but no environmental samples were collected.	4	Acetic acid, (2,4-dichlor Chlorothalonil Metalaxyl-M
110133	A 22-year-old male Christmas Tree farm worker became ill shortly after noticing a chemical odor that he thinks came from another worker who was spraying trees in an adjacent field at the time. Although the other worker had been wearing PPE, he was not. Symptoms were primarily gastrointestinal, neurological, and cardiovascular and lasted about one day. The patient was seen at a hospital emergency room that evening.	1	Chlorpyrifos
110154	A 24-year-old male worker was irrigating a corn field when an aerial application of propargite occurred to that field. He felt the spray on his face and also breathed the spray. He developed gastrointestinal and ocular symptoms three hours later. He decontaminated at home four hours after the exposure. He sought	1	Propargite

	<p>medical attention and was discharged the same day. He entered the same field two days after he was exposed to continue working. The restricted entry interval for propargite is 13 days. The worker could smell the pesticide in the field and his neurological and gastrointestinal symptoms continued. The worker did not want the incident to be referred for possible enforcement action.</p>		
--	--	--	--