



PROCEDURES FOR INVESTIGATING POSSIBLE PESTICIDE MISUSE

Missouri Department of Agriculture
Bureau of Pesticide Control

The Missouri Department of Agriculture is responsible for regulating the use of pesticides in the state of Missouri. This is established in Sections 281.005 to 115 (RSMo) of the Missouri Pesticide Use Act.

The Act requires the certification and licensing of commercial, non-commercial, public and private pesticide applicators. These applicators are required to use pesticides only as directed by the pesticide labels and labeling.

The Act also requires all commercial applicators to maintain proof of financial responsibility while licensed. The proven financial responsibility must consist of a surety bond or liability insurance to protect a third party who may suffer damages as a result of pesticide use.

Complaints filed regarding the possible misuse of a pesticide are assigned to a Pesticide Use Investigator to investigate the reported incident.

Investigations may include:

1. Taking a statement from the person that filed the complaint regarding possible pesticide misuse.
2. Taking a statement from the person(s) accused of possible pesticide misuse.
3. Collecting physical samples of items possibly contaminated by the pesticide as well as documentary evidence such as written papers, invoices, contracts, photographs, audio recordings, and video or printed emails. (**NOTE:** Laboratory analysis of physical samples can take 30-60 days or longer).
4. Submitting a narrative report and documentary evidence related to an alleged pesticide misuse incident for review of case.

Upon completion of all sample analyses, the investigative report will be reviewed to determine if a violation of the Act occurred. The next step in the process will be to determine what action should be taken, if any, by the Missouri Department of Agriculture. The Department may issue a letter of warning or a civil penalty to the responsible party for violations. The Department may also choose to refer the investigative report along with all evidence regarding the pesticide investigation to the county prosecutor, Attorney General's Office or the U.S. EPA for further action. (**NOTE:** The Missouri Department of Agriculture does NOT determine yield loss or property damage loss and does NOT order payment of any kind regarding damages or losses).

Once the investigation is closed, any party involved in the investigation may submit a written request for a copy of the investigation report.

Any questions may be directed to the Bureau of Pesticide Control at (573) 751-5504. Written requests must be submitted to:

Missouri Department of Agriculture
Plant Industries Division
Bureau of Pesticide Control
PO Box 630
Jefferson City, MO 65102

For information on toxicity and health related concerns of pesticides, contact the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services. You will need to know the trade name or EPA Registration Number of the pesticide before contacting them. MDHSS contact information is:

Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services
Health and Risk Assessment Unit
Division of Community and Public Health
Telephone: (573) 751-6102 or (866) 628-9891
Fax: (573) 526-6946

KEEP THIS SHEET FOR REFERENCE



Pesticide Incident Report

Missouri Department of Agriculture

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

Incident #: _____

Date Reported: _____

Person Reporting Incident

Name:			Date:
Address:	City:	State:	Zip code:
Daytime Telephone #: (including area code)	Cell Phone #: (including area code)	Email Address:	

Description of Incident (if submitting by mail, use back of this page or attach additional sheets)

Date:	Time:
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Applicator Information (if known)

Name/Company:		Telephone #: (including area code)	
Address:	City:	State:	Zip code:

Additional Information

Type of Application:
 Aerial Ground Termite Handheld Other (Describe): _____

Were there any HUMAN INJURIES? Yes No
 If yes, please explain: _____

Pesticide(s) Used (if known): _____

Site Treated and Pest(s) Controlled (if known): _____

Other Persons Contacted about this Incident: _____

Signature	Date

If submitting by email,

Check box to acknowledge electronic signature and that the above statements are complete and accurate.

**Send To: Missouri Department of Agriculture
 Bureau of Pesticide Control
 P.O. Box 630
 Jefferson City, MO 65102**

PesticideUseComplaint@mda.mo.gov