

WPS REQUIREMENT TO PROVIDE BASIC PESTICIDE SAFETY INFORMATION TO UNTRAINED WORKERS

WHAT IS THE WORKER PROTECTION STANDARD?

The Worker Protection Standard (WPS) is a regulation issued by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. It covers pesticides that are used in the production of agricultural plants on farms, forests, nurseries, and greenhouses. The WPS requires you to take steps to reduce the risk of pesticide-related illness and injury if you (1) use such pesticides, or (2) employ workers or pesticide handlers who are exposed to such pesticides.

The WPS requires Boyce Thompson Institute to assure that untrained workers receive basic pesticide information before they work in any areas where pesticides have been applied within the last 30 days. Anyone who has not attended the complete WPS training before initial exposure to pesticides or pesticide residues must complete this form before any exposure occurs.

Information about pesticide applications is on display outside Room 159, in the greenhouse hallway, at the Central Posting Area. There are also SDS and labels for the pesticides used in BTI at this location.

Pesticides may be on or in plants, soil, irrigation water, or drifting from nearby applications.

To prevent pesticides from entering your body:

- Follow directions and / or signs about keeping out of treated or restricted areas,
- Wash before eating, drinking, using chewing gum or tobacco, or using the toilet,
- Wear work clothing that protects your body from pesticide residues,
- Wash / shower with soap and water, shampoo hair, and put on clean clothes after work,
- Wash immediately in the nearest clean water if pesticides are spilled or sprayed on your body and then ---- as soon as possible ---- shower, shampoo and change into clean clothes.

The complete WPS pesticide safety training must be completed before working in any greenhouse that was sprayed in the past 30 days. BTI employees should contact the greenhouse manager to schedule this training. The training is approximately 1 hour and is usually scheduled for Wednesday from 2:00 to 3:00. If you cannot make this time, special arrangements will be made to provide the training at another time. If you do not attend the training, you will not be allowed to enter the greenhouses until you have received the training.

Project Leader or Supervisor (print): _____

Name of Trainee (print): _____

Signature of Trainee: _____ Date: _____