How to be a Responsible Applicator

Jim Hartman
LA Co. Agricultural Commissioner/Weights & Measures
“Good judgement is the result of experience and experience comes from bad judgement”

Mark Twain
So, what does the CCR say?

General Standards of Care 6600
Use only pest control equipment which is in good repair and safe to operate.
Perform all pest control in a safe and effective manner
Use only methods and equipment suitable to insure proper application of pesticides
Perform all pest control under climatic conditions suitable to insure proper application of pesticides
Exercise reasonable precautions to avoid contamination of the environment.
CCR 6614
Protection of Persons, Animals and Property
An applicator shall prior to and while applying a pesticide shall evaluate:
Equipment to be used
Metrological conditions
The property to be treated
And surrounding properties
To determine the likelihood of harm or damage
Substantial drift needs to be prevented and no application shall be made or continued when:
Definitions:

Drift = the movement of chemical vapors from the area of application to an off-target site
Definitions:

*Volatilization* = the movement of a chemical from a liquid (or solid) phase to a gas phase, such as evaporation from soil particle surfaces or water to the atmosphere.
There is a reasonable possibility of contamination of bodies or clothing of persons not involved in the application process.
There is a reasonable possibility of damage to:

Non-target crops
Animals
Other public or private property
Or there is a reasonable possibility of contamination of nontarget public or private property
Including a health hazard preventing the use of that property
In determining a health hazard several factors are considered

- Amount and toxicity of the pesticide
- Type and related uses of the property
- Other related factors
Other Code Sections to know:

CCR 6678 – Service Container Labeling

- Name & Address of person or firm responsible for the container
- The identity of the economic poison in the container
- The signal word in accordance with the original label on the container
Availability of labeling

A copy of the registered label that allows the manner in which the pesticide is being used shall be available at each use site.
Pesticides must be weighed or measured accurately using devices which are calibrated to the smallest unit in which the pesticide is being weighed or measured.
Pest control equipment shall be thoroughly cleaned when necessary to prevent illness or damage to persons, plants or animals from residues of pesticides previously used in the equipment.

Don’t forget if you are repairing equipment or someone else is, you/they need to wear the same PPE as if you were making an application.
CCR 6680 Prohibited Containers for Pesticides

In no case shall a pesticide be placed or kept in any container of a type commonly used for food, drink, or household products.
CCR 6682 Transportation

Pesticides shall not be transported in the same compartment with persons, food or feed.

Pesticide containers shall be secured to vehicles during transportation in a manner that will prevent spillage onto the vehicle or off the vehicle.
CCR 6616 Consent to Apply

Cannot apply a pesticide to property without the consent of owner or operator of the property
Remember that public perception is important
Please

Do not drop your cigarette butts on the ground. The rabbits come out at night to smoke them. And we are trying to get them to quit.
Final Thought:

Before you spray, and you're not sure – Don’t

Call your Local Ag Commissioner

UC Extension

Manufacturers technical Rep