



Pesticide Advisory

Alert - Illegal use of Pesticides on Marijuana

July 28, 2015



Regarding pesticide use on marijuana, the Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) has issued the following advisory.

Currently, **there are no pesticides specifically labeled for use on marijuana**. To date, neither the federal or state government has authorized the use of pesticide products to be used specifically on marijuana.

Health and safety impacts on people who smoke and/or consume marijuana and/or marijuana products from plants treated with pesticides have not been evaluated. Health and safety impacts to workers in marijuana grow operations have also not been evaluated. ODA strongly encourages all pesticide users to regularly review pesticide product labels. Failure to follow a pesticide product label may result in injury or illness to workers and/or consumers. Such label violations are against state and federal laws, and may result in enforcement actions.

Pesticide products that **may** be legal to use on marijuana:

- Must be registered with ODA,
- Contain active ingredients that are exempt from a tolerance, **and**
- Labeled use is broad enough that may include use on marijuana (i.e. bedding plants or greenhouse application).

ODA is in the process of developing educational information to guide growers and identify pesticide products appropriate for use on marijuana. In addition, ODA is preparing guidance for growers on how to interpret pesticide product label information and how to use these products safely and legally.

It is important to note, pesticide applications that do not follow the pesticide product label pose risks to public health and safety and are a violation of state and federal law. **THE LABEL IS THE LAW.**

A pesticide is a substance used to prevent, destroy or repel an organism, including herbicides, insecticides and fungicides. ODA regulates the sale, use, and distribution of pesticides in Oregon. The regulatory authority is codified in Oregon law (ORS 634) and through delegated authority from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, which regulates pesticides under Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act and under the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act.

For additional information or questions, please contact ODA at
(503) 986-4635 or email pestx@oda.state.or.us

