

Industry Guide to Best Management Practices For Protecting Water Quality

WATER QUALITY IS EVERYBODYS CONCERN

In conjunction with the federal guidelines of the clean water act, and due to current technology that can detect minute amounts of chemicals making their way into waterways, Pest Control Operators of California (PCOC) has developed the following Best Management Practices (BMP'S) through an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) approach.

Pre Application

Inspection:

- Identifying Pests
- Determine Threshold Level/Tolerance Level
- Conducive Conditions
- Looking for possible run off areas & paths of runoff
- Evaluating irrigation system-water cycle
- Identifying waterways
- Assessing Target and Non-Target pests
- Assessing Environmental/Weather conditions
- Type of landscaping
- Encourage customer to remove harborage areas

Discuss pest prevention techniques

Determine Pest Management Strategy

- Cultural Controls (Sanitation, Watering, Removing Vegetation, etc)
- Mechanical Controls (Sticky Traps, Snap Traps, Light Traps, etc)
- Exclusion (Screens, Caulking, etc.)
- Pesticide Application, if needed

Application assuming a pesticide application is warranted:

Product Selection

- Lowest effective dosage
- In effort to minimize spillage, use pre-measured products, water soluble packets or granular formulations
- Dry products are easier to clean up if spilled

Best Application Technique

- Use a surfactant/adjuvant or rainfast sticker if required or suggested by the product label. These products can improve the efficacy of pest control products at lower doses by ensuring better coverage.
- Manage drift
- Do not apply to the point of run off
- Treatment to directed areas / site specific applications
- Use of baits where possible and efficacious
- Have spill control materials on site

Post Application

Discuss Pest Prevention Techniques

- Encourage customer to use good irrigation practices
- Encourage customer to remove harborage

Four Areas of Education

Our Industry

- Continuous Education Program
- Safety Meetings
- State Association

Our Customers

- Develop Handouts

General Public

- PSA Announcement
- CURES Handouts

Regulators

- Legislative Day
- Legislative Advocate

ITEMS / PROGRAMS IN PLACE WITHIN PCOC

Ag and CURES Liaison

IPM in Schools Manual

Laundry Procedures

MedNet Program

Pesticide Safety Programs

Industry Bylaws

Industry Standards

CE Programs

ChemSafe Program

Code of Ethics

Triple Rinsing Procedures

Website