

## Public Outreach on Pesticide Safety

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## State Law

Cal FAC. Code § 12841.2" was amended in 2004 to require DPR to create a program to conduct outreach and education activities for worker safety and those potentially exposed to pesticides.

1. All communities, including urban, rural and suburban communities.
2. All potential exposure opportunities, including household, industrial, and agricultural uses.
3. Rights and procedures of workers and those potentially exposed to pesticides and how to file confidential complaints.

In 2007 DPR dedicated an outreach position



## Goal of outreach

- ▶ Reduce pesticide exposure and illness through education and prevention
- ▶ To report pesticide exposure
- ▶ Partner with service agencies throughout the state to distribute pesticide safety information



## Outreach - Education

Pesticide Safety for farmworkers and other underserved communities

- Partnerships with Promotoras de la Salud ★
- Direct participation in health fairs and community events
- Broadcast messages in Spanish and Indigenous languages



## Materials

- Video and audio 🗣️
- Consumer fact sheets ★
- Pesticide Safety Information Series (PSIS) sheets ★
- Community Guide to Recognizing & Reporting Pesticide Problems ★
- Comic books ★
- California Poison Control System (CPCS) Materials ★

## Recently Developed Materials



## Events

Host informational booths at community events throughout California:

- Cinco de Mayo
- 16 de Septiembre
- Binational Health Week
- Flying doctors event, Thermal
- Día del trabajador agrícola, Greenfield



## Outreach Approach



- ▶ Develop trust with the community and agencies
  - Through communication and listening skills
  - Language and cultural appropriateness

## Workshops with:

- ▶ Poder Popular
- ▶ Western Center for Agricultural Health and Safety, University of California, Davis
- ▶ Women, Infants and Children Program,
- ▶ California Rural Legal Assistance
- ▶ County Agricultural Commissioners
- ▶ Clinica De Salud Del Valle De Salinas (CSVS)
- ▶ Employment Development Department



## Information Provided at Workshops:

### Farmworkers:

- ▶ What are pesticides
- ▶ Routes of exposure
- ▶ How to recognize illness symptoms
- ▶ What to do in case of an emergency
- ▶ Wash hands before eating, smoking or going to the bathroom
- ▶ Don't bring Ag chemicals or empty containers home
- ▶ Change from work clothes before family contact
- ▶ How to wash clothes with pesticides on them



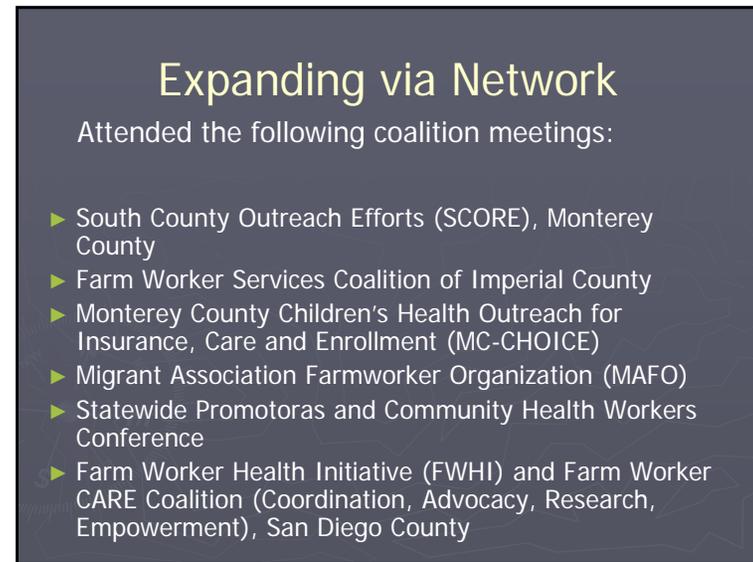
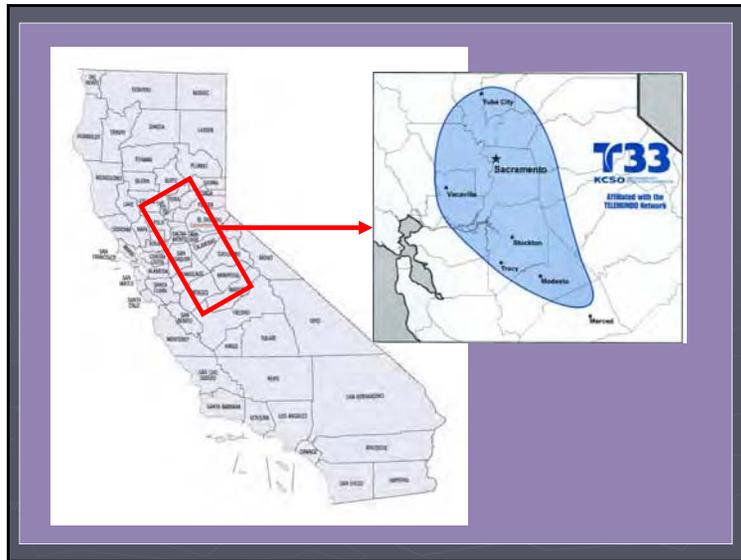
## Information Provided at Workshops:

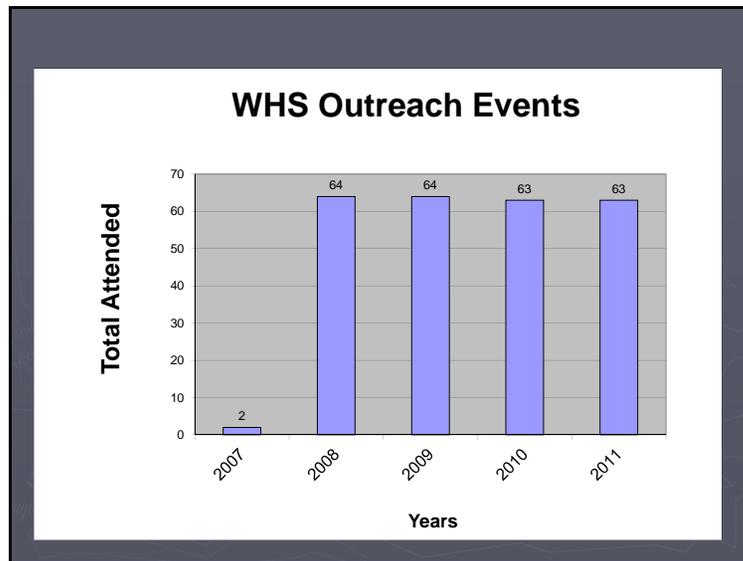
### Home use Pesticides:

- ▶ What is a pesticide
- ▶ Routes of exposure
- ▶ Types of symptoms
- ▶ Resources for help/info
- ▶ Types of home use products
- ▶ Read the label
- ▶ **Keep pesticides in original containers**
- ▶ Don't re-use containers
- ▶ Don't mix household chemicals
- ▶ How to safely use foggers
- ▶ IPM - Recognize good bugs
- ▶ **How to safely store pesticides**



Source: <http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/factsheets/child-ten-tips.htm>





COUNTY	CITY	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	TOTAL <sup>1</sup>
IMPERIAL	Brawley			2				2
	Calexico		6	5		1		12
	El Centro		2	3	2	2	1	10
LOS ANGELES	Burbank	1	1	1	1		1	5
	Los Angeles						2	2
PLACER	Auburn					1		1
	Roseville					1		1
MADERA	Madera			1	1	1	1	4
MONTEREY	Camphora			1				1
	Castroville		1					1
	Chualar				1	1		2
	Gonzales		1	1		1		3
	Greenfield		2	2	1	1		6
	Jimenez			1				1
	Pajaro						1	1
	Salinas		5	5	1	2	1	14
	San Ardo					1		1
	Seaside		1					1
Soledad		1				1	1	3

## Feedback

- ▶ Very Positive
  - From communities reached
  - From service agencies
- ▶ Need to improve pesticide safety materials
  - Address new topics
  - Emphasize graphics; minimize text
- ▶ Common concerns still exist among the community
  - Retaliation
  - Employer provided training not always implemented/practiced
  - Not seeking medical care






**Martha's personal mission:**  
To boldly go where no Outreach efforts have gone before

# Questions?

# Promotores

- ▶ “Community Health Workers”
- ▶ Community members who promote health in their own communities
- ▶ What they do?
  - **Strengthen organization**
    - ▶ Link health providers to the community
    - ▶ Provide culturally competent health education
  - **Improve health**
    - ▶ Help community voice health challenges
    - ▶ Build on existing community strengths and assets
  - **Achieve results**
    - ▶ Increase access to care
    - ▶ Improve appropriate utilization of care
    - ▶ Decrease overall costs
    - ▶ Improve health status

Source: Migrant Health Promotion ( www.migranthealth.org)

The screenshot shows the California Department of Pesticide Regulation website. The main navigation bar includes links for Home, Search & Links, Publications, Fact Sheets, and more. The page is divided into several sections:
 

- Consumer Fact Sheets:** Lists various fact sheets such as 'How to use a pesticide safely', 'Pesticide safety for children', and 'Pesticide safety for pregnant women'.
- Publications:** Lists various publications including 'Pesticide safety for children', 'Pesticide safety for pregnant women', and 'Pesticide safety for the elderly'.
- U.S. EPA publications:** Lists various publications from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.
- How the California Structural Pest Control Board:** Lists various publications from the board.

<http://www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/dept/factshts/factmenu.htm>

The screenshot shows the California Department of Pesticide Regulation website in Spanish. The main navigation bar includes links for Home, Search & Links, Publicaciones, Hojas de Hecho, and more. The page is divided into several sections:
 

- Hojas de Hecho:** Lists various fact sheets such as 'Cómo usar un pesticida de forma segura', 'Seguridad de los pesticidas para los niños', and 'Seguridad de los pesticidas para las embarazadas'.
- Publicaciones:** Lists various publicaciones including 'Seguridad de los pesticidas para los niños', 'Seguridad de los pesticidas para las embarazadas', and 'Seguridad de los pesticidas para los ancianos'.
- U.S. EPA publicaciones:** Lists various publicaciones from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.
- How the California Structural Pest Control Board:** Lists various publicaciones from the board.

<http://www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/whs/psisenglish.htm>

**A Community Guide to  
Recognizing & Reporting  
Pesticide Problems**

California Department of Pesticide Regulation **dpr**

<http://www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/dept/comguide/index.htm>

**PROTECCION DE SU SALUD**

**AUNQUE CERCA... SANO**

**LO QUE BIEN EMPIEZA... BIEN ACABA**

Western Crop Protection Association/CURES  
[Info@wpcra.org](mailto:Info@wpcra.org)

Migrant Clinicians Network  
[www.migrantclinician.org](http://www.migrantclinician.org)

Did you or your child  
**touch, taste or breathe**  
something that might be  
harmful?

Don't guess. Be sure.

**POISON ACTION LINE**  
1-800-222-1222

California Poison Control System  
[www.calpoison.org](http://www.calpoison.org)