



California Environmental Protection Agency
California Department of Pesticide Regulation

Pesticide Regulation

101

DPR Mission Statement



DPR's mission is to protect human health
and the environment by regulating
pesticide sales and use and by fostering
reduced-risk pest management

DPR Mandates & Authorities

California's **Food and Agricultural Code Section 11501** sets forth the general provisions of the legal code that fundamentally authorizes the State's pesticide regulatory program

- To provide for the proper, safe and efficient use of pesticides to protect public health and safety
- To protect the environment from environmentally harmful pesticides
- To assure agricultural and pest control workers safe working conditions
- To permit agricultural pest control by competent and responsible licensees and permittees
- To assure consumers that pesticides are properly labeled and appropriate for the use designated by the label
- To encourage the development and implementation of pest management systems

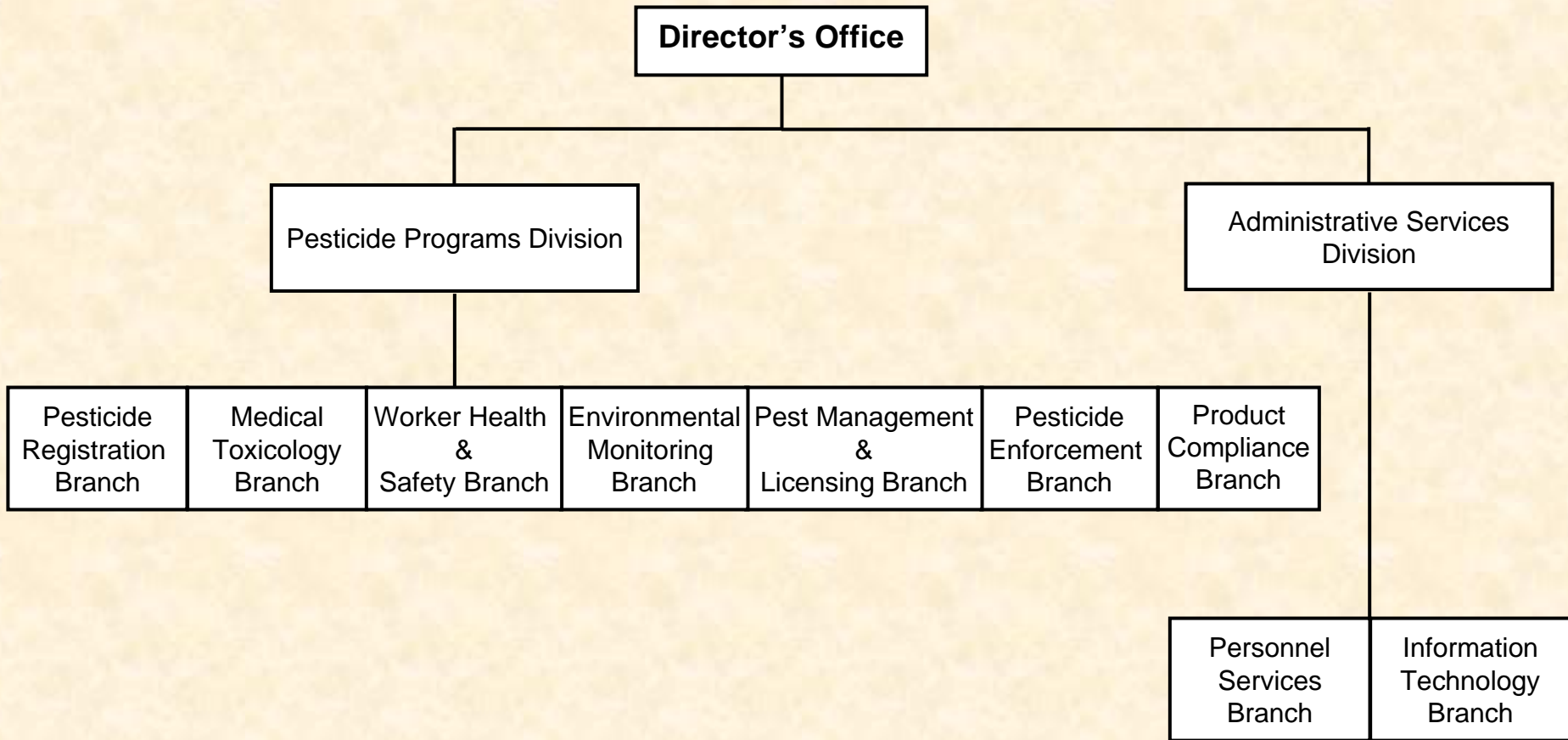
Overview of DPR Regulations

DPR's regulatory activities are conducted by the seven branches of its Pesticide Program Division: Pesticide Registration, Medical Toxicology, Worker Health and Safety, Environmental Monitoring, Pest Management and Licensing, Pesticide Enforcement and Product Compliance.

The branches work together to accomplish the following:

- Evaluate and **register pesticide products** before sale or use in California
- **Evaluate health impacts** of pesticides through risk assessment and illness surveillance
- Ensure a **safe workplace** for those working with pesticides
- **Monitor potential health and environmental impacts** of currently registered pesticides
- **License** commercial applicators and other pesticide professionals to ensure they are adequately trained to use pesticides safely
- Support development and adoption of **pest management practices** designed to reduce pesticide use
- **Test for pesticide residues** on fresh fruit and vegetables

Department Organization





The **Pesticide Registration Branch** is responsible for the following:

- Pesticide **product registration**
- **Coordinates** the required pesticide evaluations/data review among DPR branches and other State agencies
- Prepares **public notices** regarding final registration actions
- Oversees **reevaluation** data call-ins on environmental fate and acute and chronic toxicology
- Manages all pesticide data; maintains **chemical ingredient** and **product/label databases** that the public can access on the Department's external Web page



The **Medical Toxicology Branch** has two major functions:

(1) Review of toxicology studies (2) Preparation of risk assessments

- Medical Toxicology staff scientists review data on a product's potential chronic, subchronic, and acute health effects
- Staff uses the reviews and exposure information from other branches to:
 - ✓ assess the adequacy of product labels
 - ✓ conduct risk assessments that estimate the potential for adverse health effects
- Staff reviews data for the following:
 - ✓ **new active ingredients**
 - ✓ **new products** containing currently registered active ingredients
 - ✓ **label amendments** on registered products which include major new uses
 - ✓ **reevaluation** of currently registered active ingredients



The **Worker Health and Safety Branch** is responsible for public and worker safety. This is accomplished through the following programs:

- The **Exposure Monitoring Program** designs and conducts field studies to characterize pesticide exposure
- The **Exposure Assessment and Mitigation Program** develops human exposure assessments for use in the Department's risk characterization document
- The **Pesticide Illness Surveillance Program** analyzes incidences of pesticide-related illnesses
- The **Workplace Evaluation & Industrial Hygiene Program** evaluates pesticide labeling for effectiveness in controlling exposure hazards



The **Environmental Monitoring Branch** is responsible for the following:

- **Monitoring the environment** to determine the fate of pesticides, protecting the public and the environment from pesticide contamination through analyzing hazards and developing mitigation strategies
- Provides environmental monitoring data for **emergency eradication projects**, environmental contamination assessments, pesticide registration, pesticide use enforcement, and human exposure evaluations
- Has lead role in implementing the Department's **environmental protection programs**



The **Pest Management and Licensing Branch** has four major programs:

- (1) The **Pest Management Analysis and Planning Program** evaluates pest management problems and provides information and grants to develop new pesticide use strategies
- (2) The **Pesticide Use Reporting Program** collects, reviews, and analyzes pesticide use in California
- (3) The Branch oversees the **Licensing and Certification** of pesticide dealers and brokers, agricultural pest control advisers, pest control businesses, pesticide applicators and pilots
- (4) The **Endangered Species Project** provides information on the habitats and protection of endangered species in California



The **Pesticide Enforcement Branch** is responsible for the following:

- Oversees and directs local enforcement by 58 County Agricultural Commissioners (CACs)
- Oversees **compliance** with State and federal pesticide labeling and use requirements, including CAC permit issuance for restricted materials
- Assists CACs in performing **pesticide incident investigations**
- Administers the State's **produce monitoring program** for analyzing domestic and imported produce for pesticide residues
- Provides **training and technical support** to the County Agricultural Commissioners and their staffs for pesticide use enforcement activities



The **Product Compliance Branch** is responsible for the following:

- Ensuring **sales of pesticides are in compliance** with California and federal laws related to registration, labeling, sales and distribution, pesticide mill assessment fees and pesticide container recycling
- Conducting **audits** of companies that are the first to sell or distribute pesticides in California
- Conducting **marketplace surveillance inspections** where pesticides are offered for sale
- **Investigating complaints** of unregistered/misbranded sales
- Pursuing appropriate **enforcement actions** on unregistered/misbranded pesticide sales
- **Collecting mill assessment fees** paid by licensed pesticide registrants, brokers and dealers
- **Disbursing mill assessment and gas tax funds** to CACs for the administration and enforcement of their pesticide regulatory programs
- Administering the **pesticide container recycling** program