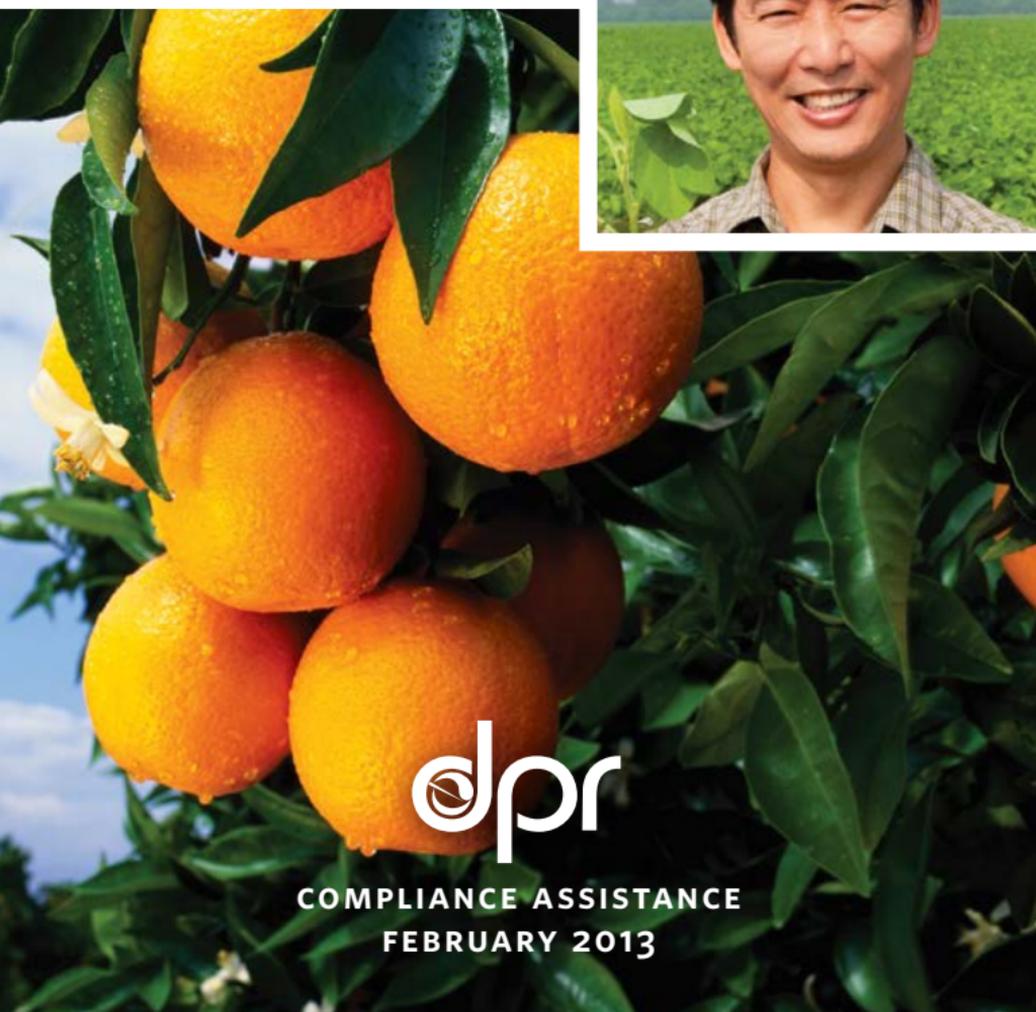
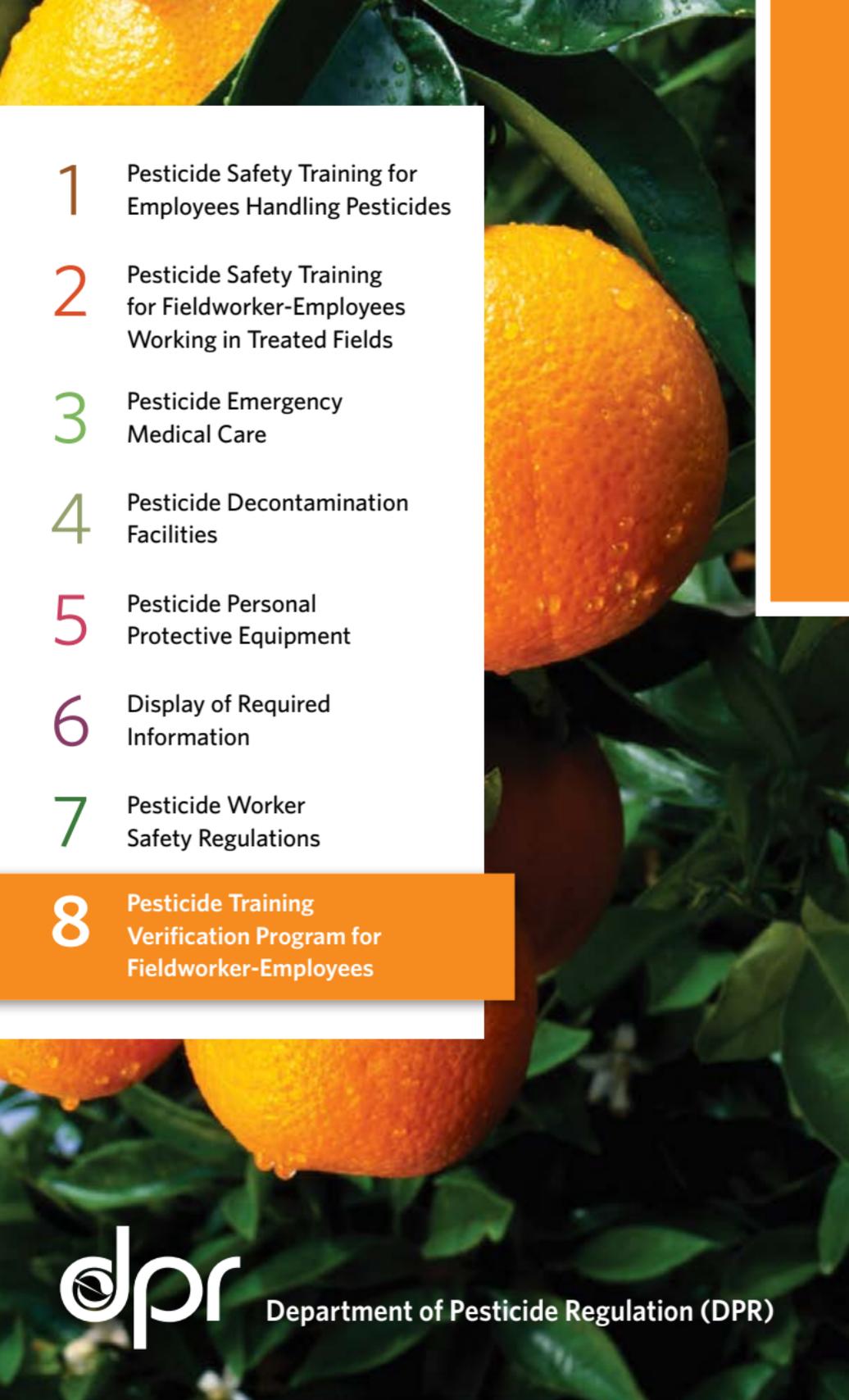


*Pesticide Training
Verification Program for*

Fieldworker-Employees



**COMPLIANCE ASSISTANCE
FEBRUARY 2013**



1 Pesticide Safety Training for Employees Handling Pesticides

2 Pesticide Safety Training for Fieldworker-Employees Working in Treated Fields

3 Pesticide Emergency Medical Care

4 Pesticide Decontamination Facilities

5 Pesticide Personal Protective Equipment

6 Display of Required Information

7 Pesticide Worker Safety Regulations

8 Pesticide Training Verification Program for Fieldworker-Employees



Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR)

The Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR) administers a Voluntary Training Verification Program for fieldworker-employees developed by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA).

This booklet is not intended to replace product label information, the Pesticide Safety Information Series (PSIS) leaflets, or the California Code of Regulations. It is a reference tool that summarizes specific regulatory requirements and responsibilities that you – the employer – must follow. You are encouraged to contact the Agricultural Commissioner's office in the county or counties where you operate for any additional requirements specific to your area.



Voluntary Training Verification Program

The program enables trainers who meet certain qualifications to issue training verification cards (“blue cards”) to fieldworker-employees who have been trained in pesticide worker safety. This training is **required every five years** to maintain the verification. In addition to determining training needs based on personal interviews with new fieldworker-employees and observing their work habits, growers may accept a fieldworker’s ‘blue card’ as verification of prior training. Participation in the program is voluntary.



How the Program Works

Employers electing to participate in the training verification program must complete and submit an application to DPR and enter into a contract that outlines card and record-keeping requirements. Once an application is approved by DPR, the qualified trainer will receive a supply of serially numbered blue cards for issuing to employees that have received required pesticide safety training. The trainer must fill out required information on each card and sign it. These cards become the trained employee's property. Regulatory personnel and employers may accept properly completed blue cards as verification that fieldworkers received pesticide safety training.



Note: *California's worker safety regulations require that all employers assure that all their fieldworker-employees have been trained within the last five years before beginning work in treated fields.*

If employers choose not to participate in the voluntary program, they can meet this requirement by retaining for (5) five years a copy of a class roster, signed by the trainer and each trainee, indicating the date and the address of the location where the training occurred (see separate booklet for a complete description on the training requirements for fieldworker-employees).

Copies of the Voluntary Fieldworker Training Verification Program Application/Agreement form are available from the DPR, Pest Management and Licensing Branch, Licensing and Certification Program by calling (916) 445-4038, or e-mailing your request to: licenseemail@cdpr.ca.gov

What's Involved?

The applicant must agree to the following terms of the training verification program:

ISSUE U.S. EPA TRAINING VERIFICATION CARDS that match U.S. EPA specifications and only to trainees who are or have been trained according to requirements of the 1992 Federal Worker Protection Standard (40 CFR, Part 170.130).

USE TRAINING MATERIALS developed or approved by U.S. EPA.

RECORD TRAINEE INFORMATION on the verification cards in ink or other indelible form.

RETAIN FOR FIVE (5) YEARS a copy of a class roster, signed by the trainer and each trainee, indicating the card number issued to each trainee and the date and address of the location where the training occurred.

RESPOND PROMPTLY TO REQUESTS from U.S. EPA, DPR, county agricultural commissioners, or agricultural employers for information concerning U.S. EPA-issued training verification cards.

IF TRAINER DECIDES TO TERMINATE THIS AGREEMENT, return any unused cards and the records described above to DPR.

Who Is Qualified to Train Fieldworkers?

USE A QUALIFIED TRAINER to conduct the training for the fieldworker-employees. The person conducting the training must be qualified as one of the following:

- A California certified commercial applicator.
- A California certified private applicator.





- A person holding a valid County Biologist License in Pesticide Regulation or Investigation and Environmental Monitoring issued by the Department of Food and Agriculture.
- A farm advisor employed by the University of California Extension Office.
- A person who has completed an “instructor trainer” program given by one of the following:
 - ✓ University of California, Integrated Pest Management Program.
 - ✓ Other instructor-training program approved by the Director.
- A California licensed Agricultural Pest Control Advisor.
- A California Registered Professional Forester.
- Other trainer qualification approved by the Director of the Department of Pesticide Regulation.

Employers are required to assure that field workers-employees have been trained within the past five years (dating from the first day they are assigned to work in treated fields). Also, the training must be done by a qualified trainer, and the information must be presented in a manner the employee can understand, orally from written materials or audio-visually, using non-technical terms.

If you have questions or need more information, please contact your local County Agricultural Commissioner's office or call toll free 1-877-378-5463 (1-87PestLine).

A complete set of these booklets is available online from the California Department of Pesticide Regulation's website at: **www.cdpr.ca.gov**

Dept. of Industrial Relations Heat Illness Prevention:
<http://www.dir.ca.gov/dosh/heatillnessinfo.html>

