

Department Organization

The Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR) has two divisions: Pesticide Programs and Administrative Services.

Pesticide Programs Division

Pesticide Registration Branch

The Pesticide Registration Branch is responsible for the scientific evaluation and registration of pesticide products. The branch coordinates the required scientific data evaluation process among branches within the Pesticide Programs Division and with other state agencies. A pesticide product must be registered (licensed) with the state before it can be used, possessed or offered for sale in California. The Pesticide Registration Branch serves as primary liaison to pesticide registrants. It prepares public notices and corresponds with registrants regarding data requirements, determinations of the health effects of pesticides, and final actions on registrations. Branch scientists share scientific data review responsibilities with staff scientists in other branches. The branch also manages all data received and oversees call-ins of data on environmental fate and acute and chronic toxicology. It maintains label files and the pesticide data library, and provides information to pesticide enforcement agencies and the public on the registration status of pesticides and about product label instructions.

Medical Toxicology Branch

The Medical Toxicology Branch has two major functions: review of toxicology studies and preparation of risk assessments. DPR requires registrants of certain products to submit data on a product's potential chronic, subchronic, and acute health effects. Medical Toxicology staff scientists review the data for new active ingredients and new products containing currently registered active ingredients; label amendments on currently registered products; and reevaluation of currently registered active ingredients. Staff scientists review toxicology data for adequacy and indications of possible adverse health effects. They use the results of these reviews and exposure information from other branches to assess the adequacy of product labels, and to conduct health risk evaluations and risk assessments that estimate the potential for adverse health effects in humans.

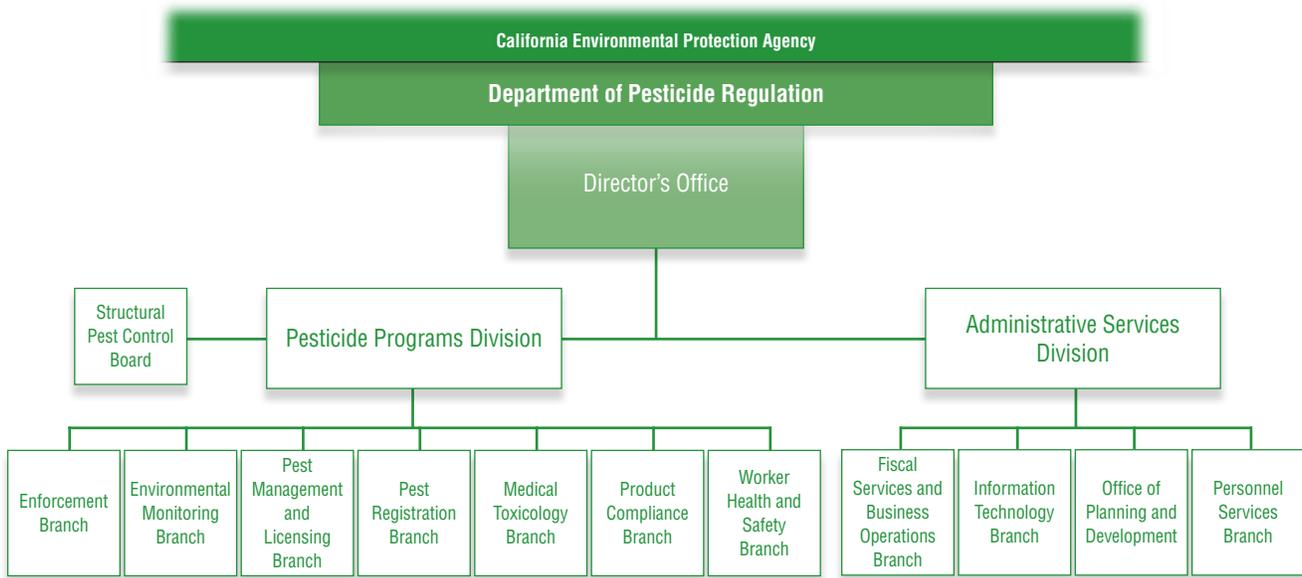
Worker Health and Safety Branch

The Worker Health and Safety Branch is responsible for human safety (workers and the public) during and after pesticide use. The branch's Human Health Assessment Program reviews scientific data relating to exposure of people to pesticides and develops human exposure assessments as an integral part of the department's risk characterization documents. The Pesticide Illness Surveillance Program (PISP) analyzes investigations and maintains a database of pesticide-related illnesses. The PISP database helps confirm the effectiveness of exposure control measures and identifies areas where improvements are needed. A medical consultant provides medical advice and assistance to physicians on pesticide exposures. The Exposure Monitoring and Industrial Hygiene Program scientists design and conduct field research to characterize exposure to pesticides for use in exposure assessments and investigate unsafe work conditions detected by the Pesticide Illness Surveillance Program. Industrial hygienists evaluate workplaces, application equipment and pesticide labeling for effectiveness in controlling exposure hazards, and recommends safety measures when needed.

The staff of the Bureau consists of the administrative, laboratory, inspection, and sampling forces, who make investigations of suspected violations of law, conduct hearings, draw and analyze official samples of, and observe and report upon, products sold to the public. Farm advisers, county agricultural commissioners, branches of the Department and the University, and other official agencies have cooperated as experts on technical problems.

— 1940 Department annual report

Organization Chart



Pesticide Enforcement Branch

DPR oversees a multitiered enforcement infrastructure and is vested by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency with primary responsibility to enforce federal pesticide laws in California. The Pesticide Enforcement Branch's primary responsibility is to enforce federal and state laws and regulations pertaining to the proper and safe use of pesticides. The branch has overall responsibility for pesticide incident investigations and enforcement response to pesticide use violations, conducts outreach, provides guidance to county regulators, trains inspectors, and evaluates effectiveness of county pesticide use programs. It runs the nation's largest state monitoring and enforcement program to ensure domestic and imported produce are free from illegal pesticide residues.

Pesticide use enforcement in the field is largely carried out by county agricultural commissioners (CACs) and their staffs (roughly 280 biologists) in California's 58 counties. DPR headquarters personnel, with field staff in Anaheim, Fresno, and West Sacramento, provide training, coordination, and technical support to the counties.

Environmental Monitoring Branch

The Environmental Monitoring Branch monitors the environment to determine the fate of pesticides, analyzing potential hazards in air, soil, and ground and surface water. It uses scientific data to develop pollution prevention strategies to protect the public health and environment from the potentially adverse effects of pesticides. The branch develops methods for sampling and analyzing environmental samples for pesticides and evaluates environmental data submitted by registrants. The branch provides environmental monitoring data required for emergency eradication projects, environmental contamination assessments, pesticide registration and reevaluation, and human exposure evaluations. The branch takes the lead in carrying out many DPR environmental protection programs, including the Pesticide Contamination Prevention Act, designed to prevent groundwater pollution by pesticides.

Pest Management and Licensing Branch

The Pest Management and Licensing Branch has five major programs. The Pest Management Analysis and Planning Program evaluates pesticide and pest management

problems and awards grants to develop and promote new strategies that reduce adverse environmental effects and hazards from pesticide use in agricultural, nonagricultural and urban settings. The Pesticide Use Reporting Program collects, reviews, and analyzes pesticide use data in California. The Endangered Species Project maps habitats of federally listed species, evaluates pesticide exposure risks on inhabited sites and develops protective strategies to minimize those risks. The Licensing and Certification Program examines and licenses those who sell, apply commercially or consult on the use of pesticides, accredits continuing education courses, and collaborates with the University of California for the development of license exam study guides and exam questions. The School and Child Care IPM Program promotes and facilitates the training of California school district staff in the adoption of IPM strategies for public schools and public and private child day care sites.

Product Compliance Branch

The Product Compliance Branch is charged with ensuring all pesticide products sold for use in California are registered and properly labeled. They do so with field inspections of pesticide wholesalers and retailers to determine whether products are registered and if labels are identical to registered labels. The branch also audits pesticide sellers throughout the United States to ensure that they comply with sales reporting and mill assessment payments. When violations of pesticide sales or labeling requirements are found, the branch takes the lead in directing the investigation, collecting evidence and documenting findings that will serve to prove the violation. The branch is also responsible for disbursing a percentage of mill assessment revenue to CACs to help support local pesticide enforcement.

Structural Pest Control Board

Staff members of the Structural Pest Control Board (SPCB) license and regulate structural pest control businesses and professionals to ensure that licensees meet minimum qualifications and levels of competency to provide safe and effective services to the public. Legislation in 2009 transferred the SPCB from the Department of Consumer Affairs to DPR. Major SPCB responsibilities include:

- Developing rules and regulations for licensing, examination, training, and practice standards, and overseeing the administration of licensing exams.
- Issuing licenses in three categories (applicators, field representatives and operators) and issuing registrations to principal offices and branch offices.
- Reviewing consumer complaints about licensees and working to mediate solutions.
- Investigating reported violations of the Structural Pest Control Act or related laws and regulations, conducting records inspections, and filing disciplinary actions as required.
- Conducting and evaluating research on structural pest control.

The board is comprised of seven members: three representatives from the structural pest control industry and four representatives from the public. Board members meet regularly to act on disciplinary cases, issue rules, and make policy governing the structural pest control industry.

Administrative Services Division

The Administrative Services Division provides those services necessary for running a government agency, such as personnel, accounting, budgeting, contracting, information technology and related functions. The division provides support services to address the needs of the entire department to maintain and improve business processes. The division includes:

- The *Fiscal Services and Business Operations Branch* collects revenue and pays invoices, monitors cash flow, develops and monitors DPR's annual budget, assists program staff with contracting and purchasing, oversees asset management and conducts other business services.

In 2011, the Department of Pesticide Regulation had about 415 employees and a \$79 million budget.

- The *Personnel Services Branch* administers and oversees all personnel activities, including recruitment, examinations, hiring, labor relations, employee health and job safety, and benefits and payroll.
- The *Information Technology Branch* coordinates, evaluates and carries out information technology needs and overall coordination of data processing. Activities include programming and network support and configuration, database management and information security, and design and maintenance of internal and external Web pages.
- The *Office of Planning and Development* manages the department's succession planning and workforce development program; assists management with DPR's operational and strategic planning; helps manage federal grants; oversees compliance with privacy requirements; and coordinates emergency response and continuity of operations planning.

