CALIFORNIA MASTER LABELS

A GUIDE TO UNDERSTANDING PESTICIDE REGISTRATION

THIS FACT SHEET WILL ANSWER THESE QUESTIONS:

- What is a California master label?
- Do California master labels require registration?
- How do I register a California master label?

What is a California master label?

Some large manufacturing firms (basic manufacturers) develop products to be sold and marketed solely by supplemental distributors; these registrants do not intend to market these products under their own label in California. In these instances, the registrant may request a California master label for the product from the Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR). The label will list most or all uses accepted by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA). Registering the basic manufacturer’s product in California as a master label enables DPR to review scientific data to support all use sites, rates, and other label information for subsequent supplemental distributor registrations at one time rather than individually for each supplemental end-use product. As a result, processing time is reduced and the registration process is streamlined for DPR staff and supplemental distributors. In addition, when a company has an approved California master label on file, it can readily market its products under sub-labels (a label which bears claims and directions for only a portion of the approved label). This is common for agricultural-use products that contain many uses directed towards different markets.

Do California master labels require registration?

Master labels are an option for registrants to streamline the registration process for sub-labels. Before the registrant’s product can be sold in California, the sub-label must be registered.

Once a California master label is reviewed and approved in California, a license is issued. The registrant may submit California master labels for any type of product, such as agricultural, structural, biopesticide,

Important To Note

An approved California master label does not authorize a product to be sold, used, or distributed in California. California master labels are for reference only! They are not considered registered product labels.
antimicrobial, or adjuvant. California master labels are processed identically to other product registrations with these exceptions:

- The applicant is not required to submit printer’s proof or final printed labels.
- Labels may include optional language or multiple sets of directions for use for various container sizes.
- The license does not entitle the user to sell, use, or distribute the product in California.
- The product name can be identical to that of the end-use label because the California master label cannot be sold, used, or distributed in California.

How do I register a California master label?

To apply for registration of a California master label, the applicant must submit:

- DPR-REG-030, Application for Pesticide Registration.
- $1,150 application fee.
- Six copies of the proposed label.
- A copy of the U.S. EPA-approved label and accompanying letter (if applicable).
- Data to support registration or identification of a product previously approved by DPR that would be subject to the same data requirements as the applicant’s product. The data requirements will differ based on the type of product being submitted.

Important To Note

If it is the registrant’s intent to distribute or sell the end-use product in California, even if the container label for the end use product is identical to the California master label, the registrant must seek an additional, separate registration for the end-use product.

For more information, please contact your assigned regulatory specialist or:

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