
Overview

The elements are:

1. Prepare for pesticide application
2. Apply pesticides
3. Carry out post-application procedures

This unit is about applying pesticides in accordance with instructions and legislation. Before attempting this unit, candidates must hold a relevant Certificate of Competence in the safe use of pesticides

It covers the work that a skilled operative must carry out. This involves preparing for the application of pesticides, applying the pesticides, and the actions to take on completion of operations in accordance with current legislation.

Element 1 covers preparing for pesticide application. This includes confirming that the product and equipment is suitable for the work, making sure people are fully informed, and checking that the conditions remain suitable for the work. This standard covers everything that has to be done up to the point of opening the containers.

Element 2 is about the application of pesticides. You must use the equipment and product according to instructions and legislation. You will also need to keep good records of these operations. Where problems occur you will need to take action to resolve the situation, or stop work and report the situation to your manager.

Element 3 covers the work activities immediately following pesticide application. This includes; the cleaning and decontamination of equipment, and clearing the site.

In this unit personal protective equipment (PPE) includes; gloves, face shields, appropriate boots, coveralls and disposable items. It will also include respiratory protective equipment (RPE) for the application of some pesticides/products. The term 'ancillary equipment' in the unit is used to apply to mixing and measuring equipment, and containers. The calibration of equipment is covered in the first element in (6) and (1).

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Prepare and apply pesticides

Performance criteria

You must be able to:

Prepare for pesticide application

- P1 transport and store pesticides and containers according to legislation and the plan
- P2 confirm that the product is appropriate for the work
- P3 confirm that the application complies with the conditions of approval
- P4 confirm that personal protective equipment is in good condition, the correct size and suitable for the work
- P5 obtain the necessary **equipment** for the work in accordance with the plan
- P6 maintain and set up the equipment correctly
- P7 calculate the minimum application rate to achieve the desired level of control
- P8 select a suitable site for preparation
- P9 take action to minimise any risks and keep the appropriate people fully informed according to instructions
- P10 confirm that the environmental conditions are appropriate for the work to be carried out
- P11 confirm that the necessary **procedures** have been put in place make sure your work complies with health and safety, and environmental requirements, and is in accordance with legislation and instructions.

You must be able to:

Apply pesticides

- P12 use the correct preparation procedures in accordance with instructions
- P13 use all **equipment** correctly in accordance with instructions
- P14 apply the pesticide in accordance with instructions and legislative requirements to achieve the optimum effect
- P15 apply the pesticide in a way which minimises the risks to non-target species and the environment
- P16 take the appropriate action without delay when **problems** arise during the work
- P17 transport and store pesticides and containers according to legislation and instructions
- P18 make sure that your work complies with health and safety, and environmental requirements, and is in accordance with legislation and instructions

You must be able to:

Carry out post-application procedures

- P19 utilise or dispose of surplus product according to legislation, instructions and codes of practice
- P20 dispose of containers and unwanted personal protective equipment safely and correctly
- P21 clean the application equipment and clear the site thoroughly

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Prepare and apply pesticides

- P22 maintain personal hygiene throughout
- P23 maintain and store the **equipment** correctly after use
- P24 clean, decontaminate, store and where necessary dispose, personal protective equipment correctly
- P25 keep your records accurate, legible and complete
- P26 make sure your work complies with health and safety, and environmental requirements, and is in accordance with legislation and instructions

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Prepare and apply pesticides

Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

Prepare for pesticide application

- K1 the significance of the product labels and the information included in the product labels
- K2 the appropriateness of specific pesticide products for the work
- K3 the selection and use of personal protective equipment and ancillary equipment
- K4 the health and safety, and environmental risks in the methods of controlling pests
- K5 the relevance of risk assessment to the application, including the importance of buffer zones
- K6 people that need to be informed of the work plan
- K7 your responsibilities under legislation and codes of practice
- K8 the equipment necessary to carry out the work
- K9 how to maintain, set up and appropriately calibrate equipment
- K10 how to calculate the amount of pesticide required
- K11 procedures for preparing the pesticide product
- K12 the environmental conditions which are required for the work to be carried out and the effect which these conditions have on the operations
- K13 the necessary growth stage of the plants for treatment to take place
- K14 how to transport, store and dispose of pesticides and containers safely and correctly

You need to know and understand:

Apply pesticides

- K15 health and safety risks in controlling pests and diseases
- K16 environmental risks in controlling pests and diseases
- K17 your responsibilities under legislation and codes of practice
- K18 the relevant methods of applying the chosen pesticides
- K19 the safe handling and use of pesticides
- K20 the correct operation of the applicator
- K21 the broad types of equipment used for pesticide application in your industry
- K22 problems which may occur during the work and how to respond to them effectively
- K23 the dangers and emergency treatments associated with the use of pesticides
- K24 the reasons for keeping records and their format

You need to know and understand:

Carry out post-application procedures

- K25 the ways in which surplus product and washings must be used or disposed of
- K26 how to dispose of, or clean and decontaminate personal protective

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Prepare and apply pesticides

- equipment, including; gloves, face shields, boots and overalls
- K27 how to clean the application equipment and clear the site
- K28 the reasons for washing hands and maintaining personal hygiene
- K29 where and how to store equipment after use
- K30 the reasons for keeping records and their format
- K31 the procedures for maintaining personal hygiene
- K32 your responsibility under legislation and codes of practice

Additional Information

Scope/range related to performance criteria

Prepare for pesticide application

1. **equipment:**
 - 1.1. application equipment
 - 1.2. ancillary equipment
 - 1.3. personal protective equipment

2. **procedures:**
 - 2.1. transportation
 - 2.2. storage
 - 2.3. disposal
 - 2.4. emergency

incident reporting.

Apply pesticides

3. **equipment:**
 - 3.1. application equipment
 - 3.2. ancillary equipment
 - 3.3. personal protective equipment

4. **problems:**
 - 4.1. spillage
 - 4.2. contamination of equipment and non-target areas
 - 4.3. malfunction of equipment
 - 4.4. adverse effects on non-target species
 - 4.5. changes in conditions which reflect on the relevance of the work plan
 - 4.6. emergency

Carry out post-application procedures

5. **equipment:**
 - 5.1. application equipment
 - 5.2. ancillary equipment
 - 5.3. personal protective equipment

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Prepare and apply pesticides

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