



Washington State Department of Agriculture
Pesticide Management Division
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PESTICIDE REGISTRATION IN WASHINGTON

The **Washington State Department of Agriculture (WSDA)** is responsible for the registration of pesticides in Washington. Pesticides that require registration in Washington include (but are not limited to) all insecticides, herbicides, fungicides, rodenticides, nematocides, disinfectants, germicides, biocides, plant regulators, defoliants, desiccants, Section 25(b) minimum risk pesticides and spray adjuvants. Washington pesticide registration requirements are found in the Washington Pesticide Control Act (RCW 15.58.050 through 130), and the General Pesticide Rules (WAC 16-228-1400 through 1460) at <https://agr.wa.gov/washington-agriculture/laws-and-rules/pesticides>

FEDERAL PESTICIDE REGISTRATION

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is responsible for federal pesticide registration. Federal pesticide registration requirements are found in the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA), and the Code of Federal Regulations (40 CFR). In most cases, federal pesticide registration under Section 3 of FIFRA is required prior to pesticide registration in Washington. Federal registration is not required for Section 25(b) minimum risk pesticides or spray adjuvants. Refer to the EPA web site at epa.gov/pesticide-registration.

WSDA PESTICIDE REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS

Section 3 Pesticides

Pesticides registered with the EPA under Section 3 of FIFRA must also be registered with WSDA prior to distribution in Washington. Products registered with WSDA must have a legal use in Washington. For example, a product labeled for use on citrus or cotton would not be registered by WSDA unless the label also included a crop grown in Washington. To register, submit an application for registration of pesticides ([AGR 630-4216](#)), the product label, confidential statement of formula (CSF) and the applicable registration fee for each product. When a product includes a new active ingredient not previously registered by WSDA, and the product is labeled for outdoor use, submit a copy of the Environmental Fate and Effects Division final risk assessment and cover letter from EPA. Some applications may require additional information.

Section 25(b) Minimum Risk Pesticides

Minimum risk pesticides (e.g. citric acid, corn gluten, garlic, mint oil) that are exempt from federal registration under Section 25(b) of FIFRA must be registered with WSDA prior to distribution in Washington. To register, submit an application for registration of pesticides ([AGR 630-4216](#)), product label, Section 25(b) CSF ([AGR 630-4139](#)) and applicable registration fee for each product. Some applications may require additional information. Follow WSDA guidance for registration of Section 25(b) minimum risk pesticides ([AGR 630-4352](#)).

Spray Adjuvants

Spray adjuvants are products that are used to increase the effectiveness of a pesticide (e.g. extenders, penetrants, spreaders, stickers, surfactants) or to modify the characteristics of the tank mix (e.g. acidifiers, defoaming agents, drift control agents). Adjuvants must be registered with WSDA prior to distribution in Washington. To register, submit an application for registration of pesticides ([AGR 630-4216](#)), the product's Safety Data Sheet (SDS) if it is subject to Globally Harmonized System (GHS) or the supplemental information form (AGR 630-4119) if it is not subject to GHS, product label, Spray Adjuvant CSF ([AGR 630-4325](#)) and the applicable registration fee for each product. Some applications may require additional information. Follow WSDA guidance for registration of spray adjuvants ([AGR 707-873](#)) and [WSDA's Guidance on Globally Harmonized System \(GHS\) Implementation](#).

Section 24(c) Special Local Need (SLN) Registration

WSDA has the authority under Section 24(c) of FIFRA to register an additional use of a federally registered pesticide on a food/feed crop for which a tolerance has been established (or on a non-food/non-feed crop or site) for use in a special local need situation. A special local need could include: new application method or timing, different rate, new crop, new pest, less hazardous formulation, prevention of pesticide resistance or application to a different soil type. Requests for SLN registrations are usually submitted by the product registrant, but can also be submitted by a “third party” (i.e. grower/user organization). Detailed documentation of the special local need is required to support an SLN registration. Follow WSDA guidance ([AGR 631-227](#)) for submission of SLN registration requests. There is no fee to apply for an SLN registration, except that “stand-alone” SLN registrations require the applicable registration fee for each product.

Section 18 Emergency Exemption from Registration

WSDA can request an emergency exemption from registration (Section 18 of FIFRA) from the EPA in order to allow the use of an unregistered pesticide in an emergency situation. An emergency situation could include: an outbreak of a new pest, development of resistance to existing pesticides, unusual weather conditions that caused a pest outbreak, or product cancellation. Requests for emergency exemptions are usually submitted by a commodity group or grower organization, and need to be supported by the product registrant. Detailed documentation of the emergency situation is required to support a request for an emergency exemption. Follow WSDA guidance ([AGR-631-226](#)) for requesting emergency exemptions. There is no fee to apply for an emergency exemption.

Experimental Use Permit (EUP) / Aquatic EUP

An Experimental Use Permit is required for all experiments involving unregistered pesticides, and for all experiments involving uses not allowed by the pesticide label. For terrestrial uses, submit a Washington State Experimental Use Permit form ([AGR 630-4257](#)) with all required documentation. For aquatic uses, submit an Application for Use of Experimental Pesticides on Aquatic Sites ([AGR 630-4128](#)) with all required documentation to WSDA and to Washington State Department of Ecology. There is no fee to apply for an EUP.

WSU, KRS & NPIRS have available searchable databases of pesticides registered in Washington.

- WSU's Pesticide Information Center On-Line (PICOL) web site at cru66.cahe.wsu.edu/LabelTolerance.html. Users can query the registration database by crop, pest, active ingredient, or several other options. PICOL also has information on Section 24(c) registrations and Section 18 emergency exemptions.
- Kelly Solutions web site at kellysolutions.com/wa/pesticideindex.htm.
- National Pesticide Information Retrieval System (NPIRS) web site at state.ceris.purdue.edu/.

WSDA CONTACT INFORMATION

Contact the WSDA Pesticide Registration Section at (360) 902-2030 or e-mail pestreg@agr.wa.gov for additional information. Forms are available on the WSDA web site at <https://agr.wa.gov/departments/pesticides-and-fertilizers/forms>. Information on WSDA organic registration requirements is also available on the WSDA web site, by contacting the WSDA Organic Food Program at (360) 902-1805 or email organic@agr.wa.gov.

Inquiries regarding the availability of this information in an alternative format should be directed to the WSDA Receptionist at (360) 902-1976, or Telecommunications Device for the Deaf (360) 902-1996.