

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE # FDO 3.118

Subject: In-House Pesticide Application Procedures for Grounds Maintenance Activities Including all Herbicides, Fungicides, and Insecticides.

Purpose and Scope: The purpose is to ensure that herbicides, fungicides, and insecticides are applied safely and effectively to the University landscape in a manner that will safeguard the University community and to promote environmental responsibility.

Procedures:

Applicator Categories

Pesticides concentrates that require mixing must be mixed and applied by applicators holding a valid *State of Florida Limited Certification for Governmental Pesticide Applicator's* license. This license will be in the *Limited Lawn and Ornamental* (LL&O) category.

Ready-to-use (RTU) pesticides may be applied by all staff. Applications of pesticides are to be approved by the manager/supervisor prior to application. RTU pesticide applications are only performed in limited circumstances where the safety of University students, faculty, staff, or visitors is of immediate concern.

Label – Prior to using an herbicide, fungicide, or insecticide, the applicator is to read and obey all labeling instructions. The label is the law. A label of the material being applied will be kept available at all times when applying the chemical.

Training – All staff that is required to work in the preparation and application of pesticides of any type will receive initial safety training within 30 days of employment. Formal training and update training will be provided yearly.

Transportation – Pesticides will not be transported in the same compartment with people or food. Pesticide containers shall be secured to vehicles during transportation in a manner that will prevent spillage onto the vehicle or off the vehicle. Paper, cardboard, and similar containers shall be covered when necessary to protect from moisture.

PPE – Personal Protective Equipment including, but not limited to, coveralls, chemical resistant gloves, splash shield, and chemical resistant boots and apron, and respirators shall be worn in accordance with the product label. Protective equipment shall be worn while handling and mixing concentrate. Refer to product label for specific requirements.

Service Container/Equipment Labeling – The service container or equipment shall be labeled with the name of the chemical in the container and the signal word “Danger”, “Warning”, or “Caution” in accordance with the label on the original container.

Calibration – All application equipment shall be calibrated for the particular material (specific chemicals and formulations) and shall be checked for accuracy periodically. Liquid spray equipment shall be checked at least daily and prior to use for calibration accuracy.


Application Record – A written record shall be kept of any pesticide (herbicide, fungicide, and insecticide) applications made to areas of the University landscape. No record shall be required for application of RTU pesticides. Information will include: the applicator’s name, location, date, weather conditions, target pest, material applied, formulation and special comments, including re-entry information. Records will be kept in the Grounds Management office. A written record noting calibration activities shall be part of the pesticide record.

Cleaning/Tank Rinse – In lieu of capture and reuse, tank rinse may be sprayed over an area containing an approved crop.


Disposal of Unused Chemical Concentrate – Material stored on site in the Grounds Management facilities shall be limited. Unusable material shall be disposed of by Environmental Health & Safety. Disposal shall be in the original container.

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