



PESTICIDE ODORS AND PESTICIDE DRIFT

On occasion, pesticides that are properly applied may produce strong odors that may persist until they have dried completely. In outdoor situations, high humidity and calm conditions may cause odors to linger or move to a nearby area. Odors can result from the evaporation of inert ingredients that pesticides are dissolved in, or from the active ingredient of the pesticide itself. The presence of a pesticide odor does not necessarily mean that a particular pesticide is more toxic, used illegally, or that pesticide drift has occurred. However, be aware that if someone is near an area where a pesticide is being applied and they feel a mist or small droplets settling on them, they should leave the area immediately because they may have been exposed to pesticide drift.

The presence of a strong pesticide odor does not automatically generate a health risk. If disturbed by a pesticide odor, take measures to minimize it by closing doors, windows, etc., and leave the area until the odor dissipates. Seek medical attention if illness occurs.

No federal or state laws exist that prohibit the application of pesticides based on the odors they may cause. However, if a pesticide application causes a concern beyond its odor (e.g. a pesticide drift) the Nevada Department of Agriculture (NDA) can be notified and will look into the matter.

If there are questions about a company's pest control license status or about the correct use of a pesticide, the NDA is also available to assist in these and other related matters.

If someone wishes to file a pesticide misuse complaint with the NDA, a complaint form can be obtained at:

http://agri.nv.gov/uploadedFiles/agrinvgov/Content/Resources/Forms/Plant/Environmental/Verified_Complaint.pdf

If a complaint is filed, the following information is needed:

- Name, address and phone number of person filing complaint;
- Name, address and phone number of pesticide applicator or pest control company;
- Location of application;
- Time and date of incident;
- A description of the event;
- Any other pertinent information.

For more information or questions regarding the proper use of pesticides, please contact the nearest [NDA office](#), or call (775) 353-3715.