

## Volatility seen as factor in applying pesticides

Research at the University of Massachusetts on pesticide volatility yielded the following observations and recommendations:

- WHERE POSSIBLE, USE THE LEAST VOLATILE formulation of a pesticide. In situations where volatility may present a problem, consider using granular formulations.
- WIND SPEED AND TEMPERATURE have a substantial influence on volatilization. Differences of 15 to 20

degrees can increase the rate of volatilization by 300 to 400%.

- IRRIGATION OR RAINFALL AFTER AN APPLICATION reduces the potential for volatilization by moving the pesticide into the crown and root areas.
- APPLY PESTICIDES in the early morning or late afternoon in areas where volatilization is a problem. Temperature and wind tend to be at their maximum in the early afternoon. ■

### BACK-AT-THE-OFFICE



YOUR COMPANY NAME

#### RESTRICTED USE PESTICIDES LOG

APPLICATOR: \_\_\_\_\_

PRODUCT	ACTIVE INGREDIENT	%	DATE	AMOUNT	LOCATION	TARGETED PEST(S)

## Recording use of pesticides

Certified applicators must keep records on their uses of restricted use pesticides. Such records are also useful, since they help you measure the effectiveness of the pesticides you use—and they are essential documentation, if you are unfortunate enough to ever have a customer bring a lawsuit against you.

The records can be as simple as a piece of paper with a column for each category of information—or a computerized database with sophisticated sorting and reporting options.

Here are a few points to consider when setting up your pesticide use log:

- THE COLUMNS SHOULD BE WIDE ENOUGH for the information you will be entering, but narrow enough that the form fits on a convenient standard size of paper.
- FOR ONE-PERSON OPERATIONS, the applicator will always be the same person; however, for larger con-

cerns, the records should reflect which certified applicator made each application.

- THE FIRST FIVE COLUMNS RECORD the pesticide you applied, when you applied it, and how much you applied. Listing the chemical isn't specific enough. Instead record the product name, the active ingredient, and the percent of that ingredient in the product.
- DEPENDING ON HOW DIVERSIFIED YOUR BUSINESS IS, you may want to specify location by the customer's name, the crop or type of plants, and/or the particular site.
- BASICALLY, THE LAST COLUMN RECORDS WHY you applied the selected pesticide to that particular location. ■