

# CANNABIS

## PESTICIDES THAT **CANNOT** BE USED



**Protecting workers, the public, and the environment from adverse effects of pesticide use in cannabis cultivation is critical to the mission of the California Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR).** DPR and the County Agricultural Commissioners (CAC) enforce the use and sale of pesticides under Divisions 6 and 7 of the California Food and Agricultural Code (FAC), and Title 3 of the California Code of Regulations (CCR). These laws and regulations apply to all pesticide use; cannabis is no exception.

All pesticide product labels include a warning statement, precautionary statements for protecting human and environmental health, storage and disposal statements, and directions for use. By law, all pesticide users must follow these statements.

When using pesticide products in cannabis cultivation, applicators must not use a rate that is higher than the rates listed on the label and follow the agricultural use requirements including method of application, restricted entry interval, personal protective equipment, and pre-harvest interval.

---

**Always read the label prior to using any pesticide.**

---

---

### **Some pesticides cannot be used in cannabis cultivation.**

---

While there are some pesticide products that are legal to use on cannabis under state law, (see DPR's document: [Pesticides that are Legal to Use on Cannabis](#)) other products are never allowed in cannabis cultivation. The following criteria identify pesticide products that cannot be used in California cannabis cultivation under any circumstances. The use of any pesticides meeting any one of these criteria on cannabis will be strictly enforced as a violation of the FAC and could result in civil or criminal penalties (FAC sections 12996 and 12999.5):

- Not registered for a food use in California
- California Restricted Material including Federal Restricted Use Pesticides (3CCR section 6400)  
On the groundwater protection list (3CCR section 6800)

Cannabis cultivators who are licensed by the California Department of Food and Agriculture are required to comply with pesticide laws and regulations as enforced by DPR and the CAC's.

For more information:  
[www.cdpr.ca.gov/cannabis](http://www.cdpr.ca.gov/cannabis)

# PESTICIDES THAT **CANNOT** BE USED ON CANNABIS

The following are criteria for identifying pesticides that cannot be used in cannabis cultivation and examples of active ingredients meeting these criteria. This is a representative list of active ingredients and not intended to be exhaustive. The fact that an active ingredient is not listed does not authorize its use on cannabis in California.

## **Pesticides Not Registered for Food Use in California**

If a pesticide product does not have directions for use on a food crop, it cannot be used in cannabis cultivation. Examples of active ingredients that do not have food uses include:

- Aldicarb
- Carbofuran
- Chlordane
- Chlorfenapyr
- Coumaphos
- Daminozide
- DDVP (Dichlorvos)
- Etofenprox
- Fenoxycarb
- Imazalil
- Methyl parathion
- Mevinphos
- Paclobutrazol
- Propoxur
- Spiroxamine
- Thiacloprid

## **California Restricted Materials**

DPR designates certain pesticides as California restricted materials (3 CCR section 6400). A pesticide can be considered a restricted material for many reasons including designation as a federal Restricted Use Pesticide. Many of these products have product labels that clearly state "Restricted Use Pesticide." Consult your local CAC to determine whether a product is a restricted material. Examples of California restricted materials include:

- Abamectin
- Bifenthrin
- Brodifacoum
- Bromodiolone
- Cyfluthrin
- Difenacoum
- Difethialone
- Fipronil
- Naled

## **Pesticides on the Groundwater Protection List**

Active ingredients that are on the Groundwater Protection List (3CCR section 6800) have chemical characteristics that make them likely to move into groundwater. Examples of active ingredients on the groundwater protection list include:

- Acephate
- Azoxystrobin
- Boscalid
- Carbaryl
- Chlorantraniliprole
- Diazinon
- Dimethoate
- Dimethomorph
- Ethoprop(hos)
- Fludioxonil
- Imidacloprid
- Malathion
- Metalaxyl
- Methiocarb
- Methomyl
- Myclobutanil
- Propiconazole
- Tebuconazole
- Thiamethoxam