

## Section C.2

### Recommended Permit Conditions for Rice Pesticides

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**Introduction** This document provides recommended permit conditions for pesticide applications to rice.

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**About this section** This Section contains the following topics:

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## Subsection C.2.1

### Instructions to County Agricultural Commissioners on Rice Pesticide Permit Issuance

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**Introduction** The Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR), in cooperation with the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (CVRWQCB), developed recommended permit conditions to meet water quality management objectives for Malathion and Thiobencarb. These conditions reflect management practices required by current Board Resolution. DPR and CVRWQCB believe that use of these permit conditions will meet water quality management objectives for these rice pesticides.

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**Approved resolution** The Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (CVRWQCB) approved resolution is available for review at:  
[http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/adopted\\_orders/index.html](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/adopted_orders/index.html)

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### Rice Pesticide Water Monitoring and Annual Reporting

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**CRC responsibility** The rice industry, via the California Rice Commission (CRC), will be responsible for leadership in water monitoring, annual reporting to the CVRWQCB, and coordinating the participation of all program stakeholders.

- The rice industry is ultimately responsible for meeting water quality objectives.
- DPR, as a co-regulator with the water boards, will continue to use its authority to regulate the sales and use of pesticides to address water quality issues involving pesticides. DPR will continue to actively participate with CVRWQCB and the rice industry staff to address rice pesticide issues.

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# Instructions to County Agricultural Commissioners on Rice Pesticide Permit Issuance, Continued

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## Seepage Mitigation Requirements

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**Seepage defined** For purposes of mitigating seepage in rice production:

- Seepage is lateral movement of irrigation water through a rice field levee or border to an area outside the normally flooded production area. Seepage can occur through levees into adjacent dry fields or into adjacent drains and canals.

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**Seepage documentation** DPR requests that county agricultural commissioners (CACs) continue monitoring for seepage when inspecting for water-holding compliance by:

- Checking for seepage, or collection of seepage, that occurs through the outer borders of a field or the bottom border located at the lowest part of the field.
- Using the water-holding inspection logs to document seepage observations. The Pesticide Use Monitoring Inspection Form (PR-ENF-104) may also be used to document seepage observations. Indicate “water-hold inspection” on the blank line under “application inspection.”
- Document in the “Remarks” section on either form: Seepage flow less than five gallons per minute, or seepage flow more than five gallons per minute.

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**Enforcement action** Any visible seepage moving offsite during the water-holding period that drains into the waters of the State is considered an early release and is a water-holding violation. An enforcement action should be taken in accordance with 3 CCR section 6128.

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**Brochure** Please continue to distribute the brochure, *Seepage Water Management, Voluntary Guidelines for Good Stewardship in Rice Production*, Publication 21568, to growers at the time of permit issuance.

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# Instructions to County Agricultural Commissioners on Rice Pesticide Permit Issuance, Continued

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## Drift Minimization Requirements

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### Mitigation measures

- DPR will provide “focused” oversight inspection of thiobencarb aerial applications to monitor thiobencarb drift mitigation requirements.
  - DPR recommends all rice pesticide permits be conditioned with *General Drift Minimization* restrictions.
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## Thiobencarb Drift Mitigation Requirements

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### Mandatory preseason thiobencarb stewardship training (applies to Sacramento Valley counties only)

- Restricted material permits for the use of thiobencarb should not be issued to growers who have not received CRC certification that they have attended a Thiobencarb Stewardship Meeting.
  - The CAC may certify a grower that did not attend a Thiobencarb Stewardship Meeting by having them view a video of the preseason Thiobencarb Stewardship Meeting.
  - DPR will provide “focused” oversight inspection of thiobencarb aerial applications to monitor thiobencarb drift mitigation requirements.
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# Instructions to County Agricultural Commissioners on Rice Pesticide Permit Issuance, Continued

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## General Information

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### New Thiobencarb product – League<sup>®</sup> MVP

A new Thiobencarb product – League<sup>®</sup> MVP Herbicide, EPA Reg. No. 59639-189-AA, a granular formulation – is registered for use on rice for the 2014 rice pesticide use season. Its active ingredients are 10% Thiobencarb and 0.43% Imazosulfuron. Please note that the new product has the same water holding period as Bolero<sup>®</sup> UltraMax – 30 days – and the Thiobencarb recommended permit conditions apply to the new product.

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### Malathion water management recommendations

CVRWQCB has approved a water management practice for malathion applied to rice that will help meet water quality performance goals for malathion in surface water. Malathion is currently not a restricted material and not subject to permit conditions. However, it is important that growers comply with the following water management practice:

- **All water from fields treated with pesticides containing malathion should be retained on the site of application or contained within a tailwater recovery system, or other system, adequate to prevent discharge to waters of the State for at least four days following application.**
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### Storm Event Work Group

The Communication Plan developed by the Storm Event Work Group will be utilized in the event of a severe storm occurrence. The Storm Event Work Group will continue to meet as needed. Currently, the work group is comprised of staff from the Regional Water Board, DPR, University of California, a reclamation district representative, CACs, and the rice industry. The California Rice Commission will take the lead in facilitating this group.

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# Recommended Permit Conditions for Rice Pesticides,

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**One-page summary**

Table B summarizes the recommended water-holding permit conditions for thiobencarb. This summary can be used as a quick reference. Please refer to the specific permit conditions and pesticide labeling for a complete explanation of the requirements.

Topic	See Table
(Placeholder – for future use)	A
Rice Pesticides Water Management Requirements Summary (Water-holding permit conditions for malathion and thiobencarb)	B

**Emergency release forms**

Form A is used for an emergency release request. Form B is used for reporting the emergency release. These DPR-suggested forms may be reproduced under county letterhead.

Topic	See Form
Rice Pesticides Water Management Requirements, Emergency Release Request Form	Form A
Rice Pesticides Water Management Requirements, Emergency Release Report Form	Form B

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