Respiratory Protection: Are you keeping yourself safe and meeting legal requirements? Does the pesticide label require you to wear a respirator?

1. Is the respirator required by the label available for your use?
   - Yes → Follow green arrow
   - No → Follow red arrow

2. Is it NIOSH-approved?
   - Yes → Follow green arrow
   - No → Follow red arrow

3. Have you had a Medical Evaluation to use this type of respirator?

4. Have you successfully completed a respirator fit test following OSHA/EPA Worker Protection guidelines for this respirator?

5. In addition, remember to conduct a successful user seal check including positive and negative pressure check prior to every use.

6. If your operation falls under WPS, have you had WPS-compliant annual respiratory training?

7. Can you hire a certified applicator to make the application until you have met the requirements (proper NIOSH-approved respirator, medical evaluation, fit test, and training)?
   - Yes → Follow green arrow
   - No → Follow red arrow

8. Is an alternative pesticide available that does not require a respirator?

9. Do you have a NIOSH-approved respirator available that would provide the same or greater protection?

10. Could you share a NIOSH-approved half/full-face respirator that would provide the required protection required by the label?
    - Sharing is NOT recommended unless it is the ONLY option.

Due to current concerns with COVID-19, respirators should be cleaned and disinfected after each use.
Different Respirators to Provide Protection

For example if the label requires minimum of a Disposable Filtering Facepiece N95 Respirator (photo on lower left):

- Disposable Filtering Facepiece N95 Respirator
- Half-face Air Purifying Respirator with N95 particulate filters
- Full-face Air Purifying Respirator with N95 particulate filters

Resources

Educational Publications at: [https://npsecstore.com/collections/respiratory-guides](https://npsecstore.com/collections/respiratory-guides)
- Rutgers’ Respiratory Protection for Occupational Users of Pesticides
- PERC Worker Protection Standard (WPS) Respiratory Protection Guide

Helpful Web Resources – [https://npsec.us/respirators](https://npsec.us/respirators)

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