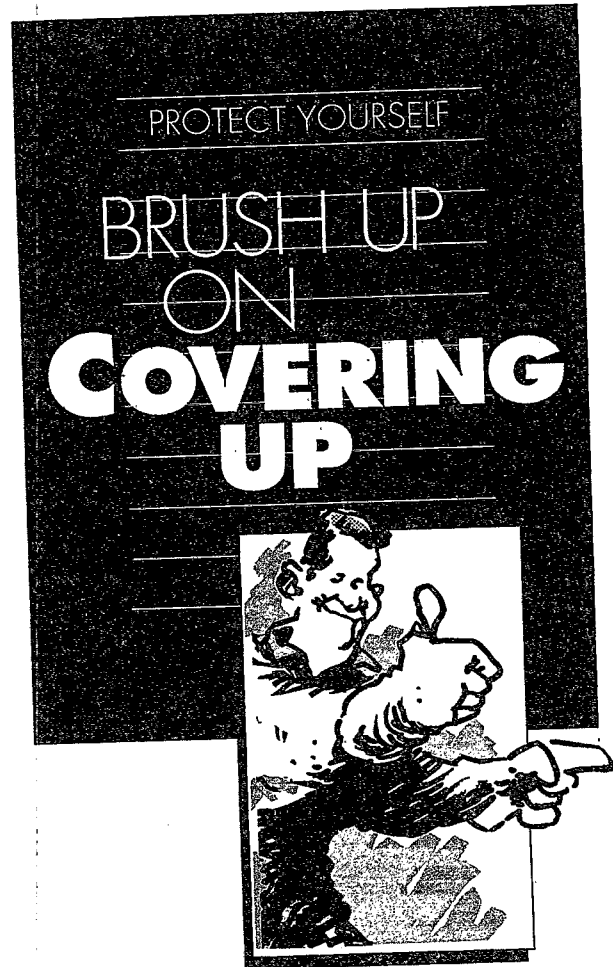



Protection for Pesticide Handlers

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COVERALLS



Some pesticide labels require a long-sleeved shirt and long pants of sturdy, woven fabric.

Many pesticide labels require coveralls worn over shirt and pants. Coveralls may be of woven or nonwoven fabric.

A few pesticide labels require chemical-resistant suits. The seams should be sealed.



COVERALL MATERIALS

Look for These Characteristics

woven Fibers: cotton or cotton/polyester
Weight: 7-10 oz.
Weave: twill (denim, chino, drill)



nonwoven Fabric made by bonding fibrous webs

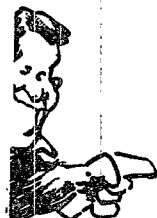


chemical-resistant Plastic or rubber materials or fabrics coated with plastic or rubber



SHOP FOR FIT AND FUNCTION

- Before buying, try on coveralls with garments you intend to wear under them.
- Zippers with overlapping flaps are preferred.



Protection for Pesticide Handlers

The information in this brochure is reproduced from a table-top exhibit consisting of eight 22" by 40" panels. Each page in this brochure is a panel on the exhibit. Each exhibit panel holds a different personal protective equipment guidance brochure containing further information.

The guidance brochures relate to personal protective equipment (PPE) and include:

- Coveralls, Gloves, and Other Skin Protection
- Clothing Layers for Added Protection
- Choosing Chemical-Resistant PPE
- Protective Eyewear
- Respirators
- Inspecting, Maintaining, and Replacing PPE
- Avoiding Heat Stress

The personal protective equipment exhibit and guidance brochures are located in the pesticide program office in each EPA region and state land-grant university. Contact your region or state for further information.

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CLOTHING LAYERS



1. Layer coveralls

over shirt, pants, and underwear when the pesticide label requires it, or when you need extra protection.

2. Add a chemical-resistant apron

when mixing and loading pesticides or cleaning equipment.

- *Sleeveless aprons protect against spills and splashes to the body front.*
- *Aprons with sleeves—but open in the back—reduce exposure to the shoulders, arms, and body front.*



USE CLOTHING LAYERS
to increase protection.

REMEMBER—

- *Hoods and wide-brimmed hats protect the neck and head.*
- *Unused hoods should be tucked inside the neckline so they don't collect pesticides.*
- *Sleeve guards protect arms.*
- *Reserve one or two sets of clothing for pesticide tasks.*

REDUCE HEAT STRESS



RECOGNIZE THE SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS.

- *Muscle spasms*
- *Excessive fatigue*
- *Heavy sweating*
- *Dizziness and confusion*
- *Nausea*
- *Unconsciousness*

FOLLOW THESE GUIDELINES

to lessen the discomfort and health hazard of wearing protective gear in warm conditions.

Adjust gradually
to working in the heat.

Drink plenty of water.

Take regular breaks
in the shade.

Avoid the noonday sun
by scheduling work for cooler times of the day.



WARNING:
In case of severe symptoms, seek medical help. The cause could be heat stress or pesticide poisoning.

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CHEMICAL-RESISTANT GLOVES

WEAR CHEMICAL-RESISTANT GLOVES *when the pesticide label requires it.*



WHAT IS CHEMICAL RESISTANCE?

It means no movement of pesticides through the protective material during its use.



REMEMBER—

- Never place contaminated hands in gloves.
- Never wear leather, fabric, or fabric-lined gloves.
- Use gloves that extend at least to the mid-forearm.
- Consider shoulder-length gloves or gloves and chemical-resistant sleeve guards for mixing and loading.
- Replace gloves often.

**WASH
GLOVES
THOROUGHLY
BEFORE
REMOVING
THEM,**

THEN WASH YOUR HANDS.



WORKING WITH LIQUID CONCENTRATES?

Wear nitrile, butyl, or barrier-laminate gloves, unless the label directs otherwise.

CLEAN AND INSPECT YOUR GEAR

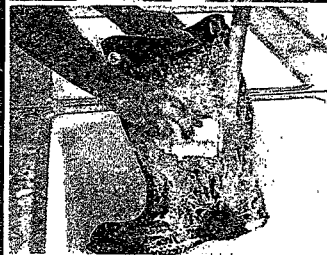
1. Wash garments before reuse.

The best policy is to launder coveralls and work clothes daily. Pretreat soiled areas with a liquid detergent, wash with detergent in hot water, and line dry outdoors.



2. Clean other protective equipment by hand.

Wash rubber and plastic equipment inside and out with detergent, rinse well, and air dry.



3. Inspect gear for leaks, holes, tears, or worn places.



REMEMBER—

- Always wash pesticide clothing separately from the family laundry.
- Smell clothes after laundering. If pesticide odors are detected, rewash garments.
- Some contaminated garments may need multiple washings or may need to be discarded.
- Allow protective gear to air for 24 hours if possible after washing.

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PROTECTIVE EYEWEAR



WEAR
PROTECTIVE EYEWEAR *when the pesticide label requires it.*

CONSIDER
PROTECTIVE EYEWEAR *when dusts, mists, or splashes can get in your eyes or when working with pressurized systems.*



1. Goggles are acceptable eyewear for all pesticide handling situations and may be required on some pesticide labels. Goggles provide better eye protection than safety glasses or face shields.

2. Face shields protect the eyes and face from splashes. In severe exposure situations, a face shield may be worn over goggles.

3. Safety glasses with side shields and brow guards are acceptable in many situations.

REMEMBER—

- Avoid wearing contact lenses when handling pesticides.
- Use a full-face respirator to protect eyes, face, and respiratory tract or select eyewear that fits well with half-face respirators.

RESPIRATORS

WEAR A RESPIRATOR *when the pesticide label requires it.*



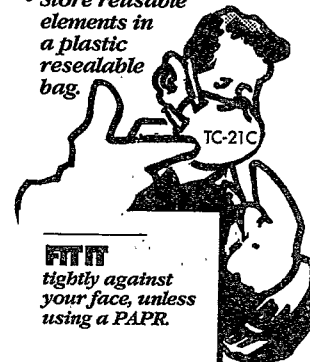
1. Dust/mist filtering respirators protect against dusts, powders, mists, and sprays. Look for NIOSH/MSHA approval number prefix TC-21C.

2. Vapor-removing respirators protect against gases and vapors. Choose
—a cartridge approved for organic vapors plus a pesticide prefilter; both with NIOSH/MSHA approval number prefix TC-23C; or
—a canister approved for pesticides/organic vapors with NIOSH/MSHA approval number prefix TC-14G.

3. Powered air-purifying respirators (PAPR) (positive pressure) protect without a tight seal. They are essential when facial hair would prevent other types of respirators from forming a tight seal.

REMEMBER—

- Replace the dust/mist filters immediately if breathing becomes difficult.
- Replace dust/mist or vapor-removing elements after each day's use unless the manufacturer or pesticide label directs otherwise.
- Replace vapor-removing cartridge/canister immediately if any taste, odor, or irritation is detected.
- Store reusable elements in a plastic resealable bag.



FIT IT
tightly against your face, unless using a PAPR.

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