

# Frequently Asked Questions

## USDA Recordkeeping Program

for *Certified Private Applicators of Federally Restricted Use Pesticides (RUP)*

### Am I required to maintain RUP pesticide application records?

The Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990, commonly referred to as the 1990 Farm Bill authorized the Federal Pesticide Recordkeeping Program. Under this law, all certified private pesticide applicators must maintain record(s) of federally restricted-use pesticides applications. The record(s) must be maintained for two (2) years following the pesticide application. In addition, the record information must have been recorded no later than fourteen (14) days following the pesticide application

### What has to be on the records?

- A. Brand name of the pesticide applied
- B. EPA Reg. number
- C. The total amount of pesticide applied.
- D. The size of the area treated.
- E. The crop, commodity, stored product, or site.
- F. The location of the application.
- G. The month, day, and year of the application.
- H. The certified applicator's name and certification number.

### Spot Applications

Spot applications are applications that occur in one day and are less than 1/10 of an acre. *Greenhouses and nurseries are exempt from this.*

- A. Brand name of the pesticide applied
- B. EPA Reg. Number
- C. Total amount of pesticide applied
- D. Location of treatment designated as "spot application," followed by a short description of where the application took place.
- E. Month, day and year

### Do I need to maintain pesticide application records for general use pesticides as well?

No, only RUP applications are required to be maintained by the certified private applicator.

### Who has access to the records?

- A. Credentialed USDA representatives
- B. Credentialed ISDA representatives
- C. Health care professionals or those acting under their direction, when treating individuals who may have been exposed to restricted use pesticides.

**Is there a certain form that I have to use?**

No, there are no required forms as long as all of the required information is maintained. The ISDA does provide free recordkeeping forms to those applicators that desire them as a service.

**Is there a penalty if I don't keep records?**

Yes

**Civil Penalties:**

A certified applicator who violates any provision of the regulations will:

1. For the first offense, be subject to a fine of not more than \$550.00;
2. For subsequent offenses, be subject to a fine of not less than \$1,100.00 for each violation. The penalty shall be less than \$1,100.00 if the Administrator of USDA Agricultural Marketing Service, or his or her designee, determines that the certified Applicator made a good faith effort to comply.

**How does keeping records help me?**

- A. They document pesticide performance.
- B. They may help to secure funding for production loans.
- C. They help meet buyer requirements.