

FACT:

Each year over 45,000 migrant and seasonal farmworkers work in Michigan.

FACT:

According to the Michigan Department of Community Health, there were only 3 reported incidents of pesticide exposure in the entire state in 2006.

FACT:

In a series of focus groups conducted by the Washington State Department of Health, nearly 75 percent of farmworkers reported experiencing symptoms of pesticide exposure.

FACT:

Michigan and Washington have similar crops and pest management systems; so there should not be a huge difference in the percentages of farmworkers exposed to pesticides in these states.

Do the math!

3 cases out of 45,000?

75 % of 45,000 = 33,750

**PESTICIDE ACTION
CAMPAIGN**

- The Pesticide Action Campaign was started in September 2007 with the goal of encouraging farmworkers to report pesticide exposures.
- When pesticide exposures go unreported, it is hard to convince policy makers that pesticide exposure is a serious Michigan problem.
- When Michigan's reporting statistics reflect reality, more effective steps can be taken to stop pesticides from harming farmworkers and their families.

This project was made possible by the collaboration of the Mary Jane Underwood Stryker Institute for Service Learning and Farmworker Legal Services, a division of Michigan Advocacy Program.



Pesticide Action Campaign

WHAT ARE PESTICIDES?

- Pesticides are chemicals used to kill pests. They are most commonly used in agriculture.
- Farmworkers are the group most affected by pesticide exposure.

If you are experiencing symptoms such as:

Nausea

Skin rashes

Headaches

Eye irritation/Blurred vision

Difficulty Breathing

Numbness or tingling in your limbs

PESTICIDES MAY BE THE CAUSE!

GO to the nearest medical clinic immediately.

WHAT YOUR EMPLOYER MUST DO TO PROTECT YOU:

- Give you pesticide training in your language
- Provide you with water, soap and towels in the fields
- Keep labor housing at least 50 ft. away from the fields
- Post a list of pesticides that have been used in the fields
- Take any workers exposed to pesticides to the nearest medical facility

It is your **RIGHT** to:

- Demand that your employer protect you from pesticide exposure
- Take legal action if you have been exposed

REPORT ALL CASES OF PESTICIDE EXPOSURE!

WHERE TO REPORT:

YOU CAN MAKE AN ANONYMOUS REPORT!

Report Pesticide Exposures to:

- Antonio Castro
Department of Agriculture
(517) 284-5659
- Farmworker Legal Services
1-800-968-4046
www.FarmworkerLaw.org

By reporting, you are protecting not only your health, but also your family's health.

If you have any questions, or want more information about the Pesticide Action Campaign, contact:

Pesticide Action Campaign
1-800-968-4046

Se Habla Español