Pesticide Exposure Surveillance in Texas (PEST) Program

Occupational Health Indicators

November 15, 2013

Texas Department of State Health Services
Occupational Injuries and Illnesses

- Occupational pesticide exposure is one category of work-related injuries and illnesses.

- Collectively, all categories of illnesses and injuries are referred to as occupational health indicators.
Occupational Health Indicators

- Provide an assessment of the health and safety status of our workforce
- An accurate assessment of the farmworker health status is dependent on the reporting of their pesticide exposure
Texas Statutes Mandate Reporting of Occupational Pesticide Exposures

- Health and Safety Code (HSC) - Texas Occupational Conditions Reporting Act (TOCRA), 1985
- Texas Administrative Code (TAC) – Title 25, Part 1, Chapter 99 – Occupational Diseases
- Acute pesticide poisoning – a reportable health condition under TOCRA
Who Should Report?

- A physician who diagnoses or treats the individual with the condition
- Other health professionals
- Facilities where laboratory analyses render evidence of pesticide exposure
HIPPA - Patient Consent not Required

2003, HIPPA deletes requirement for patient consent to report protected information for treatment, payment and healthcare operations.

Texas statutes, HSC and TAC, allow for the reporting of a case’s protected information to the department of health.
How to Report – Healthcare Providers

Fax exposure report to 512-776-7222
www.dshs.state.tx.us/epitox/Pesticide-Exposure/#reporting

Consulting the Texas Poison Center Network (TPCN) automatically generates a report

Call central office at 800-588-1248

Submit report to local health department
General Types of Pesticides

- Disinfectants
- Sanitizers
- Sterilizers
- Insecticides
- Fumigants
- Herbicides
- Fungicides
- Rodenticides
Texas Pesticide Exposure Rate
2000 - 2010

Rate per million workers

Year

2000 2001 2002 2003 2004 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009 2010

3.6 13.0 3.8 10.4 7.9 11.6 15.2 12.8 11.9 7.9 4.3
Pesticide Exposure Rate by Gender
Texas 2000 - 2010

Rate per million workers

Year

2000 2001 2002 2003 2004 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009 2010

Male
Female
Pesticide Exposure Rate by Agriculture – Other Industries
Texas 2000 - 2010

Rate per million workers

year

2000 2001 2002 2003 2004 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009 2010

Agriculture  Other

0.6 2.3 1.2 1.0 0.8 1.2 0.9 0.3
Pesticide Exposure Rate by Agricultural Exposure by Location
Texas 2000 - 2010

Rate per million workers

Year

2000 2001 2002 2003 2004 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009 2010
Farm
Nursery/Greenhouse
Reported Cases in Agriculture by Farmworkers – Other
2000 - 2010

Crop Production: 51 Farmworkers, 28 Other
Livestock: 15 Farmworkers, 5 Other
Tree Farm: 9 Farmworkers
Agricultural Services: 10 Farmworkers, 20 Other
Exposed Pregnant
Texas 2000 - 2010

Year

2000 2001 2002 2003 2004 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009 2010

Frequency

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

Reported Pregnant
Pesticide Exposure Cases by Industry Groups 2010

- Parks: 1
- Wholesale: 2
- Construction: 5
- Agriculture: 6
- Government: 7
- Retail: 7
- Professional Services: 8
- Utilities: 8
- Manufacturing: 11
- Other Services: 18

frequency
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South Texas* Major Areas
2006 – 2010

Red – Webb county
Green (4 counties) Lower Rio Grande Valley
Green – Bexar county

*38 counties
South Texas Pesticide Exposure
Rate per Age Groups
2006 – 2010*

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Groups</th>
<th>Rate per million workers</th>
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<td>15-19</td>
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<td>20-39</td>
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* 38 counties
South Texas* Major Areas
Pesticide Exposure Rate
2006 - 2010

*38 counties

South Texas*
Bexar County
Lower Rio Grande Valley

Rate per million workers

0.0 1.0 2.0 3.0 4.0 5.0 6.0 7.0 8.0 9.0

7.8 6.9 8.4
South Texas* – Rest of Texas
Pesticide Exposure Rate by Race/Ethnicity 2006-2010

Rate per million workers

- All races: 7.8 (South Texas), 10.4 (Rest of Texas)
- Hispanic: 7.3 (South Texas), 8.3 (Rest of Texas)
- Non-Hispanic White: 0.7 (South Texas), 9.7 (Rest of Texas)

* 38 counties
Reporting of pesticide exposure for agriculture remains low with marked underreporting for Texas farmworkers.

In general, industries outside of agriculture report pesticide exposure commensurate with pesticide usage typical to their industry.

Pesticide exposure reports for all industries, as a whole, has steadily declined since its peak in 2006.

Texas DSHS actively encourages and promotes reporting by healthcare providers and the various industry sectors.
http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/epitox

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