



## ODA Pesticide Bulletin

### Pesticide Use Reminders on Roofs and other Construction Sites

Roofs, areas around structures, and other construction sites are common areas where pests can be a problem. For example, moss is widespread on roofs and other structures (e.g. driveways) in the damp areas of the Pacific Northwest. It is common for people to use products that prevent or kill moss, and to treat wood roofs to prevent wood-destroying pests. Products to kill weeds may sometimes be used in a site prep.

Many people do not know that these types of products **are classified as pesticides** at the state and federal levels and **applying them commercially requires a pesticide applicator's license**. Additionally, each product must be registered before being applied commercially to control moss, weeds, or other pests on a customer's property. The Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) Pesticides Program regulates the sale, use, and distribution of pesticides in Oregon.

**Individuals and businesses must be licensed by ODA before performing certain pesticide-related activities.** In general, a Commercial Pesticide Applicator license is required to apply a pesticide to a customer's property. Additionally, their employer (business) must have a Commercial Pesticide Operator license. Commercial pesticide licenses have categories, which limit or specify the type of pesticides that can be used and/or locations where pesticides can be applied. More information on licensing can be found on our website at <https://oda.direct/PesticideLicensing>

**Always follow the pesticide label.** Pesticide product labels provide critical information about how to safely and legally handle and use pesticide products. This includes information, such as mixing (dilution) rates, how to properly apply, requirements to prevent off-target movement and protect the environment, emergency first aid instructions, and how to dispose of the empty container. Pesticide labels are lawfully enforceable, and carry the statement, "It is a violation of Federal law to use this product in a manner inconsistent with its labeling." In other words, **the label is the law**. For more information about pesticides and to search for registered pesticide products, go to <https://oda.direct/SearchRegisteredPesticides>

Para ver este informe en español: <https://oda.direct/Pesticide-Bulletin-SPA-041125>

*If you have any questions or concerns about pesticides, please contact the ODA Pesticides Program at 503-986-4635 or [pesticide-expert@oda.oregon.gov](mailto:pesticide-expert@oda.oregon.gov). If you would like to discuss this topic and need a free language interpreter present, call 503-986-4635 to make arrangements or email ([pesticide-expert@oda.oregon.gov](mailto:pesticide-expert@oda.oregon.gov)) with your name, requested language, phone number, and best time to call.*