

Upcoming Changes to the Worker Protection Standard. Emily D. Bryson.
California Department of Pesticide Regulation, 1001 I Street, Sacramento, CA, 95814, USA.
(Emily.Bryson@cdpr.ca.gov).

In California, recent changes to the federal Worker Protection Standard (WPS) prompted the California Department of Pesticide Regulation to update applicable subsections of Title 3 of the California Code of Regulations in accordance. The WPS is aimed at protecting agricultural workers and pesticide handlers from occupational injury and pesticide-related illness by providing a number of protections and requiring employers to inform workers of their rights and the hazards associated with their job. California's worker protection regulations were revised to comply with the WPS by expanding protections for agricultural workers and pesticide handlers. The vast majority of the changes were implemented in January, 2017, but a few additional requirements will go into effect in March, 2018. Though the majority of the 2018 changes are minimal, the most extensive change expands safety training content for fieldworkers and handlers to include additional topics meant to imbue safety culture to protect both workers and their families, clarify the employer's responsibilities, and empower workers to protect themselves.