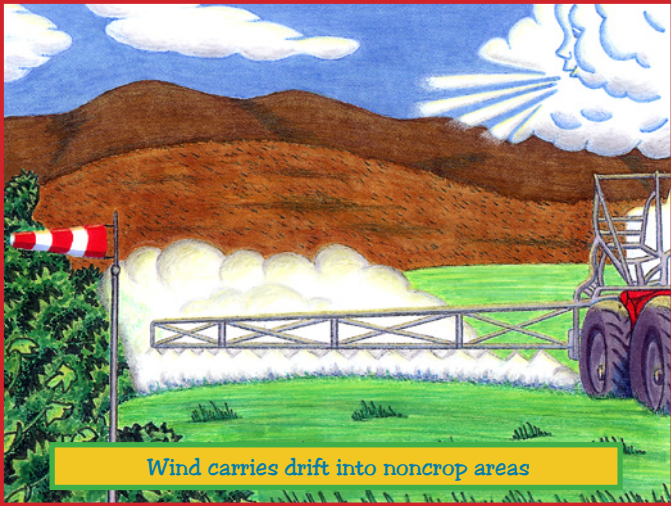


PESTICIDE DRIFT MANAGEMENT



Wind carries drift into noncrop areas

Wind Drift



Spray in a light breeze, reduce boom height, and leave an offset



Do not spray in hot, dry conditions

Thermal Drift



Spray before heat builds and humidity falls



Do not spray in inversion conditions

Inversion Drift



Spray in a light breeze

Wind carries drift into noncrop areas

- Never spray when wind speeds exceed 9 mph.
- Check nozzle output frequently to maintain calibration, and replace worn nozzles.
- Maintain proper nozzle spacing, boom height, and boom suspension to minimize causes of drift.

Wind Drift

Spray in a light breeze, reduce boom height, and leave an offset

- Spray at wind speeds of 2-9 mph and at temperatures of less than 70°F.
- With boom sprayers:
 - Minimize boom height by using correct nozzle spacing.
 - Moderate ground speed to avoid boom wobble and bounce.
 - Adjust flow rates and pressures to the middle range for the nozzle.
- On marginal days, use an offset to protect sensitive downwind sites.

Do not spray in hot, dry conditions

- Spray drops evaporate rapidly, particularly above 70°F and when humidity is less than 40 percent.
- Drops become so small they fail to land on the crop and drift away.

Thermal Drift

Spray before heat builds and humidity falls

- Use weather forecasts and spray in cooler conditions.
- With air-blast sprayers:
 - Adjust nozzles to target the tree.
 - Turn off sprayer at row ends when turning.
 - Spray inwards in outer rows.
 - Moderate ground speed, nozzle flow rates, and air speeds.
- Use unsprayed offsets and buffers to protect sensitive downwind sites.

Do not spray in inversion conditions

- Clouds of spray drift may remain buoyant and mobile in light breezes when there is an inversion.
- They can move large distances away from the spray site.
- Avoid cool, stable conditions with low surface mixing.

Inversion Drift

Spray in a light breeze

- Spray at wind speeds of 2-9 mph to enable surface mixing that carries the spray cloud into the crop canopy.
- On marginal days, increase drop size by moderating nozzle pressures and flow rates.