

Pesticides and veterinary medicines : reporting incidents : guidance for the general public / Health and Safety Executive.

Contributors

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HSE area offices (...cont)

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West and North Yorkshire

8 St Paul's Street
Leeds LS1 2LE
Tel: 0532 446191
Fax: 0532 450626

Greater Manchester

Quay House
Quay Street
Manchester M3 3JB
Tel: 061 831 7111
Fax: 061 831 7169

Merseyside

The Triad
Stanley Road
Bootle
Merseyside L20 3PG
Tel: 051 922 7211
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North West

Victoria House
Ormskirk Road
Preston PR1 1HH
Tel: 0772 259321
Fax: 0772 821807

North East

Arden House
Regent Centre
Gosforth
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE3 3JN
Tel: 091 284 8448
Fax: 091 285 9682

Scotland East

Belford House
59 Belford Road
Edinburgh EH4 3UE
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Scotland West

375 West George Street
Glasgow G2 4LW
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Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines-Reporting Incidents



Guidance for the general public

Why should you report?

The marketing, use and disposal of pesticides and veterinary medicines are controlled by law. When used properly they should not harm people, animals or the environment. However, if you think that pesticides or veterinary medicines have caused harm you should report it. Reporting will help the relevant authorities to prevent further incidents.

What is an incident?

An incident is where you believe people, animals or the environment have been harmed by pesticides or veterinary medicines.

Pesticides

Incidents might arise from treatment of:

- ◆ crops or plants;
- ◆ wood;
- ◆ pests such as rodents, cockroaches or ants.

Veterinary medicines

Incidents might arise from treating animals with veterinary medicines such as:

- ◆ vaccines;
- ◆ antibiotics;
- ◆ fly or flea control products;
- ◆ sheep dips.

Incidents may also arise from:

- ◆ pesticide spray drifting beyond a field boundary;
- ◆ deliberate poisoning of wild animals or birds of prey;
- ◆ spillage or leakage;
- ◆ accidental poisoning of pets;
- ◆ contamination of water;
- ◆ dumped containers.

What you should do

- If you think you have been affected seek medical advice immediately. Go to your doctor or, in extreme cases, go to hospital. Tell them that you may have been exposed to pesticides or veterinary medicines. Employment Medical Advisers in HSE offices can advise on any necessary medical tests.
- If your animal has been harmed seek veterinary advice immediately.
- Get all the information you can about the product involved from the product label, the person using the product or the manufacturer.
- Report the incident as soon as possible. Remember - the quicker you report the incident, the more likely it is that something can be done about it.

How to report

You can report incidents by phone or in writing to the nearest office of the relevant authority. As there are several different authorities it can be difficult to know who to report to. The table should help you decide. If you are in doubt contact your local HSE office.

How to find the relevant authority

Addresses and phone numbers of HSE area offices are listed at the end of this leaflet. Those of Agriculture Departments, Local Authorities (Environmental Health or Trading Standards Officers), the National Rivers Authority and River Purification Boards are in your local phone book.

The address and phone number of the Veterinary Medicines Directorate (an Executive Agency of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food) is:

Veterinary Medicines Directorate
FREEPOST, Woodham Lane, New Haw,
Addlestone, Surrey KT15 3NB
Tel: 0932 336911

Who to report to

Site of incident	Pesticide incidents involving			Veterinary medicine incidents involving			
	People ¹	Environment - on land in water	Wildlife, live- stock or pets	People ¹	Treated animals	Environment - on land in water	Wildlife or pets
Factories							
Farms							
Building sites							
Railways							
Domestic dwellings ²							
Offices							
Others							
	Health and Safety Executive	National Rivers Authority (NRA) ³	Agriculture Departments ⁴	Veterinary Medicines Directorate (VMD)	NRA ³ and VMD		Agriculture Departments ⁴ and VMD
	Local Authority						

- Employers and the self-employed are legally required to report certain work-related incidents. Advice is available from your Local Authority or HSE Area Office.
- Only when people are employed to carry out the work; other incidents involving pesticides in domestic premises should go to the Local Authority.
- In Scotland, the appropriate local River Purification Board or Islands Council.
- The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, the Scottish Office Agriculture and Fisheries Department or the Welsh Office Agriculture Department as appropriate.

Incidents involving deliberate poisoning of wildlife can be reported on:

Freephone 0800 321 600

Further information

This leaflet is produced by HSE. HSE priced and free publications are available from:

**HSE Books, P O Box 1999, Sudbury,
Suffolk CO10 6FS Tel: 0787 881 165
Fax: 0787 313995**

HSE priced publications are also available from Dillons Bookstores.

Other enquiries should be directed to HSE's Information Centre, Broad Lane, Sheffield S3 7HQ Tel: 0742 892345 Fax: 0742 892333

HSE area offices

South West Inter City House Mitchell Lane Victoria Street Bristol BS1 6AN Tel: 0272 290681 Fax: 0272 262998	Northern Home Counties 14 Cardiff Road Luton LU1 1PP Tel: 0582 34121 Fax: 0582 459775
South Priestley House Priestley Road Basingstoke RG24 9NW Tel: 0256 473181 Fax: 0256 51744	East Midlands 5th Floor Belgrave House 1 Gneyfians Northampton NN1 2BS Tel: 0604 21233 Fax: 0604 30460
South East 3 East Grinstead House London Road East Grinstead West Sussex RH19 1RR Tel: 0342 326922 Fax: 0342 312917	West Midlands McLaren Building 2 Masshouse Circus Queensway Birmingham B4 7NP Tel: 021 200 2299 Fax: 021 233 2176
London North Maritime House Linton Road Barking Essex IG11 8HF Tel: 081 594 5522 Fax: 081 591 5183	Wales Brunel House Fitzalan Road Cardiff CF2 1SH Tel: 0222 473777 Fax: 0222 473642
London South 1 Long Lane London SE1 4PG Tel: 071 407 8911 Fax: 071 403 7058	Marches The Marches House Midway Newcastle under Lyme Staffs ST5 1DT Tel: 0782 717181 Fax: 0782 620612
East Anglia 39 Baddow Road Chelmsford CM2 0HL Tel: 0245 284661 Fax: 0245 252633	North Midlands Birkbeck House Trinity Square Nottingham NG1 4AU Tel: 0602 470712 Fax: 0602 411577