

Personal Protective Equipment & Occupational Health

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

Farmers are responsible for ensuring that:

- Personal protective equipment or devices required for an assigned task are used, based on:
 - the nature of the task.
 - the location and conditions of the workplace and
 - any hazards that may affect the health and safety of persons in the workplace.
 - information from supplier, labels or MSDS.
- Employees are trained in the proper use and care of all required PPE.
- All PPE is maintained by a competent person, according to manufacturer's specifications.
- All PPE is tested or visually inspected before use, according to manufacturer's specifications.

All employees are responsible for wearing and using PPE as required.

Personal protective equipment should be used as the last line of defense and all measures must be taken to eliminate the hazard first.

Additional information on the selection and use of PPE is available:

- Hazard to eyes, face or neck fact sheet – CSA Z94.3
- Hazard to head fact sheet – CSA Z94.1 or ANSI Z89.1
- Hazard to foot or skin fact sheet – CSA Z195
- Respiratory hazard fact sheet – CSA Z94.4 or CAN3-Z180.1

Occupational Health

The Occupational Health Regulations cover the Threshold Limit Values (TLVs) for chemical substances and physical agents. TLVs are established by the American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists and outlined in the **TLVs and BEIs** publication.

(See "Publications" at www.acgih.org for the most up-to-date version of "TLVs and BEIs")

Chemical substances – airborne concentrations of chemical substances and conditions

Physical agents – an agent that is acoustic, electromagnetic, ergonomic, mechanical or thermal in nature

Employers must comply with threshold limit values for exposure to all of the following:

- Gases
- Vapours
- Mists
- Fumes
- Smoke
- Dust
- Chemical substances
- Physical agents

All efforts should be made to eliminate the above exposures through the use of improved ventilation or changes to management practices (e.g. implementing an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) program to reduce pesticide applications). **Personal protective equipment should be used as the last line of defense.**

DISCLAIMER:

This fact sheet is a general overview for information purposes only. Farmers must reference legislation to ensure compliance.