



COFFEE FARMING TOPIC 07: SAFE USE OF PESTICIDES

It is important for farmers to know how to use pesticides properly in coffee in order to **protect their health and the environment**, achieve **good yields and quality coffee**, and **reduce the cost of pesticides**. Proper use of pesticides also helps **prevent pest resistance**, making them easier to control in the future, and promotes **sustainable agriculture**, as the farm maintains its fertility and beneficial biodiversity is preserved

Meaning of Safe Use of Pesticides

The safe use of pesticides means using them properly and appropriately—selecting the right chemical, applying it in the correct dosage, at the right time, and in a manner that protects human health, animals, crops, and the environment.

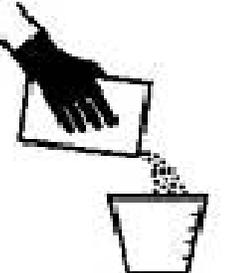
The **pesticide label** is prepared to include all the necessary information to ensure the chemical is used safely. It usually appears on the bottle or container and contains the following information:

- Commercial or trade name
- Active ingredients of the pesticide
- Instructions for use
- Contents of the product
- Manufacturing date and expiry date
- Color and images with explanations on the label

If a farmer does not fully understand the instructions for using a pesticide to control pests and diseases, it is advisable to **consult an agronomist** or ask the seller of the pesticides and fertilizers for clarification before purchase

Class	Description	Label Signal Words	Pesticide Color Code
Ia	Extremely Hazardous	DANGER, POISON, PLUS SKULL & CROSSBONES SYMBOL	
Ib	Highly Hazardous		
II	Moderately Hazardous	WARNING/ HARMFUL	
III	Slightly Hazardous	USE WITH CARE	
IV	Unlikely to present acute hazard in normal use	CAUTION	

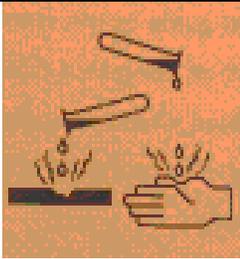
Pictograms for Safe Crop Protection Product Handling

Warning pictogram	Activity
	Handling liquid concentrate
	Handling dry concentrate

	<p>Application</p>
	<p>Dangerous/harmful to animals</p>
	<p>Dangerous/harmful to fish; Do not contaminate water bodies</p>

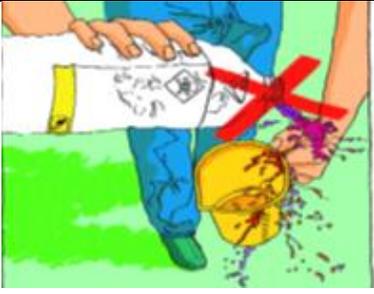
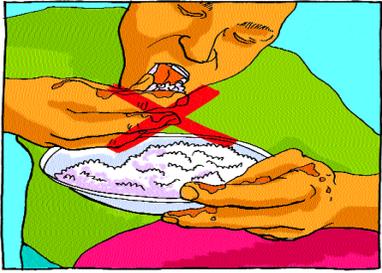
Pictograms for product hazard

Storage Pictograms	Hazard
	<p>This product is poisonous (i.e. It can kill you.).</p>
	<p>This product may be an irritant or could make you ill</p>

	<p>This product will burn a hole in your clothes and most other surfaces</p>
	<p>This product will burn (catch fire).</p>
	<p>Keep products locked and out of reach of children.</p>

Understanding the hazards of using pesticides and how to protect yourself

<p>Pesticides can enter our bodies through: Breathing, through the nose;</p>	
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<p>Contact with the skin;</p>	
<p>Through the mouth (i.e. smoking, drinking & eating)</p>	
<p>Personal Protective Cloves to use are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Boots▪ Gloves▪ Respiratory mask▪ Goggles / Face shield/safety glasses▪ Hat▪ Overalls / Spray suit	

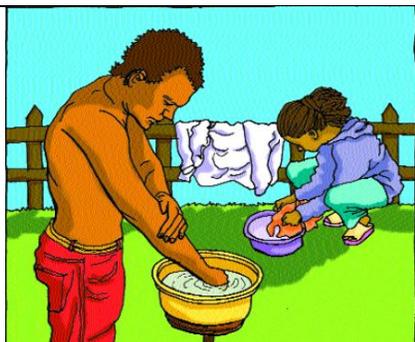
Precautions to be taken when mixing and spraying pesticides

- Use the right protective clothing. Check the label.
- Don't wear damaged protective clothing.
- Spray early or late in the day so it is not too hot.
- Don't eat, drink, or smoke when handling pesticide.
- Never use hands for mixing!
- Never blow out the nozzle if blocked. Use a brush.
- Do not spray into the wind.



Precautions to be taken after using pesticides

- Wash hands and face immediately after use with soap and water.
- Wash protective clothes separately.
- Do not wash or discard washing water into water bodies
- Clean all protective clothing.
- Clean all equipment and store safely.



Purchase, Transport and storage of Pesticides and disposal of containers

<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Buy the correct product.▪ Do not buy damaged packs.▪ Keep products away from passengers, food stuffs, and livestock.▪ Consult label for proper storage▪ Always store in locked areas, away from children, animals, foodstuffs, and water supplies	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Triple rinse with clean water,▪ Puncture or crush so it cannot be reused.▪ Dispose properly – Follow local regulations. If there is a collection program, return containers there. If not, bury them in a safe pit away from water sources (never burn them, as smoke is harmful).	