



**Greenhouse Pest Message December 2, 2022**

**Leanne Pundt, UConn Extension**

**Pesticide Storage and Record Keeping**

It is best to try to not carry over pesticides and order just what you need for a growing season. While safety, security and environmental impact are the major concerns when storing pesticides, maintaining the quality of pesticides is also important during winter storage.

**Here are some tips for winter storage of pesticides:**

- Plan pesticide purchases so that supplies are used by the end of the growing season.
- Do an inventory of the pesticides you have on hand.
- It is helpful to write the purchase and delivery date on the pesticide container. The average shelf life of many pesticides is 2 years.
- Pesticides should be stored in a secure place in their original containers with their labels clearly visible.
- Pesticides must be stored at least 50 ft. from any well unless they are stored in secondary containment.
- Keep pesticides at temperatures above freezing, under dry conditions and out of direct sunlight. Pesticides should not be stored in basements or outdoors.
- Pesticides should be stored between 40-80 F.
- Read the label. Special storage recommendations or restrictions will be printed on the label.
- Write the purchase or delivery date of the product on the label with waterproof ink. Products may lose their effectiveness over several years.
- Ventilation is important for storage of most pesticides.
- Store herbicides separately from other pesticides to avoid cross contamination.
- Have a separate room for the storing of protective clothing, equipment and records.
- Develop an Emergency Response Plan in case an accident occurs with copies to key employees, and local fire and police departments.

The pesticide label is the best guide to storage requirements for every product. The Safety Data Sheet (SDS) provides additional information on normal appearance and odor as well as flash point, fire control recommendations, boiling point, and solubility.

Below is a list of **pesticide formulations** and their **general sign of quality deterioration**:

- Emulsifiable Concentrate (EC) – Evidence of separation of components such as sludge or sediment. Milky appearance does not occur when water is added.
- Oils – Milky appearance does not occur when water is added.
- Wettable powder (WP) and Soluble powder (SP) – Excessive lumping; powder does not suspend in water.
- Granular (G) – Excessive lumping or caking

If a pesticide freezes, place it in warm storage (50° to 80°F). Shake or roll container every few hours to mix product or eliminate layering. If layering persists or if all crystals do not completely dissolve, do not use product. If in doubt, call the manufacturer or company technical representative for more information.

Adapted from: New England Vegetable Management <https://nevegetable.org/>

According to the CT DEEP they advise growers to follow federal requirements for pesticide storage. See Pesticide Storage Fact sheet by John Bartok on the Greenhouse IPM website or link below.

<https://www.nurserymag.com/article/insect-control-state-of-the-market-bayer-pesticide-safety/>

### **Pesticide Record Keeping**

**Private applicators** are required to maintain records with respect to each use of restricted use pesticide and must file a report of their usage with the CT DEEP on or before **January 31<sup>st</sup>** each year for the previous year's applications. This report must be submitted through the [elicense.ct.gov](http://elicense.ct.gov) online portal. For further information, please contact the Pesticide Management Program by phone at (860) 424-3369 or [deep.pesticideprogram@ct.gov](mailto:deep.pesticideprogram@ct.gov)

### **What pesticides are restricted in CT?**

You can generate a list on [elicense.ct.gov](http://elicense.ct.gov). You will click online services> Generate roster(s)>Pesticide management program> Active pesticide products with classification of aquatic or restricted>scroll and click continue, click excel and download. This will always be an up to date list whenever you download it!

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