

Introduction

The Ministry of Environment recently amended the Integrated Pest Management Regulation (IPMR) to further regulate the sale and use of pesticides. **The amendments will come into force on July 1, 2016.**

These changes are intended to increase interaction between pesticide vendors and customers at the point of sale. This is to improve the knowledge of pesticide users and to promote the use of Integrated Pest Management and the responsible use of pesticides.

After July 1, 2016:

Vendor Licensing

- A vendor licence is still required to sell all pesticides except those listed in Schedule 2 – Excluded Pesticides. The sale of pesticides with active ingredients listed on the new Schedule 5 also requires a vendor licence.
- One or more certified dispensers must still be employed to obtain a vendor licence.

Display of Pesticides – Restricted Access

- Domestic class pesticides must now be displayed in a manner that restricts customer access. For example, pesticides could be displayed behind a counter or in a locked cabinet. A customer must not be able to handle the pesticide without assistance from a certified dispenser.
- This requirement applies to pesticides listed on Schedule 5.
- This requirement **does not apply** to pesticides listed on Schedule 2.
- Commercial, Restricted and Permit-restricted pesticide storage requirements remain unchanged.

Dispenser-Customer Interaction

- A certified dispenser is still required to interact with customers prior to the purchase of any pesticide except those on Schedule 2. There are new requirements regarding this interaction.
- Previously, the certified dispenser was required to:
 - advise purchasers that they may lawfully use the pesticide only for the use described on the label and according to the label instructions; and
 - offer to provide advice on pest management and the safe use of the pesticide.

Key Points – After July 1, 2016:

- ➔ A licence is still required to sell all pesticides except those listed on Schedule 2 – Excluded Pesticides.
- ➔ All Domestic class pesticides, except Schedule 2, must be displayed in a manner that restricts customer access.
- ➔ Certified dispensers must interact with customers prior to the purchase of most pesticides.
- ➔ Dispensers must confirm that the pesticide is appropriate for its intended use according to the label instructions.
- ➔ Dispensers must advise the customer that a provincial licence or certificate may be required to use the pesticide.
- ➔ Dispensers must advise the customer that municipal bylaws may restrict the use of the pesticide.
- ➔ The new requirements will not come into force until July 1, 2016.

- **This requirement remains in place. In addition, certified dispensers must now:**
 - ask each person who intends to purchase a pesticide what the person intends to use the pesticide for;
 - confirm that the pesticide is appropriate for the intended use according to the label instructions;
 - advise the customer that a provincial licence or certificate may be required to use the pesticide; and
 - advise the customer that municipal bylaws may restrict the use of the pesticide.
- If a customer does not provide sufficient information to confirm that the pesticide is appropriate for the intended use (e.g., if the stated use is not permitted according to the label), the dispenser must refuse to sell the pesticide. It is not the responsibility of the vendor or certified dispenser to verify that the information the customer provides is accurate.
- Vendors and certified dispensers do not need to be familiar with the details of local bylaws or confirm that the proposed use is allowed in a municipality. They must simply advise customers of the potential for municipal bylaw restrictions. It is the responsibility of the customer to verify with their municipality if the intended use is allowed.
- The Ministry has produced guidance documents to help customers understand the new requirements. Vendors are encouraged to direct customers to these documents if they seek further clarification.

Schedule 5

- A new list of pesticides (Schedule 5) has been created to allow owners of private land to apply these pesticides without a licence or certificate.
- Companies offering application service with Schedule 5 pesticides require a service licence.
- The sale of Schedule 5 pesticides requires a vendor licence.
- Schedule 5 pesticides must be displayed with restricted access.
- Certified dispensers must interact with customers when selling Schedule 5 pesticides.

Updating Schedule 2

- Schedule 2 is an existing list of pesticides that are excluded from certain requirements.
- Neither a licence nor a certificate is required to sell or use pesticides listed on Schedule 2.
- There have been minor changes to Schedule 2. These changes were made to accommodate the creation of the new Schedule 5 and to address product changes in the marketplace.

Next Steps

- The Ministry understands that licensees will require time to prepare for these changes. For this reason, the new requirements will not come into force until July 1, 2016.
- For more information about the regulation and appropriate use of pesticides in British Columbia, please visit www.gov.bc.ca/PestManagement. Guidance documents for users and vendors of pesticides are available on this website.