

Working with Chemicals - Hazards, Risks and Control Measures

Hazard	Risk	Control measure
Chemical	Inhalation Skin absorption Ingesting	Read the label/SDS Store correctly Wear correct PPE Keep out of reach of children Personal hygiene – wash hands before and after use of chemicals.
Equipment	Physical injury	Read manufacturers manual and use as specified. Maintain equipment and store correctly.
Solar radiation	Dehydration Sunburn Heat stroke	Wear a broad brim hat, not a cap. That is the correct PPE. Drink plenty of water. Work in the cooler parts of the day. Wear a hat and sunscreen.
Tripping/falling	Injury to body	Keep area clear of obstacles. Take note of surroundings and remain aware.
Noise	Hearing loss Diminished hearing ability	Wear ear protection when using pressure pumps create noise, e.g. petrol driven pressure pumps.
Moving parts such as vehicles	Injuries such as broken arms	Keep arms and hands away from moving equipment. If travelling on a moving vehicle while spraying, ensure you have a firm seat and hand holds. Make sure plant and equipment is well maintained.
Hazardous substances	Poisoning, skin exposure and inhalation	Read Safety Data Sheet (SDS) and labels and use substances according to the directions. Dispose of and clean up spills correctly.
Manual handling	Injury to back	Use correct lifting techniques and wherever possible use mechanical aids.

Hazard	Risk	Control measure
Snakes, wasps, bees etc.	Bites, stings, allergic reaction	Be aware of your surroundings and keep a look out to ensure that the first aid kit is available. If you have known allergies to any bites or stings, ensure that you always have the correct medication on hand.
Employees from different backgrounds	Injury – not understanding safety	Demonstrate procedures, in sequence each time you perform a task, for any workers who may have problems with language, literacy or that have a disability. As the person to demonstrate what they have learnt so that you can check their understanding. Show patience and understanding and take time to assist them. Lead by example. Respect everyone's beliefs, culture and religion. Remember: You do not have to agree with their beliefs, but you need to respect their right to have them. Assist when you can with language, literacy and numeracy skills. Help those who have physically limitations. Prevent yourself and others from being hurt.