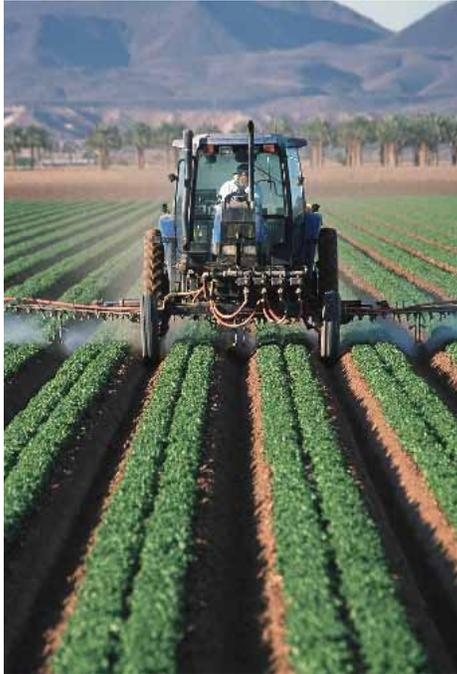




United States Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service

Air Quality & Atmospheric Change

Air Quality Conservation Activities – Chemical Drift



Conservation Activities

There are a variety of conservation activities that directly or indirectly address air quality and atmospheric change issues related to agricultural operations. Some of these may be applicable for payments under USDA Conservation Programs such as the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), or the Conservation Security Program (CSP).

Benefits

Various aspects of air quality may be affected by the application of agricultural chemicals to crop or range land. The following activities will reduce airborne chemical drift associated with applications of these chemicals

provided that application is done according to label directions.

- Utilize an approved Integrated Pest Management (IPM) System
- Utilize windbreaks around areas where chemicals are being applied
- Properly calibrate chemical application equipment
- Use low-drift nozzles and/or lower pressure on chemical spray equipment
- Use chemical adjuvants proven to reduce drift
- Use an approved pesticide forecasting system for application of chemicals
- Apply pesticides during periods with light winds and/or lower temperatures to reduce droplet volatilization and time spray droplets are in the air