



1997

PESTICIDE INCIDENT SUMMARY Commercial Pesticide (1994-1996)

This fact sheet documents pesticide incidents reported to the Pesticide Management Branch from January 1, 1994, to December 31, 1996. The fact sheet identifies reports involving a suspected violation of the *Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act* or an adverse effect related to pesticide use. It does not include concerns related to the general use of pesticides.

Incidents have been divided into six broad types:

Property Damage (usually damage to vegetation caused by herbicide trespass);

Regulatory Requirement (providing pesticide application services or selling pesticides without required authorizations);

Health (concerns about pesticide exposure to humans or animals, usually through pesticide trespass);

Releases (pesticide spills and discharges, including discharges related to fires);

Waste Management (illegal disposal of pesticide waste);

Miscellaneous (found through an investigation not to involve pesticides, or involved a pesticide but no contravention/adverse effect).

Table 1. Incidents Reported For The Period 1994 through 1996 By Incident Type

Incident Type	Number of Incidents	Percentage of Total Incidents
Property Damage	170	42%
Regulatory Requirement	115	28%
Health	31	8%
Release	25	6%
Waste Management	14	3%
Miscellaneous	51	13%
Total	406	100%

The Pesticide Management Branch classifies pesticide use into 10 sectors. The four main sectors are:

Agricultural (pesticide applications conducted for crop production using ground application equipment); **Aerial** (pesticide applications conducted for crop production using aerial application equipment); **Landscape** (pesticide applications conducted for the maintenance of trees, shrubs, and turf); **Industrial** (pesticide applications for vegetation management along roadsides, power lines, pipelines, railways, and industrial sites).

Other pesticide use sectors include: forestry; structural; aquatic; greenhouse; mosquito control; and seed protection.

Table 2. Incidents Reported For the Period 1994 through 1996 By Pesticide Use Sector

Sector	Number of Incidents	Percentage of Total Incidents
Agricultural	111	27%
Aerial	77	19%
Landscape	104	26%
Industrial	39	10%
Other	73	18%

Incidents can be divided within each pesticide use sector into three sub-sectors:

Commercial pesticide operations (i.e. Registered Pesticide Services and Vendors, Approval Holders, and Certified Pesticide Applicators);

Illegal pesticide operations (i.e. pesticide users operating without appropriate registrations, approvals or certification);

Private Landowners (urban or rural) conducting pesticide applications on their own property.

Table 3. Incidents Reported For The Period 1994 through 1996 Within Identified Use Sectors

Sector	Total	Commercial Operations	Illegal Operations	Private Landowners
Agricultural	111	33%	5%	62%
Aerial	77	85%	5%	0
Landscape	104	36%	12%	52%
Industrial	39	77%	8%	15%

Incidents or complaints regarding pesticides can be reported through a toll-free line (1-800-222-6514) or to pesticide specialists in the following offices. For information about pesticide management in Alberta, please contact a pesticide specialist at the nearest Alberta Environmental Protection office:

Grande Prairie (780) 538-5460, Fax (780) 538-5336), Room 1701, Provincial Building
10320 - 99 Street, Grande Prairie, Alberta T8V 6J4

Stony Plain (780) 963-6131 Fax (780) 963-4651, Westerra Building, 52322 - Golf Course Road,
Stony Plain, Alberta T7Z 2K9

Edmonton (780) 427-7617 Fax (780) 427-7824, 6th Floor, Oxbridge Place
9820-106 Street, Edmonton, Alberta T5K 2J6

Red Deer (403) 340-7052 Fax: (403) 340-5022, 3rd Floor, Provincial Building
4920 - 51 Street, Red Deer, Alberta T4N 6K8

Calgary (403) 297-7602 Fax: (403) 297-8232, 2nd Floor, Deerfoot Square
2938 - 11 Street N.E., Calgary, Alberta T2E 7L7

Lethbridge (403) 381-5511 Fax: (403) 382-4008, 2nd Floor, Provincial Building
200 - 5th Avenue South, Lethbridge, Alberta T1J 4C7

The above offices can also be reached by phoning 310-0000 toll-free from anywhere in Alberta.